

RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Board Memorandum

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

DATE: APRIL 28, 2025

SUBJECT: BID NO. RPU-8135 FOR THE SWITCH SUBSTRUCTURE INSTALLATION PROJECT WITH OUTSOURCE UTILITY CONTRACTOR LLC, OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$90,341.93 AND WORK ORDER NO. 2505672 FOR A TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OF \$116,000.

ISSUES:

Consider awarding Bid No. RPU-8135 to Outsource Utility Contractor LLC, of Torrance, CA, for the Switch Substructure Installation Project, in the amount of \$90,341.93, and approve Work Order No. 2505672 for a total capital expenditure of \$116,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Public Utilities:

1. Award Bid No. RPU-8135 to Outsource Utility Contractor LLC, of Torrance, CA, for the Switch Substructure Installation Project, in the amount of \$90,341.93;
2. Approve the capital expenditure for Work Order No. 2505672 in the amount of \$116,000 which includes all design, construction, construction support, contract administration, inspection and construction change order authority costs for the Switch Substructure Installation Project; and
3. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the project described herein, as well as the ability to make minor non-substantive changes in alignment with all purchasing policies.

BACKGROUND:

The Electric System Master Plan (ESMP) recommends the conversion of all remaining 4kV to 12kV distribution circuits to improve system capacity and reliability. In preparation for the future conversion of Plaza Substation, on July 8, 2024, the Board of Public Utilities approved Work Order No. 2222112, for the 4kV to 12kV Make-Ready, Pole Replacement Project for Circuits 443 and 460.

This project will facilitate the future replacement of an existing deteriorated gas switch inside a vault and will help facilitate the future conversion of circuits 443 and 460 while improving overall electric system reliability. Replacement of deteriorated underground structures and cables was identified as part of the Utility Electric Infrastructure Road Map.

The City of Riverside Public Works Department, Bid No. 8045, for the 2023/2024 Arterial and Minor Streets Maintenance Project, is scheduled to start early 2025. A section of the scheduled resurfacing project conflicts with the installation of the proposed pad mounted switch along Palm Avenue, north of Central Avenue. The proposed work must be expedited to avoid the paving moratorium which could delay the project, increasing costs if resurfacing occurs before work in the right of way is complete.

DISCUSSION:

The scope of work for the switch substructure installation project includes the installation of approximately 155 trench feet of conduit, 670 linear feet of conduit, one (1) pad mounted switch enclosure, three (3) protective barriers and related electrical distribution facilities. Additional work includes asphalt paving, gridding and concrete replacement. The project is located in the area along Palm Ave, north of Central Ave. Outage notifications will be issued prior to any work commencement, and any resulting electric service disruptions will be coordinated with customers to minimize any impact.



Typical Trench and Conduit Installations

Bid No. RPU-8135

On October 31, 2024, Bid No. RPU-8135 for the Switch Substructure Installation Project, was posted on the City's Online Bid System. The bid's notification summary and bid actions are detailed in the following table:

Bid No. RPU-8135 Bidding Notification Summary Table

Action	Number of Vendors
Total Vendors Notified	353
Prospective Bidders Who Downloaded the RFB	57
Questions and Answers Released	10
Addenda Released	2
Total Bids Received	13

On November 19, 2024, RPU staff held a non-mandatory pre-bid meeting with twelve (12) companies in attendance, and closed December 12, 2024. Thirteen (13) bidders submitted bids, and one bidder was deemed non-responsive due to lack of submitting a proper bid bond for the project. Purchasing evaluated the bids and deemed Outsource Utility Contractor LLC, of Torrance, CA, to be the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The bid was within the engineer's estimated amount of \$97,750.98.

The bids are summarized in the table below:

Vendors	City Location	Bid Amount	Rank
Outsource Utility Contractor, LLC	Torrance, CA	\$90,341.93	1
Herman Weissker, Inc.	Riverside, CA	\$99,604.35	2
Asplundh Construction LLC	Anaheim, CA	\$103,901.00	3
Cornerstone CC	Victorville, CA	\$114,493.98	4
J&M Contracting Corp	La Verne, CA	\$123,500.00	5
VCI Construction LLC	Upland, CA	\$137,719.00	6
E.E. Electric, Inc.	Jurupa Valley, CA	\$141,813.40	7
HP Communications, Inc.	Corona, CA	\$161,723.26	8
Michels Pacific Energy, Inc	Santa Clara, CA	\$161,821.78	9
Doty Bros. Equipment Company	Norwalk, CA	\$163,240.00	10
Horizon Underground, Inc	Norco, CA	\$164,105.00	11
JM Communications, Inc.	Van Nuys, CA	\$212,154.24	12
Pro Energy Services Group LLC	Escondido, CA	\$150,015.06	Non-responsive
➤ <i>Engineer's Estimate</i>		\$97,750.98	

The project/fiscal breakdown is as follows:

Work Type	Performed By:	Amount (\$):	% of Total:
Design, Construction Management, and Inspection	RPU Engineering and Operations	\$16,624	14.3%
Civil Construction (Contract)	Outsource Utility Contractor, LLC	\$90,342	77.9%
Contingency – 10% (Contract)		\$9,034	7.8%
Work Order Total:		\$116,000	100%
Anticipated Start Date:	May 2025		
Anticipated Duration:	3 weeks		

Purchasing Resolution 24101, Section 508 Awards states, “Contracts procured through Formal Procurement shall be awarded by the Awarding Entity to the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder.”

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommended actions are in compliance with Purchasing Resolution No. 24101, Section 508.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This item contributes to Strategic Priority No. 6 Infrastructure, Mobility and Connectivity and Goal 6.2 – Maintain, protect, and improve assets and infrastructure within the City’s built environment to ensure and enhance reliability, resiliency, sustainability, and facilitate connectivity.

This item aligns with EACH of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – The installation of new and improved infrastructure for switches and cables that comply with current standards will improve safety and reliability of the electric system, which helps build community trust and results in the greater public good.

2. **Equity** – The circuit conversion project has been established based on engineering planning and operational criteria, with equitable distribution of services to ensure every member of the community has equal access to share the benefits of community progress.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – The installation of new infrastructure and related equipment will improve system reliability. The coordination with the Public Works Department scheduled work will reduce overall operational costs.
4. **Innovation** – RPU is committed to identifying creative solutions to meet the needs of our community members, effectively and efficiently by providing innovative infrastructure improvements. A collaborative and innovative approach was used to install the electric facilities in such a way to minimize potential disruptions to our customers in the future.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – RPU is preparing for the goals set by the city to achieve carbon neutrality by 2040 and to ensure that new system upgrades provide grid operators the ability to monitor and respond to system disturbances in a more safe and timely manner. The construction materials specified for this project are considered best practices in the industry and are expected to last well into the future.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact is \$116,000. Sufficient funds are available in Public Utilities Electric Capital Account No. 6130100-470644.

Prepared by:	Daniel Honeyfield, Utilities Assistant General Manager/Energy Delivery
Approved by:	David A. Garcia, Utilities General Manager
Certifies availability of funds:	Kristie Thomas, Finance Director/Assistant Chief Financial Officer
Approved by:	Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Jack Liu, Interim City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Project Site Map
2. Bid Award Recommendation
3. Presentation