



RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Board Memorandum

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2025

SUBJECT: **BID NO. 8193 - GRANULAR ACTIVATED CARBON REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT AT THE PALMYRITA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY - AGREEMENT WITH CALGON CARBON CORPORATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,836,270.00**

ISSUE:

Consider awarding Bid No. 8193 for Granular Activated Carbon Removal and Replacement at the Palmyrita Water Treatment Facility to Calgon Carbon Corporation, for a three-year contract beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2028, in the amount of \$1,836,270.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Public Utilities:

1. Award Bid No. 8193 for Granular Activated Carbon Removal and Replacement at the Palmyrita Water Treatment Facility to Calgon Carbon Corporation, for a three-year contract beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2028, in the amount of \$1,836,270; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the purchase, including making minor and non-substantive changes.

BACKGROUND:

The Palmyrita Water Treatment Facility (Palmyrita) removes organic compounds 1, 2-dibromo-3-chloropropane and 1, 2, 3-Trichloropropane from groundwater produced in the North Orange well field. Treatment is achieved as raw groundwater is conveyed through pressure vessels containing granular activated carbon (GAC) to adsorb the organic compounds, which is the United States Environmental Protection Agency approved drinking water treatment method. Approximately 2.5 billion gallons of groundwater are treated annually at Palmyrita for domestic use.

GAC used at the Palmyrita facility is made from bituminous coal. As the GAC adsorbs organic compounds, it gradually loses its effectiveness and periodically needs to be changed out with virgin or reactivated GAC. Virgin GAC has not been previously used for purification processes while reactivated GAC is spent material that has been thermally treated at high temperatures to remove the adsorbed contamination and restore its adsorptive properties. To ensure continued

effective removal of organic compounds, RPU contracts with a vendor to handle removal and replacement of the GAC.

The scope of work for this contract includes all work needed to replace up to 20,000 pounds of GAC at each vessel, including: 1) removing and legally disposing of spent carbon, 2) inspecting and disinfecting the vessels, and 3) adding virgin or reactivated carbon into the vessels. The contract term is three years, ending December 31, 2028. Over this period, approximately 50 GAC removal and replacement events are anticipated, with an average of 16 events occurring annually.

DISCUSSION:

Request for Bid (RFB) No. RPU-8193 was posted on the City's online bidding system, Planet Bids, on July 31, 2025, seeking bidders to provide the removal and disposal of spent Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) from and installation of virgin or reactivated GAC into treatment vessels located at Palmyrita Water Treatment Facility.

The solicitation notification is summarized in the table below:

Action	Number of Vendors
External Vendors Notified	500
City of Riverside Vendors Notified	57
Vendors who downloaded the RFP	27
Proposals received	2

RFB RPU-8193 closed on August 22, 2025, with a total of two (2) responses. All responses were found to be responsive and responsible. Purchasing sent out a questionnaire to receive feedback from the Prospective Bidders on why the RFB was downloaded but failed to provide a bid submission. The responses received included the scope being too big/small, and the bidder not being able to meet the bonding requirement. The bid results are listed in the table below.

Vendors	City Location	Bid Amount	Rank
Calgon Carbon Corporation	Moon Township, PA	\$1,836,270	1
Carbon Activated Corp.	Compton, CA	\$2,172,192	2

The project breakdown is proposed as follows:

Project Breakdown	
Specifications Performed By:	RPU Engineering Staff
Services Performed By:	Calgon Carbon Corporation
Coordination Required With:	RPU Water Operations Staff Calgon Carbon Corporation
Reimbursements:	Shell Oil Company, et al.
Anticipated Start Date	January 2026
Anticipated Duration	Three Years

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 accordance with Purchasing Resolution 24101.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact is \$1,836,270 over three years. The annual estimated cost is \$612,090. Sufficient funds for Fiscal Year 2025/26 are available in Public Utilities' Chemical Supplies Account No. 6200000- 426600. The costs for GAC removal and replacement are reimbursed in accordance with a settlement agreement reached between the City of Riverside and DBCP manufacturers (Shell Oil Company, et al.) that covers most of the City's costs associated with carbon removal and replacement. Funding in future years will be included as part of the biennial budget process.

Prepared by:	Robin Glenney, Utilities Assistant General Manager/Water
Approved by:	David A. Garcia, Utilities General Manager
Certified as to availability of funds:	Kristie Thomas, Finance Director/Assistant Chief Financial Officer
Approved by:	Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Rebecca McKee-Reimbold, Interim City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Bid Award Recommendation
2. Services Agreement with Calgon Carbon Corporation for Granular Activated Carbon Removal and Replacement
3. Corporate Resolution Granting Signing Authority
4. Presentation