



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
www.cityofdenton.com

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Procurement  
**ACM:** Christine Taylor  
**DATE:** February 9, 2026

### **SUBJECT**

Consider recommending adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc., for planning services for the Water Utilities Financial Planning and Support Project for the Water Utilities Department as set forth in the contract; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (RFQ 8213-012 – Professional Services Agreement for planning services awarded to Freese and Nichols, Inc., in the not-to-exceed amount of \$1,049,620.00).

### **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

This action supports Key Focus Area: Enhance Infrastructure and Mobility.

### **INFORMATION/BACKGROUND**

Water Utilities staff requests approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI) for the Water Utilities Financial Planning and Support Project. The scope of work includes two primary components. First, FNI will provide comprehensive funding planning assistance for programs administered by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA), administered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This support will span the full funding lifecycle for selected projects and includes preparation of critical pre-application documents, such as the Project Information Form (PIF) for State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs and the abridged application for the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT). FNI will also assist with the development of council resolutions, post-closing compliance, and ongoing reporting requirements. This includes guidance on specialized certifications, such as American and/or U.S. Iron and Steel provisions, and support with monthly or quarterly outlay reports.

The second component involves developing a project health reporting dashboard. FNI will design and implement custom, interactive dashboards in Power BI using available financial data. These dashboards will provide both high-level executive summaries and detailed drill-down capabilities to enhance financial oversight, compliance, and decision-making.

The agreement also includes a Special Services task, which extends the same funding assistance to support future potential funding applications. These services are crucial to maximizing funding success and enhancing financial transparency across Water Utilities' capital projects.

By leveraging alternative funding sources, the City can reduce the financial burden on ratepayers while continuing to invest in infrastructure that ensures safe, reliable, and sustainable water and wastewater services for the community.

Water Utilities initiated the selection process for an engineering firm to design the Robson West Lift Station and Force Main Project. The utility used its approved pre-qualified list of firms specializing in Water & Wastewater Planning, Master Plans, and Permitting. The seven pre-qualified firms for the project were: Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Plummer, Freese and Nichols, Inc., Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., RPS Infrastructure, Inc., Carollo Engineers, Inc, and HDR Engineering, Inc. Water Utilities staff carefully evaluate candidates for engineering services. With a strong track record in planning, securing, and managing alternative funding, the staff recommends awarding a Professional Services Agreement to Freese and Nichols, Inc., in the amount not to exceed \$1,049,620. Their expertise will support the successful and efficient delivery of critical water utility projects.

Request for Qualifications for an engineering services list for various water and wastewater utilities projects for the Water Utilities Department was solicited using the City’s formal solicitation process. City Council approved a pre-qualified list of professional service firms on March 5, 2024 (Ordinance 24-390).

**PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (COUNCIL, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS)**

On March 5, 2024, the City Council approved RFQ 8213 for a prequalified list of firms for engineering services for various water and wastewater utilities projects for the Water Utilities Department (Ordinance 24-390).

**RECOMMENDATION**

Award a contract with Freese and Nichols, Inc., for planning services for the Water Utilities Financial Planning and Support Project for the Water Utilities Department, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,049,620.

**PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS**

Freese and Nichols, Inc.  
Denton, TX

**SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES**

The City of Denton is seeking funding support for planning assistance to pursue alternative funding sources for critical water utility infrastructure. These improvements are crucial for maintaining safe and reliable water and wastewater services for the community. Accessing alternative funding helps reduce the financial burden on ratepayers while supporting long-term system resilience and environmental compliance.

**ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT**

The duration of the Water Utilities Funding Planning Support Project is anticipated to last through 2030.

**FISCAL INFORMATION**

These services will be funded from a combination of the accounts listed below.

Wastewater	640538541.1360.30200	\$549,620
Water	630579517.1360.30200	\$500,000

Requisition #173246 has been entered into the Purchasing software system in the amount of \$1,049,620. The budgeted amount for this item is \$1,049,620.

**EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1: Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2: Ordinance and Contract

Respectfully submitted:  
Lori Hewell, 940-349-7100  
Purchasing Manager

For information concerning this acquisition, contact: David Brown, 940-349-8030.

Legal point of contact: Leah Bush at 940-349-8333.