

Memorandum

To: The Honorable Board of Directors

From: Cheryl Porter, COO – Water Operating Officer, Water Operation Services
Sonya Collins, Chief Procurement Officer

Cc: GLWA Executive Leadership
Dima El-Gamal, Capital Improvement Planning Director
Jill Kusters, Financial Reporting & Accounting Director

Date: June 30, 2026

RE: **REQ-0010690, West 14 Mile 48”/54” Transmission Main Emergency Improvements –Final Design and Construction**
Cost: \$8,000,000.00 – Award to Ric-Man Construction, Inc.
Emergency Procurement – West 14 Mile 48”/54” Transmission Main Emergency Improvements – Final Design and Construction

This memorandum is provided to the Honorable Board of Directors for the Great Lakes Water Authority in support of Water Engineering Groups action of authorizing the Emergency Contract in the amount of \$8,000,000.00 to Ric-Man Construction, Inc. for the remainder of the Design for a new 54-inch transmission main along 14-Mile Rd between Haggerty Booster Station to Farmington Road in Oakland County.

Background

There is an existing 48”/42” Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Transmission main approximately three miles long along West 14 Mile Road from Farmington Road to Haggerty Booster Station installed in the early 1970’s. There have been three (3) watermain breaks along this particular section of main since October 2017.

- October 2017: 48” transmission main between Farmington Road and Drake Road
- October 2021: 48” between Drake Road and Halstead Road
- March 2026: 48” between Drake Road and Halstead Road

As this honorable Board is aware, each time this section of transmission main breaks, there is a large disruption to our Member Partner communities in the area that includes but not limited to no water and/or boil water advisories. These emergencies require GLWA to activate the emergency plan and our Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Justification

The Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) within the section between Farmington Road and Haggerty Booster Station was manufactured by Interpace. PCCP that was manufactured by Interpace during that time frame, has been determined to be an inferior product and is susceptible to issues. These issues originate from modifications to Interpace's design that resulted in the pretensioned wires being more vulnerable to accelerated degradation due to the manufacturing process involved in attempting to achieve a higher strength classification of the wires. This project will directly address the section of water main manufactured by Interpace pipe in addition to inspecting, repairing as necessary, and monitoring the remaining segment of water main from Franklin Booster Station to Farmington Rd.

Proposed Solution and Procurement Approach

Two previous emergency contracts were issued as part of the 3-phase process to expedite the work. A previous emergency purchase request was submitted to secure the pipe material and begin fabrication (Phase 1). An Engineering Design Services Agreement (Phase 2) was submitted to begin the necessary survey and geotechnical services to begin the development of the Basis of Design Report (BODR) while GLWA continues to review CIP impacts and make decisions on the final scope of work for the project. Phase 3, this proposed contract, will include the remaining design work and construction of the new 54-inch water transmission main (WTM).

Phase 1 – Purchase and Fabricate 54” Steel Pipe (SCN No. 0000842 - In Progress)

- Fabricate the new steel 54” pipe
- Delivery new steel 54” pipe to storage or site location
- Work will be completed under an emergency Purchase Order (PO-0009398) not to exceed \$17,446,080.00

Phase 2 – Preliminary Design & Field Investigation (SCN No. 0000885 – In Progress)

- Engineering Services Contract value is \$912,000.00
- Field Investigation
 - Begin Surveying Services
 - Topo Data Collection
 - Alignment Mapping
 - Right-of-Way and Monumentation
 - Project controls
 - Geotechnical Services
 - Soil borings
 - Lab testing

- Exploration report
- Preliminary Design Services
 - Coordinate and manage field investigation work
 - Begin BODR development

Phase 3 - Final Design & Construction Package (This Emergency Purchase)

- Phase 3 will be completed using a **Progressive Design Build (PDB)** delivery method due to the current status and knowledge of the project.
 - PDB delivery method provides GLWA the most control over the design, cost, and schedule of the project.
 - This delivery method allows our team to manage the project to an outcome that best meets GLWA’s needs based on the expedited schedule and ongoing cost constraints.
 - PDB does require the negotiations of a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the construction phase of the contract. This process will begin early with the design deliverables to ensure the project team can maintain the aggressive schedule.
 - The table below shows the anticipated project costs:

Preconstruction/Engineering Costs	\$8,000,000.00
Estimated GMP (Including AFO, Inspections/Repairs)	\$72,828,683.00
Estimated PDB Contract Total	\$80,828,683.00

Timing

Pipe procurement is in process, and the Design-Build team is currently collecting field data and developing the BODR under the current Engineering Design Service Agreement. The Chief Procurement Officer executed a Letter of Intent to award the contract on July 2, 2026, authorizing Ric-Man Construction to start the work and accumulate charges. A final completion date will be established during review of the contract documents. This will help maintain the forecasted construction start by November of 2026.

Summary and Recommendation

The project team recommends moving forward with Phase 3 consisting of the Final Design and Construction utilizing a Progressive Design-Build contract for the proposed 54-inch WTM along 14-Mile Rd.

To maintain continuity of this project, GLWA staff recommends awarding this emergency procurement project to Ric-Man Construction, Inc. Ric-Man Construction is contractor that has completed many contracts with GLWA. The Ric-Man Construction team is familiar with

the work in this area and confirmed their interest and resource availability for doing this work.