



# MEMO

1

**To:** Kennie Hobbs

**From:** Herb Johnson, Utilities Director

**Date:** March 5, 2026

**Subject:** Justification for Additional Repairs – Lauderhill Water Treatment Plant

During the course of construction observation and operational improvements at the Lauderhill Water Treatment Plant, several additional deficiencies were identified that required immediate attention. These issues were not observable during the initial assessment phase because the plant was required to remain fully operational in order to maintain uninterrupted water service to the residents of Lauderhill. As a result, critical components such as treatment basins, piping systems, valves, and structural elements could not be fully inspected until individual treatment trains were temporarily removed from service and tanks were drained.

Once these systems were isolated and accessible for inspection, additional deterioration, mechanical deficiencies, and operational limitations were identified that required corrective action. These conditions are consistent with aging infrastructure and the long-term operational demands placed on the facility. The repairs identified are necessary to ensure that the treatment process continues to operate efficiently, reliably, and in compliance with applicable regulatory standards established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Failure to address these deficiencies at this time would significantly increase the risk of equipment failure, treatment disruptions, regulatory compliance violations, and potential service interruptions to the City's residents. Additionally, postponing these repairs would likely result in higher future costs due to emergency repair conditions, accelerated deterioration of equipment, and potential damage to other components of the treatment system.

The additional repair cost of **\$192,785.40** represents targeted improvements required to restore critical treatment processes and ensure the continued reliable operation of the facility. These repairs were carefully evaluated by Craig A. Smith, Moss Kelley, Inc., the contractor, US Water operations staff, and City personnel to ensure that only necessary items were included. Throughout the project, the team has taken a fiscally responsible approach, prioritizing repairs that are essential to maintaining safe drinking water operations while avoiding unnecessary capital expenditures.

Completing these repairs as part of the current project also provides cost efficiencies by utilizing the contractor already mobilized on site. This approach avoids additional mobilization costs, procurement delays, and potential operational disruptions that would occur if the work were deferred to a separate project.

These improvements are essential to restoring the Water Treatment Plant to normal operational conditions, extending the useful life of the facility, and ensuring that the City continues to provide safe, reliable, and regulatory-compliant drinking water service to the community.

For these reasons, approval of the **\$192,785.40 change order** is recommended as a necessary and prudent investment in the City's critical water infrastructure.

Please let me know if any additional information or supporting documentation is required.