



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

DATE: February 6, 2019
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Sean W. Brown, Deputy Fire Chief
SUBJECT: 2018 Expansion of Scope for Central Station Roof Replacement, CIP 252

Recommendation

Accept this report approving the expansion of scope for the Central Station Roof Replacement, CIP 252

Background

In the Fiscal Year 2018 City of Concord Capital Budget, \$100,000 was approved for the replacement of the roof at the Central Fire Station. The roof replacement was completed and the remaining funds (\$10,872.11) are being requested to expand the scope of work to include replacing hazardous electrical infrastructure at the Manor Fire Station.

Discussion

The electrical panels and associated components at the Manor Fire Station were produced by Federal Pacific Electric Company (FPE). FPE stopped producing these panels in the late 1980s and the company is no longer in business. The stab lock style breakers that are in use in these panels have been the subject of at least one successful class action lawsuit and a Consumer Product Safety Commission investigation. A 2012 peer-reviewed paper by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers estimates that FPE breakers may be responsible for as many as 2,800 fires, 13 deaths, and \$40 million in property damage annually.

In order to replace breakers in the existing panels, used replacement parts must be found through outlets such as EBay and other online secondhand vendors. This was brought to attention as part of CIP0252-2019 Engine Exhaust Removal System Installation. This

project hinged on a used FPE breaker that failed shortly after installation. The exhaust system was out of service for the first two weeks until a replacement breaker could be found. The system is back up and running, however, the concerns regarding the overall safety and reliability of the FPE panels remain.

The Fire Department requests that City Council approve this report expanding the scope of CIP 252 to include the replacement of the FPE electrical panels and associated components.