



CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Earle M. Chesley P.E., General Services Director

DATE: September 20, 2022

SUBJECT: ARPA Grant Authorization and Tank Mixing System Project Appropriation

Recommendation

Accept this report authorizing the City Manager to complete application documents and accept approved grant funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant program administered by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). In addition, the Department requests the council appropriate the sum of \$166,000 including the acceptance of \$166,000 in ARPA grant funding for the replacement of a sludge holding tank mixing system at the Hall Street Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Background

The General Services Department (the Department) has been working with the NHDES since the spring of 2022 to secure ARPA grant funding for capital improvement projects (CIP) at the Hall Street Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). In September 2022, the Department was notified that the NHDES had reserved \$166,000 in grant funding for the replacement of a sludge holding tank mixing system at the Hall Street WWTP. The existing sludge holding tank mixing system was installed by city staff in the mid 1990's and has been in continuous operation for nearly 30 years and has come to the end of its useful life. At present the WWTP staff is completing the installation of an identical new mixing system in a second storage tank at the plant. The unplanned emergency installation is required due a catastrophic failure of the existing mixing systems internal piping and air diffusing system this past spring. It is anticipated that city staff will complete the installation activities on the second tank which is being covered in full by the proposed ARPA grant funding.

Discussion

The Department has identified a significant need to make upgrades at the Hall Street Wastewater Treatment Plant as portions of this vital infrastructure continues to reach the end of its useful life. Through the NHDES ARPA grant program the city has an opportunity to make critical upgrades to the WWTP at a reduced overall cost to the city's rate payers. For the reasons stated above it is the Department's recommendation that the City Council accept this report and associated resolution.