

## CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** The Office of the City Manager    **DATE:** August 25, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Consider a professional services agreement for engineering services with Freese and Nichols, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$49,800 for the Risk and Resilience Assessment and the Emergency Response Plan Project Update & Recertification as required to comply with America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.

**PRESENTER:** Kenneth Garvin, Public Works Operations Manager

**SUMMARY:**

Council is being asked to consider a professional services agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI) for engineering services for the Risk and Resilience Assessment and the Emergency Response Plan Project Update & Recertification to comply with America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

In 2020 and 2021, FNI supported the City of North Richland Hills (City) in completing and certifying a Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) and the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) in compliance with the 2018 American Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA), Section 2013. AWIA Section 2013 requires water systems to routinely update their RRA and ERP and recertify these items every 5 years. For medium public water systems which serve between 50,000 and 99,999 people, the first re-certification deadlines under AWIA are December 31, 2025 for the RRA, and June 30, 2026 for the ERP. FNI will provide engineering services in support of the review, update, and recertification of the water system's RRA and ERP to comply with the requirements of AWIA, Section 2013.

This effort will ensure that drinking water utilities are prepared to protect and maintain this vital infrastructure by evaluating the vulnerabilities, threats, and consequences from potential hazards, including:

- Natural hazards and malevolent acts (including cybersecurity)
- Resilience of water facility infrastructure
- Monitoring practices
- Chemical storage and handling
- Operation and maintenance

Funding for this agreement is included in the FY 2024/25 adopted operating budget.



**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve a professional services agreement for engineering services with Freese and Nichols, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$49,800 for the Risk and Resilience Assessment and the Emergency Response Plan Project Update & Recertification.