

2021-0502

Discuss and consider action to authorize the City Manager to approve the procurement of construction services for the Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) project to Core and Main using their HGACBuy contract in the amount of \$2,664,127.05.



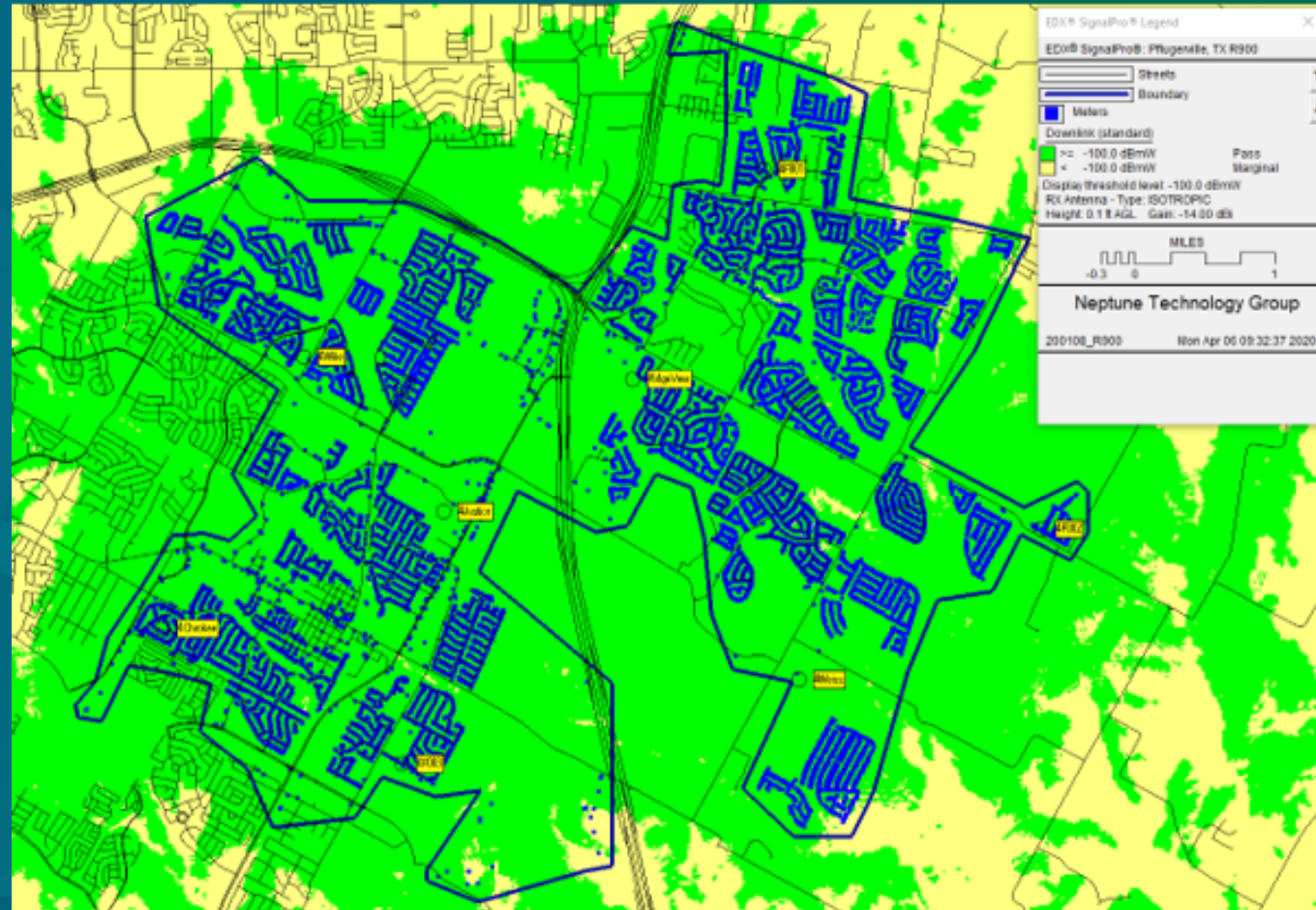
Current Network - AMR

- Current Neptune network employs a mixture of both Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) registers and Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) registers.
- AMR registers allow for staff to drive through neighborhoods and collect the data through a handheld reader on specified intervals.
- As some of the existing AMR register signals can't travel long spans of distance, staff must sometimes go through each street to get meter reads.
- If there is a request for a meter reading from either a customer or from Utility Billing, staff must go back to the site and get the meter reading from the AMR register.
- Reading history is only pulled when Meter Shop staff go to the location.



Proposed Network - AMI

- AMI Networks rely on a variety of different collection points (Collectors) scattered throughout the City to reach the majority (if not all) of our water customers.
- The collectors would be installed at our various elevated storage tanks where possible with other smaller collectors in areas noted in the City's propagation study. These collectors would cover 99% of the City's current water customers.
- These collectors would then communicate that data through the network that will be completed by the end of June 2021 to bring water usage data back in near real-time.
- This data will be accessible to both Utility Billing and Meter Shop staff to identify problems, possible leaks, or create service orders for customers.
- This data will also be made accessible to any water customer to view at any time using a 3rd party vendor.



Neptune/Core and Main

- Currently all City water meters are Neptune with the only exceptions being large water and wastewater treatment plant process meters.
- With 45% of our meter registers currently AMI-capable Neptune units, it made economic sense to stay with Neptune instead of switch the entirety of our system out to another manufacturer.
- This contract would be to complete the collector installation and replace 80% of the remaining AMR meters and meter boxes to be completed within the next 6 months.
- Neptune's only distributor in the Central Texas area is Core and Main. The City has had a successful partnership with Core and Main for many years regarding our Neptune meters.



City staff requests authorizing the City Manager to approve the procurement of construction services for the Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) project to Core and Main using their HGACBuy contract in the amount of \$2,664,127.05.

