City Council Staff Report

Council Meeting Date

- April 28, 2026

Subject

- Lead and Copper testing three year contract with RTI International

Staff Resource(s)

- Bill Hart, Water Resources Director & Brenna Cook, Compliance Manager

Action Requested

- Adoption of resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a three year general services contract with RTI International for $189,956.00 to provide lead and copper analysis, and to sign any documents necessary to effect this resolution.

Background

- This contract is part of the City's Free Lead Testing for all City of Asheville Water Customers to help expand the Lead Awareness Education Program.
- Will help customers determine if there is a lead issue with their household plumbing or service line.
- The lead and copper analysis is free for any City of Asheville Water Customer.
- Will help Water Resources identify any areas where lead could be present in the service lines and prepare for the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements that come into effect November 1, 2027.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- Staff performed outreach through solicitation processes which include posting on the State's Interactive Purchasing System. The lowest, responsible bidder was RTI International, from Durham, NC, at the amount of $189,956.00.

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- A Clean, Safe and Healthy Environment

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- Infrastructure & Environment

Committee(s):

- NA

Pro(s)

- Will help inform customers about potential lead in their homes.
- Will help Water Resources gain a better understanding of potential areas of concern.

Con(s)

- None

Fiscal Impact

- Water Resources will enter into a three year contract with RTI International for $189,956.00 which will come from the Water Resources operating budget.
- Year 1 of the contract will cost no more than $63, 318.67 and is available in the Water Resources operating budget.

Suggested Motion

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a three year general services contract with RTI International to provide lead and copper analysis of drinking water for the City's compliance testing and Customer Lead Testing Program, and to sign any documents necessary to effect this resolution.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

City of Asheville Resolution Number 26-___

Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a three year general services contract with RTI International to provide lead and copper analysis of drinking water for the City's compliance testing and Customer Lead Testing Program.

Whereas, pursuant to N.C.G.S. sec. 160A-312, the City of Asheville has authority to operate a public enterprise, including a water supply and distribution system; and

Whereas, pursuant to N.C.G.S. sec. 160A-20.1, the City of Asheville may enter into contracts with private entities to carry out any public purpose the City is authorized to engage in; and

Whereas, RTI International was the lowest responsible bidder to perform lead and copper testing for the City of Asheville compliance testing; and

Whereas, the use of RTI International will ensure timely completion for the Lead Awareness Program testing;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Asheville that:

The City Manager, on behalf of the City of Asheville, is hereby authorized to execute a three-year general service contract with RTI International, for lead and copper testing for City of Asheville in the amount of $186,956.00, and to sign any documents necessary to effect this resolution.

Read, approved and adopted this 28th day of April, 2026.

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Esther E. Manheimer, Mayor

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Brad Branham, City Attorney

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Magdalen Burleson, City Clerk