

Thomas Public Works Authority

Grant Application for:

Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-17-F011

Offered through:

Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation

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Executive summary

Date: March 14, 2017

Applicant Name: Thomas Public Works Authority

City: Thomas

County: Custer

State: Oklahoma

It is proposed that all of the current mechanical residential and commercial meters be replaced with electronic smart meters which will provide more accurate readings and more efficient use of public works employees' time. It has been the goal of the Thomas Public Works Authority (TPWA) to replace meters on a routine basis to maintain accurate reading and revenue flow. However budget restrictions and resulting staffing limitation have disallowed attainment of this goal. Most of the current mechanical meters in use are more than five years old and are inefficient and inaccurate. The proposed project of installing new electronic smart meters will result in accurate water use readings, increased revenue, and more efficient use of public works employees time.

In discussions with smart meter installers it is projected it will take a maximum of two months to complete the project with an estimated completion date of September 1st, 2017.

The proposed project is **not** located on a Federal facility

Background data

Map of Proposed Project (City of Thomas – See Attached from link

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Thomas,+OK+73669/@35.7469526,-98.7606084,2514m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m5!3m4!1s0x87ae998b119f7703:0x958fa40c08717e1!8m2!3d35.7442157!4d-98.747584>)

The source of the water supply for the TPWA comes from six water wells located approximately one mile from town in a water well field. There are currently 618 residential and 7 commercial customers. The water is primarily used for households and businesses. The water consistently tests to be good quality drinking water.



Project Description

The project goal will be to replace every mechanical residential and commercial meter with an electronic smart meter. This will involve replacement of approximately 618 residential and 7 commercial meters.

- The problem is that current mechanical meters are inaccurate and are past due for replacement
- The project will address the problem by replacing the old meters with new more efficient meters
- The expected outcome is increased revenue and more efficient use of staff time

Evaluation criteria

Planning Efforts Supporting the Project:

The proposed project is supported by the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) initiated by and on record with the Southwest Oklahoma Development Authority (SWODA) which lists replacement of the current mechanical meters with electronic meters as number one on our annual plan. This project would help us follow the plan and eliminate the need for annual meter replacement (as done in the past) since the new electronic smart meters would be accurate for approximately 20 years.

Project Benefits:

The benefits that are expected to result from implementation of the proposed project are more accurate meter readings, increased revenue flow and more effective use of TPWA workers' time.

The expected increased revenue and increase in available man hours will allow the TPWA to more effectively manage existing resources replacing outdated equipment and water lines to the benefit of the residents of Thomas. This is anticipated to result in an overall improvement in the reliability of the TPWA water supply.

Project Implementation:

The estimated schedule for the project will be to begin changing meters 7-1-2017 on 14th Street replacing the southern most residential meters first then working north to replace all the meters on the street. This method will be followed one street at a time until all meters managed by the TPWA are replaced. It is anticipated based on discussion with meter contractors that the project will be completed no later than 9-1-2017.

No permits will be required for implementation or completion of this project.

No engineering or design work will be required in support of this project.

Nexus to Reclamation:

There is no known Nexus to Reclamation project

Environmental and cultural resources compliance

The proposed project **does not** include any ground disturbing activities and will therefore not require any environmental compliance funds.

No species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat is known to be in the project area.

There are **no** wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States.

The water delivery system was originally constructed in approximately 1934.

The proposed project **will not** result in any modification of or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system.

No buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district are listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

There are **no** archeological sites in the proposed project area.

The proposed project **will have no** disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?

The proposed project **will not** limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands.

The proposed project does not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area.

Required permits or approvals

No permits or approvals will be required for this project.

Official resolution

RESOLUTION No 2017-2

AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A WaterSMART Grant: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2017 from the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation

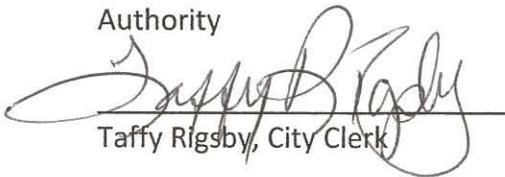
WHEREAS, more accurate water meters are needed at each of the public works department residential homes and commercial businesses where most current meters are more than ten years old, inefficient, inaccurate and in need of replacement.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the residents of the City of Thomas and the Thomas Public Works Authority to expedite the preparation and submission of an application for financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation, in the form of a WaterSMART Grant: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2017 and the execution of documents and contracts if the assistance is awarded; and

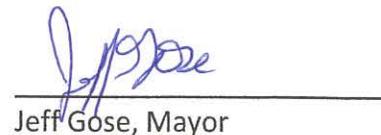
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the City of Thomas Public Works Authority that the Chairman is hereby authorized and directed to sign an application and related documents necessary to file and process an application with the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation on behalf of the Thomas Public Works Authority

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the City of Thomas Public Works authority this 14th day of March, 2016.

ATTEST:
Authority


Taffy Rigsby, City Clerk

Thomas Public Works


Jeff Gose, Mayor

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March 16, 2017

Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
1849 C Street NW
Washington DC 20240-0001

RE: WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects
Opportunity Number: BOR-DO-17-F011

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for the City of Thomas's application for the WaterSMART grant. If awarded, the money will be used to replace the current outdated water meters with electronic smart meters. This will increase efficiency not only in usage and billing, but also in employee time. This is a win/win for the city and its citizens.

If you have any questions, please contact my district office at 405-373-1958.

Respectfully,



Frank D. Lucas
Member of Congress
OK-03

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