



## Memorandum

**Memorandum No: 25-028**

**Date:** March 27, 2025

**To:** Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioners

**From:** Susan Grant, Acting City Manager *Susan Grant*

**Re:** Emergency Purchase –Third-Party Inspection and Engineering Services Update – Police Headquarters

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The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the third-party CEI services procured in relation to the new Police Headquarters roof deflection incident.

On March 25, 2024, as part of a regular scheduled meeting, AECOM staff (Evan Siegel R.A./Yanique Virgo P.M.) along with Engineering Firm Thornton Tomasetti (Derek Wassink P.E.) informed the City, verbally, of a structural crack that was forming at column line 2 G and H roof slab (northwest corner of the Police HQ Building) as a result of a continuous deflection and bending moment. It was stated that this was due to a structural design error in the calculations for this area. The cantilever roof was causing stress and deflection and after the precast panels were installed the crack started to occur.

This was of great concern to the city staff present on the call who were assured that this was minor in nature and posed no harm to the building and future construction work in this area.

Due to the urgent, emergency nature of the work, AECOM, along with Thornton Tomasetti, developed the initial corrective measures which Moss implemented.

On May 8, 2024, it was recommended - to procure a third-party structural engineering consultant, Lakdas Yohalem Engineering (LYE), to assist with stabilizing the conditions, ensuring deflection ratings were within standard structural ranges, and to assist with corrective measures. Pursuant to Florida Statute 287.055(3)(a)1 for cases of valid public emergencies certified by the agency head, we confirmed this emergency and services for monitoring and corrective work commenced.

The initial estimated cost for the third-party structural engineering firm in the Memo on May 8, 2024, was between \$55,000 and \$70,000. The initial Purchase Order was for \$58,020.00. Due to unforeseen delays from additional meetings and analysis of design services, extensive findings and coordination conflicts regarding the corrective measures between the Engineer of Record and Lakdas Yohalem Engineering, the actual price is approximately \$123,270.00. To address the cost differential, I am approving the additional amount of \$65,250 to meet the remaining financial obligation between the City and LYE.

It is anticipated these additional expenses will be recovered as part of AECOM's commitment to reimburse the City for third party peer reviews performed by both LYE and Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE).

I appreciate the support of the City Commission in the completion of this emergency request.

If you require any additional information, please contact Ronald Stein at (954) 531-2395 or [Rstein@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:Rstein@fortlauderdale.gov).

Attachments:

c: Rickelle Williams, Incoming City Manager  
Anthony G. Fajardo, Assistant City Manager  
Laura Reece, Acting Assistant City Manager  
Ben Rogers, Acting Assistant City Manager  
Christopher Cooper, Acting Assistant City Manager  
D'Wayne M. Spence, Interim City Attorney  
David R. Soloman, City Clerk  
Patrick Reilly, City Auditor  
Department Directors  
CMO Managers  
Ronald Stein, Senior Project Manager



February 13, 2025

Revised 02-18-25

David Lovern  
 Senior Project Manager  
 Transportation and Mobility  
 City of Fort Lauderdale  
 290 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

**RE: Police Station Headquarters, City of Fort Lauderdale**

Dear David,

Please see the additional services we rendered, referring to my email dated 07-31-24 and subsequent telephone conversation.

**A. Additional Analysis Design Services and Meetings Performed Prior to July 24, 2024**

- Analyzing columns, cantilever beams, and foundation at east and west columns (Grids G, H, J & K).
- Prepare preliminary corrective work design for reference beams, columns, and foundations.
- Attended a number of meetings not included in the original proposal.

Additional hours' work are as follows:

Principal Engineer	58	\$ 205.00	\$ 11,890.00
Senior Engineer	64	\$ 145.00	\$ 9,280.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 21,170.00</b>

**Our fee for the said additional services is \$21,170.**

**B. Additional Services Required (Since July 2024)**

- Review of original foundation design and prepare two schemes for foundation improvement and prepare design review comments.
- Attend Technical Meetings
- Review selected micro pile foundation system prepared by Keller
- 8 hours of engineering services are included to participate in the project in a limited capacity as the city requires.

Principal Engineer	40	\$ 205.00	\$ 8,200.00
Senior Engineer	240	\$ 145.00	\$ 34,800.00
Administrative	40	\$ 62.00	\$ 2,480.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 45,480.00</b>

- 2211 N.E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308 – (954) 771-0630 – Fax (954) 771-0519
    - 580 Village Blvd. Suite 325 West Palm Beach, FL 33409
    - 16250 NW 59 Ave, #207A, Miami Lakes, FL 33014
- Lye@lyengineering.com



**Our fee for the additional engineering services since July 2024 would be \$45,480.**

Our total **not to exceed** fee for additional engineering services, for north gridline beams, columns, and foundation review recommendations work, prepare schematic design documents and periodic site visits would be \$66,650.

Please provide us with a purchase order.

Sincerely,

Lakdas Nanayakkara, P.E. #37590

Accepted By: David Lovern

Date

- 2211 N.E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308 – (954) 771-0630 – Fax (954) 771-0519
    - 580 Village Blvd. Suite 325 West Palm Beach, FL 33409
    - 16250 NW 59 Ave, #207A, Miami Lakes, FL 33014
- Lye@lyengineering.com



## Memorandum

**Date:** May 8, 2024

I, as Interim City Manager, certify pursuant to Section 287.055(3) (a), Florida Statutes, said deficiency outlined below constitutes a valid public emergency.

**To:** Susan Grant, Interim City Manager

Approved: Susan Grant

Digitally signed by Susan Grant  
Date: 2024.05.08  
10:03:42 -04'00'

**From:** Anthony Fajardo,  
Assistant City Manager 

**Re:** Emergency Purchase –Third-Party Inspection and Engineering Services –  
Police Headquarters

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On March 25, 2024, as part of a regular scheduled meeting, AECOM staff (Evan Siegel R.A./Yanique Virgo P.M.) along with Engineering Firm Thornton Tomasetti (Derek Wassink, P.E.) informed the City, verbally, of a structural crack that was forming at column line 2 G and H roof slab (Northwest corner of the Police HQ Building) as a result of continuous deflection and bending moment. Thornton Tomasetti stated that this was due to a structural design error in the calculations for this area. The roof cantilever was causing this stress and deflection and after the precast panels were installed, a crack started to occur.

This crack is obvious to the naked eye and continuous along the whole length of the beam (both sides) as is illustrated by photographs taken at the site. A drawing showing a detail of a potential correction for this condition was also presented by Thornton Tomasetti to City staff during this meeting. These drawings proposed repair work involving additional rebar and concrete for the northward expansion of the third-floor columns. The ground floor footings were redesigned to incorporate an additional rebar cage to account for eccentric loads introduced by the expansion of the third-floor columns.

This was of great concern to the city staff present on the call who were assured that this was minor in nature and posed no harm to the building and or future construction work in this area.

During that meeting, the City followed up and required the following remedial steps to address this:

1. Immediate written notification to the Contractor and City Building Division (structural), of any shoring and/or bracing that is being installed to prevent any further damage and maintain life safety.
2. A revision to the building permit set shall be filed with the Building Services Division of the Development Services Department (DSD), prior to any structural repair work being proposed.
3. Immediate inspection by the Building Services structural reviewers and inspectors be allowed of the field condition with unfettered access until a remedy is agreed upon.
4. No installation of any work that might add to the already stressed deadload in this area causing additional deterioration of the structural integrity.
5. No further repair work without obtaining the proper Building Services reviews and

approvals.

6. A written letter by the structural engineer stating a description of this deficiency in detail and a thorough re-examination of the balance of the buildings' structural calculations be rechecked and written findings and confirmation that no other beams and or components are found to have similar deficiencies.
7. All Threshold Inspection Reports and Material Testing Reports be submitted immediately to the Building Services Division as required by the Building Code.

Due to the urgent, emergency nature of the work, AECOM, along with Thornton Tomasetti developed the initial corrective measure which Moss & Associates, LLC implemented. A permit revision was requested by the Building Department and approved on March 27, 2024.

The Building Services Division has been monitoring the deflection reports of the referenced beam submitted by Structural Engineer of Record, Thorton Tomasetti, and has informed senior level staff that the beam is in fact continuing to deflect at 1/100<sup>th</sup> of a foot over a five-day period. This is after the proposed repair work was completed and after the complete concrete cure time frame period of 28 days.

As a result of a city inspection, On April 19, 2024, the City placed a partial stop work order for this area, to allow the City time to engage a third-party structural engineer to review this condition and make recommendations on if a more suitable repair solution should be implemented. Although work is permitted to proceed in all areas outside of the north section of the project, the north vehicular route of the site has been affected due to the partial stop work order extending protection to the project limits adjacent of West Broward Blvd.

Based upon the nature of the structural deficiency, I am hereby requesting that you, as the interim City Manager, certify that pursuant to Section 287.055(3)(a)1., Florida Statutes, said deficiency constitutes a valid public emergency.

To address this issue thoroughly, I am recommending a third-party structural engineering consultant be procured immediately and remain onsite until the condition is stabilized, and deflection ratings are within standard structural ranges. Staff estimate the total cost for the third-party structural engineering firm will be between \$55,000 and \$70,000.

Following this emergency request and approval, staff will coordinate with the Procurement Division and existing City of Fort Lauderdale consultants to expedite the assessments, testing and corrective measure recommendations. The initial review will commence 48 hours after a Purchase Order is issued, and the review and corrective measure recommendations should be shared with City staff and contractors within 3-4 weeks, depending on the findings.

I appreciate your support in the completion of this emergency request. If you require any additional information, please contact David Lovern at (954) 828-6235 or [dlovern@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:dlovern@fortlauderdale.gov).

- c: Thomas J. Ansbro, City Attorney  
Rhonda Montoya Hasan, Senior Assistant City Attorney  
David R. Soloman, City Clerk  
Patrick Reilly, City Auditor  
Department Directors  
CMO Manages