



May 14, 2026

Josh McNeil, PE
CIP Engineer
City of McKinney
PO Box 517
McKinney, TX 76069

Subject: Recommendation for Construction Contract Award
Wilson Creek Manhole Improvements
Gresham Smith Project No. 49745.01

Dear Mr. McNeil,

The Wilson Creek Manhole Improvements project was intended to rehab manholes along the Wilson Creek Trunk Sewer to alleviate projected surcharging per hydraulic model results. Manhole Improvements included

1. Remove and Replace 5 Full Depth Manholes with Polymer Manholes
2. Slipline 6 Existing Manholes with Polymer Risers
3. Dowel 4 Existing Manholes with Polymer Risers
4. Replace 1 Existing Top Manhole with Pressure Rated MH
5. Remove and Demolish 1 Existing Sewer Manhole
6. Misc vent piping, mow strips, vent piping, bypass pumping, etc,

Design was completed and the designed project was advertised for bids. The following is a summary of bids received on May 7th 2026 to McKinney.

Wilson Creek Manhole Rehab Bid Opening Results May 7th, 2026 2:00 PM	
Bidder Name	Bid Amounts
Canary Construction	\$4,213,645.00
Southern Trenchless Solutions	\$ 995,337.83

Two bids were submitted. Two of the bid proposals submitted were tabulated and found to be correctly totaled and otherwise in order, resulting in the reported bid amounts for each bidder. The lowest responsive bid received was from Southern Trenchless Solutions, a firm headquartered in La Feria, TX, in the amount of \$995,337.83. A copy of the Bid Tabulation is provided as an Attachment to this letter.

Genuine Ingenuity

500 N Akard Street
Suite 3210
Dallas, TX 75201
214.350.1500
GreshamSmith.com



The Bid submittal from Southern Trenchless Solutions was reviewed including bid proposal, current and previous experience, required forms and bid bond. This review concluded with the following findings:

1. Apparent Low Bidder Responsive. The apparent low bid by Southern Trenchless Solutions, LLC includes all items required in the Bidder's checklist.
2. Qualifications. The apparent low bidder's qualifications to deliver the project were reviewed utilizing its bid experience summaries submitted with its bid. Southern Trenchless Solutions, current experience reflects five (5) Manhole Rehab projects and 4 wastewater pipeline projects.
3. References. Our findings from interviews from owners and engineers are summarized as follows:
 - a. Three references of manhole rehab projects, with cost ranging from \$ 150,000 to \$4,775,000 were contacted for projects performed in the City of Grand Prairie, North Texas Municipal Water District and City of La Marque. All three references were very positive. All references stated they would select Southern Trenchless Solutions again if they were the low bid. This illustrates Southern Trenchless LLC is experienced and highly qualified with products, installation and techniques associated with manhole rehab.
 - b. Multiple references stated Southern Trenchless Solutions is "Great" and multiple references stated they had more than one contract with Southern Trenchless Solutions; as well they'd like to work with them again, specifically stating the company was responsive to inspectors concerns and addressed quality issues.
 - c. As well, references had positive responses, in regards to meeting schedule, minimal contractor initiated change orders and delivery and quality of work, noting specifically there were change orders on the job, but most were driven by uncovering different conditions during excavation.
 - d. Multiple references cited work in North Texas, including City of Grand Prairie and former NTMWD employee, and a third reference in the City of Richardson who could not be contacted, illustrating the company has crews that have successfully and recently completed projects in the DFW area.

We found one discrepancy in Southern Trenchless Solutions Bid Proposal; Page 3 did not include the alternate bid price, while the excel pricing list submitted by Southern Trenchless Solutions did include the alternate bid price of \$133,445.02. We find Southern Trenchless Solutions bid documents to be responsive and responsible; however, we recommend confirming with Southern Trenchless Solutions that the excel pricing list is accurate versus Page 3 of the Bidding Documents, and that Southern Trenchless Solutions re-submit Bid Proposal Page 3 matching the excel pricing list prior to City Council approval.

On the basis of our review of the qualifications and submittals by this construction firm, confirmed with discussions by other references discussed above, we support and recommend award of a construction contract to Southern Trenchless Solutions LLC, in the amount of \$995,337.83 for Manhole Improvements on the Wilson Creek Interceptors.

Sincerely,

Brian Fiske, P.E.
Senior Project Manager
Engineer of Record

**Gresham
Smith**



Copy Blake Sills, Engineering CIP Director, City of McKinney
Chris Kaakaty, Vice President – Gresham Smith
Wassim Saleh, P.E.- Gresham Smith