

Austin Shopping Center, Austin, Texas



IRRIGATION CONTRACTOR

ECO Systems Landscape Services

RAIN BIRD PRODUCTS

- CLP Series Pump Station

"We were very pleased with how quickly we were able to get the CLP pump installed. It had all the required components in one unit, which made our job easier."

- Chris Mele
Vice President, ECOSystems Landscape Services

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The property manager of a shopping center located in Austin, Texas, needed to replace an existing booster pump for the irrigation system. The irrigation system consists of sprays, rotors and drip irrigation used to irrigate the shrubs and trees in the parking lot medians, plantings near sidewalks and large turf area near the entrance to the center. Each of the irrigation zones required different flow rates and needed a pump that could provide the correct pressure to meet the variable flow demand without running over capacity, shortening the life of the pump. The solution was to install a CLP Series Pump Station (boost model) with 5 HP and variable frequency drive (VFD).

CHALLENGE:

A number of booster pumps had been installed in the past but without VFD, they were not able to run at variable speeds. Subsequently, the pumps would run at full speed regardless of the flow demand and wore out sooner than expected. Another disadvantage was the wasted energy used when the pumps operated at full speed.

RESULTS:

ECOSystems Landscape Services was hired to install a new pump that could handle the variable flow demand and last longer than previous pumps. When Chris Mele, ECOSystems's vice president, began looking for the right pump station to install, he had two choices: Build a pump station using parts from different manufacturers or install a pump station that was pre-built and included the enclosure and electrical panel.

Chris chose the Rain Bird CLP Series Pump Station because it includes the pump, electrical junction box, and marine-grade aluminum locking enclosure. "We decided to use the Rain Bird CLP pump because all of the components were already assembled," said Chris. "We poured the concrete pad the day before and the next day the installation process took about four to six hours. The CLP was easy to install and the cost was comparable to the other options when you factored in the labor savings." The CLP is designed for small-to-medium landscape sites that require variable flow demand up to 120 gpm.

The CLP's VFD provides slow ramp up, causing less stress on irrigation components and minimizes pressure surges in irrigation systems that have variable flow demand for different irrigation zones and no inline pressure regulation. Since the VFD only runs to produce the pressure needed for the required flow demand of each zone, the CLP uses less energy to operate than pumps without VFD.