



Office of the City Manager

RECESS ITEM
CONSENT CALENDAR
April 14, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront

Subject: Contract No. 31900202 Amendment: Bay Area Tree Specialists for As-Needed Tree Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution ratifying the action taken by the City Manager during recess to amend Contract No. 31900202 with Bay Area Tree Specialists for as-needed tree services, increasing the amount by \$300,000 for an amended total not-to-exceed amount of \$500,000 for a contract term of May 29, 2019 through May 28, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding for this contract amendment of \$300,000 is available in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 budget in the Parks Tax Fund (138-52-542-566-0000-000-461-612990) and the General Fund (011-52-542-567-0000-000-461-612990).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City currently has contracts with four tree services contractors in order to cover essential tree services on a timely and emergency basis throughout the year¹. This work involves tree and stump removals and tree pruning throughout the City during normal and storm conditions on the public right of way, street medians, and pathways, and in public parks. To date, staff has identified additional tree work that is required in order to reduce fire fuel and improve public safety through FY 2021. Staff solicited proposals from the four current tree service contractors and selected Bay Area Tree Specialists as the most cost effective proposal. In order to perform this additional work, staff recommends Council approval of a contract amendment with Bay Area Tree Specialists (BATS) in the amount of \$300,000 for a new not-to-exceed contract amount of \$500,000 (See contract number

¹ Bay Area Tree Specialists (Resolution 68,972); Hamilton Tree Service, Inc. (Reso 68,928); The Professional Tree Care Company (Reso 68,929); and West Coast Arborists, Inc. (Reso 68,930).

31900202, Resolution No. 68,927-N.S., June 14, 2019). To-date, BATS contractor has successfully completed tree removals at Codornices Park and along Wildcat Canyon Road, near Woodmont Avenue. Over the next three years, there will be additional tree work needed, and staff will solicit proposals for this work from the four current tree service contractors.

BACKGROUND

In April 2019, the City conducted a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process to obtain qualified contractors to provide tree services on an as-needed basis. The City determined that four tree services contractors met the requirements in the RFQ and executed four service contracts, at \$200,000 per contract (see footnote 1 above).

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The maintenance of the urban forest and the prevention of destructive urban fires are essential in meeting the City's Climate Action Goals over the long term.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Staff has identified trees to be removed and pruned at various parks, on City paths, and along the public right of way which will reduce the fire fuel load and improve public safety. Staff solicited bids from the four tree service contractors currently under contract with the City, and Bay Area Tree Specialists submitted the most cost-effective proposal to perform the additional work. The City does not have the in-house labor or equipment resources to complete these jobs in an efficient manner.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None

CONTACT PERSON

Bruce Pratt, Parks Superintendent, 981-6632
Dan Gallagher, Senior Forestry Supervisor, 981-6687

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT NO. 31900202 AMENDMENT: BAY AREA TREE SPECIALISTS FOR AS-NEEDED TREE SERVICES

WHEREAS, In April 2019, the City conducted a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process to obtain qualified contractors to provide tree services on an as-needed basis. The City determined that four tree services contractors met the requirements in the RFQ and executed four service contracts, at \$200,000 per contract: Bay Area Tree Specialists (Resolution 68,972); Hamilton Tree Service, Inc. (Reso 68,928); The Professional Tree Care Company (Reso 68,929); and West Coast Arborists, Inc. (Reso 68,930); and

WHEREAS, to-date, staff has identified trees to be removed to reduce the fire fuel load and other trees to be pruned to improve the health and safety of the urban forest; and

WHEREAS, to date, staff has identified additional tree work that is required in order to reduce fire fuel and improve public safety through FY 2021. Staff solicited proposals from the four current tree service contractors and selected Bay Area Tree Specialists as the most cost effective proposal; and

WHEREAS, funding for this contract amendment of \$300,000 is available in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 budget from the Parks Tax Fund (138) and the General Fund (011).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council ratifies the action taken by the City Manager to execute an amendment to Contract No. 31900202 with Bay Area Tree Specialists for as-needed tree services, increasing the amount by \$300,000 for an amended total amount not to exceed \$500,000 for a contract term of May 29, 2019 through May 28, 2022.

