



Agenda Report

Fullerton City Council

MEETING DATE: MARCH 3, 2020

TO: CITY COUNCIL / CITY MANAGER

SUBMITTED BY: KENNETH A. DOMER, CITY MANAGER

PREPARED BY: MEG McWADE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
DAN DIAZ, STREET SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: WEST COAST ARBORIST – AMENDMENT TO 2017
CONTRACT TO ALLOW FOR SERVICES TO BE
AUTHORIZED AT PRICES BID

SUMMARY

The Public Works Department Landscape Division is seeking approval to amend the 2017 contract with West Coast Arborists, Inc. to allow for additional work for Capital Improvement Projects and increased operational needs at prices bid in contract. This action removes the prior expenditure cap of \$1,183,170 per year.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Public Works Director to execute an amendment, subject to City Attorney review, to the 2017 agreement for City Tree Services with West Coast Arborists, Inc. (WCA) to enable additional operational and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project work at prices bid. This action removes the current annual cap of \$1,183,170.

PRIORITY POLICY STATEMENT

This item matches the following Priority Policy Statement:

- Public Safety.

FISCAL IMPACT

The current contract – which was competitively bid in 2017 - was awarded with a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,183,170. This authorization will remove the funding cap and enable the City to utilize WCA – at prices bid for additional CIP work and operational work as budgets allow.

\$1,250,000 of operational budget appropriation was approved by City Council in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 adopted budget. Any subsequent funding requests will be incorporated through appropriate budget processes in future fiscal years. The estimated cost of services in Fiscal Year 2019-20, which is included in the current fiscal year budget, is as follows:

FY 2019-20 Operational Budget - \$1,250,000

FY 2019-20 CIP Budget

\$837,514 Hazardous Tree Removal Project approved by City Council on November 5, 2019. While the entire amount has been appropriated, the initial phase of project will utilize \$223,309 for removal of the highest priority trees and \$6,000 for an inspection report to determine future phasing of remaining hazardous trees.

Other CIP Projects – Dependent upon work needed.

DISCUSSION

Tree trimming of City-maintained trees is completed by WCA. WCA, a company established in 1972, provides professional tree maintenance and management services for over 275 municipalities in California and Arizona. ISA Certified staff serve on every crew. WCA has been the City's tree contractor since 1998, with the last contract issued in 2017 through a competitive bid process. The work is performed according to American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards with oversight by the City's arborist.

The City tree services contract was awarded in 2017 through a competitive bidding process. At the time of award, the City Council authorization was set at a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$1,183,170 based on historical operational trimming levels. Since that time, there has been a need to increase use of WCA for hazardous tree response and specialty pruning for species such as Chinese Elms not originally included in the 2017 cost analysis. Additionally, Staff has utilized WCA for tree removal / trimming work related to CIP projects. Based on these factors, there is a need to modify the contract and enable the use of WCA based on prices bid rather than on the current not-to-exceed amount of \$1,183,170.

In FY 2019-20, it is anticipated the operational use of WCA will be approximately \$1,250,000 with funding previously authorized in the Adopted FY 2019-20 Operational Budget. Future fiscal year operational amounts would be subject to authorization through the standard budget approval process.

CIP projects would utilize the services of WCA based on the needs of individual projects with budgetary amounts tied to those needs which range depending on number of trees, maturity / size of trees, etc. As an example, the Hazardous Tree Removal Project was approved by City Council on November 5, 2019, in the amount of \$837,514. Another example of a CIP project is \$50,000 for tree removal anticipated in the Loma Alta project. There are other projects where only a few trees are involved and the related costs are significantly lower. Utilization of WCA for CIP aids in streamlining projects and ensures consistency of maintenance / removal data for the City.

The WCA contract is valid July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022 and may be extended for up to five additional one-year terms. As outlined in the documents developed by the City during the competitive bidding process, the only allowable price increases will be those required by United States or State of California wage determinations.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – 2020 Proposed West Coast Arborist Amendment
- Attachment 2 - 2017 Agreement with West Coast Arborist
- Attachment 3 - 2017 Agenda Report Awarding City Tree Services Contract