



CITY OF SAN MATEO

City Hall
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Agenda Report

Agenda Number: 8

Section Name: {{section.name}}

File ID: {{item.tracking_number}}

TO: City Council
FROM: Drew Corbett, City Manager
PREPARED BY: Parks and Recreation Department
MEETING DATE: February 07, 2022
SUBJECT:
Eucalyptus Tree Removals – Agreement

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve an agreement with Professional Tree Care Company for Crystal Springs Road eucalyptus tree removals in the amount of \$178,500 and authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation to execute the agreement in substantially the form presented.

BACKGROUND:

Approximately 20 over-mature blue gum eucalyptus trees line the south side of Crystal Springs Road between Tulane Road and El Cerrito Avenue. This stand of trees has experienced several recent failures. The trees grow on an embankment with limited rooting volume. City staff has inspected these trees and determined that additional trees are likely to fail without warning and that removal of the entire stand is the most appropriate way to ensure public safety.

A request for bids was published on the City's website and announced in the Daily Journal. The following three companies submitted bids: Bay Area Tree Specialists for \$105,294, Professional Tree Care Company for \$178,500, and Kingsborough Atlas Tree Surgery, Inc for \$452,665.

Municipal Code Chapter 13.60.040 AWARD PROCEDURES provides that "...the City Council may consider, in addition to the bid price received, the experience of the bidder for the particular service sought, the quality of work the bidder has done, the quality of the product or materials provided by the bidder, the ability of the bidder to complete the project in a timely manner, the safety compliance record of the bidder..."

In this instance, staff recommends awarding the agreement to other than the lowest bidder due to the very specialized and high-risk nature of the work, and staff's experience on similar projects with both Bay Area Tree Specialists and Professional Tree Care Company. Over the course of projects in the past three years, Professional Tree Care Company has demonstrated that they can meet the City's standards for preventing interruptions to utility service, avoiding damage to City property, and minimizing hazardous conditions to the public.

BUDGET IMPACT:

There are sufficient funds in the Parks and Recreation Department operating budget to fund this work.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(c), the proposed tree removal is categorically exempt from CEQA because it is necessary to mitigate an emergency. The stand of trees to be removed is comprised of a row of very tall trees with poor structure (narrow crowns) growing in a raised embankment. The limited soil volume in the embankment is no longer sufficient to support the above ground portions of the trees. Selective removal of any individual tree/s would

further jeopardize the stability of the stand as remaining trees will be exposed to increased wind loads to which they are not adapted.

NOTICE PROVIDED

All meeting noticing requirements were met.

ATTACHMENTS

Att 1 – Agreement

STAFF CONTACT

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