

Agenda Report

December 8, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Department of Public Works
SUBJECT: CONTRACT AWARD TO GEORGE SALINAS TREE PRESERVATION FOR CITYWIDE TREE AND STUMP REMOVAL SERVICES FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$661,020

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Acknowledge the project (Contract for Tree and Stump Removal) to be categorically exempt under Section 21084(a) of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1984 in accordance with Article 19, Section 15301 (Class 1), Subsection (h) of the Guidelines (maintenance of existing landscaping) and authorize the City Clerk to file a Notice of Exemption for the project with the Los Angeles County Clerk; and
2. Accept the bid dated August 27, 2014, submitted by George Salinas Tree Preservation in response to the Notice Inviting Bids for Citywide Tree and Stump Removal Services, and authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract for such work as is required for an amount not to exceed \$661,020 over a three-year period. This contract will have an option of two one-year terms not to exceed an annual amount of \$220,340 or an amount equal to the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Los Angeles-Orange-Riverside counties for the preceding 12-month period, renewable at the discretion of the City Manager, for a total contract length of five years.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Pasadena has 63,500 street trees and 25,000 park trees that contribute long-term aesthetic, environmental and economic benefits to the City. In addition to maintaining existing trees and planting new trees, the Department of Public Works is also responsible for removing approximately 350–400 dead, dying and hazardous trees each year.

For the last two fiscal years the City contracted with George Salinas Preservation to perform tree and stump removal services which augmented work performed by the City's workforce. The work was competitively bid and did not exceed \$50,000 on an

annual basis. Large scale and time intensive tree removals were often issued to the contractor, with bulk of tree and stump removal services provided by the Department of Public Works.

Based on drought conditions the Department is experiencing an increase in the number of tree and stump removals. The Department determined that the management of the tree and stump removal process could be enhanced by utilizing a contractor to perform tree and stump removals. Previously the timing of non-hazardous tree removals was dependent on work tasks performed by City crews. The contract specification developed requires that the contractor remove trees and stumps within 60 days of notification from the City. The change allows additional staff resources to be allocated to small tree care (including watering, training prunes and re-staking recently planted trees) and established tree pruning cycles.

Representatives from the Departments of Human Resources and Public Works met with representatives of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) to discuss the proposed increase in use of contract services. Following the meeting, AFSCME notified the City that although generally not in favor of contracting out of work performed by City employees, AFSCME does not oppose the Department of Public Works decision to increase this contract.

The selected contractor will be expected to remove dead and dying trees and stumps and fill vacant tree wells with clean native soil. The contractor is also required to coordinate their work with underground utility companies to avoid conflicts.

The Department of Public Works prepared specifications for this project in accordance with Section 4.08 of the Pasadena Municipal Code and bids were requested and received. On July 31, 2014, a Notice Inviting Bids was published in *The Pasadena Journal* and posted on the City's web page.

Following advertising, bids were received on August 27, 2014, and are as follows:

Bidder – Tree Removal	Annual Amount (\$)
1. George Salinas Tree Preservation, Yorba Linda	\$190,800
2. Mariposa Landscape, Irwindale	\$238,800
3. Flintridge Tree Care, Pasadena ^A	\$246,450
4. Roper Tree Surgeon and Landscaping, Compton	\$289,920
5. West Coast Arborist, Anaheim	\$361,200
6. Oakridge Tree Care, North Hills	\$381,006
7. International Environmental Corporation, Arleta	\$882,000

^A 1% Local Bidder Preference

The annual bid prices are based upon a price per diameter at breast height (DBH) for the removal trees and stumps of up to 400 trees, using an average DBH of 24 inches.

George Salinas Tree Preservation was the lowest responsive bidder that met all of the required specifications. George Salinas Tree Preservation is also contracted for palm

and hardwood pruning services. The Department of Public Works recommends that the City Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract for an amount not to exceed \$661,020 representing an annual cost of \$220,340 to George Salinas Tree Preservation for the removal of trees for three years from the date of execution. The proposed contract cost is \$17.00 per diameter inch and represents a 12.8% decrease in unit cost from the current contract price of \$19.50 per diameter inch.

This contract was bid with the requirement to comply with the Pasadena Living Wage Ordinance. Since the development of the contract specification Senate Bill 7 was approved by Governor Jerry Brown and filed with Secretary of State on October 13, 2013. This new law requires that all individuals employed on public works projects in the State of California be compensated not less than the general prevailing rate wages as determined by the Director of Industrial Relations. In order to comply with this requirement \$20,000 has been added to the contract contingency. The Department of Public Works has been in communication with George Salinas Preservation and the vendor is aware of the need to comply with prevailing wage requirements. The Department of Public Works will execute a new contract containing prevailing wage requirements.

This contract may be extended for up to two additional one-year periods, not to exceed \$220,340 per year or an amount equal to the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Los Angeles-Orange-Riverside counties for the preceding 12-month period, subject to the approval of the City Manager. The total contract of \$220,340 may be held constant or be increased by an amount equal to the change in the CPI for the preceding 12-month period.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

This project is consistent with the City Council's goals to improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure; support and promote the quality of life and local economy; and ensure public safety.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

This project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1984 in accordance with Article 19, Section 15301 (Class 1), Subsection (h) of the Guidelines (maintenance of existing landscaping).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total cost of this contract is \$661,020 and the total cost of this action will be \$661,020 over three years. Funding for this action exists within the budgeted appropriations in the Parks and Natural Resources Division Operating Budget (budget account 8114-101-765210). It is anticipated that all of the costs will be spent over the next three years or up to five years if the contract options are exercised.

The following table represents a contract summary.

Base Contract	\$572,400
Contingency Amount	\$ 88,620
Contract Administration	\$ 15,000
Total Fiscal Impact	\$676,020

Respectfully submitted,



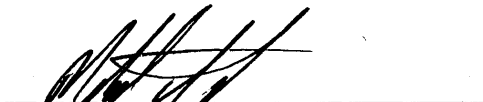
SIOBHAN FOSTER
Director of Public Works

Prepared by:



Darya I. Barar
Program Coordinator II

Approved by:



MICHAEL J. BECK
City Manager