



Agenda Report

November 23, 2020

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Department of Public Works
SUBJECT: **CONTRACT AWARD TO G TEAM LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR LOWER ARROYO SECO HABITAT RESTORATION FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$484,998**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find the contract proposed herein to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines in accordance with Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15301, Class 4 for minor alterations to land and Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15333, Class 33 for small habitat restoration projects; and
2. i) Accept the bid dated, November 5, 2020, submitted by G Team Landscape Construction, Inc. in response to the Project Plans and Specifications for the Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration, ii) reject all other bids, and iii) authorize the City Manager to enter into such contract for an amount not to exceed \$484,998 which includes the base contract amount of \$387,998 and a contingency of \$97,000 to provide for any necessary change orders.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2017, the La Loma Bridge (now known as John K. Van de Kamp Bridge) Rehabilitation project was completed, however, its scope of work did not include restoration of the habitat areas surrounding the bridge including the abutment slopes and construction staging area.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, the Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration project was created and funded as part of the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) utilizing Los Angeles County Proposition A grant funds and residential impact fees. The project's intention is to restore the native plant communities and associated wildlife habitat in the Arroyo Seco from the vicinity surrounding John K. Van de Kamp Bridge extending north to the Pasadena Casting Pond (all within Lower Arroyo Park), making up a total project area of less than five acres.

On March 2, 2020, the City entered into an agreement with Psomas for professional planning, design, and plant/seed procurement services for the Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration Project. The scope of services included (a) the development of a CEQA Categorical Exemption; (b) the collection of native seeds in the local sub-watersheds; (c) the collection and propagation of native plants of local genetic origin; and (d) project bidding documents (plans and specifications) prepared by Psomas' restoration ecologists, in coordination with landscape architects of Cornerstone Studios, Inc. (Psomas' subcontractor).

In July 2020, the Concept Plan was sent out to community organizations surrounding the project area for comments. Staff reached out to various project stakeholders for feedback, including Arroyo Seco Foundation, West Pasadena Neighborhood Association, La Casita Foundation, Pasadena Casting Club and Pasadena Heritage Foundation.

As part of the public outreach effort, staff and Psomas also conducted several site walks with community stakeholders, to closely assess the project area and identify proposed plant removals and restoration efforts. Site walks were held on the following dates:

- August 3 & 20, 2020
- September 15 & 17, 2020

On September 1, 2020, staff presented the project and received support of concept design from the Recreation and Parks Commission.

On September 17, 2020, the proposed project scope was presented at District 6 Town Hall Meeting for discussion and feedback.

On September 23, 2020, staff presented the project scope and received recommendation for plant and tree removals from the City's Urban Forestry Advisory Committee.

On November 10, 2020, staff returned to District 6 Town Hall Meeting to present the community vetted and finalized project scope.

The proposed project plan is consistent with the Lower Arroyo Master Plan adopted by the City in 2003, specifically the recommendations set forth in Section 3.2.2 Restoration of Plant and Wildlife Habitats.

The scope of work for the Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration contract consists of the following:

- Removal of non-native trees/plants and dead trees;
- Manual removal of herbaceous non-native plants (weeds);
- Importation and placement of numerous natural boulders/rocks to create natural barriers for habitat protection and to provide habitat values for wildlife;

- Placement of coarse woody debris (i.e., prepared logs and branches from removed trees) to provide natural seating, natural barriers along trails, and assemblages within the planting areas to provide beneficial wildlife cover;
- De-compaction of soils (especially staging areas associated with the Bridge Rehabilitation project) to prepare for native plant establishment;
- Installation of environmentally suitable erosion control measures (as needed);
- Installation of a new irrigation system to assist in the establishment of new native trees and plants;
- Installation of native planting materials including southern California black walnut trees, coast live oak trees, western sycamore trees, and approximately 2,000 understory shrubs and herbaceous plants;
- Installation of natural mulch around the newly planted areas;
- 90-day post-installation maintenance period for the irrigation system and planting materials; and
- One-year contractor guarantee on newly planted sycamore trees.

A finding of compliance with the General Plan was previously made and is shown in the FY 2021 - 2025 CIP on page 10.1 – Arroyo Projects.

The Department of Public Works and environmental restoration consultant Psomas prepared plans and specifications for the subject contract. In accordance with Section 4.08.070 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, bids were requested and received. On October 15, 2020 a Notice Inviting Bids for Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration project was published in the local paper as well as posted on PlanetBids. The posting generated notices to all vendors who have previously registered with the City for this particular commodity class. A total of 57 vendors downloaded the specifications of which four were local. A total of seven bids were received by the bid opening date, including one from a local vendor. One bid was found to be non-responsive.

BID RESULTS:

Following advertising, bids were electronically received on November 5, 2020 and are as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount (\$)</u>
1. G Team Landscape Construction, Inc., Pasadena	\$387,998
2. FS Contractors, Inc., Sylmar	\$394,101
3. Mariposa Landscapes, Inc., Irwindale	\$459,006
4. Habitat Restoration Sciences, Inc., Vista	\$573,668
5. Aramexx Group Inc., Riverside	\$599,931
6. HELIX Environmental Construction Group, Inc., La Mesa	\$616,751
Engineer's Estimate	\$450,000

It is recommended that G Team Landscape Construction, Inc. be awarded the contract for this project as they are the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The proposed

contract with G Team Landscape Construction, Inc. fully complies with the Competitive Bidding and Living Wage Ordinances. In addition, the proposed contract fully complies with the Prevailing Wage Law (Senate Bill 7) per Resolution 9406 adopted by the City Council on December 14, 2014.

The contractor has indicated that the award of this contract will result in no new hires to the present work force.

G Team Landscape Construction, Inc. has previously performed work for the City on the Hahamongna Watershed Park – Habitat Restoration project in FY 2019 for a contract amount of \$230,000.

The contract will be set up as follows:

Base Bid	\$ 387,998
Contingency Allowance	\$ 97,000
Contract Not-to-Exceed Amount	\$ 484,998

A contingency of 25 percent is allocated to this contract given possible unforeseen conditions that may be encountered.

It is anticipated that construction will begin by January 2021 and the work will be completed in March 2021, as stipulated by the project's Prop A grant funding deadline. The initial 90-day maintenance period will continue under this contract through June 2021.

Based on comments and feedback received during the community outreach efforts, staff and Psomas worked to develop a 5-year Sustainability Plan, to ensure native plant and tree establishment, and in turn ensure establishment of native habitat in the project vicinity. The Sustainability Plan will include biological monitoring, replacement of dead planted materials and remediation of non-native invasive plant species. The Plan would commence in July 2021, upon the completion of this contract's 90-day maintenance period. Staff will return to City Council in Spring 2021 for award of Sustainability Plan contract as final phase of this CIP project.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

This contract is consistent with the City Council's goal to improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

This contract has been determined to be categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to the guidelines of the CEQA (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(9); Administrative Code, Title 14, Chapter 3, §15301, Class 4 for minor alterations to land and Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15333, Class 33 for small habitat restoration

projects. For Class 4, the proposed project involves minor public alterations in the condition of land and vegetation, including removal of non-native trees/plants as part of the City's urban forestry management. The proposed work is minor because there is minimal disturbance of the ground surface, totaling much less than five acres, and the surface areas would be restored with no permanent adverse effects on the environment. For Class 33, the project does not exceed five acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of this contract is \$484,998 and the total cost of this action will be \$544,998. Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of existing and recommended budgeted appropriations in the *Lower Arroyo Seco – Habitat Restoration (77410)* CIP project. It is anticipated all costs will be spent in FY 2021.

The following table represents a project summary.

Base Bid	\$	387,998
Contingency	\$	97,000
Contract Administration/Inspection	\$	60,000
Total Fiscal Impact	\$	544,998

Following the restoration work under this contract, a 5-year Sustainability Plan will be implemented in July 2021 as part of this project. Funding for this Plan will be addressed at time of contract award by utilization of recommended appropriations in the FY 2022 CIP project budget.

Respectfully submitted,



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