

# Agenda Report

**TO: CITY COUNCIL** **DATE: November 22, 2004**  
**FROM: CITY MANAGER**  
**SUBJECT: REJECTION OF BID - LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE AT  
VARIOUS CITY FACILITIES IN LANDSCAPE AREAS I, II, AND III**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council reject all bids received on May 26, 2004, in response to specifications for landscape maintenance at various City facilities.

## **BACKGROUND**

In accordance with Pasadena Municipal Code 4.08.070, the Department of Public Works has prepared plans and specifications for the subject project, and bids have been requested and received.

This project was advertised in the *Pasadena Journal* on April 29, 2004. In addition, a Notice Inviting Bids was sent to three trade journals and two web sites, one being the City's home page, informing prospective bidders of the project and requesting members of their organizations to submit bids. Ten contractors took out bid packages, and of these four contractors submitted bids.

This project represents the continuation of the maintenance of various City landscape facilities by private contractors. The work includes the landscape maintenance of various traffic and median islands, branch libraries, various City facilities, and three City-owned parking lots. In total, there are 61 separate City landscape facilities to be maintained.

Following advertising, four bids were opened on May 26, 2004 as follows:

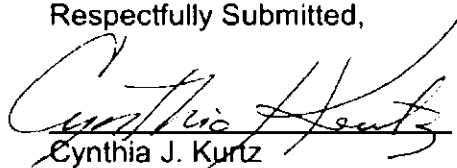
<b><u>Bidder</u></b>	<b><u>Cost</u></b>
1. Trugreen Landcare	\$128,275.20
2. L. Barrios and Associates	\$163,260.00
3. Bennett Landscape	\$207,720.00
4. DNS Services	\$798,132.00

Pursuant to an analysis of the bid results, staff has concerns about the lowest bidder's ability to perform the work necessary at many of the contract sites. The analysis illustrates that for 38 of the 61 contract sites, Trugreen Landcare, the lowest bidder, provided bids that were a minimum of 50 percent less than the next lowest bidder. Additionally, Trugreen Landcare's bid on the largest site in the contract is more than 4 and a half times that of the lowest bidder and over 60 percent greater than the bid provided by the second lowest bidder.

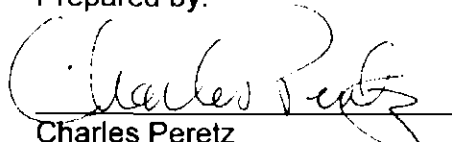
Based on recent experience with other contracts, staff has found that significant bid deviations below the average on less costly sites, accompanied with significant deviations above the average on more costly sites, has led to the neglect of the less costly sites. In these situations, contractors devote their resources to the larger income generating sites and forgo maintenance at, and payment for, the less costly sites. Staff is in the process of amending contract language to ensure this process is prohibited in future contracts.

Rejecting these bids also affords staff the opportunity to include an additional location for which the city has recently assumed maintenance responsibilities. Additionally, the Sierra Madre Median Island site would be included as an 'ad-alternate' site allowing the city the option of contracting work at this location after the development of Eaton-Wash Park.

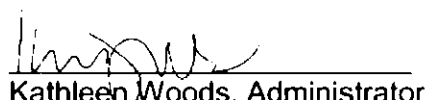
Respectfully Submitted,

  
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