



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
April 25, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront
Subject: Contracts: Freitas Landscaping and Pacific Site Management for On-Call Vegetation Management Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt two Resolutions authorizing the City Manager or her designee to execute the following contracts and any amendments for on-call landscape vegetation management and removal in City-owned parks, pathways, and landscaped areas over a period of three years, with an option to extend the contract for two additional one-year terms, for a total amount not to exceed \$1,200,000:

1. Freitas Landscaping and Maintenance, for an amount not to exceed \$600,000; and
2. Pacific Site Management, for an amount not to exceed \$600,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 budget in the General Fund, in the Parks Tax Fund, in the Marina Fund, and in the Measure FF Fund. In future years, funds will be budgeted annually at these levels for a total amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On February 2, 2023, to prepare for a new contract for these services, the City conducted a Request For Proposal (RFP) competitive bidding process to solicit proposals for the removal of vegetation accumulation and to manage other vegetation in high-risk areas of City-owned parks, pathways, and landscaped areas (Specification No. 23-11560-C).

On March 14, 2023 the City received two bids; one from Freitas Landscaping and Maintenance and the other from Pacific Site Management. Staff have determined that both Freitas Landscape and Maintenance and Pacific Site Management meet the criteria described in the RFP. Staff recommends that new contracts with Freitas Landscaping and Maintenance and Pacific Site Management be authorized.

BACKGROUND

On June 9, 1992, the City Council of the City of Berkeley authorized the creation of the Fire Fuel Management Program for public properties in response to the Oakland Hills Firestorm Disaster of October 1991. The program objectives are to remove hazardous vegetation accumulation and to manage other vegetation in high-risk areas of City owned parks, pathways, and landscaped areas. The City does not have the resources to accomplish this work using in-house staff, and therefore uses contracted services.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Chapter 1 of the City's Climate Action Plan acknowledges that California will experience a rise in wildfires due to climate change. This program preserves natural habitat by removing unwanted invasive plant species and vegetative debris that are recycled and converted into usable compost. This services contract is an essential component in the proper maintenance of the City's open spaces.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department has evaluated the ongoing needs for hazardous vegetation mitigation and other vegetation management and has determined that Freitas Landscaping and Maintenance and Pacific Site Management meet the requirements as set out in the RFP.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None

CONTACT PERSON

Bruce Pratt, Parks Superintendent, 981-6667

Melissa Marizette-Green, Senior Landscape Gardener Supervisor, 981-6684

Attachments:

1. Resolution: Contract with Freitas Landscaping and Maintenance
2. Resolution: Contract with Pacific Site Management

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: FREITAS LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE FOR ON-CALL
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AND REDUCTION SERVICES

WHEREAS, on June 9, 1992, the City Council of the City of Berkeley authorized the creation of the Fire Fuel Management Program for public properties in response to the Oakland Hills Firestorm Disaster of October 1991; and

WHEREAS, the program objectives are to remove hazardous vegetation accumulations and to manage other vegetation in high-risk areas of City owned parks, pathways, and landscaped areas. The City does not have the resources to accomplish this work using in-house staff, and therefore uses contracted services; and

WHEREAS, on February 2, 2023, to prepare for a new contract for these services, the City conducted a Request For Proposal (RFP) competitive bidding process to solicit proposals for the removal of hazardous vegetation accumulations and to manage other vegetation in high-risk areas of City-owned parks, pathways, and landscaped areas (Specification No. 23-11560-C); and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2023, the City received two (2) bids, which were reviewed by staff; and

WHEREAS, staff determined that Freitas Landscaping and Maintenance meets the criteria described in the RFP; and

WHEREAS, the desired landscape maintenance firms will be available on an on-call basis over a three-year period for an amount not to exceed \$600,000; and

WHEREAS, funding is available in the General Fund, in the Parks Tax Fund, in the Marina Fund, and in the Measure FF Fund for the 2023 Fiscal year. In future years, funds will be budgeted annually at these levels for a total amount not to exceed \$600,000.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is hereby authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Freitas Landscaping and Maintenance for a period of three years, with an option to extend the contract for two additional years, for a total amount not to exceed amount of \$600,000. A record signature copy of said contract will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: PACIFIC SITE MANAGEMENT FOR ON-CALL VEGETATION
MANAGEMENT AND REDUCTION SERVICES

WHEREAS, on June 9, 1992, the City Council of the City of Berkeley authorized the creation of the Fire Fuel Management Program for public properties in response to the Oakland Hills Firestorm Disaster of October 1991; and

WHEREAS, the program objectives are to remove hazardous vegetation accumulations and to manage other vegetation in high-risk areas of City owned parks, pathways, and landscaped areas. The City does not have the resources to accomplish this work using in-house staff, and therefore uses contracted services; and

WHEREAS, on February 2, 2023, to prepare for a new contract for these services, the City conducted a Request For Proposal (RFP) competitive bidding process to solicit proposals for the removal of hazardous vegetation accumulations and to manage other vegetation in high-risk areas of City-owned parks, pathways, and landscaped areas (Specification No. 23-11560-C); and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2023, the City received two (2) bids, which were reviewed by staff; and

WHEREAS, staff determined that Pacific Site Management meets the criteria described in the RFP; and

WHEREAS, the desired landscape maintenance firms will be available on an on-call basis over a three-year period for an amount not to exceed \$600,000; and

WHEREAS, funding is available in the General Fund, in the Parks Tax Fund, in the Marina Fund, and in the Measure FF Fund for the 2023 Fiscal year. In future years, funds will be budgeted annually at these levels for a total amount not to exceed \$600,000.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is hereby authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Pacific Site Management for a period of three years, with an option to extend the contract for two additional years, for a total not to exceed amount of \$600,000. A record signature copy of said contract will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.