



City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

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TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: NOVEMBER 7, 2017

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

**SUBJECT: MEASURE Z - SECOND AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR MUNICIPAL TREE
MANAGEMENT SERVICES WITH TRIMMING LAND COMPANY, INC. TO
INCREASE COMPENSATION BY \$1,000,000 FOR STREET TREE GRID
TRIMMING UTILIZING MEASURE Z FUNDS**

ISSUE:

Approve the Second Amendment to the Agreement for Municipal Tree Management Services with Trimming Land Company to increase the compensation by \$1,000,000 for street tree grid trimming utilizing Measure Z funds.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the Second Amendment to Agreement for Municipal Tree Management Services with Trimming Land Company, Inc., to increase the compensation by \$1,000,000 for street tree grid trimming.
2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the Second Amendment to Agreement for Municipal Tree Management Services with Trimming Land Company, Inc.

BACKGROUND:

On June 21, 2011, City Council awarded, from RFP 1263, a five-year agreement, that may be extended for up to two (2) additional two (2) year terms, for municipal tree management services to Trimming Land Company, Inc. in the amount of \$5,062,500 and authorized the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the contract and approve future amendments subject to the availability of budgeted funds.

On July 29, 2016, the City Manager executed the First Amendment to the Agreement for Municipal Tree Management Services with Trimming Land Company Inc. to extend the term by 2-years ending June 30, 2018 and increase the agreement in the amount of \$1,803,024.

On May 16, 2017, City Council approved the five-year spending plan for Measure Z funds which included \$1,000,000 for FY17/18 Street Tree Grid Trimming in order to increase grid trimming and reduced the trimming cycle for City trees.

DISCUSSION:

The City has historically supported and maintained street trees within the public right-of-way to enhance the quality of life for all residents. It is estimated that there are 150,000 street trees of which approximately 135,000 are within parkways, along the front or side of homes and businesses, and approximately 15,000 are located within medians and other reverse frontage areas maintained by the City; the street trees have an estimated value of over \$300 million. The Program dates back to the 1800's with many of the trees reaching the end of their normal lifespan. Consequently, many new trees have been planted to replace trees that died, were run over or were removed for other reasons.

Street trees provide an overall benefit to the community by beautifying our parkways, providing oxygen, improving air quality, reducing water runoff, supporting natural wildlife and providing shade to keep homes and businesses cool reducing the demand for electricity. In an effort to foster and preserve the environmental and economic benefits of trees, the City Charter specifies that the Park, Recreation and Community Services Commission (Commission), serving in an advisory capacity to the City Council, establish policies for the proper planting, care and removal of street trees. The policies as developed with the Commission and approved by the City Council are set forth in the Urban Forestry Tree Policy Manual (Manual) which serves as the guide for the maintenance of street trees.

The current grid trimming schedule is on an eight to nine year cycle. Preferably, the schedule would provide for trimming every four to five years, however, due to budget constraints during the recession, grid trimming was reduced in FY 2008/09 and eliminated in FY's 2009/10 and 2010/11. Grid trimming funds were restored in FY 2011/12, but at a much reduced level than prior to the recession. Due to the lapse in trimming combined with increased costs related to emergency trimming needs which have ranged between \$350,000 and \$600,000 per year, regular grid trimming has been negatively impacted.

Emergency tree work must be performed for vehicle clearance over roadways, pedestrian clearance over walking paths, traffic and pedestrian sign clearance, root pruning to repair sidewalks, trimming to address limb failures, diseased tree removals, as well as addressing work needed during wind events. This type of work is more costly than grid trimming and has increased as the grid trimming has decreased.

Increased funding due to Measure Z will allow the City to reduce the current eight to nine year grid trimming cycle to an approximately five year grid trimming cycle within a three year timeframe, depending on possible higher tree trimming costs when the tree trimming contract is re-bid in 2018. This funding will help improve the overall health of our aging urban forest, reduces emergencies, after hour calls, service requests and liability.

Therefore, the second amendment to the agreement for Municipal Tree Management Services with Trimming Land Company will increase the agreement by \$1,000,000 from Measure Z funds and allow the City to conduct more street tree grid trimming.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact is \$1,000,000. Funds are available in the Measure Z Fund Public Works Forestry and Landscape Account (4110119-421205) to cover the cost of this amendment.

Prepared by: Kris Martinez, Public Works Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Adam Raymond, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Second Amendment
2. Presentation