



Measure Z-Second Amendment to Agreement for Municipal Tree Management Services - Increase Compensation by Measure Z Funding (\$1,000,000) for Grid Trimming

Public Works Department

City Council
November 7, 2017

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Municipal Tree Management

1. June 21, 2011, City Council awarded a five-year agreement for municipal tree management services to Trimming Land Company Inc.
2. July 29, 2016, City Manager extended the term for 2-years ending June 30, 2018.
3. May 16, 2017, Council approved five year spending plan for Measure Z funds including \$1,000,000 for FY17/18 Street Tree Grid Trimming in order to increase grid trimming and reduce trimming cycles.



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City's Urban Forest

1. The City has approximately 150,000 street trees.
 - A. 135,000 are within parkways or along the front or side of homes and businesses
 - B. 15,000 are located within medians and other reverse frontage areas maintained by the City
2. Estimated value of street trees is about \$300 million
3. Program dates back to 1800's with many trees reaching end of normal lifespan - New trees are planted to replace trees that have been removed when possible



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City's Urban Forest

4. Street Trees provide an overall benefit to the Community
 - A. Beautifying our parkways
 - B. Providing oxygen
 - C. Improving air quality
 - D. Reducing water runoff
 - E. Supporting natural wildlife
 - F. Providing shade to keep homes and businesses cool
5. Park, Recreation, and Community Services Commission, establishes policies for proper care of City trees.
 Urban Forestry Tree Policy Manual serves as the guide for maintenance of street trees.



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Street Tree Maintenance

1. Current grid trimming cycle is an 8 to 9 year cycle - Preferred schedule is 4 to 5 years
2. Budget constraints reduced grid trimming in FY2008/09 and eliminated it in FY's 2009/10 and 2010/11
3. Funds were restored in FY2011/12 at a reduced level



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Emergency Tree Work

1. A decrease in regular trimming has led to an increase in emergency trimming needs which is more costly - Ranging from \$350,000 to \$600,000 per year
2. Emergency tree work must be performed for vehicle clearance over roadways, pedestrian clearance over walkways, limb failure, diseased tree removals, and work needed to address wind events.



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Measure Z Funding

1. Increased funding for grid trimming will allow City to reduce current 8 to 9 year trimming cycle to a 5 year cycle within three years.

The cycle is dependent upon an anticipated increase in tree maintenance costs when RFP for tree maintenance services is issued in 2018.

2. Measure Z funding will help improve overall health of City's aging urban forest and reduce emergency tree services, after hours calls, service requests, and liability.



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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.



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