



Board Report

File #: 2021-0274, **File Type:** Contract

Agenda Number: 21.

**OPERATIONS, SAFETY, AND CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE
JUNE 17, 2021**

SUBJECT: HERBICIDE APPLICATION SERVICES

ACTION: APPROVE CONTRACT AWARD

RECOMMENDATION

AUTHORIZE the Chief Executive Officer to award a firm fixed unit rate Contract No. OP1788370008370, to Conejo Crest Landscape Inc., dba Conejo Crest Landscape Management, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, to provide weed abatement using herbicide application services. The contract not-to-exceed amount is \$639,701 for the three-year base, and \$459,975 for the one, two-year option, for a combined not-to-exceed amount of \$1,099,676, effective December 1, 2021, subject to resolution of protests(s), if any.

ISSUE

The existing contract for weed abatement using herbicide application services expires November 30, 2021.

To ensure service continuity, safe operations within Metro Rights-of-Ways (ROWs) and facilities, and compliance with State and Local codes and requirements, a new herbicide application services contract award is required effective December 1, 2021.

BACKGROUND

On January 15, 2015, Metro Board of Directors awarded a five-year, firm fixed unit rate Contract No. OP33673325 to Conejo Crest Landscape Management, to provide weed abatement using herbicide application services system-wide.

Under the existing contract, herbicide application services are performed throughout approximately 195 miles of active and inactive Metro owned ROWs. In February 2016 and thereafter, herbicide application services were expanded to include the additional service areas of Metro Bus Operating Division 13, Metro Foothill Extension and Expo Line Phase II.

DISCUSSION

Conejo Crest Landscape Management, Metro's incumbent contractor, has been providing

satisfactory services. Under this new contract, the contractor is required to provide system-wide weed abatement using herbicide application services.

Regular herbicide application services are essential for Metro facilities and ROWs to ensure compliance with State and local codes and requirements, reduce the threat of fires, maintain proper visibility of signals for safe transit operations, prevent wheel slippage, and allow for proper inspection and maintenance with safe and reliable operations.

The Diversity and Economic Opportunity Department (DEOD) established a 7% goal, inclusive of a 4% SBE goal and a 3% DVBE goal. Conejo Crest Landscape Management made a 4% SBE and a 3% DVBE commitment.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

The approval of this item will ensure the continuity of safe and timely services, compliance with State and local municipal codes and ordinances, and to meet Metro maintenance standards while providing a proactive approach for service delivery.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Given Board approval of the FY22 budget funding of \$245,000 is included under cost center 8370 - Facilities Contracted Maintenance Services, account 50308, Service Contract Maintenance, under various projects.

Since this is a multi-year contract, the cost center Manager and Sr. Executive Officer, Maintenance and Engineering will be accountable for budgeting the cost in future years.

Impact to Budget

The current source of funds for this action are enterprise operating funds including fares and sales tax. Allocation of these funds to this effort maximizes fund use given approved funding provisions and guidelines.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

This Board action supports Strategic Goal 5: Provide responsive, accountable, and trustworthy governance within the Metro organization. Performing regular herbicide application services will ensure providing safe, clean, and reliable operations while enhancing customer experience system wide.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Staff considered providing this service through in-house staff; however, this would require the hiring and training of additional personnel, purchase of additional equipment, vehicles, and supplies to support the expanded responsibility. Staff's assessment indicates that this is not a cost-effective option for Metro.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval by the Board, staff will execute Contract No. OP1788370008370, with Conejo Crest Landscape Inc, dba Conejo Crest Landscape Management, to provide the necessary herbicide application services system-wide effective December 1, 2021.

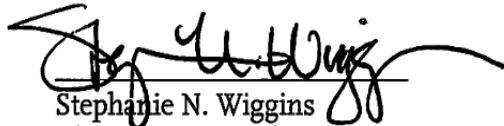
ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Procurement Summary

Attachment B - DEOD Summary

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