



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: JANUARY 20, 2009

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: ROOT PRUNING AND INSTALLATION OF ROOT BARRIERS PER FORMAL BID ITEM NO. 1125

DATE: DECEMBER 9, 2008

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES – MAINTENANCE SERVICES DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: PETER NAGHAVI, PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: DEAN RODIA 714/327-7492 OR
DEBBIE CASPER 714/754-5212**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Award a three-year price agreement for the performance of root pruning and installation of root barriers per Formal Bid 1125 to West Coast Arborists, 2200 E. Via Burton Street, Anaheim, California, 92806. The term of the contract is for three years with the option of renewing for three additional one-year extensions with a not to exceed amount of \$32,000.00 per year.
2. Authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute the Professional Services Agreement for the contract.
3. Authorize the City Manager to sign for any justified rate increase to the contract and to extend the contract for three additional one-year terms upon recommendation from the Public Services Department.

BACKGROUND:

Root pruning and root barriers are one of the ways that the Public Services Department attempts to protect the City's infrastructure from tree roots, while preserving the health and safety of the public and the City's Urban Forest. Root pruning is a proactive and reactive process that allows the roots to be cut adjacent to the edge of sidewalks, curb and gutter or other improvements as indicated. This process of root pruning and root barrier installation will help prevent future troublesome roots from growing towards and under city improvements. Root barrier product is a plastic material that physically prevents the roots from growing outward. Biobarrier is an alternative product that when installed, allows for a longer duration between root re-growth once they are cut. This product is made of a water permeable fabric with chemical buttons attached. The growth inhibitors prevent the root tips from growing outward.

On June 7, 2005, the City Council awarded a three-year contract to United Pacific Services for root pruning in a not to exceed amount of \$98,345.00. The contract expired on May 31, 2008 and did not contain language allowing for an extension of the contract. Park Maintenance Staff requested that Purchasing send out a bid for these services and in the

interim, the department has utilized the tree contract with West Coast Arborist to perform necessary root pruning services.

As required by the City of Costa Mesa Municipal Code, the “Notice Inviting Bids” was solicited from qualified vendors whose names were on the bidders’ list, and other vendors requesting a bid package. Four perspective bidders were invited to bid. A “Notice Inviting Bids” was published in the Daily Pilot and posted on the public bulletin board in City Hall and the bid was posted on the City’s web site for downloading. On November 17, 2008, the City Clerk received, opened and read three submittals.

ANALYSIS:

The invitation for bid requested each contractor to provide a three-year contract with pricing on the cost per root foot basis. The contract may be extended on an annual basis for a maximum of three additional years. Of the three bids received, only two met the City’s requirements. The bid received from Ark Contractor Company was deemed non-responsive as the contractor did not meet the minimum number of years experience required in the bid. See Attachment I, bid tabulation.

Staff used the historical records from the prior two budget years to calculate the pricing for each contractor.

Root Pruning	BY 06/07	WCA	WCA	UPS	UPS
	Count	Bid Price	Extended Price	Bid Price	Extended Price
12”	1300	13.00	16,900.00	14.50	18,850.00
18”	37	20.00	740.00	17.50	647.50
Biobarrier	186	20.00	3,770.00	22.50	4,185.00
Total			\$ 21,410.00		\$ 23,682.50

Root Pruning	BY 07/08	WCA	WCA	UPS	UPS
	Count	Bid Price	Extended Price	Bid Price	Extended Price
12”	1500	13.00	19,500.00	14.50	21,750.00
18”	14	20.00	280.00	17.50	245.00
Biobarrier	288	20.00	5,760.00	22.50	6,480.00
Total			\$ 25,540.00		\$ 28,475.00

Based on the findings, West Coast Arborist Services submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid. The bid consists of: the root pruning and installation of 12-inch deep root barrier for \$13.00 per lineal foot; root pruning and installation of 18-inch deep root barrier for \$20.00 per lineal foot, and root pruning and installation of 12-inch to 30-inch deep root bio barrier for \$20.00 per lineal foot.

The FY 2008-09 Budget provides \$32,000.00 to perform the root pruning services. Maintenance staff provides the service schedule to the vendor and is responsible for keeping the cost within the budget constraints.

West Coast Arborist has the required California State Contractor’s Licenses consisting of a C61 for tree service and a C27 for landscaping.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

As an alternative, Parks Maintenance crews could perform the root pruning services; however, to accomplish this task would require the purchase of additional equipment and a shift of Parks Maintenance personnel away from their current maintenance activities. This alternative is not recommended due to the high cost of purchasing equipment and the negative impact to current maintenance functions.

FISCAL REVIEW:

The cost of these services is included in Maintenance Services Division's budget.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney's office has reviewed and approved the attached Professional Services agreement as to form.

CONCLUSION:

The award of the proposed three-year contract will allow the Maintenance Services Division to coordinate root pruning with the curb, gutter and sidewalk repairs each year. This is a cost-effective method to ensure the coordination of the repairs and preservation of trees. It is recommended that City Council award the three-year price agreement for root-pruning services per bid item 1125 to West Coast Arborists with a not to exceed amount of \$96,000.00 for the first three years and to authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute the Professional Services Agreement. In addition, it is recommended that the City Council authorize the City Manager to sign for any justified rate increase and to authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for an additional three years if the Public Services Department recommends doing so.

MARC R. PUCKETT
Director of Finance

PETER NAGHAVI
Public Services Director

BRUCE HARTLEY
Maintenance Services Manager

DEBBIE CASPER, C.P.M., CPPB
Purchasing Supervisor

Attachments: [Attachment I, Bid Tabulation](#)
[Attachment II, Professional Services Agreement](#)

Distribution: City Manager
City Clerk