



Staff Report

Subject: Tree Removals

Department/Program: Public Works - Property Services

Explanation: Due to staffing shortages, money was budgeted in 2025 to contract out removal of a number of dead trees that are on City property or within City right of way. Bids were requested from several tree removal companies to remove approximately 120 dead trees and grind the stumps. We advertised in the St. Louis Business Journal, and on the City's website. Bid specifications are on file at the Public Works Department. On May 30th, 2025, three (3) bids were received and opened. Below is the summary of the bids received.

| Bidder | Base Bid Tree 1-30 | Base Bid Tree 31-63 | Alt. Bid 1-30 Stump grind | Alt. Bid 31-63 Stump grind | Total Bid |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Gamma Tree Experts | \$63,220.00 | \$34,210.00 | \$9,625.00 | \$6,725.00 | \$113,780.00 |
| Arbor Masters | \$74,506.24 | \$48,243.15 | \$10,612.76 | \$7,236.59 | \$140,598.74 |
| Omni Tree Service | \$74,800.00 | \$43,831.00 | \$14,960.00 | \$9,766.00 | \$142,357.00 |
| Budget | \$75,000 | | | | |

Ballwin rates trees by priority.

Priority 1 trees are dead trees, there are 213 priority 1 work orders.

Priority 2 trees are dying trees not fully dead, there are 227 priority 2 work orders.

Priority 3 trees are trimming, deadwood and nuisance trees, there are 38 priority 3 work orders.

The trees being removed will be 120 Priority 1 trees. It is planned to budget further funds next year to remove the remaining Priority 1 trees and possibly others. None of the bidders has had any OSHA violations in the last 5 years.

Recommendation: We recommend awarding the unit price contract to Gamma Tree Experts not to exceed \$113,780.00 and to accept alternate bid #1 and #2. While this is over budget, the overage can be made up on other projects and from savings due to unfilled laborer positions.

Submitted By: Jim Link

Date: May 30th , 2025