



# STAFF REPORT

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August 7, 2024

File Number 0600-10; A-3523

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## SUBJECT

**PUBLIC SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WEST COAST ARBORISTS INC. FOR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE TREE SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF ESCONDIDO LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS (LMD)**

## DEPARTMENT

Development Services, Engineering

## RECOMMENDATION

It is requested that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2024-99 awarding the Public Services Agreement (Exhibit "A") to West Coast Arborists, Inc., for Landscape Maintenance Tree Services for the City of Escondido and authorizing the Mayor to execute the agreement in the amount of \$1,400,000 over a four-year period.

Staff Recommendation: Approval (Chris McKinney, Development Services Director, and Owen Tunnell, Interim City Engineer)

Presenter: Jen Conway, Management Analyst II

**ESSENTIAL SERVICE** – Yes, Keep City Clean for Public Health and Safety; Maintenance of Parks Facilities/Open Spaces

**COUNCIL PRIORITY** – Improve Public Safety; Increase Retention and Attraction of People and Businesses to Escondido

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

This contract will be utilized on an as needed basis. Landscape Maintenance District ("LMD") zones will pay for tree work done in their district area. Other Departments will use the contract and pay for the work with their own funds.

## PREVIOUS ACTION

None



# CITY *of* ESCONDIDO

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### BACKGROUND

The LMD was established as a means to fund the ongoing maintenance of certain landscape improvements associated with the development of specific properties within the City of Escondido. These landscape improvements have special benefit to those specific properties.

Tree work is necessary for the ongoing care of the LMD's. Tree trimming and removal is required to keep areas safe and looking attractive. There are many different departments that utilize tree contracting services. These departments include Lakes and Open Spaces, Water, Wastewater, Parks, Engineering, and Streets. This contract will be a city-wide asset that will allow all departments to authorize work stemming from one contract rather than individual "one-offs". Each department's budget for tree work varies, but the total yearly amount is sufficient to support each department's needs.

Competitive bidding for the services to be provided under this agreement was performed by the City of Norco and approved by the City of Norco's Council at the June 21, 2023, meeting with the intention that any other public agency shall have the option to participate in any award as a result of the bid solicitation at the same price. A copy of the City of Norco's Staff Report and Contractor's Proposal dated April 26, 2023, are attached hereto as Exhibit 3 of Exhibit "A" to Resolution No. 2024-99.

### Escondido's Urban Forest

In 2020, the City inventoried 53,464 trees, with a total estimated value of over \$321 million. We have identified nearly 340 different types of trees. In comparison with other cities in the region, Escondido has the highest number of trees per square mile. Trees not only provide aesthetic value, but also provide shade and are an important factor in controlling temperatures within an urban environment.

### RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution No. 2024-99
- b. Resolution No. 2024-99 – Exhibit "A" Public Service Agreement

### ATTACHMENTS

- a. Attachment "1" – City of Escondido Business License Certificate for West Coast Arborists
- b. Attachment "2" – Certificate of Liability