

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: May 23, 2023

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

Through: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

From: John Schaefer, Director of Public Works

Topic: Contract Award - Wetland Restoration

PURPOSE

Award the contract for Wetland Restoration for the Homewood Water Delivery Project. The project will consist of post-construction wetland revegetation monitoring and reporting services.

PROCESS

Per the Project's Restoration Plan and as required by the Section 404 permit issued by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) dated March 5, 2021, post-construction wetland revegetation monitoring is required for the Project. The Plan indicates that Homewood would perform wetland revegetation monitoring on an annual basis for at least three (3) years following construction activities:

- Contractor will provide one, two-person field team for the revegetation monitoring surveys. Monitoring will be performed in the restored areas during the late spring/early summer (May/June) and late summer/early fall (August/September). Qualitative visual monitoring will also occur during maintenance activities in the growing season and will include general observations of plant community development and wildlife. It is estimated that a total of three monitoring events will be required per year (nine total monitoring events).
- Data collected within restored areas will be recorded on Project-specific revegetation monitoring forms and photo logs. Points will be captured utilizing a global positioning system (GPS) and document observation points as well as any transitional boundaries of areas of concern. The revegetation monitoring forms will be completed to present apparent attributes that best represent characteristics of the entire vegetation community.
- Field information collected during the monitoring activities will include an overall visual assessment of vegetation diversity and nuisance weed invasion as compared to both the public surrounding, undisturbed vegetation and to the available photos and notes taken during field surveys prior to construction. A visual assessment of wetland hydrology,

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percent vegetative cover, vegetation composition and diversity, and soil testing (as needed) will be completed in the wetland areas. Evaluation of the vegetation community diversity and percent dominance will be completed by comparison to the pre-construction information collected during the 2020 environmental field surveys. Success of the restored areas will be measured per the criteria outlined in Section 4 of the Plan.

- Inspections of the restored areas will also include ongoing attention to any erosion or sediment problems. The risk of any such problems will lessen as site vegetative cover increases and matures. Recommendations of necessary repairs will be relayed to Homewood immediately following any monitoring event.

Wetland Revegetation Monitoring Status Report

Upon completion of the monitoring surveys, contractor shall prepare and submit to Homewood a draft monitoring report summarizing the results of the field investigations for the prior year as outlined in the plan. Once comments from Homewood are incorporated, contractor will finalize and provide an electronic version of the report to Homewood. The report will include at minimum: date of completion of initial construction of the Project, field survey methodology, results of the field reviews, description of any restoration activities, observed wildlife usage, problem areas (e.g. weed invasion issues, poor revegetation, other disturbances), representative photos, and percent coverage achieved towards attaining final restoration.

Wetland Revegetation Stewardship

TGR staff will visit the natural areas multiple times during the growing season for herbaceous invasive weed control. Each visit will consist of herbicide application, mowing and/or hand weeding. Includes spraying of cattails but not their physical removal, does not include removal of buckthorn/brush. Annual invasive weed control is necessary for the establishment of health of native plantings. Once stewardship efforts have been completed for the year and the established populations of weeds have been disrupted, TGR will acquire and hand broadcast native seed mixes throughout the project area to encourage native plant coverage and diversity in coming years. Seeding is recommended for late fall or early winter. TGR crews will mow down taller standing thatch within the seeding areas after the seed has been broadcast, to improve growing conditions for germinating seeds in the following season.

Public Works requested proposals for the wetland restoration project in February 2023.

OUTCOME

Two proposals were received on February 17, 2023. Burns and McDonnell submitted a proposal of \$85,000 and Tallgrass Restoration submitted a proposal of \$52,500.

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FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:** Water/Sewer Fund
- **Budgeted Amount:** \$150,000
- **Cost:** \$52,500

LEGAL REVIEW

Not Required

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Approve the proposal from Tallgrass Restoration, LLC of Schaumburg, IL for post-construction wetland revegetation monitoring and reporting services in the amount of \$52,500.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Proposal from Tallgrass Restoration