



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 06/02/2026

ITEM NO: 5

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DATE: June 02, 2026  
TO: Mayor and Town Council  
FROM: Chris Constantin, Town Manager  
SUBJECT: **Authorize the Town Manager to Execute a First Amendment to Agreement for On-Call Arborist Services With Dudek, Increasing Compensation by \$58,000 for a Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$157,000**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize the Town Manager to execute the First Amendment to the Agreement for On-Call Arborist Services with Dudek, increasing compensation by \$58,000 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$157,000

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Approval of the proposed First Amendment would increase the total authorized compensation under the Agreement for On-Call Arborist Services with Dudek from \$99,000 to \$157,000, an increase of \$58,000 over the remaining term of the agreement.

The proposed amendment includes an additional \$18,000 for FY 2025-26 and \$40,000 for FY 2026-27 to support ongoing arboricultural consulting services associated with urban forest management, hazard tree evaluations, storm response activities, and increased service demand.

Funding for the recommended contract is available within the Parks and Public Works Department operating budget (1115301-62354) due to salary savings associated with the department's vacant Arborist position.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY:**

This item does not directly address a Strategic Priority; however, it aligns with the Core Goal of Quality Public Infrastructure and Public Safety. Managing the Town's Urban Forest is a vital part

**PREPARED BY:** Tyler Thomas  
Superintendent

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Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Administrative Services Director, and Parks and Public Works Director

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PAGE 2 OF 3

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DATE: June 02, 2026

of maintaining and keeping the Urban Forest healthy which plays a key role in public safety and quality public infrastructure.

BACKGROUND:

The Town maintains and manages a significant urban forest throughout parks, public spaces, rights-of-way, and around Town facilities. On January 13, 2026, the Town entered into an On-Call Arborist Services Agreement with Dudek for professional arboricultural consulting services on an as-needed basis.

Dudek currently assists with tree inspections and permitting, technical recommendations, public inquiries, emergency response support, and compliance with industry best practices. On-call arborist services were proposed due to the retirement of the Town's long standing arborist in December 2025. As part of the ongoing Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) development, staffing needs related to forest management are being assessed. The Arborist position will be filled through consultant services until the UFMP is complete and the staffing recommendations can be considered.

DISCUSSION:

Since the execution of the agreement, the demand for arborist services has exceeded what was initially anticipated. This is due to Dudek providing an appropriate level of response and response time for inquiries and arborist needs. Specifically, tasks provided include:

- Response to public inquiries and service requests related to tree conditions;
- Increased tree removal permitting demands;
- Additional hazard tree inspections and assessments;
- Storm-related tree evaluations and response efforts; and
- Increased coordination between Dudek and the Town's tree contractor related to tree preservation and maintenance activities.

At the time the original agreement was executed, service demand was estimated based on past support provided by the town for Arborist services. Dudek has successfully provided timely and comprehensive arboricultural support and has demonstrated the ability to perform advanced hazard tree assessments and technical evaluations that were not previously available.

The proposed First Amendment would provide additional funding necessary to continue uninterrupted arborist consulting services through the current and upcoming fiscal years. The additional compensation requested for FY 2025-26 is necessary to address higher-than-anticipated service demand and ensure sufficient funding remains available for ongoing operational support, including emergency response evaluations and hazard tree inspections.

PAGE 3 OF 3

SUBJECT: Authorize Town Manager to Execute First Amendment to Agreement for On-Call Arborist Services.

DATE: June 02, 2026

The additional funding proposed for FY 2026-27 reflects anticipated workload demands and expanded use of Dudek's professional arboricultural services. Dudek's ability to perform detailed hazard tree assessments and provide technical expertise has allowed the Town to respond more effectively to public safety concerns, improve service levels, and reduce delays associated with tree evaluations. Staff have evaluated Dudek's performance and believe they continue to provide responsive, professional, and technically competent services that support Town operations and public safety objectives.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Town Council may choose not to authorize the First Amendment and direct staff to return with other options for on call arborist services. The Town Council may also provide alternative direction regarding the scope, funding, or timing of continued arborist consulting services.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute a First Amendment to the Agreement for On-Call Arborist Services with Dudek, to provide continued professional arboricultural consulting support through FY 2026-27.

COORDINATION:

This report was coordinated with the Administrative Services Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

Attachments:

1. First Amendment to Agreement for Services
2. Agreement for Services and Exhibit A