



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Watershed Committee/Board of Directors
Title: Amendments to BFFIP Contracts No. 1967 and No. 1948
From: Shaun Horne, Director of Watershed Resources
Through: Ben Horenstein, General Manager
Meeting Date: June 20, 2024

TYPE OF ACTION: Action Information X Review and Refer

RECOMMENDATION: Review and refer Amendment No. 3 to Contract No. 1948 with Forester and Kroeger and Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 1967 with Bay Area Tree Services to a future regular meeting of the Board of Directors for the Board to consider approval

SUMMARY: The District utilizes contractors to assist with the implementation of the Biodiversity, Fire, and Fuels Integrated Plan (BFFIP) on the watershed. On June 6, 2021 the District entered into Contract No. 1948 for Fuelbreak Maintenance and Invasive Management (“Contract”) with Forester and Kroeger, which had a contract end date of June 30, 2023, and was subsequently extended to June 30, 2024. On January 4, 2022 the District and the Contractor entered into Contract No. 1967 for ‘Forestry Services’ (“Contract”) with Bay Area Tree Services, which had a contract end date of June 30, 2023, which was subsequently extended to June 30, 2024. Section 1.5 of Contract No. 1967 and Contract No. 1948 gives the District an option to extend the contracts in one (1) year increments for up to an additional two years. To support the ongoing implementation of the BFFIP, staff is requesting that the Watershed Committee review and refer approval of the contract extensions for one additional year to a regularly scheduled Board of Directors Meeting for review and consideration of approval.

DISCUSSION: Over the past three years Bay Area Tree Specialists and Forester and Kroeger have assisted the District with the implementation of the District’s Biodiversity, Fire, and Fuels Integrated Plan (BFFIP) to reduce wildfire hazards and to maintain and enhance ecosystem function on watershed lands. Vegetation management under the BFFIP aims to reduce fuel loads, maintain fuelbreak infrastructure, preserve defensible space, reduce invasive weed species and enhance biodiversity. Vegetation management is conducted continuously throughout the year with the chief goal of reducing fuel loads and maintaining the watershed’s biological diversity.

On June 6, 2021, the District entered into Contract No. 1948 for Fuelbreak Maintenance and Invasive Management with Forester and Kroeger, which had a contract end date of June 30, 2022. On January 27, 2023, the District Board of Directors authorized Amendment No. 1, which corrected the contract

completion date to June 30, 2023 to match the bid sheet. Amendment No. 2, approved by the District Board of Directors on June 6th, 2023, extended the contract completion date to June 30, 2024. The current Amendment No. 3 would extend the contract for one final year to June 30, 2025.

On January 4, 2022, the District and Bay Area Tree Services entered into Contract No. 1967 for 'Forestry Services' to run through June 30, 2023. On June 6, 2023, the District Board of Directors authorized an amendment (Amendment No. 1), which extended the contract completion date to June 30, 2024. The current Amendment No. 2 would extend the contract for one final year to June 30, 2025.

Both contracts are set to expire on June 30, 2024. Due to the District's ongoing need for contractor support and the fact that these contractors have performed exceptionally well over the past years, staff desires to exercise the option to extend their services for one additional year. Per Section 1.5 of the contracts, the District has the option to extend the contracts in one (1) year increments for up to an additional two years. Per Section 1.22 of Contract No. 1967 and Contract No. 1948, the contractor is allowed to escalate the unit prices in accordance with the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is 2.4%. This will be the final contract extension for Contract NO. 1948 and Contract No. 1967 per the terms of the contract.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: All work conducted under this contract is directed by Management Actions outlined in the 2019 'Biodiversity Fire and Fuels Integrated Plan' and supporting EIR.

FISCAL IMPACT: Contract No. 1948 will be increased by \$1,008,316 to cover BFFIP FY 2025 costs.

Contract No. 1967 will be increased by \$1,054,671 to cover BFFIP FY 2025 costs.

Funds for these contracts will be paid out of a combination of District BFFIP Operations and Capital funding, as well as with a secured Wildlife Conservation Board Grant and Cal Fire Forest Health Grants.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Amendment No.3, 'Fuelbreak Maintenance', Forester and Kroeger (Contract No. 1948)
2. Amendment No.2, 'Forestry Services', Bay Area Tree Specialists (Contract No. 1967)