



CITY OF NOVI CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Consideration of approval to award a contract for forestry services to CutMyTreeDown.com and Owen Tree Service Inc., at an estimated annual cost of \$544,000.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Department of Public Works, Field Operations Division

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Forestry services include reactive work such as tree removals, stump grinding, and root pruning, along with proactive routine maintenance pruning on a subdivision-by-subdivision basis (block pruning).
- In order to perform sufficient work in a timely manner, the DPW is proposing to award forestry service contracts to two bidders — CutMyTreeDown.com and Owen Tree Service Inc. Both service providers have agreed on one median unit price.
- Award amount is based on budgeted funds for all forestry services.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

	FY 2026/27
EXPENDITURE REQUIRED	\$544,000 Estimated annual amount
BUDGET	
202 Major Streets Fund	\$15,000
203 Local Streets Fund	\$500,000
204 Municipal Streets Fund	\$10,000
213 Tree Fund	<u>\$19,000</u>
	\$ 544,000 Total
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	\$ 0
FUND BALANCE IMPACT	\$ 0

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A primary goal of the City's forestry asset management program is the growth of the urban forest in a manner that encourages community engagement with nature, improves Novi's air and water quality, and increases property values, all while reducing risk to people, property, and infrastructure. Some examples of forestry services include pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, and root pruning.

Novi's proactive routine maintenance pruning program (block pruning) is intended to enhance the overall quality of the City's urban forest by ensuring sufficient height clearance and sight distance, eliminating dead or damaged branches that pose safety hazards, and improving tree growth form. Staying up to date on both reactionary work orders and proactive routine maintenance demands a lot of personnel hours, especially during the busy growing season.

Therefore, in order to perform sufficient work in a timely manner, the DPW is proposing to award forestry service contracts to two bidders — CutMyTreeDown.com and Owen Tree Service Inc. Both service providers have agreed on one median unit price. The estimated annual cost is based on budgeted funds for all forestry services.

Five bids were received and opened on May 4, 2026, following a public bid solicitation period. The bid tabulation featuring all qualified bids is included in the packet. Both CutMyTreeDown.com and Owen Tree Service Inc. are recommended as being in the best interest of the City as they meet all requirements of the bidding instructions.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval to award a unit price contract for forestry services to CutMyTreeDown.com and Owen Tree Service Inc., the two lowest qualified bidders, at an estimated annual cost of \$544,000. The contract term is eight months with three optional one-year extensions.