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October 17, 2023

TO: Rio Dell City Council

FROM: Kyle Knopp, City Manager

SUBJECT: Accept Bid from Miller Farms for Gateway Landscaping Project and Direct the City Manager to Develop an Agreement in Coordination with the Gateway Ad Hoc Committee and Clean California Program

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Accept the bid from Miller Farms for the Gateway Project and direct the City Manager to develop an agreement in coordination with the Ad Hoc Committee and Clean California Program and return to the Council for final approval; and,

Work to reduce the cost and scope of the project and present options to the City Council for providing additional funding.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The City of Rio Dell was awarded a clean California Grant in the Amount of \$197,870. The project includes tree plantings, irrigation upgrades and an exercise station. The project has been divided into two bids, the (1) gateway landscaping and (2) the exercise station.

During the City's mandatory walk-through, three contractors received a briefing on the landscaping project and were eligible to submit proposals. Only one proposal was submitted by Miller Farms in the amount of \$287,708. It is important to note that this amount does not include the exercise station.

Staff is recommending negotiating with the contractor to reduce the scope and cost of the landscaping portion of the project in conjunction with the Gateway Ad Hoc (Garnes & Carter) and staff from the Clean California Program. Ultimately, the cost cutting most likely would involve reducing the number of trees planted in the gateway. Additionally staff is recommending looking into additional financial resources to help complete the project in addition to scope reductions on the landscaping portion. Options could include:

- Grant application to PG&E (\$5,000 has been awarded).

- Grant application of \$20,750 to Coast Central Credit Union for exercise equipment (pending).
- Possible other grant sources.
- FY2023-24 approved city beautification funding in the amount of \$28,000.
- Economic Development Fund.
- General Fund and other earmarked capital reserves.

Staff believes that through a combination of cost and scope reductions and identification of new funding for the project, a positive and substantive project is still possible. Staff will return to the Council for approval of any contract and recommended financing approach.

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