



RALPH M. TERRAZAS
FIRE CHIEF

April 13, 2021

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. 21-046

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: *RMT* Ralph M. Terrazas, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF BRUSH CLEARANCE, WEED AND REFUSE
ABATEMENT CONTRACTORS PURSUANT TO THE REQUEST FOR
QUALIFICATIONS NO. 2021-038-001 AND AUTHORIZATION TO
EXECUTE RELATED AGREEMENTS

FINAL ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) Brush Clearance Unit (BCU), annually inspects approximately 140,000 properties located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (Zone) in accordance with Los Angeles Municipal Code Sections 57.322.1 and 57.503.1.6.6 (Fire Code). Owners of properties within the Zone are required to clear brush, weeds and refuse in accordance with the Fire Code. If an owner does not clear the property as required, then the LAFD is authorized to have the property cleared, and the property owner must reimburse the City of Los Angeles (City) for the cost of the work. Because it has been determined pursuant to City Charter Section 1022 that City employees are not available to do the clearance work, private contractors are retained to provide these services on both private and City-owned property. The estimated number of properties that are cleared by the LAFD are approximately 11,500.

On February 10, 2021, the LAFD issued Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 2021-038-001 to establish a list of qualified contractors to provide brush, weed and refuse abatement services in the Zone. Ten (10) responses were received by the March 1, 2021 deadline, and one (1) was deemed non-responsive for failure to submit the required documentation as specified in the RFQ, and was not eligible to be evaluated. An Evaluation Committee comprised of members from the Fire Prevention & Public Safety Bureau's Brush Clearance Unit evaluated the nine (9) remaining submissions. Attachment A to this report lists the nine (9) contractors that the LAFD recommends be awarded contracts for brush clearance, weed and refuse abatement services.

After execution of the Agreements, the approved contractors will be invited to participate in weekly bid sessions beginning in July for brush, weed and refuse abatement services on privately-owned parcels, and in May for City-owned parcels. These bid sessions are to ensure that the work is performed at competitive prices. The contractors perform the

work at the discretion of the LAFD, and must abide by the regulations and requirements stated in the Agreement and those established by the BCU.

The proposed term for each contract is for three (3) years, commencing upon July 1, 2021, and terminating three (3) years from that date.

The attached Agreements have been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney as to legal form.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

1. Approve and authorize the Fire Chief to execute Agreements with the following contractors for brush clearance, weed and refuse abatement services for a term of three (3) years, commencing on July 1, 2021, and ending on June 30, 2024.
 - a. Avalon Landscape, Inc.
 - b. Brian Walsh Brush Clearance, Inc.
 - c. International Environmental Corporation
 - d. National Wildfire Protection Service, LLC
 - e. Outlook Zone, Inc.
 - f. Pan American Brush Clearance, Inc.
 - g. Pepo Weed Abatement, Inc.
 - h. Silent Fire, Inc., dba Monet Wildflowers
 - i. Wildscape Restoration, Inc.
2. Transmit the Agreement to the Mayor for review and approval, in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for these Agreements is available through the General Fund, Fund 100/38, Account 003070, Contract Brush Clearance. The City is reimbursed for the brush clearance costs by invoicing the property owners directly.

Board Report prepared by James Holland, Battalion Chief, Fire Prevention and Public Safety Bureau, Industrial & Commercial Section.

Attachments

1. Attachment A
2. Contract – Avalon Landscape, Inc.
3. Contract – Brian Walsh Brush Clearance, Inc.
4. Contract – International Environmental Corporation
5. Contract – National Wildfire Protection Service, LLC
6. Contract – Outlook Zone, Inc.
7. Contract – Pan American Brush Clearance, Inc.
8. Contract – Pepo Weed Abatement, Inc.
9. Contract – Silent Fire, Inc., dba Monet Wildflowers
10. Contract – Wildscape Restoration, Inc.

Attachment A: Final Scoring Summary

An Evaluation Committee comprised of personnel from the LAFD's Fire Prevention & Public Safety Bureau, Brush Clearance Unit, reviewed and scored the eligible submissions based on the following criteria:

- **Work History (60 points)**
- **Safety Protocols (20 points)**
- **History of Accidents and Safety Violations (10 points)**
- **Training Programs (10 points)**

The evaluation scores of the nine (9) eligible proposers are listed below.

Scoring Rank	
Vendor	Score
International Environmental Corporation	99
Brian Walsh Brush Clearance, Inc.	97
Pepo Weed Abatement, Inc.	97
Silent Fire, Inc. dba Monet Wildflowers	93
Pan American Brush Clearance, Inc.	91
Avalon Landscape, Inc.	88
Wildscape Restoration, Inc.	87
Outlook Zone, Inc.	86
National Wildfire Protection Service, LLC	72
Mariposa Tree Management, Inc.	Disqualified

Due to the large volume of pages in this report, not all attachments are included.

A copy of the entire report can be obtained by contacting the Board of Fire Commissions Office at LAFDFireCommission@lacity.org.