Agenda Item No._____

File Code No.

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Item 6

AGENDA DATE: July 21, 2015

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Sole Source Agreement For Sanitary Sewer Chemical Root Control Services

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council Authorize the Public Works Director to execute a sole source agreement with Duke's Root Control in the amount $128,577.16 for sanitary sewer chemical root cleaning services, and authorize the Public Works Director to approve expenditures of up to $12,857.72 for extra services that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

DISCUSSION:

BACKGROUND

The City of Santa Barbara owns and operates a 257-mile municipal wastewater collection system. Within this system, root intrusion from trees occasionally blocks sewer flows and causes sanitary sewer overflows (SSO). From 2008 through 2010, the City averaged approximately forty SSO's per year, with the predominant cause being root intrusion. Since then, the number of SSO's has been decreasing; however, efforts to reduce SSO's continue to be a priority.

In order to better control root intrusion, the City initiated a pilot project in 2014, where nationally recognized and approved chemical herbicide products, specifically designed for sanitary sewer mains, were applied to City sewer mains with a history of root intrusion. Staff selected two different chemical herbicide products via a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, thereby allowing staff to evaluate the effectiveness of each product in various locations throughout the City.

Staff selected Duke's Root Control (Duke's) and Pacific Sewer Maintenance (PSM) to apply their different chemical herbicide products to approximately one mile of pipe throughout the City and assessed the potential negative effect of the chemical herbicide to nearby trees. After a three month review period, no negative effects were found;

therefore, Duke's and PSM applied their chemical herbicide to approximately 13 miles of sanitary sewer mains.

Staff has evaluated the effectiveness of the two different chemical herbicide products and has determined that while both products were successful in controlling root intrusion, Duke's was favorable because of ease of scheduling and product warranty. Duke's chemical herbicide does not require pre-cleaning prior to treatment, whereas PSM requires that treatment take place within a 6 week to 3 month cleaning window. PSM's warranty is voided if a sewer main is hydro-jetted after chemical herbicides are applied and Duke's does not have that stipulation.

CURRENT PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The work consists of applying chemical herbicide to approximately 20 miles of predominately 6-inch and 8-inch sewer mains with a history of root intrusion in various locations throughout the City.

Staff recommends a sole source agreement with Duke's because of their ease of scheduling without strict pre-cleaning windows and favorable warranty. They provided competitive pricing, similar to last year, and were proven to be successful and efficient in the 2014 pilot project.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

This project is funded by the Wastewater Fund and there are sufficient funds in the Wastewater Fund to cover the cost of this project. The following summarizes project costs:

ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST

Duke's Agreement (including extra services)	$141,434.88
Project Management (by City Staff)	$20,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	**$161,434.88**

The Board of Water Commissioners is scheduled to hear this item at their July 13, 2015 meeting.

PREPARED BY: Linda Sumansky, Principal Civil Engineer/LA/KT/xx

SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office