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CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: August 1, 2017

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Authorization For Blanket Purchase Order For Sanitary Sewer Chemical Root Control Services

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council find it in the City's best interest to waive the formal bidding process, as authorized by Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 4.52.070(L), and authorize the City General Services Manager to issue a Blanket Purchase Order to Duke's Root Control, Inc., in the amount of \$125,000 for sanitary sewer chemical root cleaning services, with the option to renew the purchase order for an additional four years, expiring June 28, 2022, subject to the appropriation of funds for such purpose in Council's adopted budget.

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 40 SSOs per year, with the predominant cause being root intrusion. Since then, the number of SSOs has been decreasing; however, efforts to reduce SSOs 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 root control products, specifically designed for sanitary sewer mains, were applied to City sewer mains with a history of root intrusion. Staff selected two different chemical root control products via a Request for Proposal 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 root control products to approximately one mile of sanitary sewer mains throughout the City and assessed the potential negative effects of the chemical root control products to nearby trees. After a three-month review period, no

negative effects were found; therefore, Duke's and PSM applied their chemical root control products to approximately 13 miles of sanitary sewer mains.

Staff has evaluated the effectiveness of the two different chemical root control 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 root control product does not require pre-cleaning prior to treatment, whereas PSM requires that treatment take place within a six-week to three-month cleaning window. PSM's warranty is voided if a sewer main is hydro-jetted after the chemical root control product is applied, and Duke's does not have that stipulation.

A Sole Source Maintenance Agreement was approved by Council on July 21, 2015, for Duke's to apply the chemical root control product to approximately 20 miles of sewer mains with a history of root intrusion in various locations throughout the City in fall 2015. Council approved a Professional Service Agreement with Duke's on September 6, 2016, to apply the chemical control product to approximately 21 miles of sewer mains with a history of root intrusion during the fall of 2016.

Current Project Description

The work consists of applying the chemical root control product to approximately 17 miles of predominantly 6-inch and 8-inch sewer mains. The majority of these sewer mains were initially treated in 2015 and have a history of root intrusion. These sewer mains are located throughout the City.

Staff recommends that Council find it in the City's best interest to waive the formal bidding process, as authorized by Municipal Code 4.52.070(k); and authorize the City's General Services Manager to issue a Blanket Purchase Order to Duke's in the amount of \$125,000 for chemical root control services, with the option to renew the purchase order for an additional four years, expiring June 28, 2022. Duke's is the only supplier of the particular root control product, and they allow chemical treatment scheduling without strict pre-cleaning windows and a favorable warranty. Duke's provided competitive pricing, similar to last year, and were proven to be successful and efficient in the 2014 - 2016 projects.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

This project is funded by the Wastewater Fund, and there are sufficient appropriated funds in the Fiscal Year 2018 Wastewater Fund to cover the cost of this project.

At its meeting on July 20, 2017, the Water Commission voted **X-X-X** in support of the staff's recommendations.

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