



DATE: May 18, 2021

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Adopt Two Resolutions Authorizing the City Manager to Accept and Appropriate \$60,000 in Grant Funding from Pacific Gas & Electric; and Enter into an Agreement for Services with Pacheco Landscape Management for The Fire Department's Vegetation Management Program

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the attached resolutions authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate \$60,000 for the Defensible Space Resident Assistance Program from Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) (Attachment II); and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for services with Pacheco Landscape Management for the Fire Department's Vegetation Management Program, serving the Hayward Hills and the unincorporated Fairview Community (Attachment III).

SUMMARY

The City of Hayward Fire Department was awarded \$60,000 from PG&E to help fund the Defensible Space Resident Assistance Program (RAP) to assist residents who are unable to cut and stack tree limbs due to limited physical abilities and/or economic barriers.

After soliciting quotes from several companies, the Fire Department awarded Pacheco Landscape Management a three-year contract for on-call chipping, hauling, and additional assistance creating defensible space for RAP-approved residents.

Staff is requesting that Council approve the attached resolutions to: (1) accept and appropriate the PG&E award for the Fire Department's upcoming chipping season; and (2) award Pacheco Landscape Management a three-year contract to perform chipping and hauling services.

BACKGROUND

The Fire Department established a vegetation management program in 2012 to assist residents of Hayward and the unincorporated Fairview Community with creating defensible space in high-fire hazard areas. The vegetation management program offers a no-cost

chipping service for residents who cut and stack their brush and tree limbs to be chipped for their use or hauled away. Since the inception of the program, the Fire Department has received several requests for assistance with cutting and stacking materials from residents unable to perform this work themselves. In response, the Fire Department implemented the RAP to assist community members unable to perform these tasks due to age, low income, or disability. Applications for the program are reviewed and selected based on need and high fire hazard concerns. In 2020, the Fire Department provided assistance to 219 homes, hauled 713 cubic yards of material, cleared 122 acres, and chipped 713 yards of material. Residents spent approximately 2,500 hours preparing for the chipping service, and ten homes opted to keep the weed and erosion control chips.

The Fire Department relies heavily on grant funding to sustain this program and was awarded \$60,000 from PG&E to help fund the RAP so the City can continue to provide the assistance needed.

DISCUSSION

In April 2021, the Fire Department conducted RFQ# 2119-041321 to solicit quotes to perform as-needed vegetation management services. This program included on-call tree limb chipping service, creating defensible space, and as-needed fuel reduction services determined by our annual surveys, complaint inspections, defensible space projects, and consultations by Deputy Chief Vollmer. The Fire Department received three quotes on May 10, 2021, and issued an award letter to Pacheco Landscape Management. Pacheco Landscape Management has been awarded and managed this contract for seven years and continues to provide exceptional service, detailed record-keeping, and consistently exceeds expectations in a professional and timely manner.

Staff is requesting that Council approve the attached resolutions to accept and appropriate the grant funds and award Pacheco Landscape Management the contract. If the Council authorizes these actions, staff will appropriate the funding into the Fire Department's budget and enter into the intended transactions for services.

FISCAL IMPACT

This funding source does not require a match and will have no impact on the City's General Fund. These funds will allow the Fire Department to procure supplies and services it would not be able to under this year's operating budget.

STRATEGIC ROADMAP

This agenda item is a routine operational item and does not directly relate to any of the six priorities outlined in the Council's Strategic Roadmap.

Prepared by: Shanalee Gallagher, Management Analyst

Recommended by: Garrett Contreras, Fire Chief

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. McAdoo', written in a cursive style.

Kelly McAdoo, City Manager