

**APPROVED**  
**MAY 20 2009**

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 09-137

DATE May 20, 2009

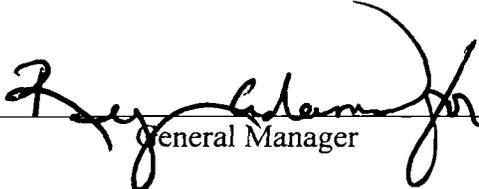
**BOARD OF RECREATION  
and PARK COMMISSIONERS**

C.D. Various

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: MASTER AGREEMENT FOR BRUSH CLEARANCE CONTRACTORS

R. Adams _____	J. Kolb _____
H. Fujita _____	F. Mok _____
S. Huntley _____	*K. Regan 
V. Israel _____	M. Shull _____

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
General Manager

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve the Master Agreement for brush clearance contractors, to be entered into with the list (Attachment A) of pre-approved contractors, substantially in the form attached hereto, subject to the City Attorney's approval;
2. Find that in accordance with Charter Section 1022, the Department does not have personnel available in its employ with the necessary expertise to perform these services in a timely manner, and that it is more feasible and economical, as well as in the Department's best interest, to secure several personal service contracts to provide these services on an as needed basis;
3. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit the proposed Master Agreement to the Mayor in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3, and concurrently to the City Attorney for review as to form; and,
4. Authorize the General Manager to execute agreement for a one-year term with provisions to extend the term for two additional years, exercisable in one-year increments with each approved Brush Clearance contractor upon receipt of necessary approvals.

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### SUMMARY:

The Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) has the responsibility for brush clearance for all Department properties where the threat of catastrophic property loss or physical injury due to brush or wildfires can occur at any time. The Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Sec. 57.21.07 states that the Department has the responsibility to abate certain hazardous public nuisances that would include, but not be limited to, brush clearance, weed and/or refuse abatement, tree trimming or removal, within 200 feet of private residences and 10 feet from roadways. In order to comply with the LAMC in a timely fashion, the Department requires the services of pre-qualified brush clearance contractors, each of whom must execute an agreement with the Department.

Each year, the Department puts out to bid brush clearance service packages for approximately 230 parcels of varying sizes. A pre-qualified group of brush clearance contractors, are contracted to provide the work. The group of contractors has received training and certification through the Los Angeles City Fire Department's (LAFD) Brush Clearance Unit, and were selected through a Request for Qualification process. Contractors must attend mandatory orientation sessions presented by the Department and the LAFD outlining the City and Department's Brush Clearance policies and compliance needs. All Contractors must comply with the City's Standard Provisions for Contracts and the Department's Brush Clearance policies. The majority of the contractors have expert staff to perform the more hazardous projects. Tree trimming above 15 feet requires the contractor to hold a C-61 or D-49 license from the California State Contractors Board. Throughout the year, Department staff clears brush in non-hazardous conditions where special expertise and equipment are not required. The list of pre-approved contractors is shown on Attachment A.

Department staff has conferred with the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services and an agreement was reached concerning the responsibility for brush clearance and landscape vegetation maintenance on Department owned property. Those parcels requiring machine disking will be forwarded to the Lot Cleaning Division of the Street Services for abatement. The remaining parcels will continue to be cleared using the contract process.

The Department will compile several bid packages consisting of 30 to 50 hours of brush clearance for each. The packages may include multiple parcels to be abated. Work will be awarded to the lowest responsive bidder on the approved list. When the bid package is awarded, the contractor becomes responsible, pursuant to the terms of the master agreement, for completing the work within thirteen (13) calendar days. Since time is of the essence for this work, contractors who fail to meet the deadlines will be assessed liquidated damages in the amount of \$200 per day. The contract will be for a one-year term with provisions to extend the term for two additional years, exercisable in one-year increments, with the same terms and conditions provided that funds are available, at the sole discretion of the Board.

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In the 2008-09 budget, \$1,485,200 (Brush Clearance Account 3040) was provided to fund these contracts. The Department has a balance of approximately \$990,300 to initiate the brush clearing season prior to July 2009 when the new budget for FY09-10 becomes available. The Department anticipates the FY09-10 budget will allocate \$1,479,200 for brush clearance. It is estimated that \$1,669,500 will be spent during the 2009 summer season, and the remainder to be used next spring for the 2010 fire season.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The Department anticipates the 2009-10 budget will allocate \$1,479,200 for brush clearance in account 3040. That amount plus the current balance of \$990,300 will be sufficient to meet the Department's required clearance responsibilities for the 2009-10 seasons.

Prepared by Alexa Esparza, Senior Management Analyst, West Region.

ATTACHMENT A

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS  
FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010 BRUSH CLEARANCE CONTRACTORS

1. Archer Landscape Service
2. Avalon Landscape, Inc.
3. B C Tree Service, Inc.
4. Brian Walsh Brush Clearance
5. Equery Inc., DBA: Econo Tree Care
6. Four Seasons Landscape
7. Green Leaf G T H, Inc.
8. International Environmental Corporation
9. JN Land Maintenance, Inc.
10. Pan American Brush Clearance, Inc.
11. Pepo Weed Abatement, Inc.
12. Ray Byers & Company
13. Sierra Landscape Development
14. Silent Fire, Inc.
15. Thrifty Tree Service, Inc.
16. Tree Elements, Inc.
17. Van Gogh Landscaping, LLC.
18. Waste Unlimited, Inc.