

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:

The Public Works Department requires tree trimming, tree removal, and stump grinding to be performed along the City's rights-of-way each year. The 2016/17 budget includes \$82,000 for this work, and the estimated amount needed for the tree trimming and removal contract is \$70,000. This leaves \$12,000 for other miscellaneous work.

This work was put out for competitive bids, and the following bids were received on September 16, 2016: \$39.50

2016/17 CONTRACT PERIOD

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
LawnPro L.L.C., Colo IA	\$ 49.75/Crew Hour
Finco Tree/Wood Service, Kelly IA	\$125.00/Crew Hour
Weiss Tree Service, Inc., Nevada IA	\$160.00/Crew Hour

LawnPro was the service provider in the previous 3-year contract that has expired in an amount of \$39.50/crew hour. They have contracted this service with the City for over ten years. It is the understanding of staff that the other bidders' amounts reflected larger crews for each work location. While this may lead to the work being done more quickly, it does not balance out for the difference in price. Staff will work with LawnPro to plan the work activities several months in advance and monitor the amount expended under the contract on a monthly basis to keep costs within the contract amount.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract for the 2016/17 Tree Trimming and Removal Program to LawnPro L.L.C. of Colo, IA, in an amount not to exceed \$70,000.
2. Reject all bids and attempt to purchase tree trimming on an as-need basis.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This work is an important part of maintaining the City's rights-of-way, and the low bid will provide the largest amount of value for this program.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.