COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: RIGHT-OF-WAY TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL PROGRAM CHANGE ORDER

BACKGROUND:

In the fall of 2017, City Council approved the renewal contract for tree trimming, tree removal, and stump removal in the City right-of-way with Lawnpro, Colo, IA. Most of the contracted work is for removal of trees too large or trimming that is too high for the equipment owned by the City.

As staff has become more familiar with the right-of-way tree population, 75 trees have been identified as a hazard that need to be removed. The City's Municipal Code (Chapter 27.3.1) defines a hazard tree as a "clear and present danger to the public's safety." The original contract amount for tree trimming and tree removal for Lawnpro was $74,543 and is not sufficient to begin removing these hazard trees. As part of the FY 2017/18 Adjusted Budget, staff requested, and City Council approved, an additional $75,000 to begin the hazard tree removal process. Since the City already has a contract with Lawnpro and this company consistently has offered the lowest hourly labor cost from previous bid processes, staff is recommending to add the additional $75,000 to the current Lawnpro contract. This action will increase the contract to $149,543.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve Change Order to add $75,000 to the FY 2017/18 Right of Way Tree Trimming & Removal Contract awarded to Lawnpro, Colo,IA.

2. Do not approve the Change Order to add $75,000 to the FY 2017/18 Right of Way Tree Trimming &Removal Contract awarded to Lawnpro and direct staff to solicit bids from other companies.

3. Refer back to Staff.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This trimming work is an important part of maintaining the City's rights-of-way and ensuring the safety to the residents and their property. Adding the funds to an existing contract allows staff to move forward in directing Lawnpro to begin removing hazard trees in a timely manner. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.