

ITEM # 15
DATE: October 14, 2008

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY TREE TRIMMING PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:

The Public Works Department winter tree right-of-way trimming contract has been in place for several winter seasons. LawnPro was awarded this contract for the 2006/07 winter season at \$30,000. Tree trimming was also being done during the summer on an as need basis. It was decided in the fall of 2007 to add an option for the summer tree trimming and make this contract a year round annual contract.

The estimated amount needed for the 2007/08 Tree Trimming Program was increased to \$35,000 and the summer tree trimming contract was estimated to cost \$25,000. Council approved a contract to LawnPro in the amount of \$60,000 for the 2007/08 Tree Trimming Program.

LawnPro's original bid also included pricing for renewal of the 2008/09 Tree Trimming Program. The winter price increased from \$33.50 to \$35 per crew hour and the summer price increased from \$44 to \$45 per crew hour.

The Public Works Department has \$60,000 budgeted for the 2008/09 Tree Trimming Program.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the contract for the 2008/09 Right-of-Way Tree Trimming Program to LawnPro, Ames, IA, in the amount of \$55,000.
2. Reject the renewal option and rebid the Right-of-Way Tree Trimming Program.
3. Reject the renewal option and purchase right-of-way tree trimming on an as-need basis.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The approved 2008/09 operating budget for the Public Works Department includes \$60,000 for tree trimming. The estimated cost of this contract is \$55,000 which will leave \$5,000 for miscellaneous tree trimming that may be outside the scope of this contract.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving award of contract for the 2008/09 Right-of-Way Tree Trimming Program to LawnPro, Ames, IA, in the amount of \$55,000.