

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **WINTER & SUMMER TREE TRIMMING**

BACKGROUND:

It is important to maintain the condition of trees in the public right-of-way and on public grounds. Trimming, removal and stump grinding is needed to provide for public safety and tree health. It is most efficient to contract for these activities. The following bids for this work were received on August 25, 2011:

<u>Bidder</u>	2011/12 WINTER & SUMMER TREE TRIMMING	
	<u>Bid Amount – Winter</u>	<u>Bid Amount - Summer</u>
LawnPro L.L.C.	\$ 34.00/Crew Hour	\$ 39.00/Crew Hour
Dan's Custom Landscapes	\$ 85.00/Crew Hour	\$150.00/Crew Hour
Asplundh Tree Expert Co.	\$ 85.15/Crew Hour	\$ 85.15/Crew Hour
Finco Tree/Wood Service LLC	\$ 99.00/Crew Hour	\$110.00/Crew Hour
J. C.'s Tree Service	\$180.00/Crew Hour	\$199.00/Crew Hour

LawnPro L.L.C. was awarded the Winter & Summer Tree Trimming contract in 2011, with the option for annual renewal. This renewal option provided for a 3% winter 2012/13 increase and 2.5% summer 2013 increase. This equates to a winter tree trimming contract of \$30,000 and a summer tree trimming contract of \$25,000, totaling \$55,000. The 2012/13 budget includes \$60,000 for this work.

The community weathered a severe storm event this past summer with widespread tree damage. Clean-up from the storm required utilizing the services of Lawn Pro to help restore public areas and assure the safety of our community as quickly and efficiently as possible. On August 28, 2012 City Council approved a change order to the previous contract that increased that contract to \$78,000. These services crossed fiscal years, using part of the funds budgeted for 2012/13. Staff will work with City Council through the upcoming budget amendment process to include an adequate budget for this coming year's contract.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve a contract for the 2012/13 Winter & Summer Tree Trimming to LawnPro L.L.C., Colo, IA, in the amount of \$55,000.
2. Reject all bids and attempt to secure tree trimming on an as-needed basis.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is very important to maintain the public urban forest through a proactive tree trimming and removal program. This provides the safest environment for our citizens and minimizes damage experienced during severe storms. It is most effective to contract for this work from both a cost and work activity perspective.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving award of contract for the 2012/13 Winter and Summer Tree Trimming to LawnPro L.L.C., Colo, IA, in the amount of \$55,000.