



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
May 12, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager
 Submitted by: Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront
 Subject: Contracts: As-needed Tree Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt four (4) Resolutions authorizing the City Manager to execute the following contracts, and any amendments, extensions, or other change orders for as-needed tree services, each for a period of May 29, 2026 to May 28, 2029:

1. Bay Area Tree Specialists, for an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000.
2. Hamilton Tree Service, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000.
3. The Professional Tree Care Company, for an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000.
4. West Coast Arborists, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding for these contracts is subject to appropriation in the FY2027- FY 2029 budgets in the Parks Tax (Fund 138) and in program code "1001- Fire Fuel Management" that is allocated in the General Fund (Fund 011).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

As-needed tree services are needed from qualified contractors at various parks and pathways. These services include tree and stump removals, pruning, and fire fuel and other brush clearing, all of which may need to be addressed on short notice, especially after storms. The trees may be in difficult to access locations, be exceptionally large, require road closures or utility services to be interrupted, or need to be removed in a timely manner to reduce fire fuel volumes.

BACKGROUND

The Urban Forestry Unit of the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department contracts with private companies for the removal of public trees that are dead, diseased, dying, hazardous to life or property, or causing substantial property damage; and the

pruning of specific public trees to improve their safety. On Monday, January 26, 2026, the City published a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) seeking qualified firms or individuals to provide tree services on an as-needed basis (Specification No. 26-11778-C).

On February 24, 2026, the City received Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from ten (10) tree services firms. A panel of City staff reviewed the SOQs and selected Bay Area Tree Specialists, Hamilton Tree Service, Inc., The Professional Tree Care Company, and West Coast Arborists, Inc. as the best qualified firms to meet the City's needs.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Section D.2 in chapter 3 of the City's **Climate Action Plan** seeks to promote tree planting, landscaping, and the creation of green and open space that is safe and attractive and that helps to restore natural processes with significant environmental benefits in the form of carbon dioxide absorption and oxygen production as well as storm water retention, and climate control. These services contracts are an essential component in the proper maintenance of the City's urban forest.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department has evaluated the needs for tree removal and pruning services and has determined that Bay Area Tree Specialists, Hamilton Tree Service, Inc., The Professional Tree Care Company, and West Coast Arborists, Inc. best meets the requirements as set out in the bid specification (26-11778-C). Additionally, these contracts enable the City to respond to emergencies, such as extreme or prolonged storms, that demand an immediate response.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative actions were considered. The City needs assistance from tree contractors to provide as-needed services quickly and safely.

CONTACT PERSON

Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront, 981-6700
Thomas Dodge, Senior Forestry Supervisor, PRW, 981-6689

Attachments:

1. Resolution: Contract with Bay Area Tree Specialists
2. Resolution: Contract with Hamilton Tree Service, Inc.
3. Resolution: Contract with The Professional Tree Care Company
4. Resolution: Contract with West Coast Arborists, Inc.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: BAY AREA TREE SPECIALISTS FOR AS-NEEDED TREE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Urban Forestry Unit of the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department contracts with private companies for the removal of public trees that are dead, diseased, dying, hazardous to life or property, or causing substantial property damage; and the pruning of specific public trees to improve their safety; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2026, the City released a Request for Qualifications (Specification No. 26-11778-C) seeking firms or individuals to provide as-needed tree services; and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2026, the City received ten (10) submissions, which were reviewed and rated; and

WHEREAS, the submission from Bay Area Tree Specialists was determined to be fully qualified and responsive to the City's request; and

WHEREAS, the desired tree services firms will be available on an as-needed basis over a three-year period for an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000; and

WHEREAS, funding for these contracts is subject to appropriation in the FY2027- FY 2029 budgets in the Parks Tax (Fund 138) and in program code "1001- Fire Fuel Management" that is allocated from General Fund (Fund 011).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions, or change orders with Bay Area Tree Specialists for as-needed tree services for the contract period of May 29, 2026 through May 28, 2029 in an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000. A record signature copy of the agreement and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: HAMILTON TREE SERVICE, INC. FOR AS-NEEDED TREE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Urban Forestry Unit of the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department contracts with private companies for the removal of public trees that are dead, diseased, dying, hazardous to life or property, or causing substantial property damage; and the pruning of specific public trees to improve their safety; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2026, the City released a Request for Qualifications (Specification No. 26-11778-C) seeking firms or individuals to provide as-needed tree services; and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2026, the City received ten (10) submissions, which were reviewed and rated; and

WHEREAS, the submission from Hamilton Tree Service, Inc. was determined to be fully qualified and responsive to the City's request; and

WHEREAS, the desired tree services firms will be available on an as-needed basis over a three-year period for an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000; and

WHEREAS, funding for these contracts is subject to appropriation in the FY2027- FY 2029 budgets in the Parks Tax (Fund 138) and in program code "1001- Fire Fuel Management" that is allocated from General Fund (Fund 011).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions, or change orders with Hamilton Tree Service, Inc. for as-needed tree services for the contract period of May 29, 2026 through May 28, 2029 in an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000. A record signature copy of the agreement and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: THE PROFESSIONAL TREE CARE COMPANY FOR AS-NEEDED
TREE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Urban Forestry Unit of the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department contracts with private companies for the removal of public trees that are dead, diseased, dying, hazardous to life or property, or causing substantial property damage; and the pruning of specific public trees to improve their safety; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2026, the City released a Request for Qualifications (Specification No. 26-11778-C) seeking firms or individuals to provide as-needed tree services; and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2026, the City received ten (10) submissions, which were reviewed and rated; and

WHEREAS, the submission from The Professional Tree Care Company was determined to be fully qualified and responsive to the City's request; and

WHEREAS, the desired tree services firms will be available on an as-needed basis over a three-year period for an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000; and

WHEREAS, funding for these contracts is subject to appropriation in the FY2027- FY 2029 budgets in the Parks Tax (Fund 138) and in program code "1001- Fire Fuel Management" that is allocated from General Fund (Fund 011).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions, or change orders with The Professional Tree Care Company for as-needed tree services for the contract period of May 29, 2026 through May 28, 2029 in an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000. A record signature copy of the agreement and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: WEST COAST ARBORISTS, INC. FOR AS-NEEDED TREE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Urban Forestry Unit of the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department contracts with private companies for the removal of public trees that are dead, diseased, dying, hazardous to life or property, or causing substantial property damage; and the pruning of specific public trees to improve their safety; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2026, the City released a Request for Qualifications (Specification No. 26-11778-C) seeking firms or individuals to provide as-needed tree services; and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2026, the City received ten (10) submissions, which were reviewed and rated; and

WHEREAS, the submission from West Coast Arborists, Inc. was determined to be fully qualified and responsive to the City's request; and

WHEREAS, the desired tree services firms will be available on an as-needed basis over a three-year period for an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000; and

WHEREAS, funding for these contracts is subject to appropriation in the FY2027- FY 2029 budgets in the Parks Tax (Fund 138) and in program code "1001- Fire Fuel Management" that is allocated from General Fund (Fund 011).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions, or change orders with West Coast Arborists, Inc. for as-needed tree services for the contract period of May 29, 2026 through May 28, 2029 in an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000. A record signature copy of the agreement and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.