

**MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

DATE: September 11, 2019
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Jackie Nelson, Environmental Education Supervisor
REVIEWED BY: Rafael Payan, General Manager
SUBJECT: Consideration and Approval Contract for Weed Control Services (Mowing) at Rancho Canada Unit of Palo Corona Regional Park

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff respectfully recommends the Board consider and approve staff to enter into a two-year Weed Control Services (Mowing) at Rancho Canada Unit of Palo Corona Regional Park contract with Ventana Forestry in substantially the form submitted and authorize staff to execute the contract (**ATTACHMENT 1**). With the option to extend the services for an additional three years.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Up to \$52,500 for six tractor mows for fiscal year 2019-2020. Up to \$105,000 for the two-year contract.

FUNDING SOURCE:

6710 – Palo Corona Maintenance/Services

FUNDING BALANCE:

\$200,200 FY 2019-2020

DISCUSSION:

At the August 2019 regular meeting the Board of Directors authorized staff to issue a request for proposals (RFP) Weed Control Services (Mowing) at Rancho Canada Unit of Palo Corona Regional Park for long term management of the site, support of current and future restoration projects, improvement of wildlife habitat and reduction of fuel load as the ongoing mowing regime is beyond current staffing ability.

Announcements of the RFP included direct mailings to four (4) businesses, advertisement in local print publications, posting on MPRPD website and word of mouth. A mandatory site walk-thru was required for all proposals to be considered responsive. MPRPD received four (4) responses (available for Board review upon request) within the due date and time, and one late proposal which was not considered as part of the selection process. Staff determined that the proposal submitted by Ventana Forestry best fits the needs of the District.

The proposal submitted by Ventana Forestry was the lowest price and was the only proposal that included additional detailed information including: method of operations, equipment, certification, proposal details and references (**ATTACHMENT 2**).

Applicants were requested to identify all costs associated with the mowing treatment for application to noxious weeds, with appropriate equipment, of the approximately 125-acres on the Palo Corona Regional Park Rancho Canada Unit. Targeted species include genista, bull thistle, Italian thistle, mustard, radish, hemlock, and others. Mowing, on both sides of the river, is on an as needed basis for three (3) and up to six (6) times a year depending upon vegetation growth and presence of noxious weeds. The Contractor shall be on call for scheduling the mowing.

The Ventana Forestry proposal for the two-year contact (FY 2019-20 and 2020-21) is in the amount of \$8,750 per mow or up to \$52,500 annually for six mows. Staff recommends the contract align with the MPRPD fiscal year starting in 2019-2020 enabling for late season mowing services starting in October 2019 and continuing through June 30, 2020. The option to extend the services for an additional three years (FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24) is for the same price of \$8,750 per mow and up to \$52,500 annually.

Rewilding and restoration of the former golf course through the mowing of noxious weeds is a high priority. The long-term management of this site, support current and future restoration projects, improvement of wildlife habitat and reduction of fuel load reinforces the District's mission to "Preserve and Protect Parks and Open Space."

Staff respectfully recommends the Board authorize staff to execute the two-year Weed Control Services (Mowing) at Rancho Canada Unit of Palo Corona Regional Park contract with Ventana Forestry.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Proposed Ventana Forestry Weed Control Services \(Mowing\) at Rancho Canada Unit of Palo Corona Regional Park Standard District Agreement for Services](#)
2. [Proposal from Ventana Forestry Weed Control Services \(Mowing\) at Rancho Canada Unit of Palo Corona Regional Park](#)