



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 11/10/2020

Agenda Placement: 6D

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Stacie McCambridge for Geoff Belyea - Fire Chief
County Fire Department

REPORT BY: Stacie McCambridge, Associate Governmental Program Analyst - (707) 299-1465

SUBJECT: Professional Service Contract for Fire Hazard Abatement - Napa Roots Landscaping

RECOMMENDATION

County Fire Chief requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Napa Roots for a maximum of \$50,000 for the term August October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, with an automatic renewal provision, to provide defensible space for properties that do not comply with the fire hazard abatement ordinance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the adoption of the Fire Hazard Abatement Ordinance, the County Fire Department is contracting with private contractors to complete the necessary abatements. The County currently works with other vendors such as; Joaquin's Landscaping Service and SF Landscaping on different abatement projects. In order to enforce the Fire Hazard Abatement Ordinance, staff is now requesting to add Napa Roots Landscaping to reduce potential fire hazard and to abate properties that do not comply with the defensible space requirement. With the popularity of weed abatement/defensible space, another vendor is warranted due to vendor availability.

Property owners requiring compliance will be billed for the cost of the abatement and the cost of the fire department staff time at \$154 per hour. Non payment will be turned over to the County Auditor as an assessment on the tax bill.

FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes

Where is it budgeted?	County Fire Department
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	The Professional Services Agreement is necessary to implement the Napa County Fire Hazard Abatement Ordinance.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	Staff will include the costs in the Recommended Budget each fiscal year to continue the Fire Hazard Abatement program. Property owners will be billed for the cost of the contractor and the cost of the fire department staff time for the abatement. Non payment will be turned over to the County Auditor as an assessment against the affected parcel of land.
Consequences if not approved:	The Napa County Fire Department utilizes multiple contractors to abate fire hazards throughout the county. The lack of qualified or willing contractors within the County is limited. Not approving this contract would hamper the Fire Department's efforts in fire prevention causing increased risk to the citizens of Napa County.
County Strategic Plan pillar addressed:	Healthy, Safe, and Welcoming Place to Live, Work, and Visit
Additional Information:	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

On June 22, 2007 the County adopted the Napa County Fire Hazard Abatement Ordinance. Staff is now requesting to add Napa Roots Landscaping to reduce potential fire hazard and to abate properties that do not comply with the defensible space requirement. With the popularity of weed abatement/defensible space, another vendor is warranted due to vendor availability. Although the maximum for this contract will be \$50,000, payment will be based on actual work performed.

Staff from the Napa County Fire Department have been inspecting properties for compliance with the Fire Hazard Abatement Ordinance throughout the County focusing on high risk communities and responding to neighbor and community concerns. Properties that are not in compliance with the defensible space requirements are issued a "Notice to Abate Fire Hazard". After twenty-one days, if the property is still not in compliance, the County will use a private contractor to reduce the fire hazard and the property owner will be billed for the cost of the contractor and the cost of the fire department staff time for the abatement. Non payment will be turned over to the county auditor as an assessment against the affected parcel of land. Fee's associated with this service are ultimately paid by the property owner and not by the County.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi