



STAFF REPORT

AGENDA NO: 9i

MEETING DATE: December 15, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

Date: December 15, 2025

From: Margaret Glomstad, Parks and Recreation Director – (650) 558-7307
Rich Holtz, Parks Superintendent/City Arborist – (650) 558-7333

Subject: Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a \$402,435 Contract with Julian Tree Care, Inc. for the 2025-2026 Large Tree Pruning and Removal Work

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a \$402,435 contract with Julian Tree Care, Inc. for the 2025-2026 Large Tree Pruning and Removal work.

BACKGROUND

The winter of 2023 saw extreme storm events that caused the failure of dozens of large trees throughout the community. Staff subsequently assessed the existing tree groves and prioritized work based on the likelihood and consequences of failure. The first portion of this work occurred on an emergency basis during winter and spring 2023 and as part of three Requests for Proposals issued in July 2023. Many of these trees were in poor condition and had received little maintenance because of their location. These trees were further affected by extreme weather events following the pruning and removal of several City trees adjacent to this location.

In 2024, the City awarded two tree pruning and removal contracts to address deficient conditions in additional large eucalyptus trees on City property that had not already been mitigated. This included areas that had been recently categorized as City assets, trees that require routine maintenance outside of already contracted grid pruning, or trees that have increased risk of failure and greater consequences of the identified potential failure. The area representing the most significant work of the 2024 Large Tree Pruning and Removal contract was in the historic Francard Grove along the railway between North Lane and Oak Grove. This contract also allowed the City to address the significant poor condition of the recently acquired eucalyptus grove on San Francisco Public Utilities Commission lands adjacent to California Drive.

In 2025, staff discovered that the City owned a previously unmaintained eucalyptus grove adjacent to Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) tracks and a significant drainage canal near Guittard and Broderick roads. BART staff expressed concerns regarding deficient conditions in the area and an increased risk of failure in their operating area. City staff inspected the area and determined that the majority, 115 trees, require removal due to deficient conditions, including confined growing

conditions, structural deficiencies, increased consequences of failure due to the proximity of overhead electrical conductors, compromise of the drainage canal, and the location of the BART facilities. Parks staff will replant the area after removals are completed.

Staff has identified necessary large tree work throughout the city. This includes the previously unmaintained eucalyptus grove adjacent to BART, a grove of eucalyptus trees along Skyline Boulevard, and individual trees near California Drive, Sanchez Avenue, Easton Drive, and La Mesa Drive.

DISCUSSION

The project was advertised for bid on November 7, 2025, and closed on November 26, 2025. Bidders were instructed to submit a lump-sum proposal for all labor and materials required to complete the project. On November 26, 2025, the City received 13 base bids for the project, ranging in price from \$286,282 to \$3,419,760. The apparent lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder was Julian Tree Care, Inc. at a price of \$365,850. The City received a lower base bid from Rolling Green, Inc. for \$286,282, but that bid was deemed non-responsible due to significant errors on the bid sheet that artificially lowered the bid.

Company	Bid
Rolling Green, Inc.	\$286,282.00
Julian Tree Care, Inc.	\$365,850.00
California Expert Tree Solutions	\$396,500.00
Best Quality Tree Service	\$399,950.00
Community Tree Service, LLC	\$519,000.00
Davey Tree	\$680,400.00
GreenTek Services, LLC	\$794,758.28
Mountain F Enterprises, Inc.	\$1,123,200.00
A Plus Tree, LLC	\$1,173,570.50
Arboriculture Specialties, Inc.	\$1,260,660.00
Core Tree Care, Inc.	\$1,651,751.00
West Coast Tree Service, Inc.	\$2,158,030.00
New Image Landscape Company	\$3,419,760.00

Staff is requesting an additional 10% contingency to address any unforeseen site conditions. The additional \$36,585 contingency request brings the total contract with Julian Tree Care, Inc. to \$402,435.

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds for this contract are available in the FY 2025-26 Parks Division Operating Budget.

Exhibits:

- Resolution
- Draft Agreement with Julian Tree Care, Inc.
- 2025-2026 Large Tree Pruning and Removal RFP and Julian Tree Care, Inc. Proposal