



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM: 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: May 3, 2017

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(c) : Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Diamond A Equipment of Oxnard for purchase of a 4WD farm-style tractor.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a contract with Diamond A Equipment of Oxnard for purchase of a 4WD farm-style tractor in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00.

Background: MRCA's heavy equipment is used in the development, rehabilitation, restoration and protection of land and water resources. In 2013 the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy awarded a grant of Proposition 40 funds to purchase various pieces of durable new equipment for these purposes. MRCA's existing tractor is over twenty years old and frequently requires costly repairs and maintenance. The purchase of a new farm-style tractor would be beneficial for attending to the agency's various construction projects and maintenance emergencies in a timely manner.

In March, MRCA staff solicited bids for a new 4WD farm-style tractor. Bids were received from four companies. After considerable and careful review, staff determined that the lowest responsible and responsive bid was from Diamond A Equipment for the amount of \$40,770.00. The full list of bids, Diamond A Equipment's bid form, and the model information sheets are attached.

Consideration: The bid from Diamond A Equipment of Oxnard is for \$40,770.00. Staff recommends that the Governing Board also approve an allowance, approximately 10% of the bid amount, to allow for customization of the equipment, such as lighting and security features not on the base model. The contract would not exceed \$45,000.00.

Fiscal Impact: Funding for the contract comes from an existing grant for equipment purchases, and the expenditure was anticipated in both the FY 2016/17 budget and the grant budget. Staff time to coordinate the work will be paid from the grant funds and this was also anticipated. It is expected that some savings to the general fund

will result because staff will spend less time on equipment repairs.

If the equipment is not purchased, MRCA could continue to use the aged tractor until it is no longer repairable or no longer meets air quality standards. Heavy equipment can be rented on an as-needed basis, and this is an eligible cost for most capital grants. Use of owned equipment is eligible for some grant programs if use is tracked sufficiently. For maintenance uses, rental is an eligible cost but other expenses would need to be cut to accommodate it, and frequent rentals are not cost effective. This would likely have a negative impact on the general fund.