



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 1, 2019

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(f): Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to Pepo Weed Abatement, Inc. for fuel modification services at Westridge Canyonback Wilderness Park, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a contract to Pepo Weed Abatement, Inc. for fuel modification services at Westridge Canyonback Wilderness Park, City of Los Angeles, in the amount of \$53,500.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) performs required fuel modification and fire clearance work on over 1,500 acres of open space lands each year. This fire clearance work is necessary for the protection and restoration of natural and developed resources by removal of invasive plant species, reduction of hazardous fire fuel loads, and erosion protection. MRCA staff perform a large portion of the required work, but contractors are also utilized. In early 2019, staff publicly advertised for bids from qualified contractors to provide fuel modification services for fifteen separate properties. Bids were obtained from six (6) qualified contractors, and each property was individually priced.

Section 3.2 (c) of the MRCA's Purchasing and Contracting Procedures states that all competitively bid contracts in excess of \$25,000 must be approved by the Governing Board. Staff reviewed the bids and references and determined which company was the lowest and most responsible bidder in accordance with Public Contract Code section 20815 *et seq.* for each property. All work must be completed by June 1, 2019. The bidders' capacity to perform the services in this compressed time frame on large and complex properties was also evaluated.

Consideration: The contract with Pepo Weed Abatement, Inc. for fuel modification services at Westridge Canyonback Wilderness Park is \$53,500.00.

Fiscal Impact: The contract will be funded through a combination of assessment

Agenda Item VI(f)
May 1, 2019
Page 2

district funds and an existing Proposition 1 grant, and were included in the fiscal year 2018-2019 budget. There is no impact on the general fund.