



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
November 3, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: David Sprague, Interim Fire Chief

Subject: Contract No. 32200227 Amendment: Fire Aside for Mobile Vegetation Management Inspection Software

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to Contract No. 32200227 Mobile Vegetation Management Inspection Software for the Fire Department (Department); increasing the contract amount by \$100,000 for an amended total contract amount not to exceed \$260,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The original term of this contract is from May 18, 2022 to December 31, 2024 in the amount of \$70,000 for the base term with a total contract amount not to exceed \$160,000. This amendment will increase the annual fee from \$25,000 to \$45,000 and increase the base term not to exceed \$125,000 and increase the total contract value not to exceed \$260,000. The total contract value of will be funded from 164-72-742-834-0000-000-422-612990. Funding is available and no other projects will be delayed due to this expenditure.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Department is working diligently to expand and meet the community need and expectation for comprehensive vegetation management inspections in all of the Very High Fire Severity Zone 2 and 3 properties. This new mandate equates to an 83% (+7,184) increase in inspections from previous years. The Department is adding a module to this platform that will allow residents to schedule vegetation chipping appointments.

BACKGROUND

Fire Aside now offers an additional module called ChipperDay. This module will allow residents to quickly reserve slots, and will provide the Department planning tools which will allow optimized pickup routes and other management tools that will help track activity, measure performance and more easily produce reports for grants and community updates. We know from data coming out of other jurisdictions who coordinate chipping services with vegetation management inspections that access to chipping services can help drive up vegetation removal both in terms of participation rate and cubic yards of vegetation removed. Additionally, Fire Aside shall send

automated Inspection Notices via U.S. Mail to Berkeley property owners who fail to access their on-line Defensible Space Inspection report 14 days after inspection. Immediately upon inspection, Fire Aside shall send automated Inspection Notices via U.S. Mail to Vacant Parcel owners in Fire Zones 2 & 3

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

This service will allow the Department to optimize pickup routes which is anticipated to reduce miles traveled by chipping trucks and reduce emissions.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City conducted an industry survey of available products and concluded that Fire Aside offers a unique solution that aligns with the emergent need of the City to create more defensible space and hardened homes in the City's wildland urban interface areas.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

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RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT NO. 32200227 AMENDMENT: FIRE ASIDE FOR MOBILE VEGETATION  
MANAGEMENT INSPECTION SOFTWARE

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2022, Council adopted Resolution No. 70,312–N.S., authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with Fire Aside to provide a mobile vegetation inspection software solution for the Fire Department from May 18, 2022 to May 17, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 with an option to extend for an additional four years, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$160,000, and

WHEREAS, Fire Aside now offers an additional module called ChipperDay which will allow residents to quickly reserve slots for vegetation chipping services using city contractors, and will provide the Department planning tools which will allow optimized pickup routes and other management tools that will help track activity, measure performance and more easily produce reports for grants and community updates, and

WHEREAS, we know from data coming out of other jurisdictions who coordinate chipping services with vegetation management inspections that access to chipping services can help drive up vegetation removal both in terms of participation rate and cubic yards of vegetation removed.

WHEREAS, Fire Aside shall send automated Inspection Notices via U.S. Mail to Berkeley property owners who fail to access their on-line Defensible Space Inspection report 14 days after inspection. Immediately upon inspection, Fire Aside shall send automated Inspection Notices via U.S. Mail to Vacant Parcel owners in Fire Zones 2 & 3.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to Contract No. 32200227 Mobile Vegetation Management Inspection Software for the Fire Department (Department); increasing the contract amount by \$100,000 for an amended total contract amount not to exceed \$260,000 with funds from 164-72-742-834-0000-000-422-612990.

