



MARIPOSA COUNTY

Administration · 209-966-3222



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2016-500

MEETING: September 20, 2016

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mary Hodson, CAO

RE: Tree Mortality Operations Manager RFQ

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Authorize Staff to Advertise a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a Tree Mortality Operations Manager. Per the attached RFQ, the operations manager would be responsible for collaborating with partner agencies and coordinating the County's efforts to mitigate risks to public safety and infrastructure pursuant to California Disaster Assistant Act (CDAA) funding requirements. A complete scope of work is included in the RFQ.

Severe drought has caused millions of tree deaths in Mariposa County. To mitigate the increased risks of wildfire and falling, the County has engaged in an ongoing effort to clear dead and dying trees from County lands and rights-of-way.

Recognizing that dead trees located just outside of public lands presented a growing risk to public safety and infrastructure, the Board directed staff in June 2016 to investigate felling trees on private lands that pose a public threat where landowners allow. Under the subsequent recommendation, and in order to provide the greatest possible benefit to the greatest number of people, felled trees on private land would remain on the property and long-term disposition would be the responsibility of the landowner.

The effort to move forward on private lands is beyond the present capacity of County staff. Contracting with an independent Tree Mortality Operations Manager would allow the County to continue to be proactive in its response to tree mortality while utilizing available CDAA funds to reimburse 75 percent of related expenses. If the Board decides to move forward, staff recommends allocating \$40,000 to cover the County's share of the expenses during balancing adjustments.

If approved, staff will work with the appointed Board liaisons to evaluate received RFQs and recommend the award of a contract later this year.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board of Supervisors declared a State of Emergency related to tree mortality with

Resolution 2015-446 and has regularly renewed this action for each of the last eleven (11) months. On July 19, 2016, the Board directed staff to prepare an RFQ for a Tree Mortality Operations Manager.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not authorize staff to advertise the RFQ. Alternative approaches to managing the tree mortality disaster may need to be considered.

ATTACHMENTS:

Tree Mortality Operations Manager RFQ (DOCX)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended


Dallin Kimble, Deputy CAO 9/15/2016

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor

SECONDER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier