

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER


NO. 03-168


DATE May 21, 2003

CD All

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: FINDING UNDER CHARTER SECTION 1022 THAT CONTRACTING FOR BRUSH CLEARANCE IS MORE FEASIBLY AND ECONOMICALLY PERFORMED BY CONTRACT

J. Combs		H. Fujita	_____
*A. Corrales	_____	J. Kolb	_____
J. Duggan	_____	B. Lukehart	_____



 General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board find that in accordance with Charter Section 1022, the Department does not have personnel available in its employ with sufficient time and expertise to undertake the specialized professional tasks of brush clearance on City park property in a timely manner, and it is more feasible and economical to secure the services by contract.

SUMMARY:

As reported to the Board at the meeting of May 7, 2003, the Department of Recreation and Parks has the responsibility for brush clearance for all Department properties where the threat of catastrophic property loss or physical injury due to brush or wildfires can occur at any time. The Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Sec. 57.21.07 states that the Department has the responsibility to abate certain hazardous public nuisances that would include, but not be limited to, brush clearance, weed and/or refuse abatement, and tree trimming or removal, within 200 feet of private residences and 10 feet from roadways. In order to comply with the LAMC in a timely fashion, the Department requires the services of qualified brush clearance contractors. Accordingly, staff made the following recommendations, which were adopted by the Board (Report 03-147).

1. Approve a list of qualified Brush Clearance Contractors;
2. Approve a contract for brush clearance to be entered into with pre-approved contractors, similar in form to that attached here and subject to City Attorney approval;

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3. Directe the Board Secretary to transmit the proposed contracts to the Mayor in accordance with Executive Directive 16, concurrently to the City Attorney for review as to form, and upon Mayor's and City Attorney's approval, authorize the General Manager to negotiate and execute the agreements;
4. Authorize the Department to release and award all bids as necessary, in an amount not to exceed the budgeted amounts in the Brush Clearance account 3040.

However, this report omitted the necessary recommendation that the Board find, in accordance with the provisions of Charter Section 1022, that the Department does not have personnel available in its employ with sufficient time and expertise to undertake these specialized professional tasks in a timely manner, and it is more feasible and economical to secure the services by contract. In as much as the Department does not in fact have sufficient staff or experience to perform this mandatory work to meet Code requirements in the very narrow compliance window, staff recommends that the Board make the necessary finding. Staff will incorporate this language as necessary into the contracts in the course of City Attorney review and approval.