

MOTION NO. M2015-120
On-Call Contract for Sensitive Area Landscape Maintenance Services

MEETING:	DATE:	TYPE OF ACTION:	STAFF CONTACT:
Capital Committee	12/10/2015	Final Action	Ric Ilgenfritz, Director Planning, Environment, Project Development Marti Louthier, Senior Environmental Planner

PROPOSED ACTION

Authorizes the chief executive officer to execute a five-year on-call contract with two one-year options to extend with Applied Ecology, LLC to provide On-Call Sensitive Area Landscape Maintenance Services for Sound Transit Capital projects for a total amount not to exceed \$1,600,000.

KEY FEATURES SUMMARY

- This action is needed because mitigation for impacts to sensitive areas (e.g. wetlands, streams, and buffers) from Sound Transit construction projects require between 5 and 10 years of monitoring and maintenance to meet environmental permit requirements and conditions.
- Required maintenance periods are dependent upon the type of impacts and project location. Some projects may require an additional 10 years of maintenance beyond the initial 5-10 years.
- The contract scope of work includes routine and on-call landscape maintenance services for Sound Transit wetland, stream and buffer mitigation project sites located within Snohomish, King, and Pierce Counties.
- The requested funds would cover the entire 7-year period.

BACKGROUND

Some Sound Transit projects have impacts to sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands, streams, and buffers) despite efforts to avoid and minimize such impacts. For these projects, Sound Transit is required to provide mitigation which can include restoration, creation, or enhancement of sensitive areas. To ensure these mitigation projects are successful, Sound Transit is typically required by permit to monitor and maintain these sites for between 5 and 10 years, although an additional 10 years may be required for some projects.

After the mitigation project is completed (and the one-year plant establishment period that is the responsibility of the contractor is completed), it becomes Sound Transit's responsibility to monitor and maintain these sites and meet specific performance standards, including plant survivability, plant coverage, and typically less than 20% weed cover. Sound Transit currently has 4 mitigation sites that are being monitored and maintained and 6 additional sites that are either underway or will be constructed as part of East Link and other ST2 projects. Monitoring for these sites typically occurs 1-2 times annually while maintenance occurs throughout the year, and at a minimum quarterly.

The monitoring component involves assessing the mitigation projects to ensure they are succeeding based on performance standards and providing recommendations as necessary. The monitoring component involves certified wetland ecologists and similar professionals that are retained through a separate contract. The maintenance component involves the on-the-ground work to implement the monitoring recommendations. This work typically consists of replanting, weeding, herbicide application (only as necessary) and watering.

This contract is primarily allocated for sensitive area maintenance; however, other landscape-related work could be provided under this on-call contract if deemed appropriate and within the defined scope of work.

Sound Transit issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on September 22, 2015 and four proposals were received in October 2015. All four of the firms submitting are small businesses. After review and evaluation, it was determined that Applied Ecology, LLC was the highest ranking firm and offers the best value for Sound Transit. Subsequently, Applied Ecology, LLC submitted a Best and Final Offer in which they reduced their pricing by almost 24%. Applied Ecology, LLC is a company with expertise in natural resource restoration projects and has experience conducting similar work with local City and County agencies, including Sound Transit.

FISCAL INFORMATION

This action is an on-call contract and task orders will be used for Sounder commuter rail, Regional Express, and Link light rail, as well as support Department budgets and/or operation maintenance projects. Funding associated with this contract will come from the preliminary engineering phases within the overall capital project budgets, or the operating expenses in the Department budgets. The services described in the proposed action will be assigned on a task order basis after available budget and affordability is verified. Distribution of costs will be determined as project schedules and budgets are established.

SMALL BUSINESS/DBE PARTICIPATION AND APPRENTICESHIP UTILIZATION

Participation by Small Businesses and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs)

Sound Transit promotes and encourages small business participation, which also includes Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs). Small Business and DBE goals are based upon an examination of subcontracting opportunities contained in the work of this contract and the number of Small Businesses/DBEs available to perform such subcontracting work.

Small Business/DBE goals were not established or required.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Not applicable to this action.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

A one-month delay would create a minor impact to the project schedule as a replanting project is scheduled for late fall, early winter.

PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Motion No. M2009-84: Authorized the chief executive officer to execute a one-year contract with four additional one-year options with Restoration Logistics, LLC to provide landscape maintenance

services for Link, Regional Express, and Sounder wetland and stream mitigation projects in an amount no to exceed \$1,536,595.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

JI 11/24/2015

LEGAL REVIEW

PW 12/04/2015

MOTION NO. M2015-120

A motion of the Capital Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a five-year on-call contract with two one-year options to extend with Applied Ecology, LLC to provide On-Call Sensitive Area Landscape Maintenance Services for Sound Transit Capital projects for a total amount not to exceed \$1,600,000.

BACKGROUND:

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The requested funds would cover the entire seven year period.

MOTION:

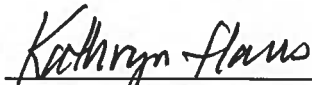
It is hereby moved by the Capital Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the chief executive officer is authorized to execute a five-year on-call contract with two one-year options to extend with Applied Ecology, LLC to provide On-Call Sensitive Area Landscape Maintenance Services for Sound Transit Capital projects for a total amount not to exceed \$1,600,000.

APPROVED by the Capital Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on December 10, 2015.



Fred Butler
Capital Committee Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator