


# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	<b>23-072</b>	Meeting:	<b>February 20, 2023</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>42</b>	Roll Call:	<b>23-0246</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director</b>		

## AGENDA HEADING:

Approving \$250,000 of additional funds for the annual agreement with Arbor Masters and Wright Outdoor Solutions for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Management Services to be used by the Public Works Department, Forestry Division for a total estimated annual amount of \$962,221.67.

## SYNOPSIS:

An increase in funding for the ash removal program is necessary as one (1) of the two (2) contractors has exceeded historic forecasts and exhausted funding. This represents increased safety for the City as more ash trees have come down than were anticipated. The increase in funds will carry the program up to the next fiscal year.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$250,000

Funding Source: 2022-2023 CIP, Page 40, Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan, MS012.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The ash tree removal program has been operating for a number of years, removing thousands of ash trees which would have perished all in a similar timeframe. Public safety being paramount, most of the ash trees have been removed with perhaps two (2) years of operation left. Historically, contractors have struggled to keep up production to the cities contract specifications.

## PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: July 19, 2021

Roll Call Number: [21-1146](#)

Action: Purchases from the following:

- (I) [Arbor](#) Masters (Heather Dirksen, President) as primary supplier and Wright Outdoor Solutions (Jennifer Anderson, General Manager) as secondary supplier for a three-year with two (2) additional one-year renewal options to furnish EAB Management Services; tree and stump removal for use by the Public Works Department, estimated annual cost \$712,221.67. (Eight (8) potential bidders, three (3) received). Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

The contractors will continue removing ash trees until the City has removed all ash trees on City right of ways. A small number of trees will be left in perpetuity that are treated bi-annually.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to [cityclerk@dmgov.org](mailto:cityclerk@dmgov.org).