



Roll Call Number

25-1609

Agenda Item Number

34

Date December 8, 2025

**APPROVING NEGOTIATION AND EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT WITH
TREES FOREVER, INC. FOR PLANTING AND WATERING OF TREES**

WHEREAS, in 2010 the City established a City Tree Replacement Fund ("CTRF"); and

WHEREAS, Trees Forever, Inc. is a nonprofit organization with a mission to plant and care for trees and the environment by empowering people, building community, and promoting stewardship; and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2019, by Roll Call No. 19-0060, the City Council approved an Agreement for Tree Planting Services with Trees Forever, Inc., authorizing the Public Works Department to engage Trees Forever, Inc. through November 30, 2023, with two successive one-year terms which have been exercised by the City, to provide the services of purchasing planting, watering and maintaining a minimum goal of at least 533 trees per year on City-owned property in exchange for City payment of CTRF funds annually for the purchase and planting of trees at \$275.00 per tree and to water those trees planted annually at \$5.00 per tree up to 20 times in the planting year, and also authorized the City Manager to negotiate and approve changes in unit tree pricing in agreement years 2-5 by which the planting payment has increase to \$525.00; and thereafter the City Council amended said agreement to incorporate funding for the project using Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) federal grant funding in the amount of \$2,200,000.00 to increase the City's urban canopy within disadvantaged communities in accordance with federal grant terms; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department, Forestry Division wishes to negotiate and enter into a new Agreement for Tree Planting Services with Trees Forever, Inc., under similar terms as the expiring agreement, with an increase to the minimum goal of trees planted and maintained by Trees Forever, Inc. annually to 333 trees; an increase from \$525.00 per planted tree to \$600.00 per planted tree, inclusive of watering and maintenance costs, to be paid by the City to Trees Forever, Inc. annually, with a total approximate annual contract amount of \$200,000.00 of CTRF funds; and an agreement expiration date of November 30, 2030, with the option for five successive one-year renewals upon mutual written agreement of the parties; and

WHEREAS, under said agreement, Trees Forever, Inc. will fundraise to expand plantings outside of the City's scope of work.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa:

1. The Public Works Department Director or designee are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate an Agreement for Tree Planting Services with Trees Forever, Inc. for tree planting and maintenance services, as further described above and based on the terms set forth above.
2. Following approval as to form by the Legal Department, the City Manager is authorized to sign said Agreement for Tree Planting Services, and the Public Works Department Director and City Forester are authorized and directed to administer and monitor the Agreement for compliance with its terms, and to approve and execute renewal addenda.
3. That the City Manager is authorized to negotiate and execute on behalf of the City a change in unit tree pricing in agreement years 2-5, and in renewal years if any, if there are fluctuations of unit tree pricing by a



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minimum of plus or minus 5% in a calendar year, if the City Manager deems such price adjustment to be in the best interests of the City and following approval as to form of amendment by the Legal Department.

(Council Communication No. 25- 449)

Moved by Gatto to adopt.

Second by Voss.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Glenna K. Frank

Glenna K. Frank, Deputy City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN	✓			
COLEMAN	✓			
GATTO	✓			
MANDELBAUM	✓			
SIMONSON	✓			
VOSS	✓			
WESTERGAARD	✓			
TOTAL	7			

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

Connie Boesen

Mayor

CERTIFICATE

I, Laura Baumgartner, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

Laura Baumgartner

City Clerk