



## **Item No. 7**

### **Town of Atherton**

#### **CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT – CONSENT AGENDA**

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
GEORGE RODERICKS, CITY MANAGER**

**FROM: ROBERT OVADIA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**DATE: JULY 19, 2023**

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH BRIGHTVIEW  
LANDSCAPE SERVICES FOR CLEANUP OF EL CAMINO REAL  
MEDIANS AND RIGHT OF WAY AND LANDSCAPE  
MAINTENANCE SERVICES ALONG EL CAMINO REAL**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Council appropriate funds and authorize an amendment to the Town's Contract with Brightview Landscape Services for the cleanup of the medians and shoulder areas along El Camino Real in the amount of \$70,499; and authorize an additional amendment for landscape maintenance services along El Camino Real in the amount of \$25,844 per year.

#### **BACKGROUND**

El Camino Real is a state highway, managed by Caltrans. In 1984, the Town entered into a maintenance agreement with Caltrans regarding certain maintenance activities along El Camino Real within Town Limits. In 2003, the Town entered into a new maintenance agreement with Caltrans, which includes provisions for slopes/drainage/vegetation, litter/debris, landscaping, and Electrical. MCE has been responsible to conduct median maintenance, vegetation trimming for safety and sight visibility, as well as the frontage along landscaping between Lloyd Park Drive and El Camino Real. MCE staff availability to maintain the median islands, particularly related to weed abatement has been constrained due to other priorities.

In addition to the desire to enhance the medians along El Camino Real, the Town has been implementing programs to comply with Senate Bill (SB) 1383, which requires municipalities to procure and apply compost as a mechanism to reduce organic waste from going to the landfill. The median islands along El Camino Real provide an opportunity to apply compost materials to both make progress towards meeting SB 1383 requirements and assist in reducing weed growth to improve the appearance of the medians.

Pursuant to the Town's Municipal Code, property owners are responsible to maintain their on-

property landscaping, including trees and shrubs, as well as their frontage strips and frontage landscaping such that they do not cause any safety issues or nuisances. It is noted, however, that maintenance of landscaping along El Camino Real can be a challenge for property owners.

### **ANALYSIS**

Staff consulted with Brightview Landscape Services regarding the need and level of effort required to clean up the median islands and surrounds, address the shoulder areas and to provide regular maintenance of the areas.

Brightview outlined a scope of work that includes the following:

#### Median Island Cleanup

- Daily traffic control
- Labor to clean up median islands within Town limits
- Labor to spread Town provided compost/mulch
- Hauling of debris to Holbrook-Palmer Park for disposal by Town

#### Shoulder Area Cleanup

- Daily traffic control
- Labor to cut back and clean up both sides of El Camino Real within Town limits
- Hauling of debris to Holbrook-Palmer Park for disposal by Town

#### Maintenance Services

- Bi-weekly maintenance
- Weeding and edging
- Pruning and seasonal trimming
- Regular irrigation inspection

The cost of the proposed cleanup services is as follows:

Median Cleanup	\$23,693.62
Shoulder Area Cleanup	\$42,805.38
<u>Additive alternate for off-site disposal of green waste and debris</u>	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
Total	\$70,499.00

The cost of the proposed bi-weekly maintenance services is \$25,844 annually (\$2,153.67 monthly).

Through its franchise agreement with GreenWaste Recovery, recycled organic waste products are provided at reduced costs, with certain compost products provided at the cost of delivery. Staff will coordinate with GreenWaste Recovery to deliver the compost products to Holbrook-Palmer Park for use in dressing the median islands and to assist in reducing weed growth.

Though staff is proposing to conduct a one-time cleanup of El Camino Real frontages, as well as some associated maintenance, predominantly related to safety, it is not staff's intent to alleviate property owners from their overall responsibility to maintain their frontages and landscaping.

Brightview is in the process of developing a proposal for potential enhancement of the median islands along El Camino Real for review by the Town. At this time, we are seeking authorization to amend the existing contract with Brightview Landscape Services for cleanup and regular maintenance of the landscaping along El Camino Real. This will allow MCE staff to focus on other priority maintenance activities. MCE will continue with weekly trash collection along El Camino Real.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funding in the amount of \$70,499 is needed to support cleanup of the median islands and shoulder areas along El Camino Real. The cost of bi-weekly maintenance services, in the amount of \$25,844, would be funded through the FY 2023-24 streets maintenance budget.

### **GOAL ALIGNMENT**

This Report and its contents are in alignment with the following Council Policy Goals:

- Goal Area A – Maintain Fiscal Responsibility
- Goal Area B – Preserve Small Town Character and Quality of Life
- Goal Area D – Manage Circulation and Improve Safety

### **POLICY FOCUS**

The Council's policy focus should be on the desire to improve maintenance capacity of the medians and shoulder areas along El Camino Real.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with this agenda item being listed, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting in print and electronically. Information about the project is also disseminated via the Town's electronic News Flash and Atherton Online. There are approximately 1,200 subscribers to the Town's electronic News Flash publications. Subscribers include residents as well as stakeholders –to include, but be not limited to, media outlets, school districts, Menlo Park Fire Protection District, service providers (water, power, and sewer), and regional elected officials.

### **COMMISSION/COMMITTEE FEEDBACK/REFERRAL**

This item has not been before a Town Committee or Commission

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. El Camino Real Exhibit
2. Brightview Cleanup Quote
3. Brightview Maintenance Quote