



## **County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors**

### **Agenda Item Submittal**

**From:** DPW: Construction Management

(831) 454-2160

**Subject:** CZU Lightning Complex Fire: North County Road Debris Removal

**Meeting Date:** October 20, 2020

### **Recommended Actions**

- 1) Approve emergency action under E-0022 with Community Tree Service for emergency road debris removal impacting critical roadway facilities;
- 2) Under Public Contract Code section 22050, find that there is a need for emergency action on critical public infrastructure by four-fifths vote;
- 3) Find that the nature of the emergency does not allow for competitive bidding by four-fifths vote; and
- 4) Direct Public Works to return with an Independent Contractor Agreement with Community Tree Service and a report at each meeting on the progress of the emergency work through its completion.

### **Executive Summary**

Public Works is requesting approval of emergency debris removal work in fire damaged areas, and findings, under Section 22050 of the Public Contract Code, that the removal work is necessary to respond to this emergency and that the emergency will not permit a delay resulting from a competitive solicitation for bids.

### **Background**

In August 2020, the CZU Lightning Complex Fire caused significant damage to critical roadway facilities. These facilities were burned during the course of the emergency directly impacting public safety and that of multiple agencies working on fire response and recovery.

### **Analysis**

Damage sustained from the fire resulted in immediate risk to County-maintained roadway facilities requiring removal of debris created by the fire. Such damage blocked emergency access and caused low overhead clearances from downed limbs and branches hanging into roadways compromising roadway safety.

Immediate debris removal was required on approximately forty five miles of County maintained roads to maintain public health and safety and in order to re-establish minimum overhead and width clearances. In addition, continuous debris removal was necessary to provide emergency access to multiple agencies working on fire response and recovery throughout the fire damaged County areas.

Due to the immediate need to maintain public health and safety, it was necessary for Public Works to engage a contractor to undertake the emergency debris removal as quickly as possible. Therefore, in accordance with Section 10340 of the Public Contract Code to preserve the public health and safety, a contractor who has successfully completed numerous projects for Public Works was urgently engaged in August 2020. The emergency work was performed by Force Account in accordance with the 2018 Caltrans Standard Specifications. The project scope of work for Community Tree Service is attached for your review.

Due to the urgency of this work, Public Works proceeded with the emergency debris removal under E-Number E-0022. Public Works is preparing an Independent Contractor Agreement with Community Tree Service that will be attached for your review at the next scheduled meeting.

At every regularly scheduled meeting hereafter, Public Works will return to the Board with status updates until the emergency repair work is terminated in accordance with Section 22050 of the Public Contract Code.

### **Financial Impact**

Funding for this emergency project will be provided through FEMA and Cal OES disaster recovery grants. The local match portion will be paid by the County.

### **Strategic Plan Elements**

3.C (Reliable Transportation: Local Roads)

6.C (Operational Excellence: County Infrastructure)

The CZU Lightning Complex Fire North County Road Debris Removal supports the goals of the County Strategic Plan focus area to upgrade road safety for everyone and responsibly maintaining County assets in support of community goals by repairing fire damaged public infrastructure.

### **Submitted by:**

Matt Machado, Deputy CAO/Director of Public Works

### **Recommended by:**

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

### **Attachments:**

**a** Scope of Work – CZU Lightning Complex Fire North County Road Debris Removal, E-0022, Community Tree Service