

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO AND ARBORICULTURAL SPECIALTIES, INC., DBA THE PROFESSIONAL TREE CARE CO.**

This Agreement is entered into this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by and between the County of San Mateo, a political subdivision of the state of California, hereinafter called "County," and Arboricultural Specialties, Inc., dba The Professional Tree Care Co., hereinafter called "Contractor."

\* \* \*

Whereas, pursuant to Section 31000 of the California Government Code, County may contract with independent Contractors for the furnishing of such services to or for County or any Department thereof; and

Whereas, it is necessary and desirable that Contractor be retained for the purpose of providing on-call tree removal and limbing services, and on-call vegetation management services, including forestry, heavy equipment use, and tree management.

**Now, therefore, it is agreed by the parties to this Agreement as follows:**

**1. Exhibits and Attachments**

The following exhibits and attachments are attached to this Agreement and incorporated into this Agreement by this reference:

- Exhibit A—Services
- Exhibit B—Payments and Rates
- Attachment I—§ 504 Compliance
- Attachment IP – Intellectual Property

**2. Services to be performed by Contractor**

In consideration of the payments set forth in this Agreement and in Exhibit B, Contractor shall perform services for County in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications set forth in this Agreement and in Exhibit A.

**3. Payments**

In consideration of the services provided by Contractor in accordance with all terms, conditions, and specifications set forth in this Agreement and in Exhibit A, County shall make payment to Contractor based on the rates and in the manner specified in Exhibit B. County reserves the right to withhold payment if County determines that the quantity or quality of the work performed is unacceptable. In no event shall County's total fiscal obligation under this Agreement exceed **TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000)**. In the event that the County makes any advance payments, Contractor agrees to refund any amounts in excess of the amount owed by the

County at the time of contract termination or expiration. Contractor is not entitled to payment for work not performed as required by this agreement.

**4. Term**

Subject to compliance with all terms and conditions, **the term of this Agreement shall commence on the date on which the Agreement is fully executed by the parties and shall run through May 22, 2026.**

**5. Termination**

This Agreement may be terminated by Contractor or by the Parks Director or his/her designee at any time without a requirement of good cause upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice to the other party. Subject to availability of funding, Contractor shall be entitled to receive payment for work/services provided prior to termination of the Agreement. Such payment shall be that prorated portion of the full payment determined by comparing the work/services actually completed to the work/services required by the Agreement.

County may terminate this Agreement or a portion of the services referenced in the Attachments and Exhibits based upon the unavailability of Federal, State, or County funds by providing written notice to Contractor as soon as is reasonably possible after County learns of said unavailability of outside funding.

County may terminate this Agreement for cause. In order to terminate for cause, County must first give Contractor notice of the alleged breach. Contractor shall have five business days after receipt of such notice to respond and a total of ten calendar days after receipt of such notice to cure the alleged breach. If Contractor fails to cure the breach within this period, County may immediately terminate this Agreement without further action. The option available in this paragraph is separate from the ability to terminate without cause with appropriate notice described above. In the event that County provides notice of an alleged breach pursuant to this section, County may, in extreme circumstances, immediately suspend performance of services and payment under this Agreement pending the resolution of the process described in this paragraph. County has sole discretion to determine what constitutes an extreme circumstance for purposes of this paragraph, and County shall use reasonable judgment in making that determination.

**6. Contract Materials**

At the end of this Agreement, or in the event of termination, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, maps, photographs, reports, and other written materials (collectively referred to as "contract materials") prepared by Contractor under this Agreement shall become the property of County and shall be promptly delivered to County. Upon termination, Contractor may make and retain a copy of such contract materials if permitted by law.

**7. Relationship of Parties**

Contractor agrees and understands that the work/services performed under this Agreement are performed as an independent Contractor and not as an employee of County and that neither Contractor nor its employees acquire any of the rights, privileges, powers, or advantages of County employees.

**8. Hold Harmless**

**a. General Hold Harmless**

Contractor shall indemnify and save harmless County and its officers, agents, employees, and servants from all claims, suits, or actions of every name, kind, and description resulting from this Agreement, the performance of any work or services required of Contractor under this Agreement, or payments made pursuant to this Agreement brought for, or on account of, any of the following:

(A) injuries to or death of any person, including Contractor or its employees/officers/agents;

(B) damage to any property of any kind whatsoever and to whomsoever belonging;

(C) any sanctions, penalties, or claims of damages resulting from Contractor's failure to comply, if applicable, with the requirements set forth in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and all Federal regulations promulgated thereunder, as amended; or

(D) any other loss or cost, including but not limited to that caused by the concurrent active or passive negligence of County and/or its officers, agents, employees, or servants. However, Contractor's duty to indemnify and save harmless under this Section shall not apply to injuries or damage for which County has been found in a court of competent jurisdiction to be solely liable by reason of its own negligence or willful misconduct.

The duty of Contractor to indemnify and save harmless as set forth by this Section shall include the duty to defend as set forth in Section 2778 of the California Civil Code.

**b. Intellectual Property Indemnification**

Contractor hereby certifies that it owns, controls, and/or licenses and retains all right, title, and/or interest in and to any intellectual property it uses in relation to this Agreement, including the design, look, feel, features, source code, content, and/or other technology relating to any part of the services it provides under this Agreement and including all related patents, inventions, trademarks, and copyrights, all applications therefor, and all trade names, service marks, know how, and trade secrets (collectively referred to as "IP Rights") except as otherwise noted by this Agreement.

Contractor warrants that the services it provides under this Agreement do not infringe, violate, trespass, or constitute the unauthorized use or misappropriation of any IP Rights of any third party. Contractor shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless County from and against all liabilities, costs, damages, losses, and expenses (including reasonable attorney fees) arising out of or related to any claim by a third party that the services provided under this Agreement infringe or violate any third-party's IP Rights provided any such right is enforceable in the United States. Contractor's duty to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless under this Section applies only provided that: (a) County notifies Contractor promptly in writing of any notice of any such third-party claim; (b) County cooperates with Contractor, at Contractor's expense, in all reasonable respects in connection with the investigation and defense of any such third-party claim; (c) Contractor retains sole control of the defense of any action on any such claim and all negotiations for its settlement or compromise (provided Contractor shall not have the right to settle any criminal action, suit, or proceeding without County's prior written consent, not to be unreasonably withheld, and provided further that any settlement permitted under this Section shall not impose any financial or other obligation on County, impair any right of County, or contain any stipulation, admission, or acknowledgement of wrongdoing on the part of County without County's prior written consent, not to be unreasonably withheld); and (d) should services under this Agreement become, or in Contractor's opinion be likely to become, the subject of such a claim, or in the event such a third party claim or threatened claim causes County's reasonable use of the services under this Agreement to be seriously endangered or disrupted, Contractor shall, at Contractor's option and expense, either: (i) procure for County the right to continue using the services without infringement or (ii) replace or modify the services so that they become non-infringing but remain functionally equivalent.

Notwithstanding anything in this Section to the contrary, Contractor will have no obligation or liability to County under this Section to the extent any otherwise covered claim is based upon: (a) any aspects of the services under this Agreement which have been modified by or for County (other than modification performed by, or at the direction of, Contractor) in such a way as to cause the alleged infringement at issue; and/or (b) any aspects of the services under this Agreement which have been used by County in a manner prohibited by this Agreement.

The duty of Contractor to indemnify and save harmless as set forth by this Section shall include the duty to defend as set forth in Section 2778 of the California Civil Code.

#### **9. Assignability and Subcontracting**

Contractor shall not assign this Agreement or any portion of it to a third party or subcontract with a third party to provide services required by Contractor under this Agreement without the prior written consent of County. Any such assignment or subcontract without County's prior written consent shall give County the right to automatically and immediately terminate this Agreement without penalty or advance notice.

10. **Insurance**

a. **General Requirements**

Contractor shall not commence work or be required to commence work under this Agreement unless and until all insurance required under this Section has been obtained and such insurance has been approved by County's Risk Management, and Contractor shall use diligence to obtain such insurance and to obtain such approval. Contractor shall furnish County with certificates of insurance evidencing the required coverage, and there shall be a specific contractual liability endorsement extending Contractor's coverage to include the contractual liability assumed by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement. Certificates of Insurance shall be filed with the County within ten (10) business days after Contractor's execution of the contract. These certificates shall specify or be endorsed to provide that thirty (30) days' notice must be given, in writing, to County of any pending change in the limits of liability or of any cancellation or modification of the policy.

b. **Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance**

Contractor shall have in effect during the entire term of this Agreement workers' compensation and employer's liability insurance providing full statutory coverage. In signing this Agreement, Contractor certifies, as required by Section 1861 of the California Labor Code, that (a) it is aware of the provisions of Section 3700 of the California Labor Code, which require every employer to be insured against liability for workers' compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of the Labor Code, and (b) it will comply with such provisions before commencing the performance of work under this Agreement.

c. **Liability Insurance**

Contractor shall take out and maintain during the term of this Agreement such bodily injury liability and property damage liability insurance as shall protect Contractor and all of its employees/officers/agents while performing work covered by this Agreement from any and all claims for damages for bodily injury, including accidental death, as well as any and all claims for property damage which may arise from Contractor's operations under this Agreement, whether such operations be by Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them, or an agent of either of them. Such insurance shall be combined single limit bodily injury and property damage for each occurrence and shall not be less than the amounts specified below:

- (a) Comprehensive General Liability..... \$1,000,000
- (b) Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance..... \$1,000,000
- (c) Professional Liability..... \$1,000,000

County and its officers, agents, employees, and servants shall be named as additional insured on any such policies of insurance, which shall also contain a provision that (a) the insurance

afforded thereby to County and its officers, agents, employees, and servants shall be primary insurance to the full limits of liability of the policy and (b) if the County or its officers, agents, employees, and servants have other insurance against the loss covered by such a policy, such other insurance shall be excess insurance only.

In the event of the breach of any provision of this Section, or in the event any notice is received which indicates any required insurance coverage will be diminished or canceled, County, at its option, may, notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, immediately declare a material breach of this Agreement and suspend all further work and payment pursuant to this Agreement.

**d. Compensation**

All insurance required by the paragraphs of this section shall be obtained and maintained by the Contractor at his own expense and County shall not compensate Contractor for said insurance expenses other than as they are included in the Contract prices the County pays for the various items of work.

Nothing herein contained shall be construed as limiting in anyway the extent to which the Contractor may be held responsible for payments of damages resulting from his operation.

**11. Compliance With Laws**

All services to be performed by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement shall be performed in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, County, and municipal laws, ordinances, regulations, and executive orders, including but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the Federal Regulations promulgated thereunder, as amended (if applicable), the Business Associate requirements set forth in Attachment H (if attached), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in programs and activities receiving any Federal or County financial assistance, as well as any required economic or other sanctions imposed by the United States government or under state law in effect during the term of the Agreement. Such services shall also be performed in accordance with all applicable ordinances and regulations, including but not limited to appropriate licensure, certification regulations, provisions pertaining to confidentiality of records, and applicable quality assurance regulations. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Agreement and any applicable State, Federal, County, or municipal law, regulation, or executive order, the requirements of the applicable law, regulation, or executive order will take precedence over the requirements set forth in this Agreement.

Further, Contractor certifies that it and all of its subcontractors will adhere to all applicable provisions of Chapter 4.107 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, which regulates the use of disposable food service ware. Accordingly, Contractor shall not use any non-recyclable plastic disposable food service ware when providing prepared food on property owned or leased

by the County and instead shall use biodegradable, compostable, reusable, or recyclable plastic food service ware on property owned or leased by the County.

Contractor will timely and accurately complete, sign, and submit all necessary documentation of compliance.

**12. Non-Discrimination and Other Requirements**

**a. General Non-discrimination**

No person shall be denied any services provided pursuant to this Agreement (except as limited by the scope of services) on the grounds of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, disability (physical or mental), sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or domestic partner status, religion, political beliefs or affiliation, familial or parental status (including pregnancy), medical condition (cancer-related), military service, or genetic information.

**b. Equal Employment Opportunity**

Contractor shall ensure equal employment opportunity based on objective standards of recruitment, classification, selection, promotion, compensation, performance evaluation, and management relations for all employees under this Agreement. Contractor's equal employment policies shall be made available to County upon request.

**c. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

Contractor shall comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which provides that no otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall, solely by reason of a disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in the performance of any services this Agreement. This Section applies only to Contractors who are providing services to members of the public under this Agreement.

**d. Compliance with County's Equal Benefits Ordinance**

Contractor shall comply with all laws relating to the provision of benefits to its employees and their spouses or domestic partners, including, but not limited to, such laws prohibiting discrimination in the provision of such benefits on the basis that the spouse or domestic partner of the Contractor's employee is of the same or opposite sex as the employee.

**e. Discrimination Against Individuals with Disabilities**

The nondiscrimination requirements of 41 C.F.R. 60-741.5(a) are incorporated into this Agreement as if fully set forth here, and Contractor and any subcontractor shall abide by the requirements of 41 C.F.R. 60-741.5(a). This regulation prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals on the basis of disability and requires affirmative action by covered prime Contractors and subcontractors to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities.

**f. History of Discrimination**

Contractor certifies that no finding of discrimination has been issued in the past 365 days against Contractor by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, or any other investigative entity. If any finding(s) of discrimination have been issued against Contractor within the past 365 days by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, or other investigative entity, Contractor shall provide County with a written explanation of the outcome(s) or remedy for the discrimination prior to execution of this Agreement. Failure to comply with this Section shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement and subjects the Agreement to immediate termination at the sole option of the County.

**g. Reporting; Violation of Non-discrimination Provisions**

Contractor shall report to the County Executive Officer the filing in any court or with any administrative agency of any complaint or allegation of discrimination on any of the bases prohibited by this Section of the Agreement or the Section titled "Compliance with Laws". Such duty shall include reporting of the filing of any and all charges with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, or any other entity charged with the investigation or adjudication of allegations covered by this subsection within 30 days of such filing, provided that within such 30 days such entity has not notified Contractor that such charges are dismissed or otherwise unfounded. Such notification shall include a general description of the circumstances involved and a general description of the kind of discrimination alleged (for example, gender-, sexual orientation-, religion-, or race-based discrimination).

Violation of the non-discrimination provisions of this Agreement shall be considered a breach of this Agreement and subject the Contractor to penalties, to be determined by the County Executive Officer, including but not limited to the following:

- i. termination of this Agreement;
- ii. disqualification of the Contractor from being considered for or being awarded a County contract for a period of up to 3 years;
- iii. liquidated damages of \$2,500 per violation; and/or
- iv. imposition of other appropriate contractual and civil remedies and sanctions, as determined by the County Executive Officer.

To effectuate the provisions of this Section, the County Executive Officer or his/her designee shall have the authority to offset all or any portion of the amount described in this Section against amounts due to Contractor under this Agreement or any other agreement between Contractor and County.



**13. Compliance with County Employee Jury Service Ordinance**

Contractor shall comply with Chapter 2.85 of the County's Ordinance Code, which states that Contractor shall have and adhere to a written policy providing that its employees, to the extent they are full-time employees and live in San Mateo County, shall receive from the Contractor, on an annual basis, no fewer than five days of regular pay for jury service in San Mateo County, with jury pay being provided only for each day of actual jury service. The policy may provide that such employees deposit any fees received for such jury service with Contractor or that the Contractor may deduct from an employee's regular pay the fees received for jury service in San Mateo County. By signing this Agreement, Contractor certifies that it has and adheres to a policy consistent with Chapter 2.85. For purposes of this Section, if Contractor has no employees in San Mateo County, it is sufficient for Contractor to provide the following written statement to County: "For purposes of San Mateo County's jury service ordinance, Contractor certifies that it has no full-time employees who live in San Mateo County. To the extent that it hires any such employees during the term of its Agreement with San Mateo County, Contractor shall adopt a policy that complies with Chapter 2.85 of the County's Ordinance Code." The requirements of Chapter 2.85 do not apply unless this Agreement's total value listed in the Section titled "Payments", exceeds two-hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000); Contractor acknowledges that Chapter 2.85's requirements will apply if this Agreement is amended such that its total value exceeds that threshold amount.

**14. Retention of Records; Right to Monitor and Audit**

(a) Contractor shall maintain all required records relating to services provided under this Agreement for three (3) years after County makes final payment and all other pending matters are closed, and Contractor shall be subject to the examination and/or audit by County, a Federal grantor agency, and the State of California.

(b) Contractor shall comply with all program and fiscal reporting requirements set forth by applicable Federal, State, and local agencies and as required by County.

(c) Contractor agrees upon reasonable notice to provide to County, to any Federal or State department having monitoring or review authority, to County's authorized representative, and/or to any of their respective audit agencies access to and the right to examine all records and documents necessary to determine compliance with relevant Federal, State, and local statutes, rules, and regulations, to determine compliance with this Agreement, and to evaluate the quality, appropriateness, and timeliness of services performed.

**15. Merger Clause; Amendments**

This Agreement, including the Exhibits and Attachments attached to this Agreement and incorporated by reference, constitutes the sole Agreement of the parties to this Agreement and correctly states the rights, duties, and obligations of each party as of this document's date. In the event that any term, condition, provision, requirement, or specification set forth in the body of this Agreement conflicts with or is inconsistent with any term, condition, provision, requirement, or specification in any Exhibit and/or Attachment to this Agreement, the provisions

of the body of the Agreement shall prevail. Any prior agreement, promises, negotiations, or representations between the parties not expressly stated in this document are not binding. All subsequent modifications or amendments shall be in writing and signed by the parties.

**16. Construction Claims**

Contractor is hereby notified of Section 9204 and Section 20104 et seq. of the Public Contract Code as those sections relate to the resolution of construction claims, and to Section 3186 of the Civil Code, as amended January 1, 1999, with regard to stop notices and public entity's rights to retain monies in order to provide for that entity's reasonable cost of litigation. The Contractor is further notified that all provisions of Sections 9204 et seq. and 20104 et seq. of the Public Contract Code and Section 3186 of the Civil Code, as outlined above, shall be considered as incorporated into and become integral part of this contract.

**17. Payment Bond**

In accordance with California Civil Code sections 9550 to 9566 and 9100 to 9364 and Public Contract Code section 1101, inclusive, for any "public works contract" that involves an expenditure in excess of \$25,000, Contractor shall file a good and sufficient bond with County in an amount not less than 100 percent of the total amount payable pursuant to this Agreement. The bond shall be in the form of a bond and not a deposit in lieu of a bond. The bond shall be executed by an admitted surety insurer. The payment bond shall provide that if Contractor or its subcontractor fails to pay any of the following, the surety will pay the obligation and, if an action is brought to enforce the liability on the bond, a reasonable attorney's fee, to be fixed by the court:

- (1) A person authorized under Civil Code section 9100 to assert a claim against a payment bond.
- (2) Amounts due under the Unemployment Insurance Code with respect to work or labor performed pursuant to the public works contract.
- (3) Amounts required to be deducted, withheld, and paid over to the Employment Development Department from the wages of employees of the contractor and subcontractors under Section 13020 of the Unemployment Insurance Code with respect to the work and labor.

The payment bond shall be conditioned for the payment in full of the claims of all claimants and by its terms inure to the benefit of any person authorized under Civil Code section 9100 to assert a claim against a payment bond so as to give a right of action to that person or that person's assigns in an action to enforce the liability on the bond.

**18. Controlling Law; Venue**

The validity of this Agreement and of its terms, the rights and duties of the parties under this Agreement, the interpretation of this Agreement, the performance of this Agreement, and any other dispute of any nature arising out of this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the

State of California without regard to its choice of law or conflict of law rules. Any dispute arising out of this Agreement shall be venued either in the San Mateo County Superior Court or in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.

**19. Notices**

Any notice, request, demand, or other communication required or permitted under this Agreement shall be deemed to be properly given when both: (1) transmitted via facsimile to the telephone number listed below or transmitted via email to the email address listed below; and (2) sent to the physical address listed below by either being deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or deposited for overnight delivery, charges prepaid, with an established overnight courier that provides a tracking number showing confirmation of receipt.

In the case of County, to:

Name/Title: Hannah Ormshaw, Assistant Director of Parks  
Address: 455 County Center 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Redwood City, CA 94063  
Telephone: (650) 599-1377  
Email: hormshaw@smcgov.org

In the case of Contractor, to:

Name/Title: Charles Slesinger, Bid Coordinator  
Address: 2828 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Berkeley, CA 94710  
Telephone: (415) 265-0028  
Email: charles@professionaltree.com

**20. Electronic Signature**

Both County and Contractor wish to permit this Agreement and future documents relating to this Agreement to be digitally signed in accordance with California law and County's Electronic Signature Administrative Memo. Any party to this Agreement may revoke such agreement to permit electronic signatures at any time in relation to all future documents by providing notice pursuant to this Agreement.

**21. Payment of Permits/Licenses**

Contractor bears the sole responsibility to obtain any license, permit, or approval required from any agency for work/services to be performed under this Agreement at Contractor's own expense prior to commencement of said work/services. Failure to do so will result in forfeit of any right to compensation under this Agreement.

**22. Reimbursable Travel Expenses**

To the extent that this Agreement authorizes reimbursements to Contractor for travel, lodging, and other related expenses as defined in this section, the Contractor must comply with all the terms of this section in order to be reimbursed for travel.

- a. Estimated travel expenses must be submitted to authorized County personnel for advanced written authorization before such expenses are incurred. Significant differences between estimated and actual travel expenses may be grounds for denial of full reimbursement of actual travel expenses.
- b. Itemized receipts (copies accepted) for all reimbursable travel expenses are required to be provided as supporting documentation with all invoices submitted to the County.
- c. Unless otherwise specified in this section, the County will reimburse Contractor for reimbursable travel expenses for days when services were provided to the County. Contractor must substantiate in writing to the County the actual services rendered and the specific dates. The County will reimburse for travel at 75% of the maximum reimbursement amount for the actual costs of meals and incidental expenses on the day preceding and/or the day following days when services were provided to the County, provided that such reimbursement is reasonable, in light of travel time and other relevant factors, and is approved in writing by authorized County personnel.
- d. Unless otherwise specified within the contract, reimbursable travel expenses shall not include Local Travel. "Local Travel" means travel entirely within a fifty-mile radius of the Contractor's office and travel entirely within a fifty-mile radius of San Mateo County. Any mileage reimbursements for a Contractor's use of a personal car for reimbursable travel shall be reimbursed based on the Federal mileage reimbursement rate.
- e. The maximum reimbursement amount for the actual lodging, meal and incidental expenses is limited to the then-current Continental United States ("CONUS") rate for the location of the work being done (i.e., Redwood City for work done in Redwood City, San Mateo for work done at San Mateo Medical Center) as set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations and as listed by the website of the U.S. General Services Administration (available online at <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/104877> or by searching [www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov) for the term 'CONUS'). County policy limits the reimbursement of lodging in designated high cost of living metropolitan areas to a maximum of double the then-current CONUS rate; for work being done outside of a designated high cost of living metropolitan area, the maximum reimbursement amount for lodging is the then-current CONUS rate.
- f. The maximum reimbursement amount for the actual cost of airfare shall be limited to fares for Economy Class or below. Air travel fares will not be reimbursed for first class, business class, "economy-plus," or other such classes. Reimbursable car rental rates are restricted to the mid-level size range or below (i.e. standard size, intermediate, compact, or subcompact); costs for specialty, luxury, premium, SUV, or similar category vehicles are not reimbursable. Reimbursable ride-shares are restricted to standard or basic size vehicles (i.e., non-premium vehicles unless it results in a cost-saving to the County). Exceptions may be allowed under certain circumstances, such as unavailability of the foregoing options, with written approval from authorized County personnel. Other related travel expenses such as taxi fares, ride-shares, parking costs, train or subway costs, etc.

shall be reimbursable on an actual-cost basis. Reimbursement of tips for taxi fare, or ride-share are limited to no more than 15% of the fare amount.

- g. Travel-related expenses are limited to: airfare, lodging, car rental, taxi/ride-share plus tips, tolls, incidentals (e.g. porters, baggage carriers or hotel staff), breakfast, lunch, dinner, mileage reimbursement based on Federal reimbursement rate. The County will not reimburse for alcohol.
- h. Reimbursement of tips are limited to no more than 15 percent. Non-reimbursement items (i.e., alcohol) shall be excluded when calculating the amount of the tip that is reimbursable.

### **23. Prevailing Wage**

The services contemplated under this Agreement may include "public works" within the meaning of Labor Code Section 1720 *et seq.* When applicable, Contractor hereby agrees to pay not less than prevailing rates of wages and be responsible for compliance with all the provisions of the California Labor Code, Article 2-Wages, Chapter 1, Part 7, Division 2, Section 1770 *et seq.* A copy of the prevailing wage scale established by the Department of Industrial Relations is on file in the office of the Director of Public Works, and available at [www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR](http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR) or by phone at 415-703-4774. California Labor Code Section 1776(a) requires each contractor and subcontractor keep accurate payroll records of trades workers on all public works projects and to submit copies of certified payroll records upon request.

Contractor expressly covenants and agrees to comply with all the provisions of the Labor Code of the State of California. Any labor on public works over eight (8) hours during any one calendar day, and forty (40) hours in any one calendar week, shall comply with California overtime laws. Contractor agrees to the payment of not less than the prevailing wage rates, when applicable, and further agrees to the forfeitures provided for in said Labor Code and as set forth in Section 7 ("Legal Relations and Responsibility") of the Standard Specifications and all amendments thereto, in the event of a violation of any of the provisions thereof during the course of execution of this Contract.

When applicable, the Contractor expressly agrees to be responsible for compliance with all the provisions of Sections 1771, 1771.4, 1774-1776, 1777.5, 1813, 1815, and 1860 of the California Labor Code. Additionally, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3700 of the California Labor Code, every contractor will be required to secure the payment of compensation to his or her employees.

Additionally, for any services on projects which constitute "public works" within the meaning of Labor Code Section 1720 *et seq.*, the following provisions apply:

- a. No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted after March 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)].

- b. No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project (awarded on or after April 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5.
- c. All "public works" projects are subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

\* \* \*

In witness of and in agreement with this Agreement's terms, the parties, by their duly authorized representatives, affix their respective signatures:

For Contractor: **ARBORICULTURAL SPECIALITES, INC., DBA THE PROFESSIONAL TREE CARE CO.**

  
Contractor Signature

5/4/20  
Date

CHARLES SUSSINGER  
Contractor Name (please print)

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COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

By:  
President, Board of Supervisors, San Mateo County

Date:

ATTEST:

By:  
Clerk of Said Board

## **Exhibit A**

### **Section 1: Introduction**

This Agreement contemplates that Contractor will, upon request from the San Mateo County Parks Department (the "Department"), develop a brief project proposal based on the scope of work provided by the Department, as well as a schedule for completing the scope of work issued by the Department, and an outline of the costs required to complete the requested work. The scope of work, schedule, and fee will be negotiated, and approved in the form of a Task Order. Contractor understands and agrees that entering into this Agreement with County does not guarantee that Contractor will be requested to submit a proposal for any particular project, nor that the Contractor will receive any assignments pursuant to the contract.

### **Section 2: Vegetation Management Services**

In consideration of the payments set forth in Exhibit B, Contractor shall provide the following services:

#### **Vegetation Management Services (i.e., Forestry, Heavy Equipment Use, and Tree Management)**

Contractor may be asked to provide a variety of services, including, but not limited to:

1. Heavy equipment services for the purposes of conducting fuel reduction and tree removal projects;
2. Mastication and other heavy equipment removal of standing or fallen woody debris on uneven terrain and other mechanical or manual removal trees and brush along recreational trails, fire roads, or park facilities and infrastructure within a broader fuel reduction area. This can also include tree removals where undesired tree or brush species are encroaching into high quality habitat areas, and removals to reduce fuel density and fire risks;
3. Forestry, heavy equipment use, and tree management services that include all labor, materials, tools, and equipment necessary to safely and efficiently complete the services outlined in any approved task orders; and
4. Work in a variety of areas, including those which are accessible with mechanical equipment or in unimproved areas with poor-to-no equipment access or cellular telephone service.

### **Section 3: Tree Removal and Limbing Services**

In consideration of the payments set forth in Exhibit B, Contractor shall provide the following services:

#### **Tree Removal and Limbing Services**



Contractor may be asked to provide a variety of services, including, but not limited to:

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1. Tree maintenance and hazardous tree reduction by methods including pruning, removal, cabling and bracing, or other arboricultural services, within San Mateo County Parks;
2. Single or multiple tree removals and pruning of trees along recreational trails, playgrounds, around camp and picnic sites, parking areas, or Park facilities and infrastructure;
3. Tree removal and limbing services that include all labor, materials, tools, and equipment necessary to safely and efficiently complete the services outlined in any approved task orders; and
4. Work in a variety of areas, including those which are accessible with mechanical equipment or in unimproved areas with poor-to-no equipment access or cellular telephone service.

#### **Section 4: Requirements**

1. Contractor shall be a California licensed, C-61/D-49 tree service contractor, maintain certification by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) or Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA), and be registered with the California Department of Industrial Relations;
2. Tree removal shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the ANSI Z133 safety standard;
3. Contractor shall have on site, at minimum, one (1) ISA Certified Arborist or ISA Certified Tree Worker at all times. Contractor shall maintain a daily log of activities, including but not limited to: Crew numbers and hours worked per day, tree counts and performed actions, volumes of materials used, and before and after photos documenting the work;
4. Contractor's arborist(s) performing tree maintenance operations shall exhibit, to the satisfaction of the Department, a proficiency in pruning and/or removal of single or multiple trees for purposes of hazard, risk reduction, or wildlife habitat management. The County shall regularly evaluate the Contractor's performance in relation to the contract, task order specifications, and adherence to industry standards. If observed work is found to be incomplete or inconsistent with industry standards or Department expectations, the Contractor will be responsible for completing the job/work/assigned task order at the Contractor's expense;
5. Contractor is responsible for providing competent crews trained to complete issued task orders in a safe and efficient manner. All crew members shall be First Aid and CPR Certified, be able to perform an aerial rescue if necessary, and able to communicate effectively in the event of an emergency;
6. All work shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 - Standard Practices for Pruning, ANSI Z133 safety standards for arboricultural operations, and all prevailing State and Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act requirements. Any losses due to work stoppages or

violations issued by OSHA inspectors or their agents, because of non-conformance, shall be solely borne by the Contractor;

7. Contractor shall be solely responsible for installation and management of roadway traffic control and/or park trail closures for the duration of scheduled tree care operations. Operations impacting public roadways will require all necessary signage, cones, and flaggers required of Cal/OSHA. Permitted closure of public roadways shall be the sole responsibility of the Contractor, including all necessary permits and associated fees. Closure of park roads or trails will require, at minimum, installation of four (4) A-frame signs at trail junctions (two signs per junction), or at a suitable location no closer than 100' from the edge of the project area. Notification of trail closures to the Department shall be made no less than two (2) business days in advance of closure unless otherwise approved by the supervising Park Ranger;
8. Contractor shall be familiar with native vegetation of San Mateo County and have the ability to accurately identify, prune and/or remove various tree species, and determine health conditions of trees via climbing. Use of climbing spikes on trees to be pruned is strictly prohibited;
9. Contractor shall be familiar with local and regional pests and diseases, their phenology, control measures, and necessary disposal or sanitation Best Management Practices (BMP's);
10. Required equipment may include, but is not limited to, excavators or skid-steer mounted masticators, dump trucks, wood-chippers, aerial lifts, boom crane, log loader, bobcat, traffic control devices, chainsaws, and personal safety equipment, as well as the minimum necessary wildfire control equipment required by the California Department of Forestry;
11. Contractor is responsible for providing the County with a work plan for a project or approved task order that will outline the approach, schedule, and best management practices to be implemented for the project or approved task order. This should be developed in communication and agreement with Department staff;
12. The employees of the Contractor that handle or apply pesticides shall be registered with the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) and always carry their registration while applying any pesticides; and
13. Contractor shall not stage or house hazardous materials on County property unless necessary for the purpose of an approved task order. If hazardous materials are spilled on County property, appropriate response measures shall be taken to contain the spill. The County and all necessary regulatory agencies, such as California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (CDFW) (OSPR), shall be notified of all spills and provide the following: spilled material, volume, and containment measures.

Furthermore, Contractor will need to provide or perform, at the San Mateo County Parks Department's request, the following:

1. A point of contact or project manager for the Agreement and to be the primary point of communication between San Mateo County Parks Department staff and the Contractor;
2. A project-specific scope of work and cost estimate for as needed services under the Agreement, for the Department to review and execute a task order, if the Department decides to have the Contractor proceed with providing those services;
3. Clear communication to Department staff and/or other contractors at each stage of a project and/or task order as outlined in each respective task order;
4. Meeting agendas and/or meeting minutes;
5. Work in various and sometimes remote areas and conditions;
6. Backup documentation and records; and
7. A project schedule and updates to the schedule, as needed.

#### **Section 5: Task Order(s) and Task Order Process**

Upon receipt of a task order outlining the requested scope of services, Contractor shall, within one business week, provide the San Mateo County Parks Department with a cost estimate and project schedule. Once the San Mateo County Parks Department has approved, in writing, the fee for services and project schedule, Contractor shall schedule and coordinate a project kick-off meeting. In emergency situations, Contractor may be asked to provide cost estimates and project schedules in less than one business week.

If deemed necessary, at the sole discretion of the San Mateo County Parks Department, Contractor may be required to contract with sub-Contractor(s) for supportive services. Should Contractor be required to contract with sub-Contractor(s) for supportive services, Contractor will be required to ensure that all sub-Contractor(s) satisfy all County contracting standards, requirements, best practices, and regulations. County must approve the use of all subcontractors in writing before execution of a task order or commencement of work.

No individual task order will exceed \$60,000 in total, inclusive of labor and materials, for work performed on a public works project.

#### **Section 6: Changes in Work**

The Director of Parks or their designated representative may order changes, in writing, to the scope or character of work which are mutually acceptable, either decreasing or increasing the amount and duration of Contractor's services. In the event that such changes are ordered, Contractor shall be entitled to compensation of all work previously directed by County and performed by Contractor prior to receipt of notice of change.

**Exhibit B**

In consideration of the services provided by Contractor described in Exhibit A and subject to the terms of the Agreement, County shall pay Contractor based on the following fee schedule and terms:

**Arboricultural Specialties, Inc., dba The Professional Tree Care Co.  
Personnel and Material Rates  
On-Call Vegetation Management Services (i.e., Forestry, Heavy Equipment Use, and Tree Management), and Tree Removal and Limbing Services**

**Section 1: Personnel Rates**

Classification	Hourly Rates		Effective Date of Hourly Rate	
	Straight Time	Overtime	From	To
Groundsman (Laborer)	\$85.00	\$100.00	4/1/23	3/31/25
Groundsman (Climber)	\$85.00	\$100.00	4/1/23	3/31/25
Equipment Operator	\$95.00	\$110.00	4/1/23	3/31/25

**NOTES**

1. There are no increases in hourly rates through March 31, 2025. The abovementioned hourly rates will be reassessed before March 31, 2025 to determine if there will be an increase, of no more than two (2) percent, in the hourly rates for the period April 1, 2025 through May 22, 2026.

**Section 2: Other Direct Cost Items**

Description of Items	Unit	Cost
15 Ton Crane	Hourly	\$100.00
28 Ton Crane	Hourly	\$150.00
40 Ton Crane	Hourly	\$200.00
70 Ton Crane	Hourly	\$275.00
110 Ton Crane	Hourly	\$400.00
Excavator	Hourly	\$85.00
Ten Wheel Truck (Chip Van)	Hourly	\$35.00
Bucket Truck (Aerial Lift)	Hourly	\$30.00
Chipper	Hourly	\$30.00

Other materials or items at cost. All reimbursable expenses are at cost and must have the County's prior approval.

### **Section 3: Amount and Method of Payment**

Payment will be made within 30 days of receipt of a written itemized invoice to the San Mateo County Parks Department's Accounting Division. Invoices should be sent to [parks\\_accounting@smcgov.org](mailto:parks_accounting@smcgov.org) and include the following information: (1) the Agreement number; (2) complete scope of work; (3) specific work completed; (4) location of work; (5) Task Order number; and (6) a breakdown of charges. Payments will be made only once the work is completed and the County is properly invoiced. Invoices should be sent out monthly.

In any event, the total payment for services of Contractor shall not exceed **\$2,000,000.00**, and the County shall have the right to withhold payment if the County determines that the quantity and/or quality of the work performed is unacceptable. No individual task order will exceed \$60,000, inclusive of labor and materials, for work performed on a public works project.

### **Section 4: Notice to Proceed**

As described in Exhibit A, Contractor shall commence work upon receipt of a Notice to Proceed establishing a start date, the work duration, the not-to-exceed amount, and completion date.

## ATTACHMENT I

### Assurance of Compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as Amended

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The undersigned (hereinafter called "Contractor(s)") hereby agrees that it will comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, all requirements imposed by the applicable DHHS regulation, and all guidelines and interpretations issued pursuant thereto.

The Contractor(s) gives/give this assurance in consideration of for the purpose of obtaining contracts after the date of this assurance. The Contractor(s) recognizes/recognize and agrees/agree that contracts will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this assurance. This assurance is binding on the Contractor(s), its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or persons whose signatures appear below are authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the Contractor(s).

The Contractor(s): (Check a or b)

- a. Employs fewer than 15 persons.
- b. Employs 15 or more persons and, pursuant to section 84.7 (a) of the regulation (45 C.F.R. 84.7 (a)), has designated the following person(s) to coordinate its efforts to comply with the DHHS regulation.

Name of 504 Person:

Name of Contractor(s):

Street Address or P.O. Box:

City, State, Zip Code:

I certify that the above information is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge

Signature:

Title of Authorized Official:

Date:

\*Exception: DHHS regulations state that: "If a recipient with fewer than 15 employees finds that, after consultation with a disabled person seeking its services, there is no method of complying with (the facility accessibility regulations) other than making a significant alteration in its existing facilities, the recipient may, as an alternative, refer the handicapped person to other providers of those services that are accessible."

## **Attachment IP**

### **Intellectual Property Rights**

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1. The County of San Mateo ("County"), shall and does own all titles, rights and interests in all Work Products created by Contractor and its subcontractors (collectively "Vendors") for the County under this Agreement. Contractor may not sell, transfer, or permit the use of any Work Products without the express written consent of the County.
2. "Work Products" are defined as all materials, tangible or not, created in whatever medium pursuant to this Agreement, including without limitation publications, promotional or educational materials, reports, manuals, specifications, drawings and sketches, computer programs, software and databases, schematics, marks, logos, graphic designs, notes, matters and combinations thereof, and all forms of intellectual property.
3. Contractor shall not dispute or contest, directly or indirectly, the County's exclusive right and title to the Work Products nor the validity of the intellectual property embodied therein. Contractor hereby assigns, and if later required by the County, shall assign to the County all titles, rights and interests in all Work Products. Contractor shall cooperate and cause subcontractors to cooperate in perfecting County's titles, rights or interests in any Work Product, including prompt execution of documents as presented by the County.
4. To the extent any of the Work Products may be protected by U.S. Copyright laws, Parties agree that the County commissions Vendors to create the copyrightable Work Products, which are intended to be work-made-for-hire for the sole benefit of the County and the copyright of which is vested in the County.
5. In the event that the title, rights, and/or interests in any Work Products are deemed not to be "work-made-for-hire" or not owned by the County, Contractor hereby assigns and shall require all persons performing work pursuant to this Agreement, including its subcontractors, to assign to the County all titles, rights, interests, and/or copyrights in such Work Product. Should such assignment and/or transfer become necessary or if at any time the County requests cooperation of Contractor to perfect the County's titles, rights or interests in any Work Product, Contractor agrees to promptly execute and to obtain execution of any documents (including assignments) required to perfect the titles, rights, and interests of the County in the Work Products with no additional charges to the County beyond that identified in this Agreement or subsequent change orders. The County, however, shall pay all filing fees required for the assignment, transfer, recording, and/or application.
6. Contractor agrees that before commencement of any subcontract work it will incorporate this **ATTACHMENT IP** to contractually bind or otherwise oblige its subcontractors and personnel performing work under this Agreement such that the County's titles, rights, and interests in Work Products are preserved and protected as intended herein.