

Landscape RFP 2019 – Questions from Interested Parties

**Q) Who is your current contractor and what is the current contract amount?**

A) Our current contractor is Haase Landscapes, Inc. and the contract amount is \$179,250.24

**Q) What is the sq. footage or acreage of each area?**

A) The numbers below are a close estimate and do not contain acreage outside the scope of work.

- Bannister Park – 5.4 acres
- Fair Oaks Park – 24.5 acres
- Fair Oaks Preschool - 0.6 acres
- Little Phoenix Park - 0.95 acres
- Miller Park – 9.27 acres
- Montview Park – 5 acres
- Phoenix Park – 45.3 acres
- Village/Plaza Park – 3.2 acres
- Madison Place Park – 0.8 acres
- District Office – 0.3 acres
- Drainage Area – 0.3 acres
- Madison Landscaping Strip – 0.3 acres
- Manana Property – 2 acres
- Old Library – 0.1 acres
- Sunset Landscaping Strips – 0.1 acres
- Swale Property – 0.4 acres
- Swallow Way Property – 0.5 acres
- Vintage Woods – 0.4 acres

Total Acreage: 99.42 acres

**Q) A question on the semi-annual work:**

**“Provide and apply herbicide or stringy-bark mulch to control weeds and turf within two feet of trees, and within areas of shrub plantings.”**

**Can you explain what you are wanting us to perform?**

A) We would like tree wells in parking lots, planters, and parking bumpers to have herbicides applied (we use Ranger Pro currently, but we’re fine with granular pre-emergent being used or similar methods) on a seasonal basis to maintain unwanted weed and grass growth. In addition, mulch should be placed in these areas so as to create a pleasing appearance in said areas. The mulch application should be yearly or as-needed. We’re not requesting that **\*every\*** tree in all of our parks have mulch spread around them. I apologize for the confusion on this one – the verbiage was a holdover from a previous RFP document and should have been clarified.

**Q) The current contractor has a crew servicing this work 5 days per week?**

A) The current contractor has a crew servicing our parks 5 days a week, Monday thru Friday. They typically work 6am – 2:30pm.

**Q) What size is the current crew that services the district's property?**

A) The current crew size is three individuals.

**Q) Is there a prevailing wage and do we have to go through the DIR?**

A) Yes, the job is classified as “public works” and as such prevailing wages are required. For indicative wage rates, see <https://www.dir.ca.gov/OPRL/2019-1/PWD/Northern.html> (prevailing wage schedule) and the entries for Landscape Maintenance Laborer. Any agreement between the District and a landscape maintenance company must include provisions informing the contractor about its obligations to pay prevailing wage rates and maintain proper payroll records.

**Q) What is the budget for this opportunity?**

A) We have allocated \$225,000 for FY 2019-2020 for our Agriculture/Horticulture Services which includes this contract as well as various other expenditures.

**Q) What was the term of the current contract?**

A) The term of the current contract was for an initial three year period with an option to extend, on a yearly basis, for a further two years.

**Q) Is the scope of the current contract the same as this RFP?**

A) The scope is nearly identical; however, the Swallow Way property is a new addition that will need to be addressed in the new contract.

**Q) Is the current maintenance level satisfactory?**

A) Yes, the current maintenance levels are satisfactory, but there is always room to grow!

**Q) Do you have a map that shows the location of each site?**

A) Yes, the district map can be found on our website at: <https://www.forpd.org/DocumentCenter/View/250/District-Parks-Map-JPG?bidId=> . However, there are two additional properties that have yet to be added to the map. The first is Madison Place Park, which is in a new development at the corner of Madison Avenue and Kenneth Avenue. The second is our Swallow Way property, which can be found by heading South on Hazel Avenue and turning right (West) onto Lake Nimbus Drive. In addition, the map does not show our landscaping strips on Sunset Avenue across from Phoenix Park, our landscaping strip on Madison Avenue at Flyway Drive, the Swale (adjacent to the Sunset landscaping strip), Drainage Area (also adjacent to the Sunset landscaping strip), and Manana property on Manana Way off of Kenneth Avenue.

**Q) What is your expectation for fall leaf cleanup?**

A) Leaves should be picked up and removed from the premises while out servicing the parks as normal. Routine maintenance remains the same at all of our locations throughout the year, so each park should have leaf litter removed on a weekly basis. Often during the fall months it is too wet to mow without

overly damaging the turf, so the workload shifts to leaf litter removal. Please note that the RFP outlines the requirement that leaf litter should be removed off-site for disposal.

**Q) In section II.8 “Monitor incidental weed growth, and control as needed.” Can you be more specific as to the expectation of amount of control? Do you mean in turf areas or all areas? Do you require 100% control at all times?**

A) Incidental weed growth should be controlled in non-turf areas, typically. District staff manages weed growth in turf areas including general use turf and sports fields. Contractors should expect to manage weed growth in parking lot planters, facility planters, in out-of-the-way areas such as the Swale, Drainage Area, and along fencelines (please see video walkthroughs for these sites at: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLw07ysh1QdB8J0tW3HJqxCJi-NJ2gDU8N>). Control types vary by site: in areas such as the Swale and Drainage area, this means mowing down weeds and grasses as often as once a month to as little as once a year, as needed; in areas such as facility and parking lot planters, weed control is either mowing down growth or applying herbicide on an as-needed basis to maintain a manicured presentation. 100% control is an impressive ideal, but unrealistic; the district does not expect the entirety of our properties to be completely weed-free at all times. That being said, growth left un-checked, planters growing to become predominately weeds, and out-of-the-way areas containing weed growth that creates fire hazards is not acceptable.

**Q) For semi-annual work part 1: “Provide and apply herbicide or stringy-bark mulch” Is the choice between the two at the discretion of the contractor?**

A) I apologize for this section. The wording is a holdover from a previous version of the RFP that somehow slipped through my editing process. We are not requesting that contractors supply mulch or herbicide around the trunks of our trees. As to the areas in shrub beds, we request that herbicide is applied as needed to prevent weed growth and also for mulch to be put down to maintain a manicured appearance.

**Q) Same section: Do you have an estimate of the square footage of the area in question.**

A) The areas in question (shrub beds, planter boxes) that would require mulch is approximately 6000 square feet, spread across several facilities and parks.

**Q) For semi-annual work part 2: herbicide along certain areas: Do you have an estimate of the square footage of the area in question.**

A) An estimation of the locations we have that would be sprayed with herbicides is approximately 200,000 square feet, spread throughout many of our parks but primarily at Phoenix Park. Some locations have very small areas while others have fairly expansive application zones. In addition, there are several sections of fence-line at which application would be preferred (such as the outside perimeters of baseball diamonds). The total linear feet of those application zones would be approximately 10,000 linear feet.

**Q) For semi-annual work part 3: controlling weeds within the maintenance compound of Fair Oaks Parks: Do you have an estimate of the square footage of the maintenance comp**

A) The area in the maintenance yard in which weeds should be managed is approximately 5000 square feet. These areas can simply be hit with a line trimmer. Mowers will not be able to access the areas and herbicides are not necessarily required, though they are allowed.

**Q) For semi-annual work part 4: controlling weeds in certain areas of Phoenix Park: Do you have an estimate of the square footage of the area in question.**

A) The locations listed as item #4 in the semi-annual work are the Phoenix Park fire break and along the vernal pools which is approximately 105,000 square feet, the Swale and Drainage Area which is approximately 38,000 square feet, and the Manana property which is approximately 73,000 square feet. Please see the next question for the type of weed control expected in these areas.

**Q) Same section: What type of weed control do you expect in these areas? Would mowing it down suffice?**

A) In these areas, mowing the grass and weeds down will suffice; however, in the drainage areas in particular, the trimmings would need to be removed so as not to clog the drainage and cause flooding in the neighboring homes.

**Q) For semi-annual work part 5: please clarify what you mean by “minor pruning”. Do you have an estimate of number of trees or shrubs, or an estimate of the man hours necessary?**

A) Please see the video walkthrough of the landscaping strips at Sunset and Madison for the bulk of the required shrub pruning. That will give you a better idea of the amount of shrubs to prune in those areas. In addition, our District Office, Community Clubhouse, and Old Library building all have small planters (approximately 3500-4500 square feet total area) which would require shrub pruning. The trees contained therein are 5’-8’ tall and only require shaping and pruning to clear walkways; the fully grown trees are maintained by district staff.

**Q) On page 7 you describe the evaluation criteria. What weight does price have against all other criteria?**

A) While price is important, the district feels that true value is found in the combination of all aspects of our selection criteria. Having the lowest bid amount is not a guarantee that the district will choose that bid, as we find it more important that the company we choose be capable, positive and communicative, hard-working, and possesses an attention to detail and a dedication to excellence.