



MEMORANDUM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
ENGINEERING DIVISION
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors

Date: August 27, 2019

FROM: Ken Grehm, Director of Public Works
By: Alice Atherton, Associate Civil Engineer

SUBJECT: Engineering / Execute Modification 2 to Supplemental Project Agreement
No.218SA11051700052 / USDA Forest Service

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Chair of the Board, or designee, to execute Modification 2 of Supplemental Project Agreement No. 218SA11051700052 between the USDA Forest Service (USFS) and Placer County, upon County Counsel and Risk Management's concurrence, for the inclusion of cutting down hazardous drought related dead and dying trees on Forest Service land threatening County infrastructure. There is no cost for this Modification.

BACKGROUND

On October 30, 2015 Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. declared a state of emergency and sought federal action to help mobilize additional resources for the safe removal of dead and dying trees. Four years of drought have made trees in many regions of California susceptible to infestation by native bark beetles, which are normally constrained by the defense mechanisms of healthy trees. The United States Forest Service (USFS) recently estimated that more than 149 million trees have already died in California due to current conditions. On September 27, 2016 the Placer County Board of Supervisors approved a plan to remove hazardous trees that could damage or destroy county infrastructure. In this plan was the inclusion of federal stakeholders in County Monthly Tree Mortality Task Force meetings, specifically including the USFS. The Department of Public Works and the Office of Emergency Services is managing this work as a co-department project.

The County and the USFS have an existing Master Stewardship Agreement No. 18SA11051700015, dated March 16, 2018 that allows the County to perform work on USFS property. Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA) No. 18SA11051700052, dated June 28, 2018, outlined specific work items in the forest. Modification 1 was processed on June 4, 2019 for the purpose of documenting land tenure for the agreement. Modification 2 includes the cutting down of drought related hazardous dead and dying trees per the declared emergency, with respect to the County's infrastructure, mainly roads, through the USFS property, which was not specifically accounted for in the original SPA language.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Modification 2 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA guidelines, Section 15306. NEPA compliance is met as work performed under this modification to the Agreement meets the definition of maintenance of roads in section 36 CFR 220.6(d)(4) and a decision memo is not required.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no cost to this modification. The construction work will be funded (75%) through the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) program, the remaining 25% will come from the Tree Mortality Removal Project, PJ00020. The total budgeted amount for this project is \$8,844,595 and \$5,726,795 has been budgeted in the Emergency Services FY 2019-20 Budget. This is a multi-year project.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution

On file with Clerk of the Board: Draft Modification 2 for Supplemental Project Agreement No. 18SA11051700052

Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of: A resolution authorizing to execute Modification 2 to Supplemental Project Agreement No. 218SA11051700052 with the USDA Forest Service for the inclusion of the cutting down of drought related hazardous dead and dying trees on Forest Service land.

Resolution No.: _____

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____, by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest:

Clerk of said Board

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Placer, State of California, that this Board approves and authorizes the Chair of the Board, or designee, to execute Modification 2 to Supplemental Project Agreement 218SA11051700052 with the USDA Forest Service for the inclusion of cutting down drought related hazardous dead and dying trees threatening the County infrastructure on Forest Service property. There is no cost to process this modification.