



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Social Services  
Department No.: 044  
For Agenda Of: June 23, 2009  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme:  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Kathy M. Gallagher, Director  
Director(s) Department of Social Services  
Contact Info: Raymond McDonald, WIB Executive Director  
(805) 681-4446

**SUBJECT:** **Contract with the City of Santa Barbara for the National Emergency Grant Activities**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a sole source contract with the City of Santa Barbara to provide Workforce Investment Act (WIA) National Emergency Grant-Disaster Project activities. The activities included are clean-up and restoration of Parma Park and Rattlesnake Canyon Trail which were destroyed by the Tea Fire. The contract is from July 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009 not to exceed the amount of \$186,190.00.

**Summary Text:**

The City of Santa Barbara's Parma Park and Rattlesnake Canyon Trail are located entirely within the Tea Fire disaster area. Over 95 percent of the native riparian, oak woodland and grassland habitats within the 200-acre open space park were destroyed by the fire. Due to the fire as well as the loss of vegetation and soil erosion, hiking and equestrian trails and fire access roads were damaged. While some immediate work was completed to reduce hazards, there is a significant need to clean-up and remove dead trees and exposed barbed wire fencing throughout the park, as well as downed woody debris in Sycamore, Parma and Coyote Creeks. Erosion control mechanisms such as straw waddles and coconut fiber need to be installed along steeper slopes, and trail and road areas to reduce the potential for soil erosion, sedimentation and downstream flooding. Fencing and park signage destroyed by the fire needs to be installed. Exposed soils have resulted in the emergence of non-native invasive plant

species that need to be eradicated in order to restore native habitats. Subsequent to these clean-up efforts, restoration of the park will include the re-construction of trails, and re-planting of riparian areas and woodlands with new trees and other native shrubs.

Parma Park and Rattlesnake Canyon Trail are located in the upper area of the Tea Fire Disaster area. As a result, without restoration, there is potential for the impacts from the fire to contribute to future impacts from significant rain events. Exposed soils on steep slopes and remaining debris could contribute to downstream flooding and associated impacts in Sycamore Creek.

**Background:**

On January 29, 2009, the Department of Labor (DOL) awarded the State up to \$6 million of WIA National Emergency Grant (NEG) funds for the creation of temporary jobs to assist in the cleanup and restoration of public lands and infrastructure after the 2008 Southern California wildfires that started on November 18, 2008. The grant period for this funding is December 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009, and is available to Local Areas in the counties of Los Angeles, Orange Riverside and Santa Barbara. Initial funding of \$2 million is available to create temporary jobs for:

- 1) Workers who have been temporarily or permanently dislocated as a result of the wildfires,
- 2) Eligible dislocated workers as defined in the Workforce Investment Act Section 101 (9) who are unemployed and not receiving unemployment insurance compensation or other types of income support, and
- 3) Individuals who are long term unemployed.

The purpose of the temporary jobs will be to assist in clean-up and restoration efforts in response to the Tea Fire. Work may only be performed on public lands/structures.

The remaining balance of \$4 million in funding awarded in the WIA NEG can be requested once the State demonstrates the need for additional funding. It should be noted that the State cannot request these additional funds based solely upon the accomplishments in Santa Barbara—but must also have progress from the Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside county projects, too. Also, although we are, unfortunately, susceptible to other wildfires—most notably the Jesusita Fire in the spring of 2009—the Federal requirement is that we submit new applications for each natural disaster. Therefore, none of the remaining \$4 million can be used for repairs associated with the Jesusita Fire. Nevertheless, staff is working with the appropriate State and Federal agencies to determine if an application can be submitted for the Jesusita Fire—based upon a Declaration of Major Disaster by FEMA.

The City of Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation Department and United States Forestry staff developed the following project description:

**Proposed Work – Clean-up and Restoration of Parma Park and Rattlesnake Canyon Trail**

The City of Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation Department could employ NEG participants up to 6-months to clean-up and restore Parma Park and Rattlesnake Canyon. It is anticipated that the assistance of NEG participants will provide a critical foundation for the long-term restoration of the park. A crew of four participants would work with 1 supervisor with park maintenance and forestry experience.

The project involves the clean-up and removal of dead trees and other downed woody debris throughout the park and in the creeks. The participants would also remove exposed fencing and other debris exposed by the loss of vegetation. Trail repair work, and drainage repairs and installation of erosion control materials would be undertaken. Efforts to eradicate non-native invasive plants would begin. The majority of this work would be done using hand tools. Since the City's Integrated Pest Management Program prohibits the use of herbicides, removal of non-native vegetation would be achieved by hand and weeding tools.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			\$ 186,190.00
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 186,190.00

**Narrative:**

The National Emergency Grant (NEG) for the Tea Fire is to be allocated to the City of Santa Barbara to provide labor and supportive services (\$186,190) for clean-up and removal of dead trees, eradication of exotic non-native species, and native habitat restoration in Parma Park and Rattlesnake Canyon Trail. This contract is 100% funded by the Department of Labor. These funds, as well as the associated contract, expire on December 31, 2009. There is no county funding needed.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**  
0

**FTEs:**  
0

**Special Instructions:**

Please send one (1) fully executed copy of the contract and minute order to:  
 Department of Social Services  
 Attn: Contracts, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
 2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway  
 Santa Maria, CA 93455

**Attachments:**

Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor

**Authored by:**

Raymond L. McDonald, WIB Executive Director, 681-4453

**cc:**