

COUNCIL DECISION REQUEST

SUBJECT: Bids for fuel break construction

MEETING DATE: 5-11-06

CSP ITEM: Yes No KRA#7, Objs. 2.0 & 2.5

ITEM NO.:

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: 30 to 45 days

SUBMITTED BY: Martin deMasi *ms*

AMOUNT BUDGETED: \$102,500.00

SUBMITTAL TO AGENDA

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED: \$113,772.00

APPROVED BY TOWN MANAGER

CONT. FUNDING REQUIRED: \$11,272.00

EXHIBITS (If Applicable, To Be Attached): Request For Bid package, Bids, contract

RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move to approve the award of the Payson Fuel Break Project construction contract to RCO Reforesting for Areas C and E for a sum totaling \$113,772; authorize the Town Manager to sign contracts and to issue a notice to proceed for areas C (in the amount of \$36,482) and E (in the amount of \$77,290); to appropriate \$11,272 in contingency funds; and to further authorize the Town Manager to issue notices to proceed in additional areas as funds become available.

SUMMARY OF THE BASIS FOR RECOMMENDED MOTION: In the past few months the Town has taken steps to facilitate construction of a fuel break along the corporate boundary of the Town. Now we are in the position of awarding a contract to a firm to complete a good portion of the work. Agreements are in place with the Forest Service, funding totaling \$102,500 has been obtained from a number of sources and bids have been secured from interested and qualified contractors.

A total of 362 acres, segmented into six areas, were included in the project. Recommended bid awards are for: Area C \$36,482; and Area E \$77,290. Funding sources for the project includes: \$50,000 from the Town of Payson Contingency Fund (approved 3/9/06), \$50,000 from Gila County and \$2500 from the Central Arizona Board of Realtors.

Under the bid, the Contractor has agreed to hold the bid amounts for the other areas for six months, including Country Club Vistas (\$45,844); Fairway (\$20,922); Rim Club (\$41,405); and the Tonto Apache Reservation (\$20,384). These areas could be completed as funding becomes available. An additional \$11,272 of contingency funds would be required to assure that areas C and E will be completed prior to the start of the summer season.

The priority area for initial efforts would be in southeast corner of Payson working east. Time of construction is estimated to be 30 to 45 days.

It is also important to remember that this fuel break is only one part of the wildland fire protection system. Defensible space around structures, fuels treatment work further out in the forest and adequate fire suppression forces all play key roles in the process of reducing life and property loss.

PROS: A fuel break provides a level of defense to protect Payson from a wildfire. It also creates a space that could be used for trails and other conveyances. Adds a level of comfort to Payson residents. Shows collaboration with many different organizations and government agencies.

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CONS: On-going maintenance. A fuel break by itself does not afford complete wildfire protection.

PUBLIC INPUT (if any):

BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (if any) (give dates and attach minutes):

Payson Thinning

Fuel Model	Fuelbreak
FM2 - grass	Proposed
FM4 - manzanita	Current
FM4 - oak woodland	
FM6 - manzanita	
FM6 - oak woodland	
FM8 - cypress	
FM8 - pinion/juniper	
FM9 - pine	
FM9 - scattered pine	
Private	
riparian	

Area A
73 Acres

Area B
33 Acres

Area C
58 Acres

Area E
118 Acres

Area F
65 Acres

300' Fuel Break
379 Acres Total
R. Beery 4/17/2006

Area D
32 Acres

