



AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Control: 26001040

MEETING DATE: 05/19/2026

LEGAL ENTITY TAKING ACTION: Board of Supervisors and Orange County Flood Control District

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT(S): All Districts

SUBMITTING AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: OC Public Works

DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S): Hugo Pineda, 714-955-0302
Kris Ruiz, 714-955-0346

SUBJECT: Renew Contracts for Fuel Modification, Fire Hazard and Weed Abatement Services

CEO CONCUR	COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	CLERK OF THE BOARD
Concur	Approve agreement to form	DISCUSSION
		3 Votes Board Majority

Budgeted: N/A	Current Year Cost: N/A	Annual Cost: FY 2026-27 \$1,068,536 FY 2027-28 \$1,071,464
Staffing Impact: No		Sole Source: No
Current Fiscal Year Revenue: N/A	Funding Source: Fund 115: 34%, Fund 400: 3%, Fund 404: 63%	County Audit in Last 3 years: No

Levine Act Review

Completed? Yes

Prior Board Action: 6/27/2023 #67

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

1. Authorize the County Procurement Officer or Deputized designee to execute Amendment No. 1 to renew the contract with Landscape West Management Services, Inc. for Fuel Modification, Mowing/Discing, Fire Hazard and Weed Abatement, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028.
2. Authorize the County Procurement Officer or Deputized designee to execute Amendment No. 1 to renew the contract and update the classification rates with Natures Image, Inc. for Fuel Modification, Mowing/Discing, Fire Hazard and Weed Abatement, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028.
3. Authorize expenditures for services provided under the aggregate contracts for provision of Fuel Modification, Mowing/Discing, Fire Hazard and Weed Abatement, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,140,000, for a cumulative aggregate total amount not to exceed \$4,450,000, for the term effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028.

SUMMARY:

Approval of Amendment No. 1 to renew the aggregate contract for Fuel Modification, Mowing/Discing, Fire Hazard and Weed Abatement will support OC Public Works' maintenance activities and enhance public safety.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

OC Public Works uses contractors for Fuel Modification, Mowing/Discing, Fire Hazard and Weed Abatement (Services) to supplement County of Orange (County) resources. Fuel modification is the process in which highly combustible native plants, invasive plants or ornamental plants are modified and/or totally replaced with fire resistant or drought resistant alternatives. Services will support fire safety and abate potential fire hazards by removing flammable materials from unincorporated Orange County areas, including County maintained roads, Orange County Flood Control District (District) facilities, including District facilities located in Riverside and San Bernadino counties, incorporated contract cities and the Transportation Corridor Agencies right of way.

On June 27, 2023, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved aggregate Contract MA-080-23011102 (Contracts) with Landscape West Management Services, Inc. and Natures Image, Inc. (Contractors) for Services. The initial three-year term of the current aggregate Contracts for Services expires on June 30, 2026. In order to continue Services, a renewal of the aggregate Contracts is required.

Effective Dates	Requested Amount	Usage as of February 2026	Notes
7/1/2023 - 6/30/2026	\$2.31 million	\$1.2 million	Current term.
7/1/2026 - 6/30/2028	\$2.14 million	N/A	Proposed two-year renewal. Previously approved amounts do not roll over to the renewal term.

The Orange County Preference Policy is not applicable to the aggregate Contracts renewal. The Contractors’ respective performances have been confirmed as satisfactory. OC Public Works has verified there are no concerns that must be addressed with respect to Contractors’ ownerships/names, litigation status or conflicts with County interests.

OC Public Works is recommending Board approval to renew the aggregate Contracts with Contractors and update the classification rates with Natures Image, Inc. for Services, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$2.14 million, for a cumulative aggregate total amount not to exceed \$4.45 million. An analysis was completed to verify the contract provides County with persons specially trained, experienced, expert and competent to perform the special services in accordance with the law. The renewal of the Contracts does not expand the scope of services previously provided.

The aggregate Contracts do not currently include subcontractors or pass through to other providers. See Attachment C for Contract Summary Form. Prior to the aggregate Contracts’ expiration, OC Public Works plans to issue a solicitation to continue Services.

Compliance with CEQA: The proposed project was previously determined to be categorically exempt from the CEQA pursuant to Sections 15301 (Class1) and 15304 (Class 4) of the CEQA Guidelines, on June 27, 2023, when it was originally approved because it involves maintenance of existing public facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of the existing use, and fuel management activities within 100 feet of a structure if the public agency having fire protection responsibility for the area has determined that 100 feet of fuel clearance is required due to extra hazardous fire conditions. The proposed project is still consistent with this determination.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Appropriations for the aggregate Contracts will be included in FY 2026-27 Budget and will be included in the budgeting process for future years for the following funds.

Fund 115, OC Road	34%
Fund 400, OC Flood	3%
Fund 404, OC Flood - Santa Ana River	63%

The proposed aggregate Contracts are contingent upon funding availability. In the event funding is reduced or terminated, the County may renegotiate the level of services and/or terminate the aggregate Contracts without penalty.

STAFFING IMPACT:

N/A

REVIEWING AGENCIES/DEPARTMENTS:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - Amendment No. 1 to Aggregate Contract MA-080-23011102 with Landscape West Management Services, Inc.

Attachment B - Amendment No. 1 to Aggregate Contract MA-080-23011102 with Natures Image, Inc.

Attachment C - Contract Summary Forms