To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront

Subject: Contract: Left Coast Land Clearing for Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Sun City Hazard Mitigation

RECOMMENDATION
Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with Left Coast Land Clearing in an amount not to exceed $365,000 to provide hazard mitigation services for the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Sun City Project for the period July 24, 2019 through July 24, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION
Funds for the contract are available in the Camps Fund. The $365,000 project budget will be included in the first amendment to FY20 Annual Appropriations Ordinance and budgeted in the Camps Fund budget code 125-52-543-583-000-000-461-612990.

The cost of this contract is covered by a combination of expected insurance payments (partially received), expected FEMA/CalOES grant payments, and City Reserve Funds (authorized on April 4, 2017, Resolution No. 67,889-N.S.).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS
In August 2013, the California Rim Fire destroyed the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp (BTC), a residential family camp located within the Stanislaus National Forest.

Since the Rim Fire, the City has worked in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and Tuolumne County to stabilize and remove debris and hazardous trees from the site, to develop design documents for reconstruction, to complete National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance, and to apply for a Special Use Permit which authorizes the re-building of Berkeley Tuolumne Camp. It is anticipated the BTC reconstruction will begin in Spring, 2020. Hazardous trees, downed logs, and remnant structures remain on the site. These hazards must be mitigated before BTC reconstruction can begin.

This contract will mitigate hazard conditions at the ‘Sun City’ area of Berkeley Tuolumne Camp, including removal of hazardous and burned trees and remnant structures. Because the work at Sun City area involves additional cultural mitigation and monitoring
requirements, the U.S. Forest Service requested that this work be done under separate contract.

BACKGROUND
Berkeley Tuolumne Camp, established in 1922, is a 15-acre property operated under a Special Use Permit with the US Forest Service (USFS). The camp has served primarily as a family camp, but also offered teen leadership programs, adult hiking camps, and private group rental opportunities. Prior to the fire, BTC had the capacity to host approximately 280 campers, 60 staff members, and 10 counselors-in-training at one time, and served over 4,000 campers each year. The major facilities at the Camp included a Dining Hall; a Recreation Hall, 77 small single-story wood-frame camper tent cabins; staff cabins; maintenance and storage structures; a bridge across the river; parking and loading areas, and electric, water supply, and wastewater utilities.

In August of 2013, the Rim Fire destroyed Berkeley Tuolumne Camp (BTC) and in December was declared a federal disaster. The majority of structures at BTC were destroyed by the fire. The property was covered by the City’s insurance policy, and insurance proceeds will be the primary source of reconstruction funds. The City has also been awarded a Public Assistance Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to partially fund reconstruction.

Since the fire, the City has been working closely with the USFS to complete an updated master plan in order to rebuild Camp. On June 11, 2019, USFS completed its environmental review and finding of no significant impact for the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Project.

The total cost estimate for the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Rebuild Project is $60M. This cost will be covered by insurance, FEMA and state grant funding, and City funds. On April 4, 2017, City Council allocated $3.3M of City funds from the Catastrophic Reserve to fund the City cost share of the reconstruction project (Resolution No. 67,889-N.S.). The City currently anticipates beginning construction in 2020, with a goal to re-open camp in 2022. Prior to construction, hazardous conditions at the Project site must be mitigated. The ‘Sun City’ area of Berkeley Tuolumne Camp contains sensitive resources that must be protected during hazard mitigation activities. Due to these special circumstances, the City isolated the hazard mitigation work required at Sun City from the Camp-wide hazard mitigation work.

On May 10, 2019 the City issued a request for proposals for Sun City Hazard Mitigation at Berkeley Tuolumne Camp (Spec No. 19-11334). The City received one proposal. The selection panel has determined that Left Coast Land Clearing is well-suited to meet the City’s needs for this Project.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
The City approved the Project CEQA documents on January 22, 2019. The United States Forest Service issued its final NEPA documents on June 11, 2019.

This Project will implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to encourage biodiversity, preserve resources, and maintain riparian and other natural habitats while mitigating hazardous conditions.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION
After reviewing the Left Coast Land Clearing proposal and conducting reference checks and cost reasonableness analysis, the selection panel determined that Left Coast Land Clearing is well-suited for the City’s needs. Staff therefore recommends Council approval of a contract with Left Coast Last Clearing for the Sun City Hazard Mitigation at Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Project.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED
The City does not have the expertise required to complete the tasks covered by this contract. Therefore no alternative actions were considered.

CONTACT PERSON
Scott Ferris, Director, PRW, 981-6700
Liza McNulty, Project Manager, PRW, 981-6437

Attachments:
1: Resolution
WHEREAS, the City operated the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp, a residential family camp, since 1922 on United States Forest Service land pursuant to a special use permit; and

WHEREAS, in August 2013, the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp was destroyed by the California Rim Fire; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2015, the U.S. Forest Service formally accepted the City’s conceptual proposal to rebuild Berkeley Tuolumne Camp; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2019, the U.S. Forest Service formally completed environmental review and finding of no significant impacts for the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Project; and

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2019 the City issued a Request for Proposals for hazard mitigation services for the Sun City Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Project (Spec No. 19-11334) and after conducting reference checks the selection panel determined Left Coast Land Clearing is well-suited for the City’s needs; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in the Camps Fund, and $365,000 will be included in the first amendment to FY20 Annual Appropriations Ordinance and budgeted in the Camps Fund (budget code 125-52-543-583-0000-000-461-612990 PRWEM14001);

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Left Coast Land Clearing in an amount not to exceed $365,000 for hazard mitigation services for the Sun City Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Project for the period July 24, 2019 through July 24, 2020. A record signature copy of said agreements and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.