

**AWARD OF AGREEMENT FOR
CITYWIDE TREE MAINTENANCE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES TO
MARIPOSA TREE MANAGEMENT, INC**

COMPREHENSIVE TREE CARE

- Pomona's urban forest which consists of over 36,000 trees is a valuable public asset that requires ongoing maintenance and care.
- The RFP was developed to enhance the maintenance approach for comprehensive tree care specific for Pomona trees. The RFP prioritized Council and community aesthetic and safety goals by establishing:
 - Level A maintenance standards
 - Full trim
 - Citywide tree inventory
 - Expanded geographic grid cycle maintenance, including
 - Phillips Ranch and VPD grid cycles
 - Palm trim every 2-years



PROCUREMENT PROCESS

- Current piggyback contract extended beyond 5-year term for two 6-month periods through June 30, 2026.
- RFP issued April 29, 2026 through PlanetBids
 - 205 firms notified, 36 firms downloaded solicitation, 8 submissions received
 - 2 submissions determined non-responsive by Purchasing Division
 - 6 responsive proposals evaluated by independent reviews

The RFP process allows the City to award based on the best overall value, not lowest bid.



CITY OF POMONA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CITYWIDE TREE MAINTENANCE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES

RFP NO: 2026-17

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Post RFP	April 29, 2026
Questions Due Date	May 13, 2026, before 10:00 A.M.
Proposal Due Date	June 10, 2026 before 3:00 P.M.

EVALUATION PROCESS AND RESULTS

- Proposals were evaluated based on:
 - Project approach (40 points)
 - Qualifications and experience (20 points)
 - Technical merit (10 points)
 - Price reasonableness (30 points)
 - 240 maximum possible points
- Evaluators reviewed responsive proposals
 - Independent evaluator scores submitted to Purchasing Division via PlanetBids
 - Purchasing staff compiled scores and determined final ranking
- Pricing information for highest ranked company was released to evaluators after Mariposa was ranked highest from scoring and deemed the finalist

Rank	Firm	Score
1	Mariposa Tree Management, Inc.	211.20
2	West Coast Arborists, Inc.	200.01
3	Great Scott Tree Service	177.01
4	North Star Land Care	154.73
5	Golden West Arbor Services Inc.	149.58
6	Tiger Tree Services, Inc.	140.00

UNDERSTANDING COSTS

Rank	Firm	Five-Year Base Cost
1	Mariposa Tree Management, Inc.	\$4,444,076.00
2	West Coast Arborists, Inc.	\$4,514,609.00
3	Great Scott Tree Service	\$4,923,557.72

- Scheduled grid maintenance (known cost)
 - Defined maintenance cycle established through the RFP
 - Provides a predictable baseline cost for routine tree care
- As-Needed services (variable cost)
 - Costs cannot be accurately projected for any vendor and are based on actual needs that arise throughout the year, including:
 - Emergency storm response
 - Hazardous tree removals
 - Out-of-cycle pruning
 - Tree planting and watering
 - Unforeseen tree maintenance needs

WHY MARIPOSA RANKED HIGHEST

- Project Approach
 - Demonstrated strongest overall understanding of City urban forestry objectives
 - Closest alignment with City maintenance standards established in RFP
 - Proposed pruning methodology aligned with City standards
 - Only proposer to provide a detailed Phillips Ranch Assessment District fire mitigation strategy
 - Includes prioritized work plan within 30 days of contract execution

Milestone	Description	Target Date
Contract Award	Notice of award received; emergency contact list submitted to City	July 1, 2026
Mobilization	Equipment, crews, and management personnel mobilized; work yard secured near Pomona	Week 1
Inventory Review	Review and import City's existing GPS inventory data into TreePlotter; meet with City staff	Weeks 1–2
240-Day Plan Submission	Submit detailed citywide GPS inventory update plan to City for approval	Week 4
Phillips Ranch Plan	Submit formal written grid cycle plan for Phillips Ranch Assessment District	Week 4 (30 days post-award)
Pruning Cycle Kickoff	Begin grid pruning operations per approved schedule (Attachments C & D)	Week 3–4
Inventory Update — Phase 1	Complete GPS inventory update for first priority zones	Day 120
Inventory Update — Complete	Full citywide inventory update delivered (hard copy, digital, flash drive)	Day 240
City Staff Training	TreePlotter training for designated City staff	Day 60–90

PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

Current Approach

Grid Trim – Canopy raising and removal of severely / poorly structured or dead branches, with trim per ISA standards

Palm trimming every five years

Chinese Elm maintained on two-year cycle

Phillips Ranch Assessment District trees maintained as funding allowed

Vehicle Parking District maintained as-needed

Inventory at additional cost as requested by City Staff

New Agreement

Grid Trim – Structural pruning, crown raising and crown cleaning, foliage to be reduced from 20% up to 40% per ISA Standards

Palm trimming every two years

Chinese Elm maintained on two-year cycle

Establishes 10-year grid cycle for PRAD trees, plus includes prioritized work plan 30 days after contract execution

Establishes 3-year grid cycle for VPD trees

Full Citywide inventory completed by Day 240 of contract and updated regularly at no additional cost

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends award of Agreement for the Citywide Tree Maintenance and Emergency Response Services to **Mariposa Tree Management, Inc.**

Recommendation is based on:

- Fair and transparent City approved purchasing process
- Highest-ranked proposal
- Alignment with City maintenance standards
- Demonstrated technical expertise
- Competitive and reasonable pricing
- Ability to deliver an expanded proactive maintenance program

MEG MCWADE
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR



CITY OF
POMONA, CA