



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** July 2, 2013

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Administration Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Contract With Cardno ENTRIX For Biological Services In City Parks and Beaches

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council authorize the Parks and Recreation Director to execute a professional services agreement with Cardno ENTRIX for biological services in parks and beaches in the amount of \$21,263 with options to renew in Fiscal Year 2015 for \$21,263, and in Fiscal Year 2016 for \$21,263, subject to Council appropriation of funds.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### Project Description

The Parks and Recreation Department (Department) requires biological monitoring and survey services to satisfy federal, state, and city permit requirements for the beach maintenance program, and for vegetation and defensible space management in open space parks. Parks Division beach maintenance activities involve year-round beach grooming and maintenance, installation of lifeguard towers, and may also include the removal of debris after storm events. A qualified biologist will survey beaches for western snowy plover and may also monitor other special-status species prior to mechanized beach grooming and other maintenance activities. Support for vegetative management and defensible space includes surveys for protected birds, wildlife, or habitats, as required by Federal, state, and local regulations.

#### Consultant Selection

A request for proposals was distributed to three local biological consulting firms. All three consulting firms submitted proposals for services including Cardno ENTRIX, SAIC, and Rincon Consultants. The Department recommends the City contract with Cardno ENTRIX, due to their lower cost proposal, expertise in aquatic and terrestrial biology, and qualifications for monitoring special-status species found along the Santa Barbara coast.

The Department has worked with Cardno ENTRIX on a number of recent projects including the Andrée Clark Bird Refuge Vegetation Management Program and the Mesa Lane Steps

Renovation Project. In that work, Cardno ENTRIX provided the most current field and research information along with expertise in federal and state permit requirements. Cardno ENTRIX's experienced staff and response time of 24 - 48 hours will provide the support needed for biological resource surveys and compliance with permit requirements.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The cost of the annual biological support services contract is \$21,263. Funds of \$21,263 are budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2014 Parks and Recreation Department operating budget. In addition, since the Department requires ongoing services to implement beach maintenance and vegetation management programs in City parks, the Department is recommending that Council approve an option to renew the contract for up to two additional years at a cost of \$21,263 each year, subject to City Council appropriation of funds through the annual budget approval process. The total cost of the services for three years would be \$63,789.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

Monitoring and surveys of special-status species, sensitive habitats, and cultural/historical remains is critical for the protection of natural resources along the Santa Barbara coast and inland.

**PREPARED BY:** Jill E. Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**SUBMITTED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office