



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** January 28, 2014

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Agreements For Sanitary Sewer Chemical Root Cleaning Services

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council:

- A. Authorize the Public Works Director to execute an agreement with Duke's Root Control in the amount of \$45,111.25 for sanitary sewer chemical root cleaning services, and authorize the Public Works Director to approve expenditures of up to \$4,511 for extra services that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work; and
- B. Authorize the Public Works Director to execute an agreement with Pacific Sewer Maintenance in the amount of \$43,635.46 for sanitary sewer chemical root cleaning services, and authorize the Public Works Director to approve expenditures of up to \$4,363 for extra services that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Santa Barbara owns and operates approximately 257 miles of sanitary sewer system mainline. Within these sewer mains, root intrusion from trees occasionally blocks sewer flows and causes sanitary sewer overflows (SSO). From 2008 through 2010, the City averaged approximately forty SSO's per year, with the predominant cause being root intrusion. Since then, the number of SSO's has been decreasing; however, efforts to reduce SSO's continues to be a priority.

In order to better control root intrusion, the application of nationally recognized and approved chemical herbicide products specifically designed for sanitary sewer mains will be applied to City sewer mains with a history of root intrusion.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The work consists of applying chemical herbicide products to approximately 15 miles of 6-inch and 8-inch sanitary sewer mains with a history of heavy root intrusion in various locations throughout the City.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued to five firms, and the City received three proposals. From the proposals received, two different chemical herbicide products were proposed. Both of the proposed chemical herbicide products prohibit the growth of roots while not harming the plant as a whole. Both technologies have been tested and used nationally, proving to be safe and reliable.

Staff selected Duke's Root Control (Duke's) and Pacific Sewer Maintenance (PSM) because they met the requirements of the RFP, provided competitive pricing, and proposed using different chemical herbicide products, thereby allowing staff to evaluate the effectiveness of the two different chemical herbicide products in the various locations throughout the City in the next twelve months.

## **BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

This project was anticipated, and there are adequate appropriated funds in the Wastewater Fund for this work.

The Board of Water Commissioners is scheduled to hear this item at their December 9, 2013 meeting.

**PREPARED BY:** Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager/KT/mh

**SUBMITTED BY:** Rebecca Bjork, Acting Public Works Director

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