



I. 12.009

Receiving # 6892

(obtain from City Clerk)

CONTRACT ROUTING FORM

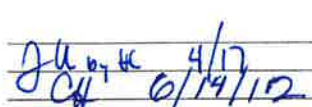
DESCRIPTION	Originator:	Debbie Tarry	Routed by:	Heidi Costello
	Department/Division:	City Manager's Office	Date:	June 11, 2012
	Name of Consultant/Contractor:	Seattle City Light		
	CONTRACT TITLE:	Letter of Understanding for Vegetation Management on the Interurban Trail		

CONTRACT CONTENT	Type of Contract:	<input type="checkbox"/> (GR) Grants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (I) Intergovernmental Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> (L) Lease Agreement
		<input type="checkbox"/> (S) Purchase of Services	<input type="checkbox"/> (W) Public Works	<input type="checkbox"/> (O) Other
	Bid/RFP Number:			
	Effective Date:	April 17, 2012	Completion Date:	
	Has the original contract boilerplate language been modified?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
	If yes, specify which sections have been modified: Created by SCL			
	Description of Services:	Letter of Understanding for Vegetation Management on the Interurban Trail		

FINANCIAL DETAILS	Total Amount of Contract:			
	Org Key - Obj #	Amount:	Org Key - Obj #	Amount:
	J/L # - Task #		J/L # - Task #	
	Org Key - Obj #	Amount:	Org Key - Obj #	Amount:
	J/L # - Task #		J/L # - Task #	
	Org Key - Obj #	Amount:	Org Key - Obj #	Amount:
	J/L # - Task #		J/L # - Task #	
	Are there sufficient funds in the current budget to cover this contract?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
	Remarks:			

FORMS	For Public Works/Small Works Contracts:	For Service Contracts:
	<input type="checkbox"/> Selection Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Business License
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor Responsibility Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Insurance
<input type="checkbox"/> Contract Bond/In Lieu of Form	<input type="checkbox"/> W-9 Form	<input type="checkbox"/> W-9 Form

SIGNATURE	Authorization Level: (click here to select)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Project Manager <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Risk Management/Budget <input type="checkbox"/> 3. City Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Consultant/Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> 5. (click to select or overwrite)	<input type="checkbox"/> 6. City Council (if required) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7. City Manager <input type="checkbox"/> 8. City Clerk <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Originating Department


 Date: 4/17/12



Your Seattle City Light

April 17, 2012

Ms. Debbie Tarry
Assistant City Manager
City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Avenue N.
Shoreline, WA 98133-4905

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

Dear Ms. Tarry:

Thank you for joining me and other City Light representatives for the conference call on February 1, 2012 as well as continuing the discussion on City Light's Vegetation Management Plan. The City of Shoreline and City Light have enjoyed a very close association for many years and it is good to know that we will continue to foster that relationship in the future.

As you know, City Light plans to proceed with its Vegetation Management Plan along the Interurban Trail and elsewhere in the City of Shoreline near our power lines. Our plans have been the subject of concern by some members of the Shoreline neighborhood, most notably the Interurban Trail Tree Preservation Society. Based on the feedback received during the course of two community meetings with Shoreline residents, City Light will proceed with its Vegetation Management Plan by trimming trees near power lines and will include the guidelines outlined below. Trees will not be removed unless the tree poses a safety hazard to community members, our system, or in instances where the property owner requests City Light to remove the tree. In the rare instance where a tree is removed City Light will follow its Urban Tree Replacement Program. City Light has planted thousand of trees through this program since its inception. The utility supports the "Right Tree Right Place" concept and only plants large growing tree species where site conditions and infrastructure allow for the long term health and growth potential of the tree.

In 2005, former Mayor Greg Nickels issued an Executive Order calling for each City of Seattle department removing trees from city-owned property to replace that tree with two in its place. City Light has and continues to follow this Order—in many cases replacing removed trees at a much higher ratio. As you know through our discussions, City Light will not remove trees on private property without the property owner's consent. The utility employs several Certified Arborists in addition to a full time Arboreturist and Plant Ecologist who coordinate our forest canopy retention and tree replacement efforts. City Light is an active partner in the Seattle interdepartmental tree team which coordinates Seattle's tree activities. We are involved in Seattle's Urban Forest Management Plan,



support the City of Seattle's ReLeaf program, and are currently coordinating ongoing tree planting activities in 2012 with other city departments. We believe that our vegetation management team has done an excellent job following both Mayor Nickels' Order and City Light's Urban Tree Replacement Program.

City Light has an agreement in place with the City of Shoreline relating to the Interurban Trail and our vegetation management practices. City Light will continue to trim trees to the required clearances and abate any hazards that may impact our lines. Due to the inherent dangers of electricity, City Light must maintain proper clearances between transmission and distribution lines and trees. The utility must maintain variable clearance distances between trees and power lines. Clearance distances are informed by the voltage of the power lines. For a point of reference, a copy of City Light's Tree Clearance Construction Guideline is enclosed and also can be found online at: <http://www.seattle.gov/light/engstd/Docs/ConStd/d980.pdf>. City Light will not compromise public safety. City Light will, however, commit to allowing dead standing trees to remain for wildlife habitat if it does not impact our power lines or pose a safety danger to human life at any time.

Finally, electric utility industry standards show that it is a best practice to replace trees that grow to heights that impact power lines with smaller growing species. City Light has made the informed decision to replace encroaching trees with a specie that grows no taller than twelve feet along our transmission system. Seattle's climate and native tree species naturally result in many tall growing trees. Due to this fact, the only practical and logical option for replacement is planting small trees under power lines and big trees away from the lines. As stated above, City Light will not remove trees unless they are a hazard or at the written request of a property owner. When removing a tree that is in a location impacting power lines, City Light will provide for a replacement with low growing trees, shrubs, or bushes.

To recap my main points, the following are City Light's commitments regarding vegetation management along the Interurban Trail:

- City Light will continue to follow its Vegetation Management Plan;
- City Light will not remove trees along the Interurban Trail unless the tree is a hazard or an abutting property owner makes a request;
- For any tree removed City Light will provide as replacement a minimum of two trees to provide for the loss of the positive values of the tree(s) being replaced. Positive values include but are not limited to water retention, ecological and neighborhood screening benefits, air quality, prevention of winter heat loss and summer air conditioning costs, and property values;
- Tree replacement will take into consideration the replacement tree's future growth and impacts to City Light power lines and access to those power lines;
- The replacement trees will be selected whenever possible from similar groups (e.g. evergreen for evergreen, deciduous for deciduous) with every effort to provide an equivalent replacement for the vegetation it is replacing;
- When City Light determines that it is impractical to replace two trees for one at the location where the original tree was removed, City Light will either (i) provide the City of Shoreline with replacement trees to be planted at an appropriate site of their choosing,



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- or (ii) provide for replacement trees in a more practical location where the tree's future growth will not impact City Light power lines and accessibility;
- City Light will trim trees to maintain proper clearance distances which are determined by the voltage of the power line;
 - City Light will leave dead standing trees that are unlikely to pose a hazard to life or impact power lines for wildlife habitat;
 - In the event significant changes are made to City Light's Vegetation Management Plan, the interests of the impacted communities will be represented and included in the planning process.

As we agreed, updates to the Shoreline Interurban Trail Memorandum of Agreement are not necessary at the present time. However, a review of this Agreement by both Parties should occur during the course of discussions related to the Franchise Agreement between the City of Shoreline and the City of Seattle.

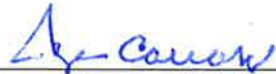
This Letter of Understanding confirms and memorializes Seattle City Light's and the City of Shoreline's intent to follow the above stated commitments regarding vegetation management. By signing this letter, both parties affirm the above, affirm the goal of environmental stewardship, and the goal of providing excellent customer service while protecting the health and safety of our employees, customers, and constituents.

Sincerely,



Phil West
Officer, Customer Service & Energy Delivery
Seattle City Light

MEMORIALIZED BY:



Jorge Carrasco, Superintendent
Seattle City Light



Julie Thuy Underwood, City Manager
City of Shoreline



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