



Date: October 13, 2022  
To: KPPCSD Board of Directors  
From: Eileen Nottoli and Rachelle Sherris-Watt, Directors  
Subject: Contract for Removal of Diseased, Distressed or Dead Trees in Kensington Park

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**Recommendation:**

Authorize the Interim General Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with Professional Tree Care Company for removal of specified diseased, distressed or dead trees in the park, subject to the General Counsel's approval as to form.

**Background:**

The past several years of drought have stressed trees in the Park. Monterey pines have a lifespan of 80-100 years, and many were planted in the Bay Area in the 1940's. Many show much more disease and distress since the last survey in 2019. While several tree posing risks to children have been removed or have had limbs removed in the past few years, there remain several large Monterey pines in the Park that are infested with beetles. Many Monterey pines have multiple large branches that are unstable in wind and rain. Many have large branches that loom over areas of the Park where children walk or play and including over the Hilltop playground. Monterey pines tend to drop limbs or fall, especially in wind and rain, and trees with multiple branches are more prone to fall. Monterey pines in the Park have in fact fallen in recent years. The limbs and trunks are heavy and could cause significant injury if they were to fall on children, adults or vehicles.

All the trees with beetles will eventually die and will need to be removed. The difference on whether all the trees listed below should be removed now or later is a matter of opinion between the two arborists. The arborist from Davey took the view that if trees were to fall in rain and wind, the probability of injury would be slight as there would unlikely be children playing in the park at that time. The arborist from Professional was concerned that many of the trees had multiple large branches that could fall at unpredictable times.

**Discussion and Analysis:**

The following table identifies the trees to be removed at various locations.

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<b>Tree</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Monterey pine	Along road above Community Center near fire road to Hilltop	Infested with beetles, including roots, and near road where children walk
Two Monterey pines	Below Hilltop and at north end of park	Both are dead
Four Monterey pines plus one below Highland with rot at base	Four along Highland and one below Highland	Infested with beetles and along heavily traveled route with parents, and teachers going to Hilltop. The tree with rot at base is unstable and in an area where children play
Four Monterey pines	Below Highland	Infested with beetles with large branches looming over areas where children play
Monterey pine	Below Hilltop at southwest end	Infested with beetles and adjacent to Hilltop playground
Four Monterey pines	Below Hilltop at southwest end and along road	Infested with beetles and along the road where children walk
Monterey pine	Below Hilltop at midpoint along back of park	Infested with beetles and large limb looms over Hilltop playground
Four Monterey pines	Below Hilltop at midpoint along back of park and along road	Infested with beetles and along the road where children walk
Acacia	Picnic area by Windsor	Dead tree
Four acacia trees	Picnic area by Windsor	Distressed trees
Redwood trees	Picnic area by Windsor	Dying trees
Monterey Pines	Picnic area by Windsor	Leaning over
Monterey Pine	Picnic area by Windsor	Dead
Oak	Walkway by Building E	Exposed roots on hillside

The District received bids from two tree removal companies which are attached. The costs for the removal are as follows:

<b>Tree</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Professional</b>	<b>Davey</b>
Monterey pine	Along road above Community Center	\$3,600	N/A
Two Monterey pines	Below Hilltop and at north end of park	\$7,750	\$9,000
Four Monterey pines plus one with rot at base	Four along Highland and one below Highland	\$12,500	\$37,720 plus \$1,680 for a total of \$39,400
Four Monterey pines	Below Highland	\$8,500	N/A

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Monterey pine	Below Hilltop at southwest end	\$5,750	\$7,680
Four Monterey pines	Below Hilltop at southwest end and along road	\$4,750	N/A
Monterey pine	Below Hilltop at midpoint	\$2,750	N/A
Four Monterey pines	Below Hilltop at midpoint and along road	\$3,750	N/A
Acacia(s)	Picnic area by Windsor	\$800	See Monterey pine below
Four acacia trees	Picnic area by Windsor	\$1,750	N/a
Redwood trees	Picnic area by Windsor	\$800	See Monterey pine below
Monterey Pines	Picnic area by Windsor	\$2,950	N/A
Monterey Pine	Picnic area by Windsor	\$2,500	\$5,040
Oak	Walkway to Building E	\$2,000	N/A
Total		\$60,150	\$61,120

The difference in price is largely a function of having equipment to do the removal in a timely manner. The trees would be removed to grade. The bid from Davey would leave the wood on site including logs that were too big to be chipped. The bid from Professional would leave chips on site if desired or recycled at the green waste recycle yard in Richmond. Both bids are based on prevailing wages.

**Fiscal Impact:**

This \$61,120 expenditure is within the budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

**Attachments:**

1. September 28, 2022, Proposal from Professional Tree Care Company
2. September 29, 2022, Proposal from Davey Tree Expert Company
3. Photographs of Subject Trees