TO: Thomas Frutchey, City Manager

FROM: Dick McKinley, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Tree Plantings at City Water Tanks

DATE: March 15, 2016

Facts:

Needs: For the City Council to consider tree planting around the water tanks in

Landscape and Lighting District Zone 10, Sub Areas 72A, B, C and D.

1. During the summer of 2014, the Fire Chief declared the hillside around the City water tanks in Landscape & Lighting District 10, Subareas 72 A, B, C and D, to be a fire hazard requiring abatement. This area is specifically defined as the four phases of Tract 2350 and is bordered by Rolling Hills Road, Golden Hill Road, and Williams Plaza.

- 2. Trees and plant material on the hillside suffered significantly over the past three drought years from a minimally-designed irrigation system requiring numerous repairs, winter freeze and early extreme heat.
- 3. On October 21, 2014, City Council authorized \$20,215 from General Fund Reserves to cover the cost of fire hazard abatement and hillside irrigation and directed staff to proceed with plans to replant screening trees around the water tanks. Those funds were expended on the hazard abatement and irrigation work. Additional funding is needed for tree planting.
- 4. Staff prepared plans and specifications to replant 50 trees around the tanks along with the installation of an appropriate tree bubbler irrigation system. The trees range in size from 15 gallon to 36" box and include both evergreen and deciduous varieties suitable for the area.
- 5. The project was bid, but those bids have expired. The project would need to be bid again.

Analysis &

Conclusion:

On May 5, 2015, the City Council decided not to proceed with a tree planting bid award due to the Governor's mandated water conservation measures. The trees can be planted and served by a high-efficiency irrigation system, completing a promise made to the neighborhood in 2014.

Policy

Reference: City purchasing policy.

Fiscal

Impact: There are no funds remaining from the original fire hazard allocation. The estimated cost for this work, including contingency, is \$57,500, so an

additional allocation from General Fund Reserves in the amount of \$57,500 would be needed. The funds do not need to be allocated until the time of bid award.

Options:

A. Direct staff to go to bid for the tree planting work on the slopes around the City water tanks.

B. Amend, modify, or reject the above option.

Attachments:

1. Site Map for Tree Plantings

