



## Legislation Text

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**File #: 0232-2024, Version: 1**

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**BACKGROUND:** This legislation authorizes the Director of Public Utilities to renew for an additional year and add funding for 2024 on an existing Indefinite Quantity Contract for Tree Trimming and Vegetative Management Services with Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC in the amount of \$845,000.00. The Department of Public Utilities uses this service for tree trimming, tree removal and removal of vegetation in and around power distribution lines, street light circuits, water treatment facilities, sewer treatment facilities and other areas serviced by the City of Columbus.

The Department of Public Utilities solicited competitive bids for Tree Trimming and Vegetation Management Services in accordance with the relevant provisions of Section 329 (RFQ018278). One-hundred and forty-three (143) vendors were solicited. Three (3) bids were received and opened on April 21, 2021. The bid from Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC was deemed as the lowest, responsive, responsible and best bidder. The contract term was for three years from the date of execution to and including June 30, 2024. The contract language allows for two (2) one (1) year renewal options on a year to year basis upon mutual agreement, availability of funds, and approval by Columbus City Council. If unforeseen issues or difficulties are encountered that would require additional funding, a modification would be requested.

Purchase Agreement, PA005256, was established in accordance with Request for Quotation RFQ018278 and authorized under Ordinance Number 1244-2021 and will expire June 30, 2024.

Modification #1 was authorized under Ordinance Number 0091-2022 to add additional funding to the existing contract.

Modification #2 was authorized under Ordinance Number 2970-2022 to add additional funding to the existing contract.

Modification #3 was authorized under Ordinance Number 0078-2023 to add additional funding to the existing contract.

Modification #4 was authorized under Ordinance Number 1723-2023 to add additional funding to the existing contract.

This legislation seeks to renew and add funding to the contract for an additional year. This Ordinance is being submitted in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 329 of City Code pertaining to contract renewals and modifications.

**SUPPLIER:** Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC, vendor #001744 expires 10/24/2024, Majority Status

The company is not debarred according to the Excluded Party Listing System of the Federal Government or prohibited from being awarded a contract according to the Auditor of State Unresolved Findings for Recovery Certified Search.

1. Amount of additional funds: Total amount of additional funds needed for this contract modification is to ADD \$845,000.00. Total contract amount including this modification is \$3,170,000.00.
2. Reasons additional funds were not foreseen: The need for additional funds were known at the time of the initial contract. This funding increase is to provide the additional funding necessary for the payment of services to be provided through June 30, 2025.
3. Reason other procurement processes were not used: Work under this renewal is a continuation of services included in the scope of the original bid contract. No lower pricing/more attractive terms and conditions are anticipated at this time.

4. How cost was determined: The cost, terms and conditions are in accordance with the original agreement.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** \$845,000.00 is budgeted and needed for this purchase. **This ordinance is contingent on the passage of the 2024 Operating Budget, Ordinance 3012-2023.**

\$831,987.37 was spent in 2023

\$735,793.85 was spent in 2022

To authorize the Director of the Department of Public Utilities to renew and add funding to an Indefinite Quantity Contract with Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC for Tree Trimming and Vegetative Management Services; and to authorize the expenditure of \$800,000.00 from the Electricity Operating Fund and \$45,000.00 from the Water Operating Fund. (\$845,000.00)

**WHEREAS,** the Department of Public Utilities solicited competitive bids for Tree Trimming and Vegetation Management Services in accordance with the relevant provisions of Section 329 (RFQ018278); and

**WHEREAS,** the Department of Public Utilities entered into an Indefinite Quantity Contract for the purchase of Tree Trimming and Vegetative Management Services Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC.; and

**WHEREAS,** The contract language allows for two (2) one (1) year renewal options on a year to year basis upon mutual agreement, availability of funds, and approval by Columbus City Council; and

**WHEREAS,** the Department of Public Utilities wishes to renew for an additional year and to provide funding for services through June 30, 2025; and

**WHEREAS,** the vendor has agreed to modify and increase PA005256 at current prices and conditions; and

**WHEREAS,** it has become necessary in the usual daily operation of the Department of Public Utilities to authorize the Director to renew for an additional year and add funding for the Indefinite Quantity Contract with Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC for Tree Trimming and Vegetative Management Services; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Director of the Department of Public Utilities be and is hereby authorized to renew and modify to add funding to an Indefinite Quantity Agreement PA005256 with Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC for Tree Trimming and Vegetative Management Services in accordance with the terms and conditions as shown in the agreement on file. Total amount of this renewal is to ADD \$845,000.00. Total contract amount including this renewal is \$3,170,000.00.

**SECTION 2.** That the expenditure of \$845,000.00 or so much thereof as may be needed, \$800,000.00 is hereby authorized in Fund 6300 (Electricity Operating) and \$45,000.00 in Fund 6000 (Water Operating) in object class 03 Services per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

**SECTION 3.** That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

**SECTION 4.** That the City Auditor is authorized to make any accounting changes to revise the funding source for all contracts or contract modifications associated with this Ordinance.

**SECTION 5.** That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.