



Legislation Text

File #: 1242-2019, **Version:** 1

The Department of Public Utilities, Division of Sewerage and Drainage has a need for a Sewer Root Control program to kill root growth in sanitary sewer lines 6" to 36" in diameter and inhibit root re-growth. The Division of Sewerage and Drainage has determined that the chemical diquat dibromide is the most effective at treating roots in sewers. It is approved by the United States EPA for this use and classified as non-carcinogenic and not considered a volatile compound. Further, diquat dibromide has little or no effect on treatment plant processes, therefore, making this chemical preferred for use in the Division's Root Control program. The Division has further determined that other chemicals are not acceptable for use in this program as being either non-effective or containing metam sodium which has been classified by the US EPA as a likely carcinogen.

Duke's Root Control, Inc. is the only contractor licensed and registered to apply diquat dibromide otherwise known as Razorooter II, and that Razorooter II is a patented technology. Duke's Root Control, Inc. has been identified by the Division of Sewerage and Drainage as the only commercial applicator licensed by the manufacturer to apply Razorooter II and registered with the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Duke's Root Control, Inc. has the capacity and capability to perform this program. This ordinance is being submitted in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 329 of City Code relating to Sole Source procurement.

The Division of Sewerage and Drainage wishes to enter into a service agreement for a period of one (1) year to and including December 31, 2019.

EMERGENCY DESIGNATION: This ordinance is being submitted as an emergency to allow for the prompt execution of the agreement so that treatment is not delayed for the protection of the sanitary sewer lines.

SUPPLIER: Duke's Root Control, Inc., (75-3026801), expires February 21, 2020.
Duke's Root Control, Inc. does not hold MBE/FBE 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.

FISCAL IMPACT: The Division of Sewerage and Drainage has allocated \$150,000.00 for sewer line root control program services in the 2019 operating fund budget.

\$176,765.35 was spent in 2018
\$221,497.70 was spent in 2017

To authorize the Director of Public Utilities to enter into an agreement with Duke's Root Control, Inc. for Sewer Root Control Services in accordance with sole source provisions of the City Code for the Division of Sewerage and Drainage; to authorize the expenditure of \$150,000.00 from the Sewerage System Operating Fund; and to declare an emergency. (\$150,000.00)

WHEREAS, the Sewer Maintenance Operations has a need for a Sewer Root Control program to kill root growth in sewer lines and inhibit root re-growth; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Sewerage and Drainage has determined that the chemical diquat dibromide is the most effective at treating roots in sewers. It is approved for use by the United States EPA for this use and classified as non-carcinogenic and not considered a volatile compound. Further, diquat dibromide has little or no effect on treatment plant processes, therefore, making this chemical preferred for use in the Division's Root Control program; and

WHEREAS, Duke's Root Control, Inc. has been identified by the Division of Sewerage and Drainage as the only commercial applicator licensed by the manufacturer to apply Razorooter II and registered with the Ohio Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Duke's Root Control, Inc. has the capacity and capability to perform this program; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance is being submitted in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 329 of City Code relating to Sole Source procurement; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Sewerage and Drainage wishes to enter into a service agreement for a period of one (1) year to and including December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the Department of Public Utilities, Division of Sewerage and Drainage in that it is immediately necessary to authorize the Director of Public Utilities to enter into contract for Sewer Root Control Services with Duke's Root Control, Inc., without delay, for the immediate preservation of the public health, peace, property and safety; now, therefore

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

SECTION 1. That the Director of Public Utilities be and is hereby authorized to enter into a service agreement with Duke's Root Control, Inc., 1020 Hiawatha Boulevard West, Syracuse, NY 13204, for Sewer Root Control Services, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Chapter 329 of City Code relating to Sole Source procurement, for the Division of Sewerage and Drainage.

SECTION 2. That the expenditure of \$150,000.00 or so much thereof as may be needed, is hereby authorized in Fund 6100 Sewerage System Operating Fund 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 for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure, and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.