

**APPROVE FIRST AMENDMENT TO  
MAINTENANCE SERVICES AGREEMENT  
FOR ON-CALL LANDSCAPE  
MAINTENANCE SERVICES WITH  
MERCHANTS LANDSCAPE SERVICES,  
INC.**



**MARCH 24, 2026**

# Background

May 24, 2022, Council awarded a 4-year agreement to Merchants Landscape Services, Inc.

- Contract expires June 30, 2026.
- Option to extend 1 additional year.
- Scope includes landscape maintenance and tree care.

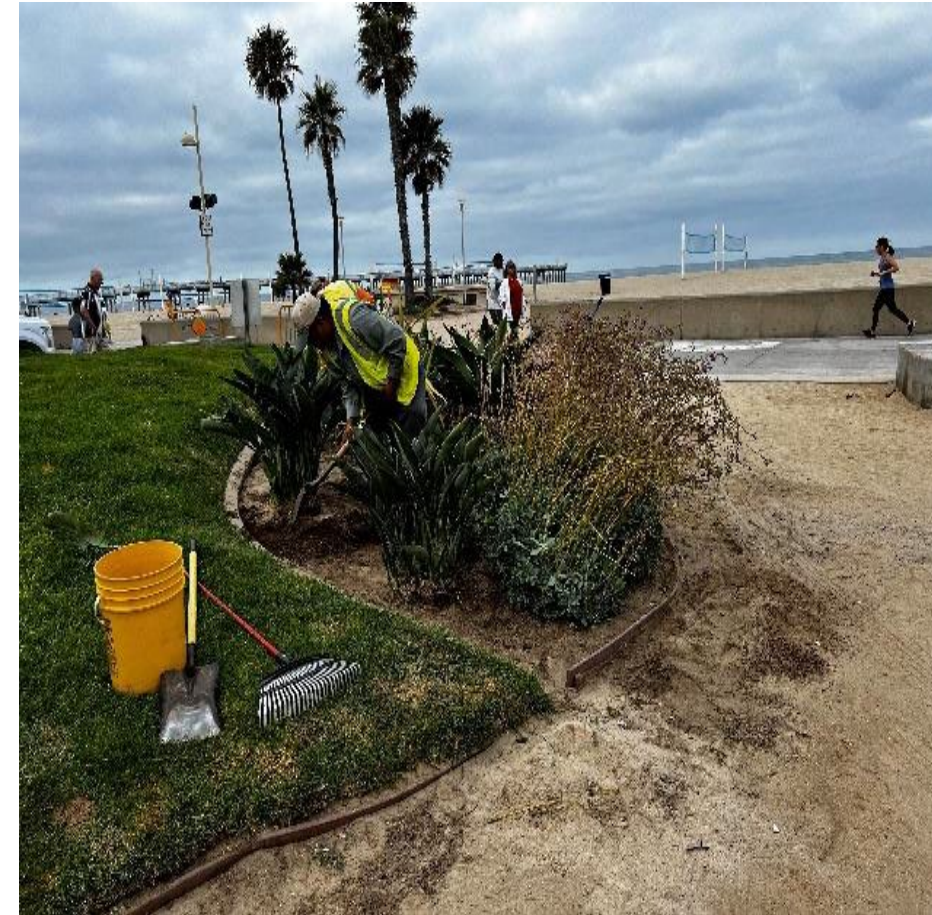


# Discussion

- Staff solicited and negotiated new rates with Merchants.
- Increases to cover higher labor costs, cost of materials, arborist services, and cost of tree removals.
- All other line items increased at 3%.
- Proposed increase in total base contract amount by \$623,663, and the total contract amount from \$2,173,789 to \$2,797,452.
- Seeking increase in annual project contingency from \$65,000 to \$100,000.

# Discussion

- Staff is actively reviewing and updating the scope of work for tree care and landscape services.
- New Requests for Proposals (RFP) are anticipated soon.



# Recommendations

1. Determine First Amendment to Maintenance Services with Merchants Landscape Services, Inc. is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15378 (b)(5) (administrative activities);
2. Approve First Amendment to agreement with Merchants Landscape Services, Inc. for On-call Landscape Maintenance Services, extending contract term to June 30, 2027, increasing total base contract amount by \$623,663, from \$2,173,789 to \$2,797,452;
3. Authorize Director of Public Works to increase annual project contingency from \$65,000 to \$100,000 per year for Fiscal Year (FY) 26-27; and
4. Authorize City Manager to execute the proposed amendment, approve minor non-substantive modifications if necessary, and execute all related documents, with the City Clerk attesting to the agreement subject to approval by the City Attorney.