

## REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

**DATE: MAY 24, 2023**

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**FROM: NATHAN HAMBURGER, CITY MANAGER**

**BY: JESSICA FORTE, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS/CITY ENGINEER**

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM- LOCAL (STP-L) FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL WEED ABATEMENT SERVICES**

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At the May 10, 2023 Goal Setting Workshop, the City Council approved a list of goals for Fiscal Year 2023-24 which includes the removal of an invasive noxious weed, called "Tree of Heaven", along Chesebro Road beginning at the Old Agoura Park trail and moving northerly to the City limit.

Staff, subsequently, met with the City's contracted arborist, West Coast Arborists to secure a quote for the work. During this meeting it became apparent that the eradication of the "Tree of Heaven" is best performed during the month of June, in order to reduce the likelihood of seeds spreading. The estimated cost for the removal of these weeds and associated stump treatment is \$11,688. Since the weeds are located within the public right-of-way, the City may utilize STP-L funds to pay for this work.

Staff recommends moving forward with the project, as soon as possible, and is requesting an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget in order to utilize up to \$15,000 of STP-L funds to cover the cost of the project, associated outreach, and any contingency items that may arise.

This item would be a task order to West Coast Arborists' current contract and, therefore, no contract amendment is being requested.

The funds identified for this goal, in FY 2023-24 and 2024-25, will be utilized to replant the area and seek status as a Tree City USA, should the budget be adopted by the City Council.

### RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully recommends the City Council amend the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget to appropriate \$15,000 of Surface Transportation Program Funds for additional weed abatement services.