

**CITY OF ALBANY  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: March 16, 2009  
Reviewed by: BP

**SUBJECT:** Codornices Creek Maintenance Contract – Shelterbelt Builders

**REPORT BY:** Judy Lieberman, Assistant City Administrator

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize City Administrator to enter into a contract between the City and Shelterbelt Builders in the amount of \$15,000 for maintenance of lower Codornices Creek restoration areas from the western boundary of the project to 6th street.

**BACKGROUND**

The City of Albany has worked in partnership with the City of Berkeley and the University of California since 1999 to restore lower Codornices Creek between the Union Pacific Railroad tracks and San Pablo Avenue. The restoration project has been conducted in phases, with the western boundary of the project up to 6<sup>th</sup> street now completed. A memorandum of understanding was established between the Cities of Albany, Berkeley and the University of California regarding the restoration project in 2004, which includes requirements for continued maintenance of completed restoration areas.

**DISCUSSION**

The City of Albany has served as project lead to retain the services of a qualified contractor to provide maintenance services along lower Codornices Creek. In 2006 proposals were requested from three maintenance contractors, and representatives from the Cities of Albany, Berkeley and University of California reviewed the proposals. A contract was awarded to Shelterbelt Builders in the amount of \$10,000, and was extended in 2007 based on the quality of work conducted by Shelterbelt Builders. Staff from the Cities of Albany, Berkeley and University of California support extending this contract again as Shelterbelt Builders continues to provide quality service maintaining the restored creek portions along lower Codornices Creek, and has worked collaboratively with local community groups including Friends of Five Creeks and the Urban Creeks Council to promote volunteer efforts at the creek. It is expected that the current maintenance contract will be extended for a five-year period.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

Maintenance of the creek will provide a sustainable environment for plant and animal life, and community access to the restored waterway.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Maintenance and monitoring costs for lower Codornices Creek restoration areas are funded by a separate City account (“the Creek Account”) comprised of funds provided by the City of Berkeley and the University of California. No General Fund monies are used for this account. The City of Albany administers the account, and also receives an annual payment from the City of Berkeley and the University for administrative expenses.