

Landscape Maintenance Services - Mowing and Edging

Scope of Service

- The contractor shall provide Landscape Maintenance-Mowing and edging of approximately 179 acres of parks and street center-medians within the City of Merced. (see attachment)
- The contractor shall be responsible for the satisfactory and complete execution of the work in accordance with the true intent of the specifications. The contractor shall provide, without extra charge, all incidental items required as part of the work even though not particularly specified or indicated.
- The Scope of Service is to be used as a general guide and is not intended to be a complete list of all services necessary to complete the project.
- The contractor shall be liable for all damages done as a result of mower/edger or related operations to fixed objects such as sprinklers, backflows, signs, posts and all vegetation, including turf, trees, shrubs, and desirable natural growth. Damages shall include among others things: skinning, scraping, or gouging of trees or shrubs, and rutting, scalping or tearing of turf.
- The contractor shall furnish all transportation, equipment and necessary supplies including but not restricted to: mowers, edgers, and blowers.
- The contractor shall furnish, operate, and maintain, suitable and adequate equipment necessary to perform all tasks described in scope of service.
- The equipment furnished by the contractor must be in good repair and shall be maintained so as to produce a clean, sharp cut to the grass at all times.

- Equipment which in any way pulls or rips grass or damages the turf shall not be allowed to operate under this contract. All equipment will be of such a type so that the height of cut can be adjusted to a minimum 2" and maximum of 4".
- The contractor shall have enough equipment and personnel to complete each mowing and edging cycle at each site contracted for.
- Mowing cycles shall be completed **weekly** through the months of March through October, and as necessary when conditions permit in November through February.
- Grass shall not be allowed to reach a height of five (5) inches or more and shall be mowed to the minimum height of two (2) inches. All elements of the lawn maintenance cycle shall be completed the same day they are started.
- No partial mowing will be allowed unless the weather forces a delay. If rain or excessively wet turf conditions exist, contractor shall finish the cycle as soon as favorable conditions exist. Clippings shall be removed if visible after mowing and removed at the contractor's expense.
- No clippings shall be disposed of in or on City property unless a prior agreement has been made. Crews shall not blow debris into street/curb or storm drains. Contractor must follow all current Federal, State and Local Best Management Practices.
- Contractor shall edge along all walks and curb areas every mowing. Edging shall not be wider than ½ inch from edge of sidewalks to lawn surface. All edging debris shall be removed from walkways and curb areas and disposed of at contractor's expense.
- No mowing or edging shall be done on weekends, unless approval is obtained by Contract Administrator.

- The contractor shall perform no additional work/service, unless approved in advance by the Public Works Director or designee stating the dollar value of the services, method of payment, and any adjustment in contract time. Any work done without the permission of the City is a gift from the contractor.
- Contractor must notify City of all irrigation issues within 24 hours, i.e. broken sprinklers, overwatering/flooded areas hindering completion of the mow cycle.
- The work described herein shall have duration of 24 months. A single three-year extension may be made based upon the good performance of the contractor and sufficient funds in City's budget. The completed work will be paid for as service rendered monthly. If service has not been performed in accordance with the agreement liquidated damage will be assessed. Annual CPI increases will be calculated using United States Department of Labor, All Urban Consumer-Western Region.

Landscape Maintenance Services - Ray Flanagan Park - Mowing, Edging, Pruning, and Irrigation Repair

Scope of Service

Pruning-General

All shrubs and trees shall be pruned as required to maintain them in a healthy growing condition. Pruning is to be done in a manner which promotes the plants' natural growth characteristics. Hedging, shearing, or other sever pruning will not be allowed except with prior approval.

Growth shall be kept within reasonable bounds to prevent its encroachment into walks, passageways, and streets.

All dead, dying, or damaged branches shall be removed immediately. All cuts shall be made cleanly with no stubs or projections remaining.

Trees-General

The contractor shall be responsible for all pruning that can be reached with a 12-foot pole-saw by a person standing on the ground. All trees are to be maintained in their natural shape.

Newly planted trees are to be staked, pruned, and shaped to promote their eventual development into strong, healthy representatives of their species. Until young trees are strong enough to stand alone, they shall be flex-tied between two approved 2-inch by 2-inch by 8-foot treated tree stakes. Split plastic hose or black tire casing held in place by 12-gauge wire shall be used to secure the young trees. Tree ties to be inspected often for signs of girdling or abrasion.

The contractor shall bring to the attention of the Director of Public Works or his designee within 24 hours of any tree which shows signs of root heaving, leaning, having hanger limbs, or in some manner constituting a safety hazard.

IRRIGATION - GENERAL

Irrigation shall be done with the use of automatic or manual sprinkler systems where available and operable. Failure of an existing system to provide full and adequate coverage shall not relieve the contractor of the responsibility to provide proper coverage of all areas. Providing any supplementary hoses, sprinklers, nozzles, etc., necessary to accomplish full coverage shall be the contractor's responsibility.

A. Maintenance

The contractor shall maintain all sprinkler systems in such a way as to give proper coverage and full working capacity, making whatever adjustments necessary to prevent excessive run-off time into streets or other areas not intended to be irrigated. Care shall be taken to prevent wasting water, causing soil erosion, or allowing seepage into existing underground improvements or structures.

The contractor shall, at no cost to the City, keep controller or valve boxes free of dirt and debris; repair, replace, clean, adjust, straighten, raise or lower the following sprinkler system components as it relates to maintenance of the landscape areas:

1. sprinkler heads;
2. sprinkler caps;
3. sprinkler head risers;
4. Valve covers;
5. Valve boxes;
6. Valve box lids, including electrical pull boxes and lids;
7. Valve sleeves;
8. Quick coupler valves and caps;
9. Hose bibs.

B. Inspection

The contractor shall, at least once a week, inspect all areas covered by an automatic irrigation system for any malfunction. Approximately thirty (30) days prior to the termination of the contract, a comprehensive test of all irrigation systems shall be made by a Public Works Department representative. Any repairs deemed the contractor's responsibility shall be made by the contractor prior to the end of the contract period.

If repairs made are not to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Works or his designee's satisfaction, deductions shall be made in the final contract payment to cover the cost of eliminating the discrepancies determined by the Director of Public Works Operations or his designee.

C. Repairs

Irrigation systems which are damaged or altered in any way as a result of work performed under this contract shall be repaired or replaced in kind and in an approved manner by the contractor.

Repairs shall be made immediately after damage or alteration occurs, unless otherwise directed. Repairs made as a result of theft, vandalism or an act of God shall be performed by the City.

Winterization – Contractor shall winterize all exposed piping and back flow prevention devices to prevent freeze damage. All damage to back flow devices caused by freezing will be the contractor responsibility to repair or replace.

Repairs not made, or not made to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Works or his designee, the work will be done by others and billed to the contractor.