



TO: Board of Contracts and Awards
FROM: *Emily Fox* Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services
 Daniel C. Thompson, Ph.D., Division Manager, Business Operations
COPY: City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, SBE Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator,
 Jill Tibbs, Senior Buyer, Finance/Purchasing, and Steve Schmidt, Assistant
 Division Manager
SUBJECT: Black Bark for TAGRO Operations – Request for Bids Specification
 No. ES16-0288F – August 2, 2016
DATE: July 18, 2016

SUMMARY:

The Environmental Services Department recommends a contract be awarded to Swanson Bark and Wood Products, Inc., Longview, WA, in the amount of \$460,800, for an initial two-year term, with the option to renew for three additional one-year terms, for a projected contract total of \$1,152,000, sales tax not applicable, budgeted from the ES Wastewater Fund 4300, for black bark on an as-needed basis to use in the creation of TAGRO potting soil.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- Strengthen and maintain a strong fiscal management position.
- Foster neighborhood, community, and economic development vitality and sustainability.

The City of Tacoma TAGRO products provide for the recycling of 100 percent biosolids produced in the City of Tacoma.

BACKGROUND:

ISSUE: Black bark is a necessary ingredient in making TAGRO potting soil and related products at Tacoma's Central Wastewater Treatment Plant. TAGRO is an organic, manufactured potting soil made with dewatered biosolids, black bark, and sawdust. It is available to residential and farming communities for use on landscaping, gardens and some nursery potting operations. The black bark helps make a more workable non-mineral growing media. The demand for TAGRO potting soil has been steadily increasing. We anticipate needing approximately 15,000 cubic yards of black bark annually at a price \$15.36 per cubic yard.

ALTERNATIVES: An alternative would be to not award this contract and go out to bid again, which would be detrimental to sustaining TAGRO production.

COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION: Request for Bids Specification No. ES16-0288F was opened July 12, 2016. Several companies were invited to bid in addition to normal advertising of the project. One submittal was received. The table below reflects the amount of the initial contract term.

<u>Respondent</u>	<u>Location (city and state)</u>	<u>Submittal Amount</u>	<u>Evaluated Amount</u>
Swanson Bark and Wood Products, Inc.	Longview, WA	\$230,400.00	\$460,800.00



Pre-bid Estimate: \$500,000.00 for an initial two-year contract.

The recommended award is 8 percent below the pre-bid estimate.

CONTRACT HISTORY: New contract.

SUSTAINABILITY: The City of Tacoma TAGRO products provide for the recycling of 100 percent of the biosolids produced in Tacoma. This black bark is acceptable for use as an ingredient in making TAGRO potting soil and related products at Tacoma's Central Wastewater Treatment Plant. TAGRO is an organic, manufactured potting soil made with dewatered biosolids, black bark, and sawdust. It is available to residential and farming communities for use on landscaping, gardens, and some nursery potting operations. The TAGRO potting soil helps make a more workable non-mineral growing media. The highest quality raw materials are required as this product is used on thousands of residential properties.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Environmental Services Department recommends a contract be awarded to Swanson Bark and Wood Products, Inc., Longview, WA, in the amount of \$460,800, for an initial two-year term, with the option to renew for three additional one-year terms, for a projected contract total of \$1,152,000, sales tax not applicable, budgeted from the ES Wastewater Fund 4300, for black bark on an as-needed basis to use in the creation of TAGRO potting soil.

FISCAL IMPACT:

EXPENDITURES:

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
ES Wastewater Fund 4300	527000	5241000	\$1,152,000
TOTAL			\$1,152,000

* General Fund: Include Department

REVENUES:

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
ES Wastewater Fund 4300	523900	4343150	\$1,152,000
TOTAL			\$1,152,000

FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$76,800

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Funding beyond the current biennium is subject to future availability of funds.

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FINANCE PURCHASING