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MEMO

To: CEA Review Committee

From: Nate Loper, Deputy Director of Public Works

Date: March 31, 2022

Subject: Request to downgrade landscape truck #438 and upgrade chipper #443 when they are replaced in 2023.

The Department of Public Works is proposing the following equipment changes in 2023 to better meet our operational goals:

- Downgrade landscape truck #438 from Forestry division fleet
- Upgrade chipper #443 from the Forestry division fleet

Truck 438

Truck # 438 is a landscape truck that is utilized as a chip truck for tree pruning and removal operations and as a flatbed truck for planting and stump grinding operations. The truck currently has a diesel motor.

We are proposing to change this truck to a gas engine. The current use for the truck has it operating at low speeds and idling for a significant time each day. The gas engine option would eliminate the regeneration process required for diesel motor vehicles that becomes a maintenance issue over time.

Chipper 443

Chipper #443 is a 2015 15-inch capacity brush chipper that is used by the forestry crew to grind branches and brush. This is the smallest chipper in our fleet and it does not allow for the disposal of large portions of logs, which requires our crew to do more hand cutting and limbing of branches and trees.

The proposed replacement would be an 18-inch capacity chipper. The larger capacity will improve the efficiency of our tree removal operations, which is very important now with the increased tree removals related to the Emerald Ash Borer. Whole trees can be chipped, drastically reducing the time required to process trees. Safety is also significantly improved with the reduction of sawing and hand feeding of limbs into the chipper. The larger chipper will also function very efficiently for smaller pruning operations.

The estimated cost to replace chipper #443 in like kind is \$81,000. The estimated cost to replace this chipper with the proposed changes is \$100,253. This change would result in a cost increase of \$19,253. The estimated cost to replace truck #438 in like kind is \$93,100. The estimated cost to replace this truck with the proposed changes is \$72,170. This change would result in a cost savings of \$20,930.

Cost Analysis

Equipment	Recommendation	Like Kind	Proposed
438	Downgrade	\$93,100	\$72,170
443	Upgrade	\$81,000	\$100,253
TOTAL		\$174,100	\$172,423

These two equipment changes will result in a savings of approximately \$1,677 and will better help us meet our operational goals. Thank you for your consideration.