



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

R-23-147  
Meeting 23-35  
December 13, 2023

## AGENDA ITEM 6

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Award of Contract to On Point Land Management, Inc., for Pest Control Advisor Services

### GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS *dlw*

1. Award a contract to On Point Land Management, Inc., of San Francisco, California, for a not-to-exceed base contract amount of \$92,500.
2. Authorize an allowance of \$49,000 to cover additional pest control services (including enrichment training for volunteers, preparation of individual IPM Plans), bringing the total not-to-exceed contract amount to \$141,500.

### SUMMARY

On August 24, 2023, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) issued a Request for Qualifications and Proposals (RFQP) for Pest Control Advisor (PCA) services in connection with the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program. The General Manager recommends awarding a contract to On Point Land Management to provide services for a base contract amount of \$92,500 and authorizing an allowance of \$49,000 for a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$141,500. The scope under the recommended contract will provide state-mandated services for pest control recommendations, training, and a technical review of the IPM Program at large. There are sufficient funds in the adopted Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24) budget to cover the recommended action and expenditures through the end of the fiscal year. Funding for future years' budgets will be requested as part of the annual Budget and Action Plan process.

### DISCUSSION

Invasive plants have significantly altered many of California's natural plant communities. Because they originated elsewhere, many invasive plants are not susceptible to predation or diseases in this region. They are incredibly adaptable and can thrive in a wide range of conditions. They can grow quickly, reproduce early, produce many long-lasting seeds, and tolerate disturbance. They reduce native biodiversity by gradually crowding out or competing with native plants for water and sun and by reducing or modifying wildlife habitat.

IPM is a process for managing pests efficiently while protecting human health and the environment. IPM is a long-term, science-based, decision-making system that uses a specific methodology to manage damage from target pests. IPM requires monitoring site conditions before, during, and after treatment to determine if objectives are being met and if methods need to be revised. IPM requires that manual and mechanical methods be considered first, with sparing use of chemical methods (i.e., pesticides). If chemical methods are necessary to meet a

pest control objective, the potential for harm to the public and workers are carefully considered, as are effects on the environment and nontarget organisms, and then the least toxic and most effective, efficient, and target-specific method is chosen.

The District coordinates with the San Mateo County and Santa Clara County Weed Management Areas, the California Invasive Plant Council, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, County Agricultural Departments, and the Cooperative Extension Service to stay informed on invasive plants and animals, IPM techniques, and pesticide regulations.

The District’s IPM Program requires staff to work with a State of California licensed Pest Control Advisor (PCA). Nearly all PCAs in the state work on only agricultural lands, with a handful specializing in natural areas.

*District Needs*

The District requires the following services:

- Annual pest control recommendations from a licensed PCA
- Technical review of the IPM Program
- Recommendations for problematic invasive species that do not respond to traditional treatments or where there are complicating factors (i.e., safety issues).
- Annual pesticide safety training
- Enrichment trainings that are technical in nature (i.e., calibrating equipment, reducing drift), or for the general public (i.e., specific species' life history, or impacts of invasive species)

*Consultant Selection*

On August 25, 2023, the District released the RFQP on Periscope. Two firms known to the District to hold a valid PCA license with expertise in land management for natural resources were informed of the RFQP. One proposal was received on September 15, 2023. The District’s proposal evaluation committee reviewed On Point Land Management’s proposal and deemed it as highly qualified, with their proposal at a fair and reasonable price, and therefore suited for the project based on their response to the RFQP.

Consultant	Proposed Base Fee
On Point Land Management	\$92,500

The proposed base fee includes all regulatory requirements as well as the review of the IPM Program. A separate allowance is also recommended for additional pest control recommendations, individual IPM plans, and enrichment trainings.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is sufficient funding in the adopted budget to cover the cost of the recommendation.

**PRIOR BOARD AND COMMITTEE REVIEW**

None

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

**CEQA COMPLIANCE**

Award of a contract for PCA services is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). All potential recommendations from the PCA during the contract term will comply with the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared for the District's IPM Program, which the Board approved on December 10, 2014 ([R-14-148](#), [Minutes](#)). On February 27, 2019, the Board approved an addendum to the Final EIR for the IPM Program ([R-19-11](#), [Minutes](#)). District staff have incorporated the associated mitigation measures and BMPs from the environmental review documents into the proposed contract documents.

**NEXT STEPS**

Upon Board authorization, the General Manager will execute a contract with On Point Land Management, Inc., to provide required PCA services.

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