

Introduced by: Councilmember Seamens

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-7

APPROVING THE SOLE SOURCE DESIGNATION FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT SPATIAL ANALYSIS LABORATORY FOR A TREE CANOPY ANALYSIS

WHEREAS, the City's Procurement regulations allow for designation of a Sole Source Procurement for a contract not exceeding \$50,000.; and

WHEREAS, the requirement for competitive bidding can be waived when the City Manager determines, in writing, that there is only one available source for the good, service or construction item or if a specific manufacturer's product is required to ensure compatibility and so notifies the City Council.; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager's determination shall be subject to review and approval by the City Council by resolution; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2020-15 Overarching Goals and Principles for Tree Canopy and Urban Forest Policies requires that the City must conduct a reassessment of the urban tree canopy City-wide through lidar or similar technology every three years; and

WHEREAS, the University of Vermont's Spatial Analysis Laboratory (UVMSAL) has performed the prior tree canopy assessments and analysis for the City in 2008, 2014 and 2019; and

WHEREAS, The City has received a proposal from UVMSAL to complete the tree canopy analysis and related mapping and data evaluation for \$14,941.31; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department believes that the services provided by UVMSAL will provide a superior analysis than any other company could provide for the following reasons:

- Continuity of the contractor partnership ensures familiarity with the techniques used in the prior assessments to ensure that the data comparison over time is high quality.
- UVMSAL works with other regional partners, including Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission, the State of Maryland, and the Chesapeake Bay High-Resolution Land Cover Mapping partnership. They have also done similar work for Washington, D.C. Continuity of the analysis partner across jurisdictions makes it easier to share and compare data regionally.
- UVMSAL was part of the team, led by the Sanborn company, which was contracted by MNCPPC to acquire and process the 2020 LiDAR data that will be used for this analysis. Contractor familiarity with the process for how the raw data was imaged and produced is an asset.

- As a not for profit educational institution, UVMSAL's rates are below market value for this type of work.
- UVMSAL is recognized nationally as a leader in tree canopy analysis mapping and worked with the US Forest Service to develop and standardize the tree canopy assessment protocols.
- UVMSAL has conducted this assessment for the City three times before, delivering a high-quality product, and has proven to be a highly accommodating partner. Their previous reports and presentations have been well-received by staff, the City Council, and the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT the City Council hereby approves the designation of the University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Laboratory as a Sole Source Provider; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Council authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract with the University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Laboratory for a tree canopy analysis at the contract price provided

Adopted this 23rd day of March, 2022.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessie Carpenter".

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk