

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority
Board Action/Information Summary**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action <input type="checkbox"/> Information	MEAD Number: 99844	Resolution: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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PURPOSE

To obtain Board approval to initiate and award a two-year base requirements contract with three, one-year options, for temporary laborers to assist permanent landscape staff, support emergency snow removal, and supplement custodial maintenance work at the Carmen E. Turner Facility.

DESCRIPTION

Plant Maintenance uses temporary laborers to assist permanent landscape staff, to support emergency snow removal operations, and to perform supplemental custodial maintenance work at the Carmen E. Turner Facility. The use of temporary laborers has proven to be more cost efficient than hiring full-time permanent employees to perform work that is primarily seasonal.

The hourly wage rate paid by WMATA for temporary laborers is expected to be \$14.00 per hour (including benefits) for the life of this contract. In comparison, the WMATA Gardener AA wage rate as of July 1, 2007, (including 29.8% benefits) is \$29.99 per hour. The hourly wage rate of \$14.00 per hour reflects the anticipated living wage expected to be implemented in Montgomery County in November 2007 and the WMATA Board-approved implementation of a living wage rate which will become effective in January 2008.

The estimated cost for 243,600 hours of temporary laborer services for the base period (Calendar Years 2008 and 2009) is \$3,410,400; the period includes FY08, FY09 and FY10 monies. An escalation clause is included in the contract provisions to be used only in the event of an increase in the living wage rate.

The alternative to this contract is to hire full-time permanent employees at a much greater cost or perform these tasks with only current full-time employees. However, the number of current budgeted positions is insufficient to maintain the Authority's inventory of more than 550 acres of grass, trees and shrubs; to clear snow and ice in a timely fashion; and to keep facilities clean. Using only our current employees will result

in fewer services completed, increasing complaints and citations from local jurisdictions for maintaining a public nuisance.

FUNDING IMPACT

Program: Operating Budget, Fiscal 2008-2013

Project: Temporary Help, Labor (Office 3153)

	<u>FY08</u>	<u>FY09</u>	<u>FY10</u>	<u>FY11</u>	<u>FY12</u>	<u>FY13</u>	TOTAL
Budget	\$ 1,514,163	\$ 1,705,200	\$ 1,705,200	\$ 1,705,200	\$1,705,200	\$ 1,705,200	\$ 10,040,163
This Action:	716,800	\$ 1,705,200	1,705,200	1,705,200	1,705,200	988,400	8,526,000
Prior Approval	<u>595,300</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>595,300</u>
Remaining Budget	202,063	0	0	0	0	\$ 716,800	\$ 918,863

Remarks **Budget and funding beyond FY08 are subject to approval by the Board**

RECOMMENDATION

Board approval to initiate and award a two-year base requirements contract with three, one-year options for services of seasonal maintenance laborers.