



CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 7.B

FOR COUNCIL: February 13, 2023

WARD IMPACTED: City-Wide Impact

SUBJECT: Consideration and Action to Approve the Purchase of a Vermeer BC-1800XL Woodchipper for \$92,824.62 including the Trade of a Surplus Vermeer XL1500 Woodchipper for a Credit of \$2,500 for a Net Purchase of \$90,324.62, as requested by the Parks & Recreation Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: The proposed Purchase be approved.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:

Goal 1. Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services

Goal 4. Strong Neighborhoods

STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:

Objective 1d. City services delivered in the most cost-effective, efficient manner

Objective 4a. Residents feeling safe in their homes and neighborhoods

BACKGROUND: The Parks & Recreation Department is responsible for all trees (30,000+) on City property, including parks, in the right-of-way, and on public property at Lake Bloomington. City Forestry crews are managed out of the Park Maintenance Forestry Division of the Department. Typical operations include tree trimming and tree/stump removals (400+ per year).

Woodchippers used, such as the one being requested, are extremely valuable from a production and wood processing standpoint. All material (limbs, trees, branches, logs, etc.) under 19" can be processed into a wood chips at the work site. Material is then transported to the City's wood utilization area and reground again by a contractor to create plant bedding and mulch. The mulch is used for mulching trees, trails, and plant beds throughout the park system and City. Processing the material with the chippers at the work site and then upcycling it for another use as mulch saves the City approximately \$20,000 per year. Excess mulch is also made available to the public at no cost.

The chipper needing replaced is a 2007 Vermeer BC1400XL with 3823 hours. The unit has served the Department well and its useful life has expired. The life to date maintenance for the unit is \$41,904.83. The unit being requested is an integral part of achieving the Parks & Recreation Department's goals in a safe, productive, and financially sound manner. It will be able to handle material up to 19" in diameter and have additional safety features such as a winch, upper and lower safety bars, and feed roller auto disengage. City staff believe it is in the best interest of the City to trade it and receive a \$2,500 trade allowance towards the purchase of a new unit. If approved, a new chipper will be purchased from Vermeer Sales and Service of Illinois, Inc. using the Vermeer Sourcewell Contract #031721-VRM (exp. 5/7/2025) for \$92,824.62, \$90,324.62 after the trade is applied.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT: If approved, the City will purchase a Vermeer BC1800XL Brush Chipper from Vermeer Midwest in the amount of \$90,324.62, utilizing the Sourcewell Government joint purchasing contract #031721-VRM.

The purchase totaling \$90,324.62 will be made from the Park Maintenance-Capital Outlay Equipment Other than Office Account (10014110-72140). \$90,000.00 is budgeted for this purchase for FY 2023. The additional \$324.60 is available in the same account due to savings incurred with purchase of units PR62 and 761.

Stakeholders can locate this in the FY 2023 Budget Books titled "Budget Overview & General Fund" on page 181 and "Other Funds & Capital Improvement" on page 96.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING IMPACT: N/A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT: This request meets the following goals and objectives of the Bloomington Comprehensive Plan 2035: N/A

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Prepared by: Dave Lamb, Assistant Superintendent of Parks Maintenance

ATTACHMENTS:

[P&R 1B Existing Unit Picture 1](#)

[P&R 1C Existing Unit Picture 2](#)

[P&R 1D Existing Unit Picture 3](#)

[P&R 1E Quote](#)

[P&R 1F Contract](#)