



City of Auburn, Maine

Public Works Department

296 Gracelawn Rd | Auburn, Maine 04210

www.auburnmaine.gov | 207.333.6601

March 18, 2025

Dear Bidder:

The City of Auburn Public Works Department is accepting written proposals for **Tree Removal Services**. The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals in whole or in part and to waive any informality the City may determine necessary. The City also reserves to itself the exclusive right to accept any proposal when it is deemed by the City to be in its best interest. The City of Auburn is governed by Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 401-410, otherwise known as the Freedom of Information Act, which considers bid specifications as public documents. In awarding any proposal, the City may consider, but not be limited to, any of the following factors: Bidder qualifications, price, experience, financial standing with the City, warranties, references, bonding, delivery date, and service of Bidder. Vendors/Contractors shall be current on all amounts due to the City of Auburn prior to the City entering into any contract agreement. All proposals must include FOB to Auburn, Maine unless otherwise specified.

Proposals will not receive consideration unless submitted in accordance with the following instructions to bidders. Please mark sealed envelopes plainly: **"Tree Removal Services-Bid #2025-032."**

Bid packages will be available beginning on Tuesday, March 18, 2025. Documents can be obtained from the City of Auburn's website:

<https://www.auburnmaine.gov/Pages/Government/Bid-Notices> Questions regarding this Request for Bids should be directed to Noel Skelton, City Arborist, at (207) 333-6601, ext. 1144, or at nskelton@auburnmaine.gov no later than 2pm on Friday, March 28th, 2025.

Please submit your proposal to the City of Auburn by 2:00 p.m. **Thursday, April 3rd, 2025**. Proposals must be delivered to **Purchasing Department, 60 Court Street, Auburn, Maine 04210** on or before the date and time appointed. No proposals will be accepted after the time and date listed above. Proposals will be opened at 2:00 p.m. on that date in Room 206 (Community Room), Auburn City Hall.

Sincerely,

Purchasing Department

Contents

CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS.....	3
GENERAL CONDITIONS	4
BID PROPOSAL FORM	5
BID FORM.....	6
SCOPE OF WORK.....	7
SPECIAL PROVISIONS	8
SECTION 100 - GENERAL PROVISIONS.....	10
SECTION 201 – CLEARING RIGHT OF WAY.....	11
SECTION 652 – MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC	12
SECTION 659 – MOBILIZATION	13
SAMPLE AGREEMENT	14

CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

1. Bidders shall use the enclosed bid form for quotations. Whenever, in bid forms, an article is defined by using a trade name or catalog number, the term "or approved equal", if not inserted, shall be implied.
2. Submit a separate unit price for each item unless otherwise specified in the bid request. Award will be made on a basis of each item, or as a group, whichever is in the best interest of the City. Prices stated are to be "delivered to destination".
3. Bid proposals must be completed in full, in ink and must be signed by firm official. Bid proposal **must be notarized** prior to bid being sealed and will be disqualified if not notarized. Bids may be withdrawn prior to the time set for the official opening
4. Bids will be opened publicly. Bidders or representatives may be present at bid opening.
5. Awards will be made to the lowest responsible bidder, considering the quality of the materials, date of delivery, cost which meets specification and is in the best interest to the City of Auburn.
6. All transportation charges, including expense for freight, transfer express, mail, etc. shall be prepaid and be at the expense of the vendor unless otherwise specified in the bid.
7. The terms and cash discounts shall be specified. Time, in connection with discount offered, will be computed from date of delivery at destination after final inspection and acceptance or from date of correct invoice, whichever is later.
8. The City is exempt from payment of Federal Excise Taxes on the articles not for resale, Federal Transportation Tax on all shipments and Maine Sales Tax and Use Taxes. Please quote less these taxes. Upon application, exemption certificate will be furnished with the Purchase Order when required.
9. No contract may be assigned without the written consent of the Purchasing Director or his designate. The contract shall not be considered valid until a purchase order has been issued to the successful bidder.
10. Please state **"Tree Removal Services – Bid # 2025-032"**, on submitted, sealed envelope.
11. The City of Auburn reserves the right to waive any formality and technicality in bids whichever is deemed best for the interest of the City of Auburn.
12. All work must be completed from 7:00AM to 7:00PM.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Equal Employment Opportunity

The City of Auburn is an Equal Opportunity Employer and shall not discriminate against an applicant for employment, and employee or a citizen because of race, color, sex, marital status, physical and/or mental handicap, religion, age, ancestry or natural origin, unless based upon a bona-fide occupation qualification. Vendors and Contractor or their agents doing business with the City shall not violate the above clause or the Civil Rights Acts of 1964. Violations by vendors shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may mean an automatic breach of contract or service to the City of Auburn.

2. Save Harmless

The Bidder agrees to protect and save harmless the owner from all costs, expenses or damages that may arise out of alleged infringement of patents of materials used.

3. Subcontracting

The Bidder shall not subcontract any part of the work or materials or assign any monies due it without first obtaining the written consent of the municipality. Neither party shall assign or transfer its interest in the contract without the written consent of the other party.

4. Warranty

The Bidder warrants that all work will be of good quality and free from faults and defects, and in conformance with the specifications. All work not so conforming to these standards may be considered defective. The Bidder agrees to be responsible for the acts and omissions of all of its employees and all subcontractors, their agents and employees, and all other persons performing any of the work under a contract with the Bidder.

BID PROPOSAL FORM

Due: Thursday, April 3, 2025

To: City of Auburn
Purchasing Department
60 Court Street
Auburn, ME 04210

The undersigned individual/firm/business guarantees this price for thirty days (30) from the proposal due date. The undersigned submits this proposal without collusion with any other person, individual, or firm or agency. The undersigned ensures the authority to act on behalf of the corporation, partnership or individual they represent; and has read and agreed to all of the terms, requests, or conditions written herein by the City of Auburn, Maine.

By signing this form, the firm listed below hereby affirms that its bid meets the minimum specifications and standards as listed above.

Signature _____ Company _____
Name (print) _____ Title _____
Phone Number _____
Address _____
Email Address _____

STATE OF MAINE

_____, SS.

Date: _____

Personally, appeared _____ and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his/her free act and deed in his/her capacity and the free act and deed of said company.

Notary Public _____

Print Name _____

Commission Expires _____

BID FORM

MDOT ITEM	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QNTY	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
201.12	Selective Trimming and Clearing (Roadside)	LF	3,000		
201.23	Tree Removal	EA	8		
652.361	Maintenance of Traffic Control	LS	1		
659.10	Mobilization	LS	1		
			TOTAL		

Written total amount is: _____

Company Name: _____

Signed by: _____

Title: _____

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. # _____ Date: _____

Addendum Acknowledged:

_____ Date _____ # _____ Date _____

SCOPE OF WORK

The following scope of work is being proposed for Tree Removal Services for the City of Auburn. The scope of work is a brief overview of the expected extent of work on this contract. This is only a proposed scope with associated estimated quantities. Items, and extent may be added or deleted as work progresses or to meet the available funding for this work.

Below is a list of locations where the take downs are, all trees are marked with a blue X:

- 115 Hillside Avenue
- 15 Brandywine Cir, access from Beech Hill Road (2) Trees
- 1335 Turner Street
- 399 Stevens Mill Road
- 721 Lake Street (2) Trees
- 116 Taft Avenue

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

The following Supplemental Specifications and Special Provisions shall amend the "Maine, Department of Transportation Standard Specifications, **March 2020 Edition**" including any and all applicable revisions and special provisions. In case of conflicts, these Supplemental Specifications (1) and Special Provisions (2) shall take precedence and shall govern.

(1) Supplemental Specifications - modifications, additions and deletions to the existing Standard Specifications.

(2) Special Provisions - specifications in the contract which are for additional items not covered in the Standard Specifications

F-1 Work Hours

No work shall proceed on this project prior to the hour of 7:00 AM or after 7:00 PM (prevailing time) on any working day unless the City has granted prior approval. The definition of work for this specification shall include starting or moving of equipment, machinery, or materials. Any day worked for four hours or more will be considered a full working day.

F-2 Notification of Residents

Residents shall be notified sufficiently in advance two (2) weeks prior to any removal of trees abutting their property, and first refusal of wood shall be offered to the abutting property owner.

F-3 Protection of Trees

The Contractor shall be responsible for the preservation of all trees on the project, which are not to be removed. Any trees damaged by the Contractor's operations shall be repaired as approved by tree dressing or paint in accordance with the appropriate provisions of Section 201 of Standard Specifications.

F-4 Maintenance and Protection of Traffic

The Contractor shall be responsible for the maintenance and protection of all vehicular and pedestrian traffic at all times during tree work and shall erect suitable warning signs, flashing barriers or temporary lighting devices of sufficient size and number to afford protection to the traveling public in accordance with the most recent edition of "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets Highways" published by the Department of Transportation of the Federal Highway Administration.

The Contractor shall be held responsible for all damage to the work due to any failure of the warning devices to properly protect the work from the traffic, pedestrians or other causes. Traffic control shall be in accordance with the City of Auburn's Traffic Detail Policy effective April 1, 2006.

F-5 Occupational Safety and Health

The Contractor is hereby advised that all work to be furnished to the City shall be performed with equipment, methods, and use of personnel in conformance with the pertinent Occupational Safety and Health Act requirements of the State of Maine and with the regulations for construction as specified by the Department of Labor and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) as currently amended.

F-6 Questions Regarding Bid

Questions from prospective bidders relative to this Contract shall be submitted no later than five days before bid opening and directed to:

Noel Skelton
City Arborist/Highway Supervisor
Public Works Department
Tel. 207-333-6601 ext. 1144

F-7 Waste Material

All waste material shall be removed from the site and the area left clean upon completion of work. Any equipment or structures damaged by the Contractor shall be repaired or replaced at no additional cost to the City.

F- 8 Tree Top Removal

First refusal of wood from tree top removal shall be given to the abutting property owner.

**SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS
SECTION 100 - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. SCOPE

The work covered by this section includes furnishing all labor, equipment, materials, incidentals, and the performing of all operations in connection with the work encompassed by these contract documents. All work shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the contract documents.

2. STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

The City of Auburn, Maine has adopted for this project, the "State of Maine, Department of Transportation, Standard Specifications, **March 2020 Edition**", and the Standard Details (January 2002) and the following Supplemental Specifications including all current additions or modifications thereof. In the case of conflict with the following Supplemental Specifications, addenda shall take precedence and shall govern.

Wherever in the Specifications and in this Contract the term "Department", "the Department of Transportation", "MDOT", or any reference to the "State of Maine, Department of Transportation" or its "Engineers" is mentioned, the intent and meaning shall be interpreted to refer to the CITY OF AUBURN, MAINE, or their authorized representative.

**SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS
SECTION 201 – CLEARING RIGHT OF WAY**

The provisions of Section 201 of the Standard Specifications shall apply with the following additions and modifications:

201.01 Description

This work shall consist of the removal of single trees in the right of way. This work shall also consist of roadside trimming within the right of way for sight distance issues, and canopy clearing.

201.05 Selective Clearing and Thinning

Trees and shrubs shall be carefully pruned to remove all dead, diseased, and injured wood. In addition, in certain areas, the City Arborist may require the branches of designated trees to be removed to a height above ground as directed.

201.08 Removing Single Trees

Trees located in the right of way and marked by the City Arborist shall be completely removed and disposed of. First refusal of wood from tree top removal shall be given to the abutting property owner.

201.10 Basis of payment

The accepted quantity of single trees removed will be paid for at the contract unit price each. Payment for trees shall include removal and disposal of the entire tree except stumps.

Pay Item		Pay Unit
201.12	Selective Clearing and Thinning (Roadside)	Linear Foot
201.23	Removing Single Tree Top Only	Each

**SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS
SECTION 652 – MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC**

The provisions of Section 652 of the Standard Specifications shall apply with the following additions and modifications.

652.3.6 Traffic Control

The Contractor shall maintain access to all drives within work zone area of tree removal. Two-way traffic flow shall be required on all streets during non-working hours.

652.7 Method of Measurement

Maintenance of Traffic Control Devices will be measured as one lump sum for all authorized and installed traffic control devices.

652.02 Basis of payment

This subsection shall be amended by the addition of the following paragraph:

Preparation of traffic control plans, constructions signage, barrels, cones, barriers, maintenance of traffic control devices, flaggers and other necessary incidentals to maintain traffic in accordance with the specifications and the MUTCD shall be paid for Lump Sum under item 652.361 Maintenance of Traffic Control.

Pay Item	Pay Unit
652.361 Maintenance of Traffic Control	Lump Sum

**SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS
SECTION 659 – MOBILIZATION**

The provisions of Section 659 of the Standard Specifications shall apply with the following additions and modifications.

659.01 Description

This item shall consist of preparatory work and operations including, but not limited to those necessary to the movement of personnel, equipment, supplies and incidentals to the project site; and for all other work and operations which must be performed or costs incurred prior to beginning work on the various items on the project site.

659.02 Basis of payment

Partial payments will be made in accordance with Section 108.2.3 Mobilization of the Standard Specifications.

Pay Item	Pay Unit
659.10 Mobilization	Lump Sum

SAMPLE AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made this ### day of Month Year, by and between the CITY OF AUBURN, a municipal corporation existing under the laws of the State of Maine and located in the County of Androscoggin, State of Maine (hereinafter "CITY"), Company Name, Address, EIN, (hereinafter "CONTRACTOR"),

WITNESSETH:

In consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions contained herein, the CITY and the CONTRACTOR agree as follows:

SPECIFICATIONS:

1. The CONTRACTOR shall furnish all of the material and perform all of the work shown on the drawings and described in the specifications entitled: Bid # XXXXX Bid Title which are attached hereto and made a part hereof, and the CONTRACTOR covenants that it shall do everything required by this Agreement, the Special Provisions of the Agreement, the Invitation to Bid and the Specifications in return for payment as provided herein.

COMPLETION DATE:

2. The work to be performed under this Agreement shall be commenced by Month day, year and fully completed on or before Month day, year.

CONTRACT PRICE:

3. The CITY shall pay the CONTRACTOR for the performance of the Agreement the sum of \$XXX

PERFORMANCE BOND:

4. If required by the City, the CONTRACTOR shall furnish to the CITY at the time of the execution of this Agreement a performance bond and a labor and material payment bond each in the amount of \$Dollar amount or N/A (whichever applies) executed by a surety company satisfactory to the CITY, guaranteeing the performance and payment by the CONTRACTOR. Yes, Required (Initials: __) No, Waived (Initials __)

GUARANTEE:

5. The CONTRACTOR shall guarantee his work against any defects in workmanship and materials for a period of one year from the date of the CITY's written acceptance of the project.

PERMITS AND LICENSES:

6. Permits and licenses necessary for the prosecution of the work shall be secured and paid by the CONTRACTOR.

CITY'S RIGHT TO TERMINATE CONTRACT:

7. If the CONTRACTOR should be adjudged a bankrupt, or if it should make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, or if a receiver should be appointed on account of its insolvency, or if it should persistently or repeatedly refuse or should fail, except in cases for which extension of time is provided, to supply enough properly skilled workmen or proper materials, or if it should fail to make prompt payment to subcontractors or for material or labor, or persistently disregard laws, and ordinances, or otherwise be guilty of a substantial violation of any provision of the Agreement, then the CITY when sufficient cause exists to justify such action, may, without prejudice to any other right or remedy and after giving the CONTRACTOR, and his surety, seven (7) days written notice, terminate the employment of the CONTRACTOR and take possession of the premises and of all materials, tools and appliances thereon and finish the work by whatever method it may deem expedient. In such case the CONTRACTOR shall not be entitled to receive any further payment until the work is finished. If the unpaid balance of the Agreement price shall exceed the expense of the finishing the work, including compensation for additional architectural, managerial and administrative services, such excess shall be paid to the CONTRACTOR. If such expense shall exceed such unpaid balance, the CONTRACTOR shall pay the difference to the CITY.

CONTRACTOR'S LIABILITY INSURANCE:

8. The CONTRACTOR shall not commence work under this Agreement until he has obtained all insurance required under this paragraph and such insurance has been approved by the CITY, nor shall the CONTRACTOR allow any subcontractor to commence work on his subcontract until all similar insurance required of subcontractor has been so obtained and approved. It is a requirement that the CITY be named as an Additional Insured on the General Liability and Automobile Liability policies.

Commercial General Liability to include products and completed operations, and blanket contractual. The limits of liability shall be as follows:

Bodily Injury and Property Damage	\$1,000,000
Personal Injury and Advertising Injury	\$1,000,000
Per Project Aggregate	\$1,000,000
General Aggregate	\$2,000,000
Products and Completed Operations Aggregate	\$2,000,000
Medical Payments	\$10,000

(b) Business Automobile Liability

The CONTRACTOR shall maintain and cause all sub-contractors and lower tier contractors to maintain business automobile liability insurance covering all owned non-owned, leased, rented or hired automobiles (symbol 1). The limits of liability shall be as follows:

Bodily Injury and Property Damage	\$1,000,000
-----------------------------------	-------------

Automobile physical damage coverage shall be at the option of the CONTRACTOR, all sub-contractors and lower tier contractors. The CITY shall not be liable for physical loss or damage to any owned, non-owned, leased, rented or hired automobile.

Workers' Compensation Insurance

The CONTRACTOR shall maintain and cause all sub-contractors and lower tier contractor's to maintain Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State of Maine. The limits of liability provided shall be as follows:

Coverage A:	Statutory
Coverage B:	\$100,000/\$500,000/\$100,000

Professional Liability

If the CONTRACTOR is an Architect, Engineer or Surveyor, they shall maintain a policy of insurance to pay on their behalf whatever amounts that may become legally required to pay on account of an error, omission or negligent act.

Limits of Liability shall be as follows:

\$1,000,000 per occurrence and in the aggregate site specific.

It is a requirement that this policy be maintained for a period of three (3) years following completion of the project.

Certificates of Insurance of the types and in the amounts required shall be delivered to the CITY prior to the commencement of any work by the CONTRACTOR, subcontractor or lower tier contractor or any person or entity working at the direction or under control of the CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR shall assume the obligation and responsibility to confirm insurance coverage for all sub-contractors or lower tier contractors who will participate in the project.

The Certificate of Insurance and the policies of insurance shall include a sixty (60) day notice to the CITY of cancellation, non-renewal or material change in coverage or form.

The CONTRACTOR and his surety shall indemnify and save harmless the CITY, his officers and employees from all suits, actions or claims of any character brought because of any injuries or damage received or sustained by any person, persons or property on account of the operations of the said CONTRACTOR; or on account of or in consequence of any neglect in safeguarding the work; or through use of unacceptable materials in construction of the work; or because of any act or omission, neglect, or misconduct of said CONTRACTOR; or because of any claims or amounts recovered from any infringements or patent trademark, or copyright; or from any claims or amounts arising or recovered under the "Workmen's Compensation Act" or of any other law, ordinance, order or decree; and so much of the money due to the said CONTRACTOR under and by virtue of his/her contract as shall be considered necessary by the CITY for such purpose, may be retained; or in case no money is due, his surety may be held until such suit or suits, action or actions, claim or claims, for injuries or damages as aforesaid shall have been settled and suitable evidence to that effect furnished to the CITY.

Waiver of Subrogation

Payment of any claim or suit including any expenses incurred in connection therewith by the CITY, or any insurance company on behalf of the CITY shall not constitute a waiver of subrogation against the CONTRACTOR, sub-contractors or any lower tier contractor in the event that such claim or suit was caused by or contributed to as a result of the negligent acts of the CONTRACTOR, any sub-contractors or lower tier contractors.

Construction Agreement

The CONTRACTOR shall and does hereby agree to indemnify, save harmless and defend the CITY from the payment of any sum or sums of money to any person whomsoever on account of claims or suits growing out of injuries to persons, including death, or damages to property, caused by the CONTRACTOR, his employees, agents or sub-contractors or in any way attributable to the performance and execution of the work herein contracted for, including (but without limiting the generality of the foregoing), all claims for service, labor performed, materials furnished, provisions and suppliers, injuries to persons or damage to property, liens, garnishments, attachments, claims, suits, costs, attorney's fees, costs of investigation and defense. It is the intention of this paragraph to hold the CONTRACTOR responsible for the payment of any and all claims, suits, or liens, of any nature character in any way attributable to or asserted against the CITY, or the CITY and the CONTRACTOR, which the City may be required to pay. In the event the liability of the CONTRACTOR shall arise by reason of the sole negligence of the CITY and/or the sole negligence of the CITY's agents, servants or employees, then and only then, the CONTRACTOR shall not be liable under the provisions of this paragraph.

DAMAGES:

9. The CONTRACTOR shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the CITY and all persons acting for or in behalf of it against all claims for injuries (including death), loss or damage, arising out of the performance out this contract.

LIENS:

10. Neither the final payment nor any part of the retained percentage shall become due until the CONTRACTOR, if required, shall deliver to the CITY a complete release of all liens arising out of the Agreement, or receipts in full in lieu thereof and, if required in either case, an affidavit that so far as it has knowledge or information the releases and receipts include all the labor and material for which a lien could be filed; but the CONTRACTOR may, if any SUB-CONTRACTOR refuses to furnish a release or receipt in full, furnish a bond satisfactory to the CITY to indemnify it against any lien. If any lien remains unsatisfied after all payment are made, the CONTRACTOR shall refund to the CITY all moneys that the latter may be compelled to pay in discharging such a lien, including all costs and a reasonable attorney's fee.

ASSIGNMENT:

11. Neither party to the Agreement shall assign the Agreement or sublet it as a whole without the written consent of the other, nor shall the CONTRACTOR assign any moneys due or to become due to it hereunder, without the previous written consent of the CITY.

SUBCONTRACTS:

12. The CONTRACTOR shall not sublet any part of this Agreement without the written permission of the CITY. The CONTRACTOR agrees that it is as fully responsible to the CITY for the acts and omissions of its SUB-CONTRACTORS and of persons either directly or indirectly employed by them, as it is for the acts and omissions of persons directly employed by it.

USE OF PREMISES:

13. The CONTRACTOR shall confine its apparatus, the storage of materials and operations of its workers to limits indicated by law, ordinance and permits and shall not otherwise unreasonably encumber the premises with its materials. If any part of the project is completed and ready for use, the CITY may, by written and mutual consent, without prejudice to any of its rights or the rights of the CONTRACTOR, enter in and make use of such completed parts of the project. Such use or occupancy shall in no case be construed as an acceptance of any work or materials.

CLEANING UP:

14. The CONTRACTOR shall at all times keep the premises free from accumulation of waste materials or rubbish caused by its employees or work, and at the completion of the work it shall remove all its rubbish from and about the project, and all its tools, scaffolding and surplus materials and shall leave its work "broom-clean" or its equivalent, unless more exactly specified. In case of dispute, the CITY may remove the rubbish and charge the cost to the CONTRACTOR.

PAYMENTS:

15. Unless otherwise agreed to, the CITY shall make payments on account of the Agreement as follows:

Within 30 days, as invoices are submitted for work completed to the satisfaction of the CITY.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the day and year first above written.

BY: _____
Witness

BY: _____
Finance Director

BY: _____
Witness

BY: _____
Contractor