



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEW MEETING
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	November 21, 2023
TITLE	Authorization to Enter into a Contract for Services with Civicorps in the Amount of \$462,903
DIVISION	Operations
FROM	Steve Castile, Chief of Park Operations Lisa Goorjian, Assistant General Manager
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the annual Youth Employment Services Contract with Civicorps for the period January 2, 2024, through December 19, 2024, in the amount of up to \$462,903.

BACKGROUND

As part of the East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) Youth Development Program, Civicorps has partnered with EBRPD to provide essential youth work experience programs and educational resources over the last 40 years. Based in Oakland, Civicorps is a conservation-focused youth development non-profit organization, which offers education opportunities and paid work experience with their community partners to protect natural resources and strengthen climate resiliency. For the Civicorps fiscal year 2022, it reports serving 249 youth from economically underserved communities. Civicorps' partner Alameda County Office of Education's Opportunity Academy has two teachers permanently onsite to support their students in getting their high school diplomas. Civicorps provides job training through a "holistic, trauma-informed care lens" so that youth not only earn a high-school diploma and occupational skills but also have a safe place to find support, reach goals, overcome challenges, and heal from trauma. This approach to education and job training is consistent and supportive of the Park District's goals to create a diverse and inclusive workforce of excellence.

Since its inception in 1983, part of the Civicorps program has been devoted to environmental service projects such as fuel breaks, trail work, fence construction and repair, and erosion control hosted by the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) and other agencies in the East Bay. A formal partnership was established between the Park District and Civicorps in 1984 (Resolution No.1984-6-173). Starting in 1985 (Resolution No.1984-12-326), the Park District has had an annual contract with Civicorps to allow for uninterrupted availability of Civicorps crews for work in the parks, which is funded from a general fund budget established for this purpose.

In November 2020, Civicorps Executive Director Tessa Nicholas described the working relationship between the Park District and Civicorps as follows: "*Civicorps works with EBRPD to create a pipeline of young talent into stable jobs that pay living wage salaries and become the next generation of land management to protect the East Bay's landscapes. Our hope is to entice more youth to join the conservation field and build an environmental workforce that is diverse and inclusive.*"

ANALYSIS

Contracting with Civicorps supports the East Bay Regional Park District's goal of maintaining small trails, fence repair, construction, erosion control, vegetation management, and habitat restoration work. Civicorps employees gain relevant job training and exposure to available career paths within the parks, while delivering services that result in high-quality user experience for park visitors. Based on a forty-year partnership, Civicorps has proven to be a fitting organization that meets the contract requirement due to its geographic locality, youth focused and positive relationship with the Park District. has been well received by park supervisors and supported throughout the years by Park District field staff and the Board of Directors.

This proposed contract with Civicorps is an annual one-year contract to support a variety of operational activities District wide. The contract includes wages for seven corps members and for one crew leader and site supervisor along with transportation costs and other program expenses.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for the proposed contract in the amount of up to \$462,903 has been allocated in the annual Operations Division Community Resources Budget (Account No. 101-5012-000-6191). The 2024 contract is the same cost as the 2023 contract. No additional appropriation is necessary.

ATTACHMENTS

None.



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-11-
NOVEMBER 21, 2023**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR SERVICES WITH
CIVICORPS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$462,903**

WHEREAS, the Park District has worked with Civicorps, a local conservation corps located in the City of Oakland, since 1983 on various environmental service projects such as fuel breaks, trail work, fence construction and repair, and erosion control; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) solidified its partnership with Civicorps in 1984 (Resolution #1984- 6-173) and established an annual crew contract and corresponding budget starting in 1985 (Resolution #1984-12-326); and

WHEREAS, Civicorps approach for providing education and job training through a holistic, trauma-informed care lens, so that youth not only earn a high-school diploma and occupational skills but also have a safe place to find support, reach goals, overcome challenges, and heal from trauma is consistent and supportive of the Park District's goals to create a diverse and inclusive workforce of excellence; and

WHEREAS, the Park District wishes to continue to support and aid young adults living in underserved communities through the Civicorps program with environmental service projects;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the annual contract for up to \$462,903 with Civicorps for youth employment services for the period January 2, 2024, through December 19, 2024, with such funds for services appropriated in the 2024 Operations Division Community Resources Budget – Other Professional Services, Account No. 101-5012-000-6191 as presented to the Board on November 21, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the Park District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, and seconded by Director _____, and adopted November 21, 2023, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: