

LOWELL REGIONAL WASTEWATER UTILITY
451 FIRST ST. BLVD. (RTE-110)
LOWELL MA 01850

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
for
BRUSH REMOVAL AND GRASS CUTTING ON FLOOD CONTROL SYSTEM
AND ON OTHER VARIOUS AREAS THROUGHOUT THE CITY

BACKGROUND

The Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility (LRWWU) intends to engage a suitable and qualified contractor to complete brush removal and grass cutting at twenty one (21) sections/locations within the city.

LRWWU intends to engage a contractor to perform the work at least once a year at all sites and, for some sites (as identified below), multiple times per year. The contractor shall be engaged for a three year period; although the city reserves the right to cancel the contract before the end of the term without a financial penalty.

The work will take place on city of Lowell properties (including those under the management of the LRWWU, Department of Public Works, and Parks Department.

The City has obtained approval of the project by the Lowell Conservation Commission and the USACE. The Bidder shall comply with all environmental protection procedures, erosion control, and work limitations, required by the applicable permits. The Order of Conditions approved for this project work by the Conservation Commission is attached. Particular attention should be paid to the last page of the Order of Conditions.

SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work includes the removal of brush and grass cutting, along with litter removal and site cleanup, for twenty one (21) sections/locations.

The work is divided into three groups:

GROUP #1

Work in this group of locations is along the river banks of the Merrimack River and Beaver Brook. This work covers property over about 18,700 linear feet and 152,359 square feet of the city of Lowell's earthen dam and cement dike system constructed as part of the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Flood Control Project. The work shall be completed along four sections of the city's flood protection system as described below and shown on the attached figures (Section Nos. 1 thru 4). Brush removal is limited to cutting to no more than 3 inches above the rip-rap or ground surface. All brush with trunks 2 inches or greater in width, must be removed along with their root balls. Also, all existing grasses shall be cut to 2 inches in height. Brush growth along chain link fences must be removed and may involve hand work. Litter removal shall be completed in all

cleared sections. Tree removal within these sections was completed two years ago and should not be required for this bid. This work shall be coordinated with LRWWU.

The work required for this group is brush and grass cutting twice per year, however for the isolated bamboo plant areas (approximately 15,500 square feet,) work must be done three times a year, as directed by the city. Descriptions of each of the sections/locations are provided: (see attached maps)

Section #1: This section includes the cement dike wall that runs along Beaver Brook (on the east river bank) from the Lowell/Dracut line to the Martin/Beaver Street Bridge over Beaver Brook. This section of work extends about 782 linear feet and approximately 12,330 square feet. Brush removal shall be completed within fifteen (15) feet on either side of the wall.

Section #2: This section includes the cement dike wall and earthen dam extending along the east bank of Beaver Brook from the Martin/Beaver Brook Street Bridge to the athletic field located off the VFW Highway. This section is approximately 107,987 square feet. Brush removal and grass cutting shall be completed within fifteen (15) feet on either side of the wall and earthen dike.

Section #3: This section includes the earthen dike wall and a portion of cement dike wall between the Aiken Street Bridge and Bridge Street Bridge. The section extends approximately 3,550 linear feet and approximately 20,242 square feet. Work in this section includes brush clearing and grass cutting from the chain link fence along top of earthen dike to the bike path and within fifteen (15) feet on either side of the concrete dike wall. Brush growth along the chain link fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.)

Section #4: This section includes the grassy area between the VFW Highway and the wastewater interceptor, which is near the VFW Highway Bridge that crosses over the Beaver Brook. This section is approximately 11,800 square feet. Brush growth along the chain link fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.)

GROUP #2

Work in this group of locations is along the river banks of the Merrimack River, adjacent to and above the city's interceptor pipe along the river. Many of these sections are covered by stone rip-rap. Brush removal is limited to cutting to no more than 3 inches above the rip-rap or ground surface. Root system removal is not required. All existing grasses shall be cut to 2 inches in height. Litter removal and general cleanup shall be completed in all cleared sections. This work shall be coordinated with LRWWU.

The work required for this group is brush and grass cutting twice per year as directed by the city. Descriptions of each of the sections/locations are provided (see attached maps)

Section #5: This section includes an area that extends fifteen (15) feet north from the paved bike path (between the bike path and the VFW Highway) from the Bridge Street

Bridge to the Riverside Condominiums. This section is approximately 3,817 linear feet and approximately 55,800 square feet.

Section #6: This work includes the section that extends approximately 9,265 linear feet and approximately 243,948 square feet along the Merrimack River. This section extends ten (10) feet south from the paved bike path (between the bike path and the Merrimack River.) The section runs from the confluence of Beaver Brook and the Merrimack River, ending at the Riverside Condominiums. (Under no circumstances is tree removal to take place on the natural river bank.)

Section #7: This section extends approximately 9,000 linear feet and approximately 372,886 square feet along the Merrimack River. This section is along the top of a wastewater interceptor and extends from the confluence of the Concord River and the Merrimack River, ending at the Tewksbury Town line.

Section #8: This section includes an area that extends fifteen (15) feet north from the paved bike path (between the bike path and the VFW Highway) from the Aiken Street Bridge to the VFW Highway Bridge that crosses over the Beaver Brook. Near the VFW Highway Bridge, brush removal and grass cutting shall be completed from the chain link fence to the wastewater interceptor. This section is approximately 31,951 square feet and approximately 1,650 linear feet. Brush growth along the chain link fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.)

GROUP #3

Work in this group of locations is miscellaneous property cleanups required throughout the city as shown in **Locations No. 9 through No. 21**, which are managed by the Parks Department. These thirteen (13) locations will require the cutting of brush and/or grass at a minimum of four feet from the roadway or walkway and four feet from fences or abutments. Clearing distance from the edge of pavement for sections 5, 10, and 12 is not to exceed six (6) feet. For locations No.10 and No.12, brush shall be cut level to the guardrails and 4 feet from the roadways. Brush removal is limited to cutting to no more than 3 inches above the rip-rap or ground surface. Tree, stumps and/or root system removal is not required. All existing grasses shall be cut to 2 inches in height. Litter removal and general cleanup shall be completed in all cleared sections. All work in these locations shall be coordinated with the LRWWU.

The work required for this group is brush and grass cutting once a year except for **Location No. 9** and **Location No. 16**, which shall be cut twice per year as directed by the city. Descriptions of each of the sections/locations are provided (see attached maps)

Section #9: This section is divided into three parts with a total of approximately 1,725 linear feet and approximately 39,146 square feet.

Part 1: This section extends from the outfall headwall behind UMass Lowell East Campus to the Lelacheur Ball Park. Brush and grass cutting includes the area between the paved bike path to the edge of the river bank. It also includes the small area from the bike path to the chain link fence of the Lelacheur Ball Park.

Part 2: This section extends from the Aiken St. Bridge abutment to the Lelacheur Ball Park and includes brush and grass cutting from the bike path to the edge of the river bank.

Part 3: This section includes brush and grass cutting between the Tilden Diversion Station to the Merrimack Canal. The area extends from the fence along the Merrimack River to the fence located south of the bike path.

Section #10: This section includes the areas of four roads of which the Clay Pit Brook runs through them; Stockbridge Ave, Magnolia St., Delaware Ave, and Dunbar Ave. All brush and grass, in front of the guardrails, must be cut no more than 2 inches above the ground surface. All brush behind the guardrails, must be cut level to the guardrails and 4 feet from the roadways. This area is approximately 668 linear feet and approximately 6,311 square feet.

Section #11: This section includes brush and grass cutting along the chain link fence on Congress St, by the River Meadow Brook, to the guard rail ending the grassy area that is northeast of River Meadow Brook on Thorndike St. The area along Thorndike St. extends from the chain link fence to the edge of Thorndike St. Brush growth along the chain link fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.) This area is approximately 394 linear feet and approximately 4,871 square feet.

Section #12: This section includes brush and grass cutting along the chain link fence and guardrail on the west side of Howard St. Brush growth along the chain link fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.) This area is approximately 178 linear feet and approximately 1,180 square feet.

Section #13: This section includes brush and grass cutting along the chain link fence and guardrail on both sides of Lincoln St. Brush growth along the chain link fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.) This area is approximately 755 linear feet and approximately 4,325 square feet.

Section #14: This section includes the western side of Boylston St. between Calvin St. and Berwick St. This part includes bush and grass cutting at a minimum of 4 feet from the sidewalk. The other part of this section includes the eastern sides of Park Ave East and Knapp Ave. Brush and grass cutting must be done 6 feet from the sidewalk but no more than 6 feet. The total area of this section is approximately 3,828 linear feet and approximately 269,788 square feet.

Section #15: This section includes the south side of Chambers St. between 3 Chambers St. and 98 Chambers St. All brush and grass cuttings must be done from the edge of the road to the tree line. The other part of this section includes the baseball field at the end of Chambers St. and on Newhall St. Brush growth along the chain link fence, and all branches hanging over the top of the fence, and/or coming through the fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.) Brush and grass cuttings must be done at least 4 feet on the inside of the chain link fence. The total area of this section is approximately 890 linear feet and approximately 37,738 square feet.

Section #16: This section includes the area west of Billerica St. from the railroad tracks to the tree line across from 48 Billerica St. Brush and grass cutting must be done as far down the stone wall as one can reach, to 4 feet from the start of the stone wall (this may involve hand work.) This area is approximately 563 linear feet and approximately 6,157 square feet.

Section #17: This section includes the area outside the chain link fence of the Campbell baseball field, extending from the center field to the third base line. Brush and grass cutting must be done at least 4 feet from the chain link fence. All branches touching, hanging over the top of the fence, and/or coming through the fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.) This area is approximately 553 linear feet and approximately 11,552 square feet.

Section #18: This section includes the western area outside of the chain link fences of the three baseball fields that are between the Daley and Bailey Schools. Brush and grass cutting must be done at least 4 feet from the chain link fences. All branches touching, hanging over the top of the fence, and/or coming through the chain link fences must be removed (this may involve hand work.) This area is approximately 725 linear feet and approximately 13,354 square feet.

Section #19: This section includes the area outside of the chain link fences that are behind the Cawley Stadium softball fields, extending from the far eastern corner to the corner of the left field. Brush and grass cutting must be done at least 4 feet from the chain link fences. All branches touching, hanging over the top of the fence, and/or coming through the chain link fences must be removed (this may involve hand work.) This area is approximately 1,000 linear feet and approximately 18,310 square feet.

Section #20: This section includes the areas around the dog park and its parking lot. The area around the dog park extends from the far west top corner to the far southeast corner of the chain link fence around the dog park. Brush and grass cuttings north of the dog park must be done from the chain link fence to the edge of the sidewalk. Brush and grass cutting east of the dog park must extend at a minimum of 4 feet from the chain link fence. Brush growth along the chain link fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.) The area around the parking lot includes brush and grass cutting extending 4 feet from the south and west edges of the parking lot. This area is approximately 469 linear feet and approximately 15,110 square feet.

Section #21: This section includes the grassy area and bike path that extends from the School St. Bridge to the beginning of the Merrimack River Dam. Brush and grass cutting shall be done in the area between the Varnum Ave guard rail and the chain link fence along the Merrimack River. Brush growth along the chain link fence must be removed (this may involve hand work.) This area is approximately 838 linear feet and approximately 47,192 square feet.

SPECIFICATIONS

All litter and woody material (roots, stumps, and trees and brush) shall be removed by the contractor and shall be disposed of in an approved manner at his own expense.

Under no circumstances is tree removal or brush cutting to take place on the natural river bank.

When cutting along roadways or walking paths, brush shall be cut to within four feet of the roadway or path unless otherwise specified.

SCHEDULE

Contractors are encouraged to visit these sites before the bid opening. To visit sites #1 through #21, please call Carrie Prescott at (978) 674-1620 to make arrangements to see the sites.