



**City of Rochester Hills  
AGENDA SUMMARY  
FINANCIAL ITEMS**

**1000 Rochester Hills Dr.  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
248.656.4630  
[www.rochesterhills.org](http://www.rochesterhills.org)**

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**Legislative File No: 2026-0003**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Ken Elwert, CPRE, Director, Parks and Natural Resources  
Matt Einheuser, Manager, Natural Resources Division

**DATE:** January 12, 2026

**SUBJECT:** 2026 Street Tree Planting

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**REQUEST:**

City Council is requested to authorize a blanket purchase order/contract for 2026 Street Tree Planting to Michigan Lawn Maintenance, Inc., dba Sherman Nursery Farms, Columbus, Michigan in the amount not-to-exceed \$210,000.00

**REASON FOR PURCHASE:**

Request for Proposals were solicited utilizing MITN system in 2024, award was issued to Michigan Lawn Maintenance, Inc. dba Sherman Nursery Farms. The contract called for a one (1) year contract term with four (4) 1-year renewal options. The City wishes to exercise the first renewal option of the contract. Michigan Lawn Maintenance, Inc. dba Sherman Nursery Farms has agreed to hold past pricing and renew for an additional one-year period. Eight proposal responses were received and evaluated by the Natural Resources division. Michigan Lawn Maintenance, Inc. dba Sherman Nursery Farms was selected as offering the best value for the City, based on source of plant stock, ability to offer the most variety of trees for purchase, and qualifications of personnel.

The Subdivision Tree Planting Program began in 1979, after adoption of the Subdivision Control Ordinance requiring developers of all new subdivisions to provide funds for one street tree to be planted by the City in the right-of-way of each new home. Funds for this program are held by the City in an escrow account until the new homes are completed and occupied. The Forestry Division then includes those properties in a forthcoming planting project.

The City Sponsored Tree Planting Program or "Free Street Tree Program" was initiated in 2015. This program makes trees available at no cost to residents for approved planting sites along any public roadway. Forestry staff work with property owners to determine the tree location(s) within the City's Street Tree Ordinance guidelines. Tree Fund revenues are generated from payments by developers and builders in lieu of planting replacements for regulated trees removed (or damaged) during construction.

**PROCESS:**

**Vendor Name and Address:**

Michigan Lawn Maintenance, Inc.  
dba Sherman Nursery Farms  
21810 Mayer Road  
Columbus, MI 48063

**Reason for Selection:**

Best Value

**Method of Purchase:**

Blanket Purchase Order/Contract

**BUDGET:**

Funding is included in the FY 2026 Adopted Budget

Fund Name	Department Account No	Account No. Description	Budget Amount	Cost	Remaining Budget
Tree Fund	232.807000	City Sponsored Tree Planting Program	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$0
Tree Fund	232.631000	Subdivision Tree Program	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$210,000</b>	<b>\$210,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that City Council authorize a blanket purchase order/contract for 2026 Street Tree Planting to Michigan Lawn Maintenance, Inc. dba Sherman Nursery Farms, Columbus, Michigan in the amount not-to-exceed \$210,000.00.

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APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Budget Content: Chief Financial Officer		
Purchasing Process: Procurement Manager		
Mayor		
City Clerk		

Contract Reviewed by City Attorney

Yes       N/A

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