



## MEMORANDUM REPORT

**Date:** March 17, 2020

**TO:** Board of Commissioners of the Los Altos Hills County Fire District

**FROM:** J. Logan, General Manager

**SUBJECT:** Agreement with Ecosystem Concepts, Inc. for Fire Fuel Reduction Goat Grazing Services

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt Resolution No. 20-11 Authorizing Execution of Professional Services Agreement for Fire Fuel Reduction Goat Grazing Services between the Los Altos Hills County Fire District and Ecosystem Concepts, Inc.

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### **BACKGROUND**

Historically, the grazing of fields by goats was used as a method of vegetation mitigation and fire fuel management. Commencing in 2006, Ecosystem Concepts, Inc. (“ECI”) provided goat grazing services to the Los Altos Hills County Fire District (“District”) to mitigate vegetation for fire fuel reduction in difficult to reach terrain such as the Byrne Preserve. This effort resulted in significant decrease of vegetative mass thus creating desirable fire breaks and fire safety.

### **DISCUSSION**

The District and ECI engaged in conversations to develop a service plan, timetable and terms of an agreement for ECI’s goat grazing services no earlier than April 1, 2020. Goat grazing services as a method of vegetation mitigation are provided in the area at Byrne Preserve that has historically been serviced by ECI. The District is also working with the Town of Los Altos Hills for assistance to ensure that the goats will not have access to the sensitive restoration areas of Byrne Preserve.

The proposed Agreement for Fire Fuel Reduction Goat Grazing Services between the Los Altos Hills County Fire District and Ecosystem Concepts, Inc. (“Agreement”) provides that the service will commence no earlier than April, 1, 2020 and shall be completed before the end of June 2020. The services that will be provided under the Agreement include goat grazing by a minimum of four hundred (400) goats to use best efforts to graze an approximately five thousand (5,000)-foot long, thirty (30)-foot wide fire break.

Adoption of Resolution No. 20-11 approves the Agreement and authorizes the District President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the District.

Attachment: None