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WHEREAS, investment into Albany’s Natural and Open Spaces is a priority for ecosystem longevity, wildfire resilience, and community benefit; and

WHEREAS, Urban Tilth, a Richmond-based 501(c)-3 non-profit, has a Basins of Relations Watershed Stewardship Program empowering young adults living in Richmond and surrounding communities as they restore critical riparian and watershed habitat in collaboration with local agencies and landowners since 2015, and Urban Tilth has a Watershed Stewardship Restoration Field Crew employing exceptional graduates from this program; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the City awarded Contract No. C21-28 to Urban Tilth four years ago for three years of vegetation and maintenance projects on Albany Hill, Cerrito Creek, and Codornices Creek, renewing the contract for a fourth year in 2024, and is pleased with the quality and value of work performed; and

WHEREAS, for the past four years a continuous, year-round maintenance schedule on Albany Hill, Cerrito Creek, and Codornices Creek as performed by Urban Tilth and staff has more effectively kept ecosystems healthy, fire-safe, and accessible; and

WHEREAS, Urban Tilth has provided an updated schedule of tasks and costs for stewardship and restoration services on Albany Hill, Cerrito Creek, and Codornices Creek for an additional two years and four months, extending the contract and making it coterminous with the fiscal year, which Staff has deemed to be worthwhile in light of the services delivered to the City as well as the benefits and opportunities that will accrue to local young adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute Contract Change Order #2 for Contract No. C21-28 with Urban Tilth in the amount of \$162,817.65 for a total contract amount of \$563,136.57, using funds previously appropriated as part of the Public Works Departmental Operating Budget for the Creeks & Open Space Maintenance Program.

ROBIN D. LÓPEZ, MAYOR