



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

Corporate Report

Report from Transportation and Environmental Services, Engineering and Construction

Date of Report: September 6, 2013 **Date of Meeting:** September 23, 2013

Report Number: TES-285-2013 **File:** 18.20.199

Subject: Project No. P12-081, Downtown Streetscaping, Award of Engineering Services

Recommendation

That approval be granted to engage the firm of Associated Engineering (Ont.) Ltd. for the design of Project No. P12-081, Downtown Streetscaping at a cost of \$194,492 excluding H.S.T.; and

That the City Solicitor be directed to prepare the necessary agreements and by-law.
FORTHWITH

Background

The City has a number of construction projects planned in its downtown area. The design of these projects presents an opportunity to develop and implement improved street planning to achieve a balanced transportation network, improve the public realm and develop a Complete Streets design.

Council approval of the 2012 and 2013 Budgets included funding for 3 projects within the downtown, namely:

- Summer Street Reconstruction from Helliwells Lane to James Street
- Reconstruction of St. Paul Street from James Street to Carlisle Street and Improvements to Carlisle Street from St. Paul Street to McGuire Street
- Design of the City's Garden Park Parking Lot Design

In order for the three approved projects and the future projects to proceed in a coordinated manner, staff feels a review and update of the downtown streetscaping standards should be undertaken prior to detailed design to reflect recent initiatives such as the City's Creative Cluster Master Plan, the City's Urban Design standards, the concept of "Complete Streets" and accessibility requirements.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on July 9, 2013 and closed August 7, 2013.

Report

The requirements of the RFP provide a functional and detailed design study for City owned public spaces within the downtown. These guidelines and design principals will guide new construction as well as improvements to the City's infrastructure in public areas. The study will review streetscaping, roadways, lanes and pedestrian links as well as public parking and make recommendations for the design of these spaces.

The study shall examine a range of design alternatives, identify both construction and operational impacts on all aspects of the environment and bring forward a recommended plan detailing design requirements, mitigation measures, costs and all approvals required to proceed with implementation as opportunities present themselves. The RFP includes provisions to proceed with the detailed design and construction of four infrastructure renewal projects utilizing the recommended design standards namely:

- Summer Street Reconstruction from Helliwells Lane to James Street
- Reconstruction of St. Paul Street from James Street to Carlisle Street and Improvements to Carlisle Street from St. Paul Street to McGuire Street
- Garden Park Improvements or Reconstruction on Garden Park from King Street to James Street
- Reconstruction of the City's Garden Park Parking Lot

The design features proposed should encompass the existing architecture and landscape features; adhere to current legislation on the built environment and a desire to build Complete Streets. It must also coordinate with the construction of other public works initiatives in the downtown area including the construction of a Spectator Facility, a Performing Arts Centre, the replacement of the Burgoyne Bridge and the rerouting of the Wine Route through the downtown. The designs should also be capable of a phased implementation if required.

A four member evaluation team, comprised of staff from Transportation and Environmental Services Department (2 staff), Recreation and Community Services Department (1 staff), Planning and Development Service (1 staff) and one advisor from Financial Management Services Department, met on August 15, 2013. A total of eight proposals were received. These firms have varying degrees of experience in streetscaping and road construction.

The firms which submitted proposals are: Associated Engineering (Ont.) Ltd., AECOM Canada Limited, Dillon Consulting Limited, EDA Collaborative Inc., Kerry T. Howe Engineering Ltd, York Urbanist, Quartek Group Inc. and Walter Fedy. The proposals submitted ranged in price from \$114,500 to \$357,000 excluding H.S.T.

The following main categories were utilized to review and evaluate the proposals: Project understanding, confidence in ability of the team, streetscaping experience, comprehensiveness of submission and public consultation, proposed schedule and price. These categories were evaluated based on the requirements of the Request for

Proposal and the approved budget. Accordingly, proponents were scored in each category based on this evaluation, resulting in one of the proposals submitted by Associated Engineering (Ont.) Ltd receiving the highest ranking.

Financial Implications

Council, in 2012 and 2013 approved Budgets which included funding for 3 projects within the downtown, namely

- Summer Street Reconstruction from Helliwells Lane to James Street:
- Reconstruction of St. Paul Street from James Street to Carlisle Street and Improvements to Carlisle Street from St. Paul Street to McGuire Street:
- Design of the City's Garden Park Parking Lot Design.

The City's Treasurer confirms there are sufficient funds within the 3 approved budgets to fund the RFP.

Additional construction costs will be funded by future budgets as updated cost estimates can be prepared based on the new streetscaping guidelines and detailed designs.

Submitted by:

Christine Adams, P. Eng
Manager of Engineering and Construction
Transportation and Environmental Services

Prepared by:

Samantha Downing, P.Eng.
Design & Construction Engineer
Transportation and Environmental Services

Approved by:

Ron Tripp, P. Eng
Director
Transportation and Environmental Services