

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – APRIL 24, 2012

AWARD OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 12-058 BLACK CREEK CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY SELECTION OF CONSULTANT WARD 4 – VICINITY EAST OF JANE ST. BETWEEN HIGHWAY 7 & HIGHWAY 407

Recommendations

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, in consultation with the Director of Budgeting & Financial Planning and the Director of Purchasing Services recommends:

1. THAT The Municipal Infrastructure Group Ltd. be retained to provide the necessary engineering services in connection with the completion of the Black Creek Channel Improvements Class Environmental Assessment Study (Capital Project DT-7058-11) at an estimated cost of \$206,160 plus applicable taxes and administration recovery;
2. That a contingency allowance of \$30,924 for the Study be approved within which the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works or his designate is authorized to approve amendments to the Contract with The Municipal Infrastructure Group Ltd.; and
3. That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary agreements and documents in connection with Capital Project DT-7058-11.

Contribution to Sustainability

The objectives of the City's Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan (Green Directions Vaughan, April 2009) will assist in guiding the completion of the Black Creek Channel Improvements Class Environmental Assessment Study. The conclusions and recommendations of this study will have regard for:

- Supporting enhanced standards of stormwater management and working with others to care for Vaughan's watersheds;
- Achieving sustainable growth and development;
- The creation of a City with sustainable built form; and
- Sharing sustainable best practices and ideas between and among municipal staff and the community.

Economic Impact

Based on the results of the Request for Proposal process, the undertaking of the Black Creek Channel Improvements Class Environmental Assessment Study is estimated to cost \$248,500. Approved Capital Project DT-7058-11 allocates funding from City-Wide Development Charges in the amount of \$257,500 for the completion of this study. Accordingly, there are sufficient budgeted funds to carry out the Study.

Communications Plan

The Black Creek Channel Improvements Class Environmental Assessment Study will include a comprehensive public consultation program comprising of public meetings held at key stages during the study together with a stakeholder consultation group and technical advisory committee.

Staff will ensure all public communication and consultation is closely coordinated with interested and ratepayer groups, stakeholders and agencies in accordance with the Schedule 'C' requirements of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process.

A Notice of Study Commencement will be issued as the first point of contact with the public and relevant stakeholders. This notice will be placed in local press and on the City's website. This will allow public participation from the beginning of the Study, resulting in a proactive, transparent consultation process. A communications database will be established and kept up to date of all agencies, stakeholders, property owners and other individuals contacted over the duration of the Study.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to retain The Municipal Infrastructure Group Ltd. to complete the Black Creek Channel Improvements Class Environmental Assessment Study based on the results of the Request for Proposal 12-058.

Background

The Black Creek subwatershed is a tributary of the Humber River which traverses the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre and Steeles West Secondary Plan development areas.

On January 31, 2012, Council endorsed in principal the key findings and recommendations of the Black Creek Optimization Plan. This Plan recommends a series of drainage improvements to reduce flooding risk, and to enhance water quality and erosion control within the subwatershed.

The preferred flood control alternative identified in the Optimization Plan includes an enlargement and re-naturalization of the existing Black Creek channel between Highway 7 and Highway 407. The key next step prior to implementation is to undertake a Schedule 'C' Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the necessary channel improvements. The EA Study will identify the preferred preliminary design, channel alignment, road crossing improvements and property requirements for the proposed Black Creek channel improvements.

The new channel will be designed to contain and safely convey regional flows resulting in a significant reduction to the existing floodplain. A reduced floodplain will free up land within the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre for redevelopment.

The Black Creek channel improvement strategy has been incorporated in the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Secondary Plan, and is envisioned to be a key environmental corridor and community focal point within the City's future downtown.

Request for Proposal Process

On February 02, 2012, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued for the retention of a consulting engineering firm to assist the City in undertaking this study. In accordance with the City's Purchasing Policy for projects of this magnitude, the RFP was publicly advertised using the following publication sources:

- City Website
- Ontario Public Buyer's Association Website
- Electronic Tendering Network (Biddingo)

A total of 17 RFP documents were picked up for the Study. Of these documents, 4 proposals were received from the following companies before the closing schedule:

- Aquafor Beech Ltd.
- SRM Associates, A Member of The Sernas Group Inc.
- AECOM Canada Ltd.
- The Municipal Infrastructure Group Ltd.

All proposals submitted were considered compliant and further evaluated by the Evaluation Committee comprised of staff from the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and City's Development Planning, Development/Transportation Engineering and Purchasing Services Departments. The proposals were evaluated based on the following criteria as provided in each of the RFP documents:

- Qualifications and Experience – 25%
- Quality of the Proposals – 25%
- Project Management – 30%
- Financial – 20%

Based on the Evaluation Committee's review of the proposals, it was determined that The Municipal Infrastructure Group Limited (TMIG) scored the highest ranking for this Study, and successfully fulfilled all of the City's technical requirements and qualifications related to this project. As a result, the Evaluation Committee is satisfied that TMIG has met all the required qualifications to successfully complete this study.

The overall engineering services to be provided by TMIG for this Study include:

- Extensive consultation with affected landowners, developers, York Region, TRCA, DFO and other applicable government agencies;
- Coordination with the ongoing VMC Streetscape and Open Space Plan Study;
- Fulfilling all Schedule 'C' Class Environmental Assessment requirements;
- Preparation of preliminary design drawings for the Black Creek Channel and culvert improvements; and
- Preparation of detailed cost estimates for the recommended works.

The duration of the assignment will be approximately 12 months. The total estimated cost to complete this study including engineering consulting services, a contingency allowance, applicable taxes and administration recovery is summarized in Table 1 below:

**TABLE 1
PROJECT FUNDING SUMMARY**

RFP12-058 Black Creek Channel Improvements Study	
Financial Summary	The Municipal Infrastructure Group Ltd.
RFP Cost	\$206,160
Contingency Allowance (15%)	\$30,924
Sub-Total	\$237,084
Non-Rebatable Portion of HST (1.76%)	\$4,173
Sub-Total	\$241,257
Administration Recovery (3%)	\$7,238
Total Cost (Rounded)	\$248,500
Total Approved Funds	\$257,500

A contingency allowance of 10% is typically carried for engineering related studies. However, given the anticipated high level of landowner / stakeholder interest in this study, it is recommended the contingency be increased to 15% to cover unexpected additional costs which may arise associated with public / stakeholder meetings, coordination with active development proposals, field work / verification, and the preparation of concept renderings.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020 / Strategic Plan

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, the recommendations of this report will assist in:

- The pursuit of excellence in service delivery;
- Ensuring and enhancing community safety, health and wellness;
- Planning and managing growth and economic vitality;
- Leading and promoting environmental sustainability;
- Ensuring and enhancing community safety, health and wellness;
- Ensuring financial stability; and
- The demonstration of leadership and promotion of effective governance.

This report is therefore consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Regional Implications

York Region is a key stakeholder in this Study as the proposed Black Creek channel improvements parallel Jane Street and will minimize the flood risk along this transportation corridor.

Conclusion

The Black Creek Channel Improvements Class EA Study will facilitate the implementation of the flood improvement works identified in the City's Optimization Plan.

Based on the results of the Request for Proposal RFP12-058 process, The Municipal Infrastructure Group Ltd. scored the highest ranking, successfully fulfilled all of the City's technical requirements and qualifications related to the Study, and had the best overall proposal.

Accordingly, it is recommended that The Municipal Infrastructure Group Ltd. be retained by the City to provide the necessary engineering services in connection with the completion of the Black Creek Channel Improvements Class EA Study, and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the necessary documents.

Attachments

N/A

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Respectfully submitted,

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