

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – SEPTEMBER 19, 2005**

### **AWARD OF TENDER T05-181 THE SUPPLY AND PLANTING OF TREES**

#### **Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Community Services and the Director of Parks and Forestry Operations, in consultation with the Director of Purchasing Services and the Director of Reserves and Investments recommends:

1. That T05-181, Supply and Planting of Trees be awarded to Lomco Limited in the amount of \$844,387.00 including G.S.T. of which \$372,915.00 is designated for citywide planting, \$90,000.00 is designated for planting approved by the MNR and \$381,472.00 is designated for ALHB replacements; and,
2. That funds not exceeding \$100,000.00 be allocated from 2006 Capital Budget in the event that additional funding is not approved by the CFIA.

#### **Economic Impact**

The approved 2005 Capital Budget provides \$350,000.00 for citywide tree replacements program, in addition to the \$22,000.00 remaining in the 2004 capital budget. The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) is also providing funding in the amount of \$100,000.00 for their approved tree-planting plan.

In addition, the combined funds from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) \$219,820.00, York Region \$50,000.00, and Tree Canada \$3,200.00 for a total of \$272,200.00 available funding. The CFIA is requested to provide the additional funds to make up the shortfall to avoid a Capital budget impact of \$100,000.00. (Memo attached)

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to award T05-81 for Supply and Planting of Trees and secure contingency funds for the ALHB tree replacements, should the CFIA not contribute to the additional funds.

#### **Background - Analysis and Options**

The Forestry section of the Parks Department administers the tree replacement program for the City of Vaughan. The Forestry section planted approx. 700 trees in 2004, as well; the department inspected and identified 1200 additional trees that would require replacement for the 2005 season. There was \$350,000.00 approved in the 2005 capital budget for these replacements.

In addition to the City of Vaughan's regular citywide planting requirements, the recent infestation of the Asian Long-horned Beetle has further impacted the City of Vaughan's replacement program.

The CFIA removed 958 street trees and 1903 woodlot trees and has advised the City of Vaughan they will provide funding in accordance with their municipal tree formula of \$150/street tree and \$40/woodlot tree for a total of \$219,820.00. Their formula does not take into account the City of Vaughan approved standards for tree replacements.

The City issued a tender in early May that reflected the total number of trees removed. The trees tendered included both the City of Vaughan citywide tree replacements, as well as, the trees removed as a result of infestation by the ALHB and/or were located within 400 meters of an infestation. The tender was issued utilizing the City of Vaughan's approved standards of tree replacement (B&B 50 mm).

The first tender closed on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005 for a value of \$980,910.93. In an effort to reduce costs, the City reduced its standard level of tree for ALHB replacements to 40 millimeter potted and re-issued the tender. The second tender closed on July 11, 2005 at a value of \$844,385.15 with \$372,915.00 quoted for citywide trees, \$90,000.00 quoted for MNR approved trees and \$381,472.00 quoted for ALHB replacements.

#### City of Vaughan Citywide Tree Replacement Program

The lowest bid submission of \$462,915.00 represents 1058 50-millimeter trees and 239 40-millimeter trees. The 239 street trees within the regulated zone at 40 millimeters is funded from the Ministry of Natural Resources who contributed \$100,000.00 to improve the tree canopy.

This portion of the contract will be funded by 2005 capital project number 5991-3-04 for \$350,000.00, \$90,000.00 from the Ministry of Natural Resources and \$22,076.00 remaining from the 2004 capital funds.

#### Tree Replacements due to the ALHB Infestation

The lowest bid submission of \$381,472.00 represents 958 40-millimeters trees.

The CFIA agreed to contribute \$219,820.00 for the replacement of trees infested by the ALHB. In addition, York Region has confirmed they will contribute \$50,000.00 to the tree-replanting program, and Tree Canada has allocated \$3,200.00 with the stipulation that the City of Vaughan provides a link to Tree Canada's web site.

Since the tendered price of the replacement trees exceeds the funds allocated from the CFIA, the City of Vaughan has requested that the CFIA contribute an additional \$100,000.00 (\$250/tree rather than \$150/tree), which would increase the CFIA's total contribution to \$319,000.00.

The tender was advertised in the Liberal, on the ETN, and with the OPBA on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005. Tenders were closed and publicly opened on July 11, 2005. Three (3) bid documents were issued and two (2) documents were received. Bid results are as follows:

#### **Contractor**

Lomco Landscaping Contractors	\$844,385.15*
Alpine Sodding & Landscaping	\$861,168.10*

\* Prices are reflected of the high demands of trees in the market place, in addition the non-host species specified.

#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007**

In keeping with Vaughan Vision, the tree replacement program promotes a healthy environment by maintaining Vaughan's tree canopy and streetscapes.

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council, however the necessary resources have not been fully allocated.

### **Conclusion**

Parks staff reviewed the bid submissions and the lowest bidder; Lomco Limited meets the requirements of the contract. Therefore staff recommends that Lomoco Limited be awarded tender T05-181 for Supply and Planting of Trees, in the amount of \$844,385.15. Depending on the decision of the CFIA to provide additional funding, it is also recommended that the City of Vaughan allocate \$100,000.00 in 2006 Capital budget to make up for the shortfall.

The Parks and Forestry department would like to commence work in the fall of 2005 and expect to continue until spring 2006.

### **Attachments**

CFIA funding request letter of August 25, 2005.

### **Report prepared by:**

Marjie Fraser, Director of Parks and Forestry, Ext. 6137

Respectfully submitted,

**Marlon Kallideen**  
Commissioner of Community Services



*The City Above Toronto*

The City of Vaughan  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, Ontario  
Canada L6A 1T1  
Tel (905) 832-2281

August 25, 2005

Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
1124 Finch Avenue West, Unit 2,  
Toronto, Ontario  
M3J 2E2

Attention: Josse Rosseau  
Regional Director, Toronto Region

The City of Vaughan has suffered the loss of approximately 8000 trees as a result of the infestation of the Asian Long-horned Beetle.

The city would like to commence the replacement of these trees as we have received numerous inquiries from our residents and Councillors regarding the replanting program.

In keeping with our purchasing policies and procedures the City issued a tender in early May that reflected the number of trees removed and the City of Vaughan approved standards of tree replacement. (B&B, 50 mm). The first tender closed on May 30, 2005 for a value of \$551,553.00. (approx. \$575.00/tree).

In an effort to reduce costs, the city reduced its standards to 40 millimeter potted and re-issued the tender. The second tender closed on July 11, 2005 at a value of \$381,471.00 (\$361.00/tree).

As you can appreciate, the City has experienced a delay in starting our replanting program, as a result of having to re-issue the tender. Our residents are anxious to have their trees replaced and the Parks department receives several calls daily.

The City of Vaughan respectfully requests that the CFIA increase their funding from \$150 per tree to \$250 per tree and Vaughan will attempt to make up the shortfall.

As of January 2005, the CFIA have confirmed that 958 street trees and 1903 woodlot trees have been removed. Therefore utilizing the funding request of \$250 per street tree and \$40 per woodlot tree, Vaughan's allocation would be \$315,620.

Please confirm that we can commence our replanting program and whether the funds requested will be forwarded to the city, or will the contractor bill the CFIA directly?

This has been a very difficult time for everyone involved. The City of Vaughan has appreciated the help and support of its partners, and will continue working with the CFIA to eradicate this unwanted pest.

Thank you

Marjie Fraser  
Director of Parks and Forestry