

Section I – Items for Board of Directors Action

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors
Friday, October 20, 2023 Meeting

FROM: Anil Wijesooriya, Director, Restoration and Infrastructure

RE: **REQUEST FOR TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SECTION 6
(PHASE 1) MULTI-USE TRAIL FOR THE MEADOWAY**
RFT No. 10040104

KEY ISSUE

Award of Request for Tender (RFT) No. 10040104 for the supply of all labour, equipment, and materials necessary for the construction of Section 6 (Phase 1) multi-use trail as part of The Meadoway project.

RECOMMENDATION:

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is engaged in a project that requires contractor services for the construction of a multi-use trail;

WHEREAS TRCA is entering into a Letter Agreement with the City of Toronto to allow for the transfer of funds from the Federal Natural Infrastructure Fund which will support all trail implementation costs;

AND WHEREAS TRCA solicited tenders through a publicly advertised process;

THAT RFT No. 10040104 for The Meadoway Section 6 (Phase 1) be awarded to Dynex Construction Inc. at a total cost not to exceed \$805,058 plus applicable taxes, to be expended as authorized by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff;

THAT TRCA staff be authorized to approve additional expenditures to a maximum of \$80,506 (approximately 10% of the project cost), plus applicable taxes, in excess of the contract cost as a contingency allowance if deemed necessary;

THAT should TRCA staff be unable to negotiate a contract with the above-mentioned proponent, staff be authorized to enter into and conclude contract negotiations with other Proponents that submitted quotations, beginning with the next lowest bid meeting TRCA specifications;

AND FURTHER THAT authorized TRCA officials be directed to take whatever action may be required to implement the contract, including the obtaining of necessary approvals and the signing and execution of any documents.

BACKGROUND

The Meadoway is an innovative city naturalization and community driven initiative linking 16 km of the Gatineau Hydro Corridor between the East Don River in downtown Toronto to Rouge National Urban Park. The Meadoway has been undergoing a significant transformation from a barren hydro corridor to become a

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vibrant expanse of urban greenspace and meadow habitat which will connect four ravines, 15 parks, and 34 neighbourhoods over its 200 hectares, housing more than 1,000 diverse species of flora and fauna. In addition to the revitalization of the corridor, the project seeks to build meaningful community engagement and educational opportunities that will facilitate an increased sense of community pride and ownership of this important natural connection.

At Authority Meeting #7/18, held on September 28, 2018, an update on The Meadoway and recommendation to advance implementation of key priorities was approved per Resolution #A143/18, in part, as follows:

WHEREAS The W. Garfield Weston Foundation has made a \$10 million of the \$25 million pledge available immediately to TRCA to implement Phase 1 of the project;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT with appropriate Board Authority approvals including purchasing approvals, authorized TRCA and LCF officials be directed to take all necessary actions regarding retaining consulting services, the hiring of contract staff including project managers, and the signing and execution of any service agreements within the limit of the confirmed approved funding agreement for Phase 1;

THAT updates be brought back to the Authority on an annual basis as implementation of the project proceeds.

From 2018 – 2022 TRCA worked closely with the City of Toronto and other key stakeholders to advance Phase 1 of the project. An additional \$1.348 million was granted by the Weston Family Foundation during this timeframe bringing their total contribution to \$11.348 million. TRCA was also successful in securing an additional \$2.744 to leverage the Weston Family Foundation grant. In total, \$14.092 million was raised to support advancing Phase 1 priorities. One of the key deliverables of Phase 1 was the planning and design of the multi-use trail which will run the full 16 km of The Meadoway. The conceptual alignments for the multi-use trail were evaluated through a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Schedule C), which received approval by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) in January of 2020.

At Authority Meeting #6/23, held on June 23, 2023, an update on the status of The Meadoway project and Phase 2 funding was approved per Resolution #A117/23. An additional \$13.213M has been secured to date to continue advancement of the project:

- \$6.332M from the Weston Family Foundation: for project management, meadow restoration and education and outreach (2023- 2025)
- \$5.6 million Natural Infrastructure Fund, through the City of Toronto: for advancement of two priority trail segments (2023/2024);
- \$1.05 million Parks Canada: for enhancements to the connection and amenities near Rouge National Urban Park (2023/2024); and

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- \$0.231 million from Nature Based Climate Solutions grant to support meadow restoration (2023).

The \$5.6 million secured from the Natural Infrastructure Fund will flow through a Letter Agreement with the City of Toronto. This funding will advance two critical gaps in the trail network. Section 6 (Phase 1) is the first priority for implementation under this fund. It will include the construction of approximately 650 m of multi-use trail within the Gattineau Hydro Corridor between Military Trail and Morningside Avenue in Scarborough. It is expected that the second trail segment from Arsandco Park east to Marcos Boulevard (Section 3, Phase 1) will be tendered for construction in early 2024.

RATIONALE

A Request for Pre-Qualification (RFPQ) for general contractors was publicly advertised on the public procurement website www.biddingo.com on July 28, 2023 and closed on August 11, 2023. General contractors interested in pre-qualifying were advised that in order to receive a tender package they must meet the following criteria;

- 2019 Contractor's Qualification Statement (CCDC 11);
- (3-5yrs) Relevant/compatible Experience (between \$3,500,000 to \$4,500,000);
- Bonding Verification;
- Insurance Verification;
- Health and Safety Policy Document;
- WSIB Clearance;
- Compliance with the City of Toronto's Fair Wage Schedule; and
- A signed Pre-Qualification Form.

A total of twelve (12) firms downloaded the documents and five (5) pre-qualification submissions were received from the following Proponent(s):

- CSL Group
- Dynex Construction Inc.
- Lyncon Construction Inc.
- Metric Contracting Services Corporation
- Rutherford Contracting Ltd.

The tender from Lyncon Construction Inc. was disqualified because they did not meet the minimum score required as part of the evaluation.

An Evaluation Committee comprised of staff from Construction Services and the Project Management Office reviewed the pre-qualification documents based on the criteria above. Based on the evaluation results, Request for Tender documents were issued on September 20 to the following four (4) Proponent(s):

- CSL Group
- Dynex Construction Inc.
- Metric Contracting Services Corporation
- Rutherford Contracting Ltd.

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A mandatory meeting and site tour was held on September 28, 2023. The RFT closed on October 11, 2023.

One (1) addendum was issued to respond to questions received.

The Procurement Opening Committee opened the Tenders on October 11, 2023 with the following results:

Proponent	Fee (Plus HST)
Dynex Construction Inc.	\$805,058
CSL Group	\$977,395
Rutherford Contracting Ltd.	\$1,083,905
Metric Contracting Services Corporation	\$1,348,831

Staff reviewed the bid received from Dynex Construction Inc. against its own cost estimate and has determined that the bid is of reasonable value and meets the requirements as outlined in the RFT documents. Therefore, it is recommended that contract No. 10040104 be awarded to Dynex Construction Inc. at a total cost not to exceed \$805,058 plus 10% contingency, plus applicable taxes, it being the lowest bid meeting TRCA's specifications.

Relationship to TRCA's 2023-2034 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following Pillars and Outcomes set forth in TRCA's 2023-2034 Strategic Plan:

Pillar 1 Environmental Protection and Hazard Management:

- 1.4 Balance development and growth to protect the natural environment ensuring safe sustainable development

Pillar 3 Community Prosperity:

- 3.1 Connect communities to nature and greenspace

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Funds for the contract are identified in the Natural Infrastructure Fund, through Letter of Agreement with the City of Toronto. Funds for the project are being tracked in account series: 260-25.

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