

**Section I – Items for Board of Directors Action**

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Board of Directors  
Friday, May 23, 2025 Meeting

**FROM:** Anil Wijesooriya, Director, Restoration and Infrastructure

**RE:** **REQUEST TO AMEND THE AWARDED CONTRACT  
VALUE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MORNINGSIDE  
LEGACY PROJECT - STATION 1**  
RFT No. 10041714

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**KEY ISSUE**

Award of Request for Tender (RFT) No. 10041714 for the construction of Morningside Legacy Project – Station 1 was approved in October 2024 in the amount of \$175,846.98 (excluding HST) per TRCA's Procurement Policy and Expense Authorization. Approval is required to amend Contract No.10041714 to Hawkins Contracting Services Limited in the amount of \$270,216.36, plus applicable taxes.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**WHEREAS** Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is committed to developing collaborative projects and positive relationships with Indigenous communities;

**WHEREAS** TRCA received grant funding from TD Bank Group (formally called TD Friends of the Environment Foundation) in the amount of \$470,000 to create an outdoor gathering space for celebration and education;

**WHEREAS** TRCA co-developed and designed a series of Indigenous outdoor gathering spaces in Morningside Park with the Williams Treaty First Nation communities;

**WHEREAS** TRCA provided a Morningside Legacy Project update to the Board of Directors on March 25, 2022;

**WHEREAS** TRCA solicited tenders through a publicly advertised process for implementation of the first outdoor gathering space, known as Station 1;

**WHEREAS** RFT No. 10041714 for Morningside Legacy Project – Station 1 implementation was awarded to Hawkins Contracting

**Services Limited at a total cost not to exceed \$175,846.98 plus applicable taxes, to be expended as authorized by TRCA staff;**

**WHEREAS Contract No. 10041714 was executed with Hawkins Contracting Services Limited following TRCA's Procurement Policy and Expense Authorization;**

**AND WHEREAS time sensitive site works are required to be completed in June 2025 to align with construction timelines for which TRCA supports use of provisional items identified in the contract to complete these works prior to upcoming peak season use of the park;**

**THEREFORE IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT TRCA staff be authorized to amend the contract value to \$270,216.36, plus applicable taxes;**

**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**

In 2017 TRCA was successful in securing a \$470,000 grant from TD Friends of the Environment Fund (now referred to as TD Bank Group) to create an outdoor gathering space with an objective to:

- Restore Indigenous presence with the creation of a Legacy Space that can be used for programming, learning and sharing; and
- Provide Indigenous peoples with a gathering place that is reflective of Indigenous cultures and a place where non-Indigenous people can learn and explore Indigenous cultures, histories and worldviews.

Upon learning of the successful application, staff worked with the City of Toronto and TD representatives to select a site for the project. Three sites were initially investigated in Morningside Park, Colonel Danforth Park and the University of Toronto Scarborough campus. Morningside Park, adjacent to Highland Creek, was determined to be the optimal site for the project.

In November 2019 a formal procurement process for the Indigenous Consultation (Phase 1) of the project was undertaken. The City of

Toronto Indigenous Affairs Office was engaged and assisted in the development of the RFP documents, as well as the proposal evaluation and consultant selection process. Selection and execution of the agreement was completed in December 2019.

Since then, TRCA has been working with 4 Directions Conservation Consulting Services to advance the design of a series of Indigenous outdoor gathering spaces that will be implemented in phases over time as funding becomes available. Together, these spaces are known as the Morningside Legacy Project, and feature five stations interpreting First Nation history and cultural significance. The design of these spaces was co-developed with the Williams Treaty First Nation communities, including Scugog, Hiawatha and Curve Lake First Nations, and further supported by Stefan Bolliger Associates Inc, and Spruce Lab.

Phase 1 of the project spanned from 2019 to 2022 and laid the groundwork for the project vision. This phase included:

- Completion of a site assessment;
- Development of an Indigenous Engagement Plan;
- Establishment of an Indigenous Working Group;
- Development of a guiding vision; and
- Completion of preliminary design concepts.

In 2023, TRCA commenced Phase 2 of the project. This phase of work included refinement of the preliminary concepts for all five stations, along with advancing the detailed design of Station 1, which is intended as a welcome space, allowing for storytelling and contemplation, and featuring a large granite marker with an overview of treaty history.

Following a competitive procurement process, the Award of Tender for construction of Station 1 was finalized in October 2024. Construction commenced in April 2025 and is expected to be complete in June 2025 to align with National Indigenous history month.

## **RATIONALE**

Previous Change Orders (excluding HST) issued for this contract were within TRCA's expense authorization and included:

- Incorporation of secondary layer of biaxial geogrid directly beneath unit pavers at the request of City of Toronto staff = \$900.00;
- Additional cost required to comply with the City of Toronto Fair Wage Schedule, which was not specified in the original RFT documentation = \$19,380.00; and
- Additional cost due to recent tariffs and material costs for the feature Treaty Plaque = \$2,516.00.

Pending Change Order (excluding HST) required:

- Provisional planting items, including the supply and installation of thirty-nine (39) 60 mm caliper deciduous trees as shown in Attachment 1, complete with gator bags and a two-year warranty, as well as twenty-eight (28) 2-gallon potted deciduous shrubs = \$71,573.58.

City of Toronto and TRCA restoration staff have confirmed that they do not have the resources to provide planting support to align with construction timing. TRCA had included provisional costing for planting in the tender documentation in the event that internal resources were unavailable to complete these works.

Approval of this latest change order is necessary to expedite completion of the works in step with final construction activities in June 2025 and minimize further impact on park use through the upcoming peak season. Sufficient funds remain within the designated account to support this additional request, and any surplus funds remaining from the grant will be reallocated to advance future phases of the Morningside Legacy Project.

## **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 3 Community Prosperity:**

3.1 Connect communities to nature and greenspace

3.2 A culture of diversity, equity and inclusion contributing to community wellbeing

**FINANCIAL DETAILS:**

Funding has been secured to implement Station 1 with the generous support of TD Bank Group. Funds for the project are being tracked in account series: 126-61.

**Report prepared by: Lorraine Chadwick, Project Manager and Amy Roots, Senior Manager, Restoration & Infrastructure**

**Emails: [lorraine.chadwick@trca.ca](mailto:lorraine.chadwick@trca.ca); [amy.roots@trca.ca](mailto:amy.roots@trca.ca)**

**For Information contact: Lisa Turnbull, (437) 880-1961**

**Email: [lisa.turnbull@trca.ca](mailto:lisa.turnbull@trca.ca)**

**Date: May 15, 2025**

Attachment 1: Morningside Legacy Project Station 1 Planting Plan