

Section I – Items for Authority Action

TO: Chair and Members of the Authority
Meeting #6/18, Friday, July 20, 2018

FROM: Nick Saccone, Senior Director, Restoration and Infrastructure

RE: **FRANKLIN CHILDREN'S GARDEN WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT**
Contract #10008321

KEY ISSUE

Award of Contract #10008321 for supply of all labour, equipment and materials necessary for enhancement works at Franklin Children's Garden at Toronto Island Park, Centre Island, in the City of Toronto.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Contract #10008321 for supply of all labour, equipment and materials necessary for enhancement works at Franklin Children's Garden at Toronto Island Park, Centre Island, in the City of Toronto be awarded to CSL Group Ltd. at a total cost not to exceed \$1,318,555, plus HST, as they are the lowest bidder that best meets Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) specifications;

THAT TRCA staff be authorized to approve additional expenditures to a maximum of 15% of the contract cost as a contingency allowance if deemed necessary;

THAT should staff be unable to execute an acceptable contract with the awarded contractor, staff be authorized to enter into and conclude contract negotiations with the other contractors that submitted tenders, beginning with the next lowest bidder meeting TRCA specifications;

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

BACKGROUND

Toronto Island Park is one of the jewels of the City of Toronto's park system, welcoming over 1.2 million visitors annually. One of the main attractions within the park is Franklin Children's Garden, located on the south side of Centre Island, designed to educate park visitors about wetland ecosystems and species through observation, experience and interpretation. As the popularity of this attraction grows, so does need to provide an improved space for programming and activities at the site.

The Franklin Children's Garden Wetland Restoration Project is a City of Toronto initiative being implemented by TRCA. The objective of this project is to provide a more interactive interpretive centre, and to enhance the existing pond's aquatic and terrestrial features and its supporting infrastructure. Currently, the pond is obstructed by shoreline vegetation and is only viewable from its eastern edge, and there is a lack of seating, shade and interpretive signage for visitors. The first phase of the project involves a clean-out of the existing pond complete with grading and clay liner installation, creation of turtle nesting habitat, and aquatic and emergent plantings. The proposed design incorporates two boardwalk platforms at water level, and a helical supported

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cantilevered lookout over the pond. The commissioning of a new well and mechanical pump system will augment water levels within the pond through a waterfall cascade feature, and armourstone walls, and additional hardscaping will complement the new structures and the revitalized pond.

RATIONALE

Request for Pre-Qualification (RFPQ) statements for general contractors to pre-qualify for construction services was publicly advertised on the electronic procurement website *Biddingo* (www.biddingo.com) on June 1, 2018. General contractors interested in pre-qualifying were advised that the criteria for evaluation would include the following in order to receive a tender package:

- Experience with construction within environmentally sensitive areas;
- Experience working in and around watercourses on erosion control works;
- Experience with construction of boardwalk structures;
- Experience dealing with projects on an annual basis with construction budgets of \$500,000 to \$1,000,000;
- Experience with the construction of armourstone walls and other hard and soft landscaping features; and
- Experience working on groundwater wells including all mechanical and electrical components.

On June 14, 2018, TRCA received pre-qualification submissions from the following eight general contractors:

- Berkim Construction Inc.;
- CSL Group;
- Dynex Construction Inc.;
- Hobden Construction Company Limited;
- McPherson-Andrews Contracting Ltd;
- Ontario Construction;
- Pine Valley Corporation.; and
- UCC Group.

Following receipt of the submissions, pre-qualification documents were reviewed by the Selection Committee, comprised of TRCA staff, using the aforementioned evaluation criteria. Based on the results of this evaluation process, Request for Tender documents were made available on June 25, 2018, to the following five general contractors:

- CSL Group;
- Dynex Construction Inc.;
- McPherson-Andrews Contracting Ltd;
- Ontario Construction; and
- UCC Group.

A mandatory bidders meeting/site tour was held on June 26, 2018. The following four contractors attended the meeting:

- CSL Group;
- Dynex Construction Inc.;
- McPherson-Andrews Contracting Ltd; and
- UCC Group

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The Procurement Opening Committee opened the Tenders on July 6, 2018 at 12:00pm, with the following results:

BIDDERS	TOTAL TENDER AMOUNT (EXCL. HST)
CSL Group	\$1,318,555
UCC Group	\$1,353,560
Dynex Construction Inc.	\$1,480,575

Project Management Office staff reviewed the bid received from CSL Group Ltd. against its own cost estimate and has determined that the bid is of reasonable value and also meets the requirements as outlined in the contract documents. Further assessment by TRCA staff of CSL Group Ltd.'s experience and ability to undertake similar projects was conducted through reference checks which resulted in positive feedback that CSL Group Ltd. is capable of undertaking the scope of work.

TRCA staff recommends that Contract #10008321 be awarded to CSL Group Ltd. for a total cost not to exceed \$1,318,555, plus a 15% contract contingency, plus HST as they are the lowest bidder meeting TRCA's specifications.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Funding for this project is provided by the City of Toronto on a cost recovery basis, with costs being tracked within account 117-00. The City of Toronto has received some funding in support of this project from the Weston Foundation.

Award of Contract #10008321 by TRCA is subject to prior execution of an agreement for services with the City of Toronto, which was in process at the time this report was prepared.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

TRCA's assigned project manager will ensure that all works to be undertaken will be coordinated with the contractor and City staff from both the management and operation of the Toronto Islands, as well as from Parks, Forestry and Recreation Capital Projects. The work schedule has been coordinated by City staff in consultation with Island programming, and is scheduled to commence after Labour Day when the volume of visitors to the Toronto Islands significantly decreases. This measure will help to minimize potential impacts and sustain normal operations, access and program delivery during construction and commissioning.

The scope of work includes the supply of all labour, material, supervision and equipment necessary to implement the project as per the detailed design drawing set prepared by WSP, in coordination with TRCA and City of Toronto.

TRCA will be implementing the pond rehabilitation which includes dredging activities, bentonite clay liner installation, creation of turtle nesting habitat (sand dunes), and all emergent and aquatic plantings.

The contractor will be required to provide, at a minimum the following services:

- Installation of perimeter safety fence, signage, erosion and sediment controls, and tree protection fencing through environmentally sensitive areas;
- Removal of existing pump, pump chamber and associated piping;
- Construction of boardwalk structures, railings and supporting helical foundations;

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- Installing seating areas, sheltered structures and signage;
- Landscaping utilizing various pavers, aggregates, armourstone and terraced planter walls;
- Installation of a groundwater well with all mechanical and electrical components; and
- Site restoration including fine grading and top soiling.

Implementation of the boardwalk structures and associated works is scheduled for October 2018. The impact to the public is anticipated to be minimal as material will be delivered and transported utilizing conventional off loading docks and transportation routes, respectively, and during the time park usage significantly decreases.

City of Toronto will be taking the lead in project communications with the public and stakeholders. Project updates, including construction start date, duration and any delays will be communicated to primary stakeholders, such as the City Councillor, City Parks Supervisor and programming, the Weston Foundation, and public users through on-going email correspondence and site meetings. The City will also be leading the broader consultation through project signage, notices and the Toronto 311 program.

TRCA will complete the final planting and in the spring of 2019, and an official opening will be scheduled at that time.

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