

Section I – Items for Board of Directors Action

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors
Meeting #4/20, Friday, May 22, 2020

FROM: Moranne McDonnell, Director, Restoration and Infrastructure

RE: **BROCK SOUTH FILL PLACEMENT**
Request for Proposal #10033336

KEY ISSUE

Award of fill placement contract associated with Request for Proposal #10033336 for the Brock South Lands located in the Town of Ajax, Regional Municipality of Durham.

RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS the Brock Lands were negatively impacted by historic extraction and filling activities;

WHEREAS the Brock Lands are identified within the TRCA Board of Directors and Town of Ajax endorsed Greenwood Conservation Area Master Plan as a focus for restoration through the strategic placement of clean fill, restoration plantings and other restoration work, some of which is already underway;

WHEREAS the funds for receiving the clean fill at the Brock Lands are required to be set aside exclusively for project costs and implementation of the Greenwood Conservation Lands Master Plan, including future recreation, restoration and habitat enhancement of the property, as approved by the Authority on June 24, 2016 (Resolutions #A88/16 and #A89/16);

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) enter into an agreement with TACC Construction Ltd. for the supply and placement of 250,000 cubic metres of clean surplus topsoil to restore TRCA-owned lands at Brock South, at a fee of \$5.50 per cubic metre, which totals \$1,375,000 which could potentially be expanded to an import volume of 300,000 cubic metres subject to discretion of TRCA;

THAT, in addition to the tipping fee, TACC Construction Ltd. will be responsible for the costs of sediment control, topsoil placement, grading and seeding the site with a basic cover crop;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate TRCA officials be authorized and directed to execute all the necessary documentation required.

BACKGROUND

The Brock Lands are located within the Duffins Creek watershed in the Regional Municipality of Durham and were conveyed to TRCA in 2011 from the City of Toronto. The lands are composed of two distinct parcels, east of Brock Road, formerly known as, Brock North located north of the 5th Concession Road in the City of Pickering, and Brock South located south of the 5th Concession Road in the Town of Ajax. The site was historically a sand and gravel extraction pit

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that later became a temporary landfill site, from which the waste was removed. This has left the terrestrial landscape and hydrologic function of the lands in a severely impaired condition. It was first resolved at Authority Meeting #1/11, held on January 28, 2011 (Resolution #A13/11) that the Brock Lands be identified as a site for habitat restoration and enhancement through the strategic placing of clean fill. The Brock Lands are adjacent to Greenwood Conservation Area (GCA) and Rodar property and are collectively known as the Greenwood Conservation Lands (GCL) totaling 689 hectares (1,704 acres).

The lands were incorporated into the draft GCL Master Plan that was approved in principle by the Authority Meeting #9/12 held on November 30, 2012 (Resolution #A219/12). Following this approval, a draft GCL Master Plan was also endorsed by the Town of Ajax Council at General Government Committee on October 10, 2013.

The main objectives of the Master Plan are to protect and restore ecological function to aquatic and terrestrial systems, create a public destination that offers a variety of recreational and cultural experiences, and to protect the area's valuable cultural heritage features. The GCL Master Plan was finally approved by the Authority on June 24, 2016, including that staff be authorized and directed to execute all the necessary documentation required to facilitate restoration implementation (Resolution #A88/16). In addition, it was further resolved that the funds for receiving the clean fill be set aside exclusively for project costs and implementation of the Greenwood Conservation Lands Master Plan, including future restoration (Resolution #A89/16).

A key component of the Master Plan was a detailed restoration strategy that attempted to restore the heavily disturbed areas that had been stripped of their soil and have not developed into sustainable vegetation communities. These highly altered areas require significant regrading and soil addition to re-create functional topography, restore hydrology and improve soils to support a healthy functional ecosystem.

The first restoration project at Brock South was completed in 2018 after placing a total of 650,000 cubic metres of subsoil and topsoil, to restore natural hydrologic processes, and promote the development and succession of native vegetation communities. Restoration work at Brock South completed to date includes:

- Construction of 2 hectares (ha) of new wetland habitat increasing biodiversity and wildlife habitat;
- Improved habitat connectivity;
- Improved hydrologic function for enhanced flood attenuation and improved base flow to Duffins Creek;
- Improved water quality;
- 10.5 ha of new high-quality plantable area; and
- Future recreational opportunities for the public.

TRCA staff have determined that the next phase of fill restoration at Brock South should be implemented immediately adjacent to the original fill restored site. This is an area in great need of restoration as it is highly impaired, poorly vegetated and is characterized by its thin soils, altered hydrology and unproductive growing conditions. The little vegetation that has established over the last 30 years is also primarily composed of non-native invasive species.

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The current plan would see the importation of 250,000 cubic metres of strictly topsoil fill over the next two years to support the further restoration of the site and assist with the implementation of the Greenwood Conservation Lands Master Plan.

RATIONALE

Request for Proposal #10033336 requesting proponents to submit proposals to supply and place 250,000 cubic metres of clean topsoil in order to complete the works was publicly advertised on the electronic procurement website Biddingo (www.biddingo.com) on April 21, 2020. Prospective proponents interested in submitting a proposal were advised a weighted evaluation process would be used to select the successful proponent as follows:

Criteria	Weight (%)
1. Proponent's Information and Profile	5
2. Experience and Methodology	10
3. Capabilities of Meeting Scope of Work	15
4. Proposed Work Plan and Timeframe	10
5. Pricing	60
Total Weighted Points	100

Through the evaluation process a high level of due diligence is undertaken by TRCA to determine the proponent's capabilities to perform the specified work and to verify the securement of the fill sources the proponent has cited.

On May 5, 2020 TRCA received six (6) proposal submissions. Three (3) proposal met the RFP requirements. Based on the results from the evaluation of the submissions the proponents were ranked as follows:

PROPOSERS	RANKING
TACC Construction Ltd	1
Gentile Contracting Ltd	2
Roni Excavating Ltd.	3

Through the evaluation process it was determined that TACC Construction Ltd is the highest ranking vendor(s) meeting the qualifications and requirements set out in the RFP. Therefore, staff recommends the award of contract No #10033336 be awarded to TACC Construction Ltd. Proponent's scores and staff analysis of the evaluation results can be provided in an in-camera presentation, upon request.

Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following strategies set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

Strategy 3 – Rethink greenspace to maximize its value

Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

FINANCIAL DETAILS

All operating costs will be offset by the revenue generated from the tipping fees. The gross revenue from this contract is expected to be \$1,375,000. All revenues and expenses associated with this project will be directed to account 106-18.

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DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

TRCA staff will provide overall project management services including the implementation of the Fill Quality Control Program that includes the pre-approval of all topsoil prior to delivery, followed by fill tracking, monitoring and laboratory testing of soils received. TRCA staff will work to secure all necessary permits and approvals. With the completion of the competitive process to attract a capable and reputable fill supplier, TRCA will enter into a contract with TACC Construction Ltd. to initiate the work as soon as possible.

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Date: May 6, 2020

Attachment: 1

Attachment 1: Brock South Proposed Fill Location Map