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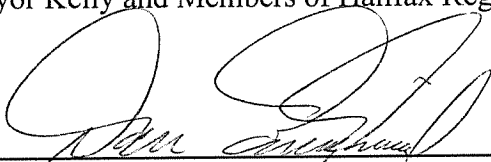


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Halifax Regional Council
February 13, 2007

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:



Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer



Paul Dunphy, Director, Community Development

DATE: January 15, 2007

SUBJECT: **Award - Tender No. 06-410, Point Pleasant Park Master Plan and Phase 1 Restoration Protocols**

ORIGIN

At its meeting of December 6, 2005, Regional Council endorsed the competition-winning submissions of NIP Paysage and Ekistics Planning and Design for the restoration of Point Pleasant Park and authorized staff to enter into contracts with the two proponents for the first phase of park restoration as funds became available.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council award RFP No. 06-410 - Point Pleasant Park Master Plan and Phase 1 Restoration Protocols to NIP Paysage for a price of \$90,190.09 (net HST included) for their portion of the Point Pleasant Park Master Plan and Phase 1 Restoration Protocols to Ekistics Planning and Design for a price of \$168,511.69 (net HST included) for their portion of the Point Pleasant Park Master Plan and Phase 1 Restoration Protocols for a total combined price of \$258,701.78 (net HST included) with funding from the Infrastructure Recovery Fund (Point Pleasant Park) as outlined in the Budget Implications section of this report.

BACKGROUND

Point Pleasant Park has been without a comprehensive master plan since its inception more than one hundred and thirty-nine years ago. Over the past decade Point Pleasant Park has been significantly altered by insect infestation, ice storms, and Hurricane Juan. In the wake of the hurricane it was apparent that a long term vision and strategy were needed to direct the renewal of the park, as well as to support the management and operations plans that would be required as a result of park renewal work. Financial assistance from non-HRM funding sources for reforestation and renewal is also dependent on having a comprehensive strategy. It is for these reasons that an international design competition was undertaken for a master plan for Point Pleasant Park.

The competition was administered by a steering committee of volunteers and HRM staff whose role was to design and conduct the competition, and to present a master plan recommendation and associated team of consultants to Council.

The steering committee recommended to Halifax Regional Council that the winning submissions received from NIP Paysage of Montreal (in the area of design) and Ekistics Planning & Design from Dartmouth (in the area of implementation management) be used as the basis of a framework to advance the renewal, restoration, and regeneration of Point Pleasant Park.

In December, 2005, HRM Regional Council accepted the steering committee's recommendations and endorsed the competition-winning submissions. Council also authorized staff to enter into contracts with the two proponents for the first phase of park restoration and the development of a master plan.

DISCUSSION

In March, 2006 an award ceremony was held. It was expected that contracts for park restoration and master plan development would be negotiated immediately thereafter but a staffing vacancy and protracted negotiations with Federal funding agencies delayed this process. These situations have come to an end. Since July, 2006 the consultants have worked with staff and the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee (PPPAC) to complete a draft park master plan framework and a draft Phase 1 work schedule for park restoration (including time lines, and associated cost estimates). The master plan framework and Phase 1 work schedule were endorsed by the PPPAC on November 9, 2006. Subsequently, RFP 06-410, Point Pleasant Park Master Plan and Phase 1 Restoration Protocols, was issued by invitation, to NIP Paysage and Ekistics Planning and Design and closed on November 30, 2006. With Procurement Services present, the joint submission was evaluated on a pass/fail basis by Real Property Planning staff.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Just over \$385,000.00 was collected from corporate and individual donors towards Point Pleasant Park and were placed in HRM's Infrastructure Recovery Fund Point Pleasant Park account. Of these donations \$316,000.00 has been clearly identified by donors to be used for improvements to the condition of the park and will not be subject to federal claims to reduce federal costs of the hurricane clean-up. The Federal Government has indicated that reforestation of the park will not be eligible for Federal Disaster Assistance Program (DFA) funding as regulations state that DFA funds cannot be used for forestry. Staff are continuing to pursue this funding with the Federal DFA administrators but need to move on with funding the master plan and management plan in order to direct work in the park and attract other monies that are available. Staff are recommending that a portion of the monies available in the Infrastructure Recovery Fund for Point Pleasant be used for recovery planning purposes. Staff see this as a good investment as without a proper plan it is difficult to spend existing monies and attract new funding sources. By way of example, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency has indicated that Point Pleasant Park is eligible for \$405,000.00 in Brown Spruce Long Horn Beetle (BSLB) compensation for replacement of trees removed during the beetle program. This money will be spent this year for reforestation efforts but requires proper planning.

Budget Summary:

Infrastructure Recovery Fund (Point Pleasant Park)	\$384,913.47
Less: funds required for possible claims by federal gov't	\$ 68,913.00
Less: RFP No. 06-410 (net HST included)	<u>\$258,701.78</u>
Balance	\$ 57,298.69

The balance of funds from the Infrastructure Recovery Fund will be used for restoration efforts falling from the planning exercise.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

Council could choose to fund this project through next years 07/08 budget however this will cause delay which could jeopardize other restoration funding sources.

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A - Proposal Evaluation Criteria

**Award - Tender No. 06-410, Point Pleasant Park Master
Plan and Phase 1 Restoration Protocols - 4 -**

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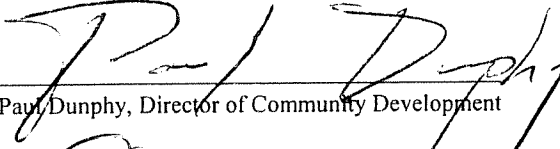
A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: John Charles , Planner I, Real Property Planning, Community Development 490 5771

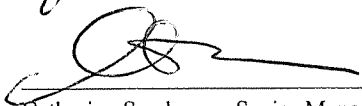
Report Reviewed

Approved by: Peter Bigelow, Manager, Real Property Planning, Community Development 490-6047

Report Approved by:


Paul Dunphy, Director of Community Development

Financial Approval by:


Catherine Sanderson, Senior Manager, Financial Services, 490-1562

APPENDIX A

RFP # 06-410

**Point Pleasant Park Master Plan and Phase 1 Restoration Protocols
Joint Submission by Ekistics and NIP Paysage**

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

Criteria	Pass/Fail
Demonstrated understanding of the work priorities and identification of solutions for the requirements expressed in the RFP	Pass
Work Schedule in reference to HRM requirements:	Pass
Cost Proposal:	Pass
Overall Pass or Fail:	Pass