


Item No. 11.1.2
Halifax Regional Council
May 22, 2012

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original signed by 
Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer

Original Signed by 
Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: May 8, 2012

SUBJECT: Award - Tender 12-034 Concrete Street and Sidewalk Maintenance –
Halifax Peninsula

ORIGIN

During the 2012/13 budget presentation there was a commitment made to investing existing infrastructure and “state of good repair”. In addition, there was a commitment to dedication of resources to sidewalk repair in the Capital District. This tender is targeted at improving the state of repair of sidewalks on the Halifax peninsula.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 12-034, Concrete Street and Sidewalk Maintenance – Halifax Peninsula to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Leaheys Landscaping & Contracting Ltd. for a Total Tender Price of \$725,934.85 (net HST included) with funding from Operating Account No.’s R717-6925 and R716-6399 as outlined in the Budget Implications section of this report.

BACKGROUND

Transportation and Public Works - Municipal Operations is responsible for the maintenance and stewardship of all sidewalks within the Municipality. Sidewalk defects are classified in two ways:

The **priority one (P1)** classification is assigned to distortions in the concrete of 30 mm (1.25") or greater. These distortions can be in the form of raised slab, cracks, heaves and sunken slabs. The identification of this work assists in extending the lifecycle of the asset, snow removal equipment for example, can damage offset slabs; dealing with them in a timely manner helps mitigate the risk of a more costly repair and protects the commuting public. When identified, these defects are marked to alert the public and work personnel. Repairs are generally made within 7 business days (as weather permits) by either grinding the offset slab or the application of an asphalt patch. If an asphalt patch is applied, a work order for a permanent slab replacement is entered and is formed in the backlog as priority two work. A pilot project is underway to trial the effectiveness of concrete patch. Municipal Operations is responsible for all priority one work.

The P1/P2 rating system was in place in the former City of Halifax and was expanded after amalgamation as an effective means of prioritizing maintenance and mitigating risk. Assessments of this nature are a Municipal best practice.

The **priority two (P2)** classification is assigned to distortions between 10 mm and 30 mm (.5 - 1.25"). This type of defect is not marked as it is not considered a commuting hazard. Work orders for repairs form in a backlog until budget and resources allow. P2 work consists primarily of concrete slab replacements; repairs are made as budget permits. On average, 500 concrete slabs are replaced every work season. Municipal Operations is responsible for all concrete slab replacements on sidewalks with a sidewalk defect rating (SDR) of 40% or less; sidewalks with a rating of 40% or greater fall within the scope of the Capital program.

Design and Construction Services rates the condition of all existing sidewalks, and utilizes a rating system that records specific distortions. Two criteria (the percent defective and the sidewalk deficiency rate) are calculated to determine the level of distortion. The percent defective determines whether a location is to be considered for capital upgrade or maintenance, while the SDR highlights sidewalk sections that possess the greatest number of major defects. The percent defective criteria ranges from 0% (best condition) to 100% (worst condition), and under this system Municipal Operations is responsible for all concrete slab replacements on sidewalks with a sidewalk percent defective rating of 40% or less. Sidewalks with a rating of 40% or greater fall within the scope of the Capital program. Currently it is estimated that over 135 kms are rated above 40% defective with approximately 5-6 kms upgraded annually based on funding levels. Projects are considered for capital improvements if they are rated the highest (stand alone sidewalk renewal projects) or if they are rated reasonably high and integrated with other infrastructure components upgrades such as pavement. Although sidewalks rated above 40% are considered for the capital program, the backlog is significant and candidates that are

currently being reviewed for a capital improvement are above the 70 percent defective level (for stand- alone projects).

Municipal Operations recently undertook an audit of the complete sidewalk network, in which over 5,000 P2 Work Orders were entered into the Hansen system. At a current rate of 500 slabs per work season, a 10 year backlog was created.

A one-time transfer moved funds from Capital to Operating in the amount of \$1,900,000 (of which \$696,100 has been dedicated to sidewalk maintenance) to deal with the pent up work orders. It is anticipated that this investment will reduce the backlog of P2 work from 10 years to four years.

DISCUSSION

Tenders were called and posted to the Province of Nova Scotia’s Procurement web site on April 19, 2012 and closed on the May 4, 2012. The Form of this tender was unit based on square metre of concrete, linear metre of curb and cubic tonne of materials. Bids were received by the following companies:

<u>Name of Company</u>	<u>Bid Price (net HST included)</u>
Leaheys Landscaping & Contracting Ltd.	\$725,934.85*
Ocean Contractors Ltd.	\$813,363.01
Dexter Construction Company Ltd.	\$979,245.54
Basin Contracting Ltd.	\$1,408,903.86
Silco Contracting Ltd.	\$1,718,841.85

***Recommended Bidder**

This contract has been tendered for P2 work; the focus will be on those sidewalks that receive the heaviest pedestrian traffic. Approximately 60% of the Peninsula work falls within the Capital District. Major thoroughfares such as Spring Garden Road, Barrington St and Hollis will be completed prior to June 29th, in order to mitigate obstructions/traffic during the vacation/tourist period. Streets such as Almon, Chebucto and Quinpool will be completed during the remainder of the construction season.

Heavily trafficked sidewalks in other centres/corridors will be managed under Tender 12-033 (Street and Sidewalk Repair East/West Regions). The value of that unit based contract is \$300,000; these include such streets and roads such as Bedford Hwy, Dunbrack, Herring Cove, Robie and Sackville Dr. Also, HRM in-house staff will be dedicating resources to local and minor roads in order to offset traffic control costs on streets such as Dundas, Octerloney, Hawthorne, Breeze Dr, Caledonia, Rossing Dr, Eaglewood and Rockingstone.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Based on the lowest tendered price of \$696,100.00 plus net HST of \$29,834.85 for a net total of 725,934.85, funding is available in the Approved 2012/13 Operating Budget, from operating Account No.'s R717-6925 in the amount of \$500,000.00 and R716-6399 in the amount of \$225,934.85. Budget availability has been confirmed by Financial Services.

This project was estimated in the Approved 2011/12 Project Budget at \$ 645,000.

There will be no outstanding balance of funds.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

This work is normal business practice and conforms to existing service standards and specifications.

ALTERNATIVES

There were no alternatives considered for this award.

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.

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