



Item No. 11.1.2
Halifax Regional Council
May 13, 2014

TO: Mayor Savage 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: April 14, 2014

SUBJECT: **Award - Tender No. 14-038, Spring Tree Planting Order-2014**

ORIGIN

On September 25, 2012, the Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) was approved in principle by Regional Council. Plan implementation requires significant increases to the number of street trees planted annually. The approved 2014/15 Project Budget, Supplemental Report, page G15 (Parks & Playgrounds).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Under the HRM Charter, Section 79 Halifax Regional Council may expend money for municipal purposes. Administrative Order #35, the Procurement Policy, requires Council to approve the award of contracts for sole sources exceeding \$50,000 or \$500,000 for Tenders and RFPs.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. **14-038, Spring Tree Planting Order-2014**, to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Leahey's Landscaping & Contracting Ltd., for a Total Tender Price of \$515,661.94 (net HST included), with funding from Project No. CP990001 – Street Trees, as outlined in the Financial Implications section of this report.

BACKGROUND

Five priority urban forest neighbourhoods (Colby Village, Connaught/Quinpool, Eastern Passage, Fairview and North End Halifax) have been selected as part of a pilot program related to the UFMP implementation strategy. A detailed work plan has been developed for 1280 street trees to be planted in these neighbourhoods in May and June, 2014.

DISCUSSION

This is the spring phase of the 2014/15 planting. Tenders were called and posted to the Province of Nova Scotia's Procurement website on March 24, 2014, and closed on April 8, 2014. Bids were received from the following companies:

Name of Company	Bid Price (Net HST included)
Leahey's Landscaping & Contracting Ltd.	\$515,661.94*
Schooner Excavation Ltd.	\$520,141.03
Provincial Pavement Markings Inc.	\$547,292.93
Tracey's Landscaping Ltd.	\$575,325.01
Elmsdale Landscaping Ltd.	\$657,761.00
Turf Masters Landscaping Ltd.	\$717,279.11

recommended bidder**Scope of Work and Schedule:***

To supply and install 1280 street trees at pre-determined locations during the months of May and June 2014. These locations of the 1280 trees are in the five priority urban forest neighbourhoods (Colby Village, Connaught/Quinpool, Eastern Passage, Fairview and North End Halifax).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Based on the lowest bid price of \$494,469.00, plus net HST of \$21,192.94, for a net total cost of \$515,661.94, funding is available from Project No. CP990001– Street Trees. Budget availability has been confirmed by Finance.

Budget Summary: Project No. CP990001 – Street Trees	
Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$650,567.48
Less: Tender No. 14-038	<u>\$515,661.94*</u>
Balance	\$134,905.54

* This project was estimated in the Approved 2014/15 Project Budget at \$650,000.00.

The balance of funds will be used for the purchase of additional street trees to be planted by contract in the fall planting phase October/November 2014.

HRM Urban Forestry crews will also planting trees during May/June 2014 and October/November 2014. Their focus is outside the UFMP priority areas dealing with replacement sites (where trees were removed in the past year), individual citizen request and councillor directed (discretionary fund) plantings.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Trees provide measurable economic benefits and their natural services are a critical aspect to the city's green infrastructure. Some examples of these services include improved air quality, biodiversity, carbon capture and storage, improved energy efficiency, stormwater control, and noise reduction.

ALTERNATIVES

Council could choose not to approve the recommendations in this report, but this is not recommended by staff.

ATTACHMENTS

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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