ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Date:	April 21, 2005
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Meeting Date:	May 10, 2005

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager of Engineering Services
Manager of Materials Management

SUBJECT: Authority to Contract with Vimar Equipment Ltd. - RFP PS04096
Supply and Delivery of Street Sweeper Units

RECOMMENDATION

A. *THAT, subject to the conditions set out in Recommendations B, C, D, and E Council authorize a contract with Vimar Equipment Ltd. for five (5) – 2005 Freightliner FC80 cab and chassis and five (5) Elgin Crosswind street sweeper bodies at an estimated cost of $929,805 plus the Provincial Sales Tax, the Goods and Services Tax (less any municipal rebate received) and the Provincial Environmental Levy.*

B. *THAT, the Director of Legal Services be authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the City all legal documents required to implement Recommendation A.*

C. *THAT all such legal documents be on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager of Engineering Services, Manager of Materials Management and the Director of Legal Services.*

D. *THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by Council's adoption of Recommendation A, B, and C above unless and until such legal documents are executed and delivered by the Director of Legal Services.*

E. *THAT funding for the purchase described in Recommendation A be provided from the Truck and Equipment Plant Account.*

COUNCIL POLICY

The policy of Council is to secure contracts for the purchase of equipment, supplies and services that will give the best value, based on quality, service and price.

Contracts with a value over $300,000 are referred to Council.

BACKGROUND

Street sweepers are used to remove litter, debris and sediments from curbed streets by first loosing the material with brushes and then collecting the material through vacuum hoses. Street sediment and debris are associated with poor storm water quality in urban areas. The United States Environmental Protection Agency lists periodic street sweeping as an Urban Storm Water Best Practice for pollutant source reduction. The use of high efficiency street sweepers has been shown to improve urban storm water quality and vacuum sweepers are now generally accepted as the environmentally preferable alternative for street cleaning equipment.

Engineering Services has eight (8) vacuum/vacuum assist street sweepers as part of its Sanitation Operations street sweeping fleet. Three (3) of the sweepers are up for replacement as part of the 2004 Replacement Program and two (2) additional sweepers will be replaced as part of the 2005/2006 Replacement Program.

There have been concerns in the past regarding noise from the City's sweeper units in the downtown core. An extensive noise emission review was commenced for the City's street sweeper fleet in August of 2002. The review concluded in October 2004 with the issue of a Request for Proposal for the supply and delivery of sweepers. The findings of the sweeper review were used as a benchmark to ensure that noise emission and operational concerns were adequately addressed through the RFP process even though only one vendor submitted a proposal. The table below shows the sweeper unit, make and model, replacement schedule, primary street cleaning use and average noise level readings for each of the City's existing sweepers.

Sweeper	Make & Model	Replacement Year	*Primary Street Cleaning Use	** Avg. Noise Level Reading
C2461	Johnson 605	2004	Dayshift	90
C2464	Johnson 605	2004	Dayshift	90
C2465	Johnson 605	2004	Out of Service	-
C2462	Johnson 610	2005	Dayshift	89
C2463	Johnson 610	2005	Nightshift	89
E2466	Elgin GeoVac	2007	Nightshift	87
E2467	Elgin GeoVac	2007	Nightshift	87
C1554	Tennant Sentinel	2010	Dayshift	90

*Dayshift - 07:00 to 15:30 Nightshift - 23:00 to 07:00.
**Results are based on average noise readings from the side/top of the sweeper in the downtown core.

DISCUSSION

On November 18, 2004 the City issued a Request for Proposal (RFP PS04096) for the supply and delivery of three (3) street sweepers. This RFP included a City option to purchase three (3) additional sweepers over the next twelve (12) months. In addition to notifying incumbent suppliers to the City and other well known vendors, the RFP was advertised in the Vancouver Sun and on the City's and BC Purchasing Commission's websites.

One (1) proposal was received and it was referred to the General Manager of Engineering Services and the Manager of Materials Management for report. This RFP included the supply and delivery of the chassis and sweeper bodies. The proposal, which was received from Vimar Equipment Ltd. on January 5, 2005, included three (3) different models of bodies and two (2) different chassis options for each body:

- Body Options – Elgin Whirlwind, Elgin CrossWind and the Elgin GeoVac.
- Chassis Options - Sterling SC8000 and the Freightliner FC80.

A two (2) step RFP evaluation process was used in determining the optimal chassis and body configuration for the City's needs. The six (6) different proposal options were evaluated by a five (5) person evaluation team. The proposals were evaluated individually by team members and a composite score was assigned to each proposal based on team member scores.

Step 1: The chassis options were evaluated on technical chassis specifications and unit pricing.
Step 2: The bodies were evaluated based on a mechanical/fabrication assessment, operator assessment, noise level testing, and unit pricing.

Chassis Evaluation – Step 1

The chassis options were evaluated first as the chassis and chassis prices were common to three (3) proposals. The Freightliner FC80 and Sterling SC8000 chassis both meet specifications. The two (2) chassis options are manufactured by a common parent company to identical chassis specifications. The Freightliner FC80 chassis option was $1,119 less than the Sterling SC8000 chassis option and therefore is recommended.

Body Evaluation – Step 2

The following table summarizes the evaluation results:

Make & Model	Composite Score (out of 100)	*Avg Noise Level (db)	Unit Price (per body)	Total Price (for 5 units)
**Elgin CrossWind	95.0	86	$121,780	$608,900
Elgin WhirlWind	86.5	90	$130,438	$652,190
Elgin GeoVac	79.2	87	$149,247	$746,235

*The noise level testing was performed in the downtown core at street level 14' from the sweeper and 14' above the sweeper.
**The Elgin CrossWind noise level readings factor in an adjustment for a sound suppression system.

The Elgin CrossWind proposal offered the highest overall composite score and the lowest cost to the City. The composite score was calculated based on a mechanical/fabrication assessment, operator assessment, noise level testing with an adjustment for the expected noise reduction from available sound suppression system, and unit pricing. The operator assessment portion of the evaluation found that the Elgin CrossWind sweeper offered the superior quality of street sweeping. The Elgin CrossWind is also the quietest sweeper of the three bids and will be the quietest full size street sweeper ever in the City fleet. Based on the above, the Elgin CrossWind sweeper is recommended for purchase.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Three (3) units are scheduled for replacement as part of the 2004 Equipment Replacement Program and two (2) units are up for replacement as part of the 2005/2006 Replacement Program. Funds for the purchase of these five (5) units are provided from the Truck and Equipment Plant Account.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, for Item 1 of the RFP we recommend acceptance of the proposal offering the lowest price meeting specifications and offering best value, from Vimar Equipment for five (5) 2005 Freightliner FC80 single axle cab and chassis at a total cost of $320,905 ($64,181 each).

For Item 2 of the RFP we recommend acceptance of the proposal offering the lowest price meeting specifications and offering best value, from Vimar Equipment Ltd. for five (5) Elgin Cross-Wind sweeper bodies at a total cost of $608,900 ($116,558 each plus $3753 each for the sound suppression system, $666 each for an inspection door, plus $309 each for an air purge system, plus $214 each for 12" convex mirrors, plus $149 each for the water fill hose kit, plus $131 each for dual side broom outer position stop, for a total unit price of $121,780).

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