



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: October 5, 2006
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VanRIMS No.: 13-4500-12
Meeting Date: October 17, 2006

TO: Standing Committee on Transportation & Traffic
FROM: General Manager of Engineering Services
SUBJECT: Improvements to Ash Street

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT, subject to conditions set out in Recommendations B, C and D, Council authorize the General Manager of Engineering Services to enter into negotiations to produce a sole-source contract with Tyam Construction Limited for the construction of curb, gutter, and associated works on unimproved sections of Ash Street between W 16th Avenue and King Edward Avenue at an estimated cost of up to \$170,000 (plus GST);
- 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 City Manager and the Director of Legal Services; and
- D. THAT no legal rights or obligations will arise or be created by Council's adoption of Recommendations A, B, and C above unless and until such legal documents are executed and delivered by the Director of Legal Services.
- E. THAT Council approve funding of \$200,000 (including GST and regular overhead) in advance of the 2007 Streets Basic Capital Budget from program A5c, Residential Streets - Local Improvements, for the installation of curb, gutter and associated works on the unimproved sections of Ash Street between W 16th Avenue and King Edward Avenue, and

FURTHER THAT Council approve that the normal Local Improvement process be waived with no further contributions from property owners.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Canada Line utility relocation provides an opportunity to improve these sections of Ash Street at a reduced cost, and therefore the General Manager of Engineering Services recommends undertaking improvements without further contributions from adjacent property owners. There is limited time to take advantage of this coordinated construction opportunity with the Canada Line contractor.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of the above recommendations.

COUNCIL POLICY

Improvements to streets are normally undertaken through the Local Improvement process.

Funding for the improvements to residential streets is approved by Council as part of the annual Streets Basic Capital Budget.

PURPOSE

This report requests approval to enter into a sole-source contract with Tyam Construction Limited for the construction of further improvements to the unimproved sections of Ash Street between W 16th Avenue and King Edward Avenue that have been impacted by Canada Line utility relocation. It also requests Council approval to waive the normal Local Improvement process with no further contributions from property owners. Funding in advance of the 2007 Streets Basic Capital Budget also requires Council approval.

DISCUSSION

Various underground utilities have been relocated to Ash Street due to Canada Line construction, which has caused considerable disruption to neighbourhood residents. Following completion, the Canada Line project is obligated to rehabilitate the street to its previous condition. Five of the blocks of Ash Street between W 16th Avenue and King Edward Avenue previously did not have curb and gutters installed. When the street reconstruction is undertaken, there is an opportunity to install curb and gutter at a reduced overall cost.

The Local Improvement process is the normal mechanism for improving streets, which would be on a cost-shared basis with adjacent property owners. In this case, coordinating the further improvement of Ash Street with the utility rehabilitation would result in significant savings for improvements to the street. Tyam Construction is planning to undertake restoration work for Canada Line imminently, and therefore there is a limited opportunity to coordinate construction of these improvements at this reduced cost.

Under normal procedures, this curbing project would cost approximately \$256,000, of which the residents would be responsible for approximately \$50,000. However, there is no time to undertake a Local Improvement process; a number of residents have indicated support for the curbing, but would have difficulty raising their share on very short notice. Staff recommend that the normal Local Improvement process be waived and that the City fund the full cost of

these improvements. This will provide some relief to the local residents who have suffered through ongoing construction on Ash Street related to the Canada Line, and will still cost less overall than the normal Local Improvement procedure.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of the contract works is anticipated to be no more than \$170,000, plus associated internal capital program overhead charges of approximately \$30,000. Total funding of \$200,000 is recommended to be provided in advance of the 2007 Streets Basic Capital Budget from program A5c, Residential Streets - Local Improvements.

CONCLUSION

Including the construction of curb and gutter with the Canada Line utility repairs on Ash Street will provide an improvement to this neighbourhood. Including this work with the needed utility reconstruction repairs will result in cost savings to the residents, versus a normal local improvement process.

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