



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: October 20, 2006
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VanRIMS No.: 03-1200-11
Meeting Date: November 14, 2006

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager of Community Services and the General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Request for Proposal PS06084: Consultant Services for the Still Creek Enhancement Project - 3400 to 3600 blocks Cornett Road

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT, subject to the conditions set out in Recommendations B, C and D, Council authorize a contract with Jacques Whitford Limited to provide consulting services for the design of an enhancement plan for the portion of Still Creek located along the 3400 to 3600 blocks of Cornett Road, to a maximum cost of \$51,902 plus applicable taxes.
- 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 in the amount of an estimated \$51,902 be provided from the Still Creek Greenway Enhancement Fund.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Community Services and General Manager of Engineering Services RECOMMENDS approval of A through E.

COUNCIL POLICY

In July 1988, Council endorsed Still Creek to be maintained as an open water course, and to pursue day-lighting, enhancing the Creek, and providing public access to a continuous pedestrian/bicycle pathway linking Burnaby Lake to the B.C. Parkway at 29th Avenue Station.

In July 2000, Council established the Still Creek Greenway Enhancement Fund with contributions from the Vancouver Film Studios for the lease of Cornett Road.

In July 2002, Council adopted the *Grandview Boundary Industrial Area Rezoning and Development Policies and Guidelines* which contain specific guidelines to protect and enhance Still Creek. At that time, Council also adopted the ten year actions and endorsed in principle the long-term (10 - 50 year) enhancement plan contained in the Still Creek Rehabilitation and Enhancement Study.

In May 2005, Council approved the first Still Creek Enhancement project at 3003 Grandview Highway (Danier Leather site).

Consultant agreements exceeding \$30,000 require Council authorization. Contracts are to be awarded on the basis of best overall value to the City.

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council approval to spend a total of \$51,902 from the Still Creek Greenway Enhancement Fund to retain Jacques Whitford Limited to develop an enhancement plan for the portion of Still Creek along the 3400 to 3600 blocks of Cornett Road. (See Appendix A - Still Creek 10 Year Action Plan).

This action will advance the Still Creek Enhancement Plan adopted by Council in July 2002.

BACKGROUND

In 2002, Council adopted the Still Creek Enhancement Plan including short-term actions (10 years) and long-term actions (10 to 50 years). The short-term actions, including the subject of this report, are highlighted in Appendix A.

Last year, the first enhancement project was completed at 3003 Grandview Highway (Danier Leather site), in collaboration with the GVRD, Still Creek Stewardship Society and the property owner. The total project cost was \$170,000 (\$130,000 allocated from the Still Creek Enhancement Fund and \$40,000 in contributions from the GVRD, TD Green Fund, Public Conservation Assistance Fund and the Pacific Salmon Foundation). The Still Creek

Stewardship Society, Evergreen and students from Vancouver Technical School provided in-kind support to the project through community planting and education efforts.

The long-term actions (10 to 50 years) of the Still Creek Enhancement Plan propose full day-lighting of the creek, educational public art along the creek-side, as well as enhanced recreation opportunities. A number of improvements are complete or underway, including:

- daylighting of approximately 75 metres of the creek (new Canadian Tire site);
- creation of a wetlands area in Falaise Park; and
- interpretive signage at strategic locations.

The most significant will be the day-lighting of Still Creek along an extension of Cornett Road (3300 block) as part of the new Canadian Tire store on Grandview Highway.

In addition, Council will soon receive a report requesting adoption of the Integrated Stormwater Management Plan (ISMP) for the entire Still Creek Watershed in Vancouver and Burnaby. This plan outlines a comprehensive approach for sustainable stormwater management, environmental enhancements and improved recreational opportunities.

DISCUSSION

Staff are now pursuing a second major enhancement project for Still Creek along Cornett Road, as highlighted in Appendix A.

The creek banks are showing signs of failure in the portion of the creek along the north side of the 3400 to 3600 blocks of Cornett Road. The GVRD has set aside \$170,000 towards improvements at this location and will work in collaboration with the City to repair and enhance this area of the creek. The first step is to develop an enhancement plan in consultation with the GVRD.

The Still Creek Enhancement Plan calls for the following measures for this area of the creek:

- narrowing of Cornett Road by 2.5 meters and realignment of the north curb;
- widening of the streamside area;
- creation of a pedestrian and cycle path along the south side of the creek;
- replacement of invasive species with native shrubs and trees; and
- improvements to the stream bed.

On August 15, 2006 the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP PS06084) for Consultant Services for the Still Creek Enhancement Project as outlined in the Terms of Reference - Appendix B. In addition to notifying incumbent suppliers to the City the RFP was placed on the City's and BC Purchasing Commission's website. Four submissions were received.

The General Manager of Engineering Services and the Manager of Materials Management developed a matrix to evaluate the proposals. The matrix compared the proponents' project teams, general proposal contents, details and cost. Proponents were scored out of a total of 100 points.

An evaluation team composed of Engineering Services and Planning staff evaluated the technical aspects of the proposals. Jacques Whitford Limited's overall proposal score was the highest of the four proposals and offered best value to the City, therefore the evaluation review team was unanimous in recommending that Jacques Whitford Limited be retained for the project.

The estimated cost for the consultant work is \$51,902. Staff propose that this amount be allocated from the Still Creek Greenway Enhancement Fund. The Enhancement Fund was approved by Council in 2000 and collects \$79,000 per year through the lease of a portion of Cornett Road to the Vancouver Film Studios. The current balance of the Fund is \$308,754.48.

This project will build on efforts of City staff and the Still Creek Stewardship Society towards the realization of the Still Creek Enhancement Plan. The timing of this project in relation to other on-going initiatives will greatly increase public awareness of this valuable urban waterway. These improvements, combined with the daylighting of Still Creek at the Canadian Tire site (immediately west along 3300 Cornett Road) will offer an enhanced recreation opportunity for pedestrian and cyclist use and will generate momentum for future initiatives.

Staff are anticipating project construction for the 3400 block portion of Still Creek to occur in the summer of 2007.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

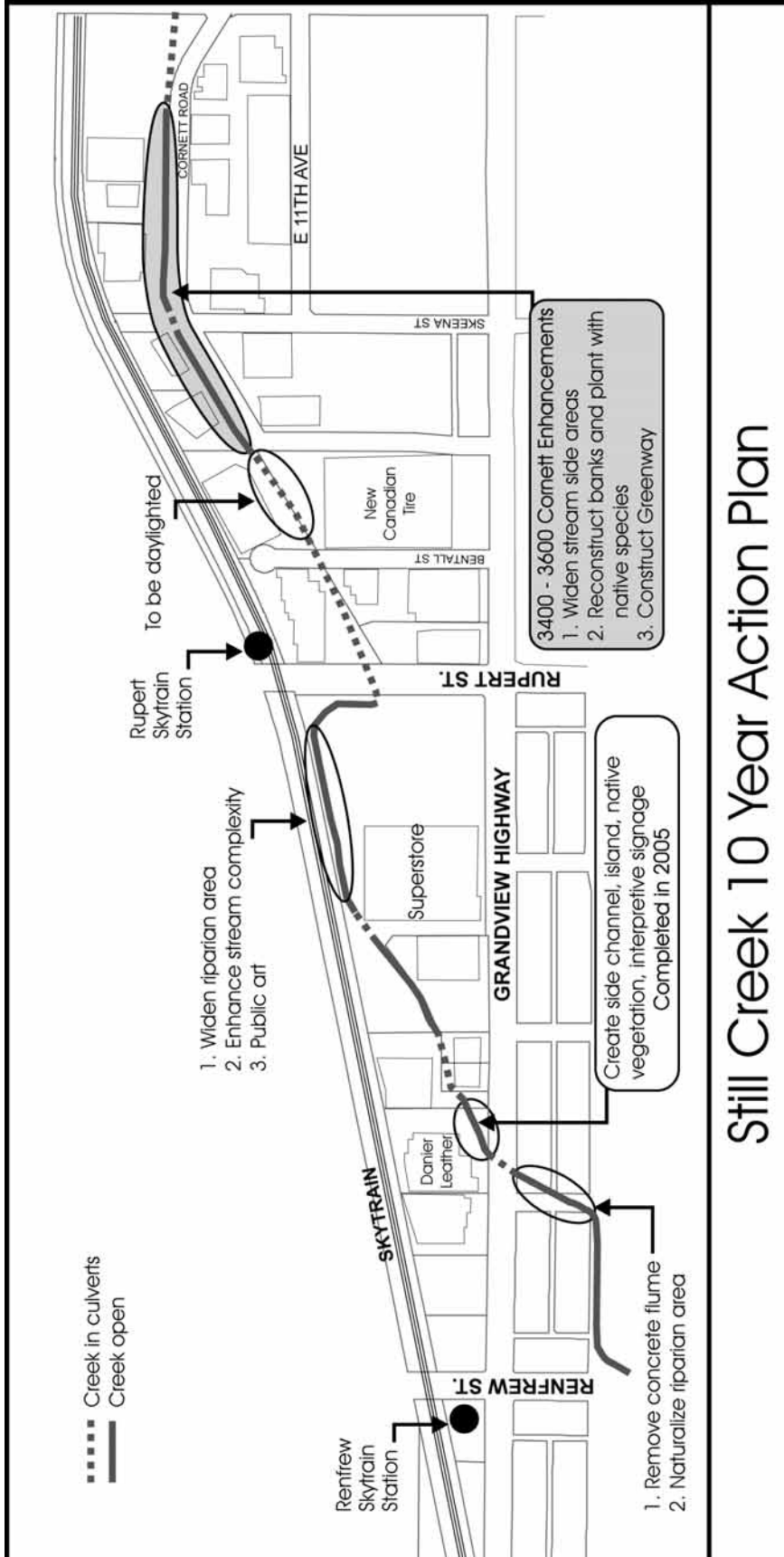
The Still Creek Greenway Enhancement Fund (G/L account 320083) has a current balance of \$308,754 and funding in the amount of \$51,902 for the consulting contract will be provided from this Fund.

CONCLUSION

Staff recommend that Jacques Whitford Limited be retained to design an enhancement plan for the portion of Still Creek along 3400 to 3600 blocks of Cornett Road.

Once a design is finalized, City staff will report to Council seeking funding from the Still Creek Enhancement Fund to contribute towards a project in the 3400 block Cornett. If approved, the enhancement project will be carried out in consultation with Engineering Services and in collaboration with the GVRD, which has allocated \$170,000 for this work.

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Still Creek 10 Year Action Plan

STILL CREEK ENHANCEMENT PROJECT - 3400 TO 3600 BLOCKS OF CORNETT ROAD
DESIGN CONSULTANT - TERMS OF REFERENCE (EXCERPT)

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This request for proposals (RFP) outlines the desired scope of Consultant services for the Still Creek Enhancement Plan.
- 1.2 The Still Creek Enhancement Plan was adopted by Vancouver City Council in July 2002. The long-term objectives of the Plan are to:
 - a) improve creek ecology;
 - b) enhance recreation opportunities along the creek;
 - c) improve stormwater management; and
 - d) increase public awareness of Still Creek as an important environmental and recreational resource.
- 1.3 The Plan calls for the following measures for the portion of the creek located along the 3400 to 3600 blocks of Cornett Road:
 - a) narrowing of Cornett Road by 2.5 meters and realignment of the north curb to widen the streamside area;
 - b) creation of a pedestrian and cycle path along the south side of the creek;
 - c) replacement of invasive species with native shrubs and trees; and
 - d) improvements to the stream bed.

Further detail on the Still Creek Enhancement Plan and related initiatives to restore and rehabilitate the Creek can be found at:

<http://www.vancouver.ca/commsvcs/cityplans/stillcreek/index.htm>

2.0 Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of this project is to enhance the portion of Still Creek along the North side of the 3400 to 3600 blocks of Cornett Road. This project will provide opportunities for stormwater treatment, groundwater recharge and public education. The design should be innovative and aesthetically pleasing, while fulfilling environmental goals and achieving objectives set out in the Still Creek Enhancement Plan.

3.0 Site Description

- 3.1 The portion of Still Creek along the 3400 to 3600 blocks of Cornett Road runs in a straight, narrow, open channel with a mix of riprap, concrete and earthen banks. The vegetation is predominantly Himalayan Blackberries. There is an abandoned wooden rail bridge and an active wood access bridge to an adjacent

site. An adjacent section of the Creek to the West, which is currently in a culvert, will be daylighted as part of the development of a Canadian Tire Store.

An aerial photo is provided in Appendix 2.

4.0 Scope of Work

- 4.1 This section describes the scope of work that the successful Consultant will provide for the Still Creek Enhancement Plan as contemplated by the City. Proposal submissions should comment on the scope of work as described in this section, indicate any proposed changes, and outline the resources expected to be devoted by the Contractor.
- 4.2 The Consultant will provide engineering design services for the specified portion of Still Creek. The Consultant's work shall comprise the following:
- Project initiation;
 - Field investigation;
 - Assessment of the condition of the existing bridge crossing in the 3400 block of Cornett;
 - Recommend options for the retention or replacement of the bridge;
 - Conceptual, preliminary and detailed design for the enhancement area;
 - Drawings and technical specifications for the final design;
 - Cost estimate for construction of the final design; and
 - Approval of works from Fisheries and Oceans Canada and notification to the Ministry of the Environment regarding changes in and about stream.

5.0 The Project Team

- 5.1 It is anticipated that the project team will be a multidisciplinary team with extensive experience in creek enhancement projects and innovative landscaping initiatives with a focus on habitat improvement. The team is expected to include professionals with expertise in the following areas:
- Hydrotechnical Engineering
 - Geotechnical Engineering
 - Structural Engineering
 - Landscaping
 - Environmental Protection

6.0 Schedule

- 6.1 The Consultant's portion of the project is expected to be completed within 3 months of the signing of the Professional Services Agreement. The Consultant shall submit a project schedule as part of the proposal. The Consultant should allot a 2 week period for the City of Vancouver staff to review the conceptual design, prior to completion of the final design.

7.0 Costs

- 7.1 A proposed fee structure for the scope of work as outlined including a maximum total fee and disbursements is required and is to be included with responses.
- 7.2 The hourly charge out rates for team members assigned to the project should be included.
- 7.3 A description of all costs associated with sub-Contractors.
- 7.4 Description of all costs, for any additional proposed scope of work related to this project.

8.0 Deliverables

- 8.1 The Consultant will be required to meet with City and GVRD staff a minimum of 3 times: at the project initiation, conceptual design phase and to review the final design. In addition, the Consultant may be required to meet once with other stakeholders during the conceptual design phase.
- 8.2 The Consultant will report to Simone Rousseau, EIT and work closely with the Still Creek Enhancement staff team. The Consultant will work out of their own office and are expected to attend meetings at City Hall and on-site as required.
- 8.3 Three sets of drawings are to be completed and provided to the City. An electronic version of the material is to be provided. Drawings and specifications must be in a form suitable to include in construction tender documents. Drawings shall include plans, profiles, sections and details (certified by a professional engineer).