



Report to: Development Services Committee

Report Date: April 10, 2012

SUBJECT: Utility Pole Replacement on Markham Road from 16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive

PREPARED BY: Dale MacKenzie, Senior Capital Works Engineer, Ext. 4055
Alain Cachola, Manager of Infrastructure and Capital Works, Ext 2711

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the report entitled "Utility Poles Replacement on Markham Road from 16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive be received;
- 2) And that the tendering process for the replacement of utility poles along Markham Road from 16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive including design review and construction co-ordination services, be waived in accordance with Purchasing By-Law 2004-341 Part II, Section 7(2);
- 3) And that Staff be authorized to issue Purchase Orders to Power Stream and other utility companies (i.e. Bell, Rogers Cable) for the replacement of their existing utility facilities on Markham Road from 16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive up to a value of \$565,000.00 (\$484,937.64 Power Stream work, and \$80,062.36 estimate for other utilities) exclusive of HST to be funded from the Road Reconstruction Budget #083-5350-11069-005 which currently has a balance of \$5,787,600.00;
- 4) And that Staff be authorized and directed to take the actions necessary, including the execution of documents, to give effect to this report;

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to obtain authorization to proceed with the replacement of utility poles in advance of tendering the reconstruction works for Markham Road from 16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive.

BACKGROUND:

The reconstruction at Markham Road from 16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive is scheduled to begin construction in July of this year (Attachment 'B' - Location Map). The project includes the replacement of sanitary sewer, watermain and associated services as well as new storm sewers, curbs, road widening and the filling of the road side ditches. As a part of the road urbanization, all existing ditches will have to be filled to create the boulevard. The amount of fill in some areas will be up to 2.0m.

Power Stream has recently advised that the existing Hydro Utility Poles need to be replaced as the existing poles will be buried up to 2m due to the proposed road improvements. Powerstream added that any change in the existing ground elevation relative to the hydro cables will require a

relocation of the hydro poles as these impact the ground clearance requirements. This will require Power Stream to install new hydro poles to the new grade elevation and transfer their overhead hydro lines. Once the new poles have been installed and Power Stream have transferred the hydro lines, the remaining wires from Bell and Rogers TV will be attached to the new poles. Following this work Power Stream will remove the old poles. The utility relocation work needs to be completed prior to the road construction commencing in July 2012.

DISCUSSION:

The Town has agreements with the utility companies which define the responsibilities of each party relating to the sharing of relocation costs. The Town has a Municipal Access Agreements with the communications utility (i.e. Bell, Rogers, etc.) which identifies the cost sharing of the utility relocation work. Powerstream on the other hand uses the Public Service Works on Highways Act (R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.49) to identify the cost sharing for their infrastructures. The utility companies have completed their respective designs and cost estimates for the relocation works are now being completed. To expedite the relocation process, staff is requesting approval to issue Purchase Orders to the various utility companies (Power Stream, Bell, Rogers, etc.) while their cost estimates are being finalized. The cost to relocate the poles is \$1,494,049.92 as per Attachment "A" and Bell/Rogers costs are \$80,062.36 for a total of \$1,574,112.28. The Town's share of the relocation costs will be determined by the terms of the Municipal Access Agreements / Public Service Works on Highway Act with the various utilities and is expected to be \$565,000.00 with Power Stream's share being \$1,009,112.28.

Hydro Undergrounding

Staff is scheduled to submit a report to Council on May 22, 2012 as to the cost and funding options to underground various roads in Markham, including Markham Road (16th Ave. to Major Mackenzie Drive). The funding cost to underground the existing overhead hydro line on the section of Markham Road, from 16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive is in the order of \$22.0 million.

Currently funding from Power Stream or the Town is not available and this section of road may not have a significant amount of high density zero lot line development, which will be one of the criteria for undergrounding.

If Council wishes to pursue undergrounding of existing overhead hydro utilities in this section of road without delaying the 2012/2013 construction schedule for Markham Road then staff recommend we initiate discussions with Powerstream to review the design but proceed to relocate the OH utilities this spring. The Main Street Markham right-of-way has enough room on the east boulevard to accommodate the proposed hydro undergrounding.

FINANCIAL TEMPLATE

Funds for the Markham Road (16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive) Road Reconstruction utility relocation are budgeted under Engineering Department Capital Budget account # 83-5350-11069-005. This account currently has an available balance of \$5,787,600.00.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The reconstruction of Markham Road from 16th Avenue to Major MacKenzie Drive has long been contemplated as a strategic priority. The project provides the necessary upgrades to the existing roadway infrastructure, and the opportunity to enhance the existing streetscape.

This project is in line with the Town of Markham's strategic focus relating to Growth Management, Transportation/Transit, Safety, the Environment and Municipal Services.

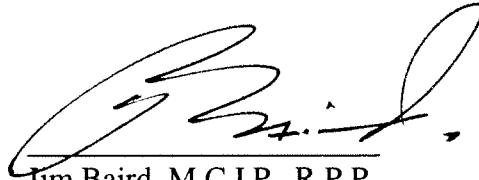
DEPARTMENTS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

The Finance Department has reviewed and commented on this report.

RECOMMENDED BY:



Alan Brown, C.E.T.
Director of Engineering



Jim Baird, M.C.I.P., R.P.P.
Commissioner of Development Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment "A1 & A2" – Quotation from Power Stream
Attachment B – Location Map