

NO: **R099**

COUNCIL DATE: **May 7, 2012**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **April 27, 2012**

FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation and
Culture**

FILE: **0350-01**

SUBJECT **Award of Tree Watering Contract No. 1220-040-2012-014**

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that Council approve the award of tree watering contract No. 1220-040-2012-014 to Dougherty Investments Ltd. dba Horizon Landscape Contractors to a maximum value of **\$566,168** plus HST for the watering of street and park trees in 2012.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to award of a contract for the watering of street trees and park trees in 2012.

BACKGROUND

Street trees and park shade trees require supplemental watering during the first six to eight years after they are first planted with the amount of watering in any year dependent on rainfall during that year. Based on current inventories there are approximately 21,000 trees that need to be watered during 2012. Approximately 5% of the tree watering is carried out by City staff with the remainder undertaken by a contractor.

DISCUSSION

A request for expression of interest and statement of qualifications was advertised on the B.C. Bid website and the City website. Two companies responded. Both companies were evaluated with respect to the requirements of the request and subsequently were invited to submit a quotation to provide tree watering services.

The proponents provided a quote on the rate to water trees by various categories. Structuring the contract on a cost per tree basis, rather than an hourly rate, ensures efficient performance by the contractor. A separate rate is requested for each of trees located in parks and trees located on streets and for each of different age categories of trees.

Based on the numbers of trees in each component of the contract, the following represents the value of the quote from each of the two pre-qualified contractors:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Dougherty Investments Ltd. DBA Horizon Landscape Contractors | \$ 566,168 |
| 2. D.J. Weedbusters Ltd. | \$1,133,533 |

Based on previous experience and reference checks, Dougherty Investments has the expertise and capacity to deliver the services that are required under the subject contract. As such, based on their quote being the lower of the two submissions, staff is recommending that the subject contract be awarded to Dougherty Investments Ltd.

Funding:

Funding for the contract is contained within the approved 2012 budget.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The City's street and park trees represent a significant green infrastructure investment. Well-managed trees beautify the City, provide habitat, mitigate storm water run-off, off-set carbon emissions and filter other pollutants. Regular structural pruning of the trees helps to reduce tree failure and increase the service life of the trees. This is consistent with the objectives of the City Sustainability Charter; more particularly, Environmental Sustainability Goal EC3: being to undertake the maintenance of infrastructure for sustainability.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion it is recommended that Council approve the award of tree watering contract No. 1220-040-2012-014 to Dougherty Investments Ltd. dba Horizon Landscape Contractors to a maximum value of **\$566,168** plus HST for the watering of street and park trees in 2012.

Laurie Cavan,
General Manager
Parks, Recreation and Culture