

NO: **R204**

COUNCIL DATE: **DECEMBER 15, 2014**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **December 10, 2014**

FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture** FILE: **6300-01**

SUBJECT: **Award of Tree Risk Abatement Services Contract 1220-040-2013-069**

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that Council authorize the extension through 2015 of Contract 1220-040-2013-069 with B.C. Plant Health Care Inc. for the provision of tree risk abatement services up to a maximum of \$585,000 plus applicable taxes.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval to extend an existing contract through 2015 related to tree risk abatement services.

BACKGROUND

Surrey has management responsibilities for significant tree resources. These include approximately 4,000 acres of forested parkland, almost 80,000 street trees under active management, trees growing wild on un-opened road allowances, and trees on corporately-owned city properties.

The management of trees includes tree risk abatement work which is required to ensure public safety and to protect both City and private property. Much of this work occurs on a proactive basis, where trees are inspected and hazard abatement work is carried out in a planned manner. The work also occurs on a reactive basis, where trees are found to be hazardous outside of the planned inspection programs. The unplanned work is often associated with storm events, but may also be the result of automobile accidents, flooding, or land clearing on adjacent private properties that exposes City-owned forest trees to higher wind loading.

On December 19, 2013, following a competitive RFQ process, Tree Risk Abatement Services contract 1220-040-2013-069 was awarded to B.C. Plant Health Care Inc. for the one-year period commencing January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014. The contract contains a clause that allows for 3 additional one-year renewals should the City remain satisfied with the performance of the contractor.

DISCUSSION

The work carried out by B.C. Plant Health Care Inc. during 2014 has been fully satisfactory. This company has sufficient resources and expertise to undertake the necessary work with high quality and has a very good safety record.

Financial Evaluation for 2015

The 2015 contract rates remain the same as the rates that were applicable in 2014.

A number of City departments and sections are responsible for tree risk abatement work, mainly within the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department and the Engineering Department. As such, this contract includes anticipated expenditures from the respective City departments, plus a modest contingency for additional storm events beyond the average.

The total anticipated cost of the work under the contract in 2015 is \$585,000 plus applicable taxes. This amount is anticipated to be available in the 2015 – 2019 Five-Year Financial Plan. The subject contract will not be executed until Council has approved the 2015-2019 Five-Year Financial Plan.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Surrey's tree risk abatement programs support the following Sustainability Charter goals:

1. Socio-Cultural Goal - Specific Goal #5
"To create a City that is, and is perceived as being, safe and secure."
2. Environmental Goal
"To demonstrate good stewardship of the land, water, air and built environment, protecting, preserving and enhancing Surrey's natural areas and ecosystems for current and future generations while making nature accessible for all to enjoy."

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council authorize the extension through 2015 of Contract No. 1220-040-2013-069 with B.C. Plant Health Care Inc. for the provision of tree risk abatement services up to a maximum of \$585,000 plus applicable taxes.

Laurie Cavan
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Parks, Recreation and Culture