



# The Corporation of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie

## Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: March 27, 2023

Subject: SRW.23.06 Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project

Report from: Scott McLeod, Public Works Manager

Appendices: None

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### **Recommendation**

Be It Resolved that Council hereby,

1. Award the contract for the Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project to Signature Contractors Windsor Inc. in the amount of \$1,244,904.05 inclusive of HST;
2. That the award of the Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project be given pre-budget approval for the 2023 portion of funds of \$410,695; and
3. That the remaining project be funded through the capital budget account 22-TRANS-0005-ROADS-Sidewalks.

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### **Report Summary**

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to award the contract for the Arran-Elderslie (Tara, Chesley, Paisley, Allenford) Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project.

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### **Background**

In 2021, the Municipality completed a road and sidewalk need study. Once the sidewalk study was completed, a grant application was submitted to the Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) for sidewalk repairs and upgrades in Chesley, Paisley, Tara and Allenford. The Municipality was awarded the grant at 65% federal funding and 35% municipal funding. The deadline for completion of this work was March 31, 2023.

At the beginning of June, 2022, GSS Engineering (Project Engineer), on behalf of Arran-Elderslie, sent out nine (9) invitational tenders to contractors for sidewalk repairs in Arran-Elderslie. Tenders were opened June 30, 2022, with only one bid received. The single bid was significantly over the engineer's estimate and the municipality's budget. At that time, Council directed staff to contact the Province requesting an extension to the funding. A letter on July 12, 2022 was sent to The Honorable Helena Jaczek, Minister for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario. In addition, MP Alex Ruff also contacted the Minister's office regarding support of the extension request.

Following the letter, and conversation with a representative of the Canada Community Revitalization Fund and MP Alex Ruff resulted in the recommendation to re-tender the project in anticipation of being able to use some of the available grant funding.

The second round of tenders was issued on August 5<sup>th</sup> with a closing date of August 11<sup>th</sup> and only two bids were received. One bid was deemed incomplete and therefore refused as per Division 2, Section 9.6, No. 2 of the tender documents. The other bid received was significantly higher than the engineer's estimate and municipality's budgeted amount.

Staff and the Project Engineer discussed the options, and it was decided to postpone the project at this time, since the tender bid was substantially higher than the funding available for this project. Council directed Staff to continue to pursue the government for an extension to the CCRF completion timelines and a subsequent letter was drafted and sent to the Honorable Filomena Tassi, Minister for the Federal Economic Development Agency on September 26, 2022.

As a result of these efforts, notification was received in November of 2022 that the Request for Extension would be approved, and the municipality would be provided until March 2024 to complete the project utilizing the grant funding. This extension provides the Municipality with the opportunity to re-tender the project and complete the work in 2023 as sidewalk work is weather sensitive, and therefore needs to be completed when temperatures are above freezing.

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## **Analysis**

Prior to finalizing the tender documents, Staff and the Engineer re-evaluated the engineer's estimate for the project based on changes to pricing from the time the original estimate was completed. At that time, it was decided that the scope of the project would need to be decreased in order to meet the budgeted amounts.

To complete this, 2,388 metres of sidewalk replacement were removed leaving 1,975 metres to be replaced and 219 tactile warning plates being installed.

The 2023 tender documents were issued on February 6, 2023 and closed on March 1, 2023.

A total of 16 contractors were invited to bid on the project and bids were received from the five (5) following contractors:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Completion Timeline</u>
Royal Crown Construction	\$1,038,416.83	16 weeks
Signature Contractors	\$1,101,685.00	38 weeks (*if started by mid-April – 10 weeks)
Autoform Contracting London	\$1,419,239.94	8 weeks
E.C. King Contracting	\$1,599,568.70	20 weeks
Neptune Security Service Inc.	\$1,713,000.00	6 weeks

GSS Engineering undertook a comprehensive review of the tenders. Based on a review of the submissions such as the contractor's ability to complete the work, projected timelines, budgeted costs, coordination and response to the public, traffic safety, co-operation with property owners affected by construction, co-ordination of project activities and subcontractors, etc.

Following the review and reference check process, Rakesh Sharma of GSS Engineering provided the following recommendation that the project for the Replacement of Sidewalks in Allenford, Chesley, Paisley and Tara in Municipality of Arran-Elderslie be awarded to Signature Contractors for a bid price of \$1,101,685.00 (excluding HST)"

Based on the industry knowledge and experience of GSS Engineering, staff support the recommendation of GSS Engineering and request Council to award the project to the second lowest tenderer, Signature Contractors.

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**Link to Strategic/Master Plan**

6.1 Protecting Infrastructure, Recreation and Natural Assets

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### **Financial Impacts/Source of Funding/Link to Procurement Policy**

The sidewalk grant was based on the Sidewalk Needs Study. Funds were allocated as follows: \$750,000 federal grant and \$409,500 municipal funds, totalling \$1,159,500. This amount was split into 2022 and 2023. Pre-budget approval would be required for the 2023 portion of the budget which is \$410,695 of the total identified.

The project would be funded from account 22-TRANS-0005-ROADS-Sidewalks.

The cost of this project including HST is \$1,244,904.05. After the HST rebate, the total cost to the Municipality would be \$1,121,075.43, bringing the total cost of the project below budget by \$38,424.57.

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Approved by: Sylvia Kirkwood, CAO