

COMMUNICATION 131084

Received From: Dave Young, Project Manager
 Addressed To: Committee of the Whole
 Date: July 21, 2020
 Topic: Bridge Street Stakeholder Committee Update

SUMMARY

The Bridge Street Stakeholder Committee met on Monday, July 13, 2020, to review the recent tender closing of the Phase 1 works relating to the Central Bridge Project. The Phase 1 works included the Gillies Bridge Rehabilitation, the McArthur Island Watermain Crossing, and the Mill Street Pedestrian Upgrades. As only one bid was received which was \$1.6 million over budget, the Town did not award this contract and is going to retender with a revised schedule that will see the Phase 1 works deferred for one year. As a result, the Central Bridge Replacement that was planned for 2021 will also be deferred for one year. Included in the recommendation to defer the Central Bridge Replacement was the deferral of the Bridge Street Rehabilitation.

The Bridge Street Stakeholder Committee was convened to discuss recent events and review the approach of continuing to move forward with the Bridge Street Reconstruction in conjunction with the Central Bridge Replacement, and whether that was still the preferred approach.

There was a review of the advantages and disadvantages of the following two (2) options:

OPTION	DESCRIPTION	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
1	Bridge Street Rehabilitation, Gillies Bridge Rehabilitation, McArthur Island Watermain Crossing and Mill Street Pedestrian Upgrades in 2021 Central Bridge Replacement in 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addresses deficiencies in surface conditions in the Downtown corridor sooner • May attract customers to businesses in the downtown area during the Central Bridge Closure • maintains Bridge St. schedule that was originally proposed • commitment to original schedule eliminates uncertainty of future deferrals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends the construction impacts over two (2) years • financial impacts due to separating the two projects are projected to range from \$270k to \$770k • Having the Gillies Bridge closed at the same time Bridge Street is under construction will create serious traffic impacts.

OPTION	DESCRIPTION	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
2	<p>Gillies Bridge Rehabilitation, McArthur Island Watermain Crossing and Mill Street Pedestrian Upgrades in 2021</p> <p>Bridge Street Rehabilitation and Central Bridge Replacement in 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cost savings will be realized by undertaking these two (2) projects simultaneously. • There has been community support to undertake the two (2) projects simultaneously through prior Public Consultations. • Construction impacts to the Downtown Core would be isolated to one (1) construction season as opposed to being spread over two (2) years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longer timeframe until Bridge Street surface deficiencies are addressed • will need to communicate to the community the basis for the schedule revision.

COMMENTS

During Committee discussions, the option of combining all works relating to the Central Bridge Replacement in one (1) tender that is undertaken over a two-year period commencing in 2021 with full completion by the end of 2022 was reviewed. This approach would create benefits such as potential cost savings, demonstrate a commitment to the complete project and a well-defined schedule for all the works. The intent would be to finalize the design of all projects and go out to tender later this year.

This option had not been viable previously as design work for Phase 1 work was further advanced than the Central Bridge and Bridge Street designs. Now that Phase 1 has been deferred, this option appears to be favourable and viable.

Also, the Bell St. Reconstruction had been previously removed from this year’s program due to utility conflicts that had been identified during detailed design, and the requirement to obtain the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA). The ECA application has since been submitted and staff are progressing with the relocation of the gas main on Bell Street to facilitate reconstruction, therefore it is anticipated that this

work will be able to proceed in 2021 and be included in the combined tender for all works.

Although various opinions were expressed during the meeting, the group consensus was concurrence with the original recommendation to defer the Bridge Street Reconstruction to 2022 to coincide with the Central Bridge Replacement.

The Committee also supported the approach of combining all projects related to the Central Bridge Replacement, including the Bridge Street Replacement into one (1) tender to be issued in late 2020.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council authorize staff to proceed with the development of one (1) tender to be issued in 2020 that incorporates the Gillies Bridge Rehabilitation, McArthur Island Watermain Crossing, Mill Street Pedestrian Upgrades, and Bell Street Reconstruction in 2021, and the Central Bridge Replacement and Bridge Street Reconstruction in 2022.