

To: Warden and Members of County Council

From: Director of Public Works

Contract Award – Oxford Road 59 (Wilson Street) Reconstruction, City of Woodstock

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That Oxford County Council award a contract to the low bidder, J-AAR Excavating Limited, in the amount of \$4,997,357 (excluding HST) for the reconstruction of Oxford Road 59 (Wilson Street) from Adelaide Street to the Canadian National Railway tracks in the City of Woodstock;**
- 2. And further, that County Council authorize additional funding in the amount of \$200,000 to address the 2023 budget shortfall for 960153 – Woodstock Water Linear County Road Projects, as outlined in Report No. PW 2023-19, to be financed from the Water – Woodstock Reserve;**
- 3. And further, that County Council authorize additional funding in the amount of \$30,000 to address the 2023 budget shortfall for 950174 – Woodstock Wastewater Linear County Road Projects, as outlined in Report No. PW 2023-19, to be financed from the Wastewater – Woodstock Reserve;**
- 4. And further, that County Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Public Works to sign all documents related hereto.**

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The purpose of this report is to obtain County Council approval to award the above-noted project to J-AAR Excavating Limited, in accordance with the County's Purchasing Policy, as well as seek additional funding necessary to complete this project.
- The Wilson Street Reconstruction project involves continuing the reconstruction of Huron Street from Adelaide Street to Dundas Street as well as Wilson Street from Dundas Street to the Canadian National Railway tracks. This project is an extension of the 2021/2022 Huron Street Reconstruction project, where Huron Street was converted to a three-lane configuration to improve overall traffic and safety operations for all road users, including drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.
- The proposed capital improvements include roadway, storm sewer, sanitary sewer and watermain upgrades to provide sustainable infrastructure and have been harmonized into one integrated project in order to minimize the extent of road travel disruption to the community and maximize cost efficiencies via project bundling.
- The project is anticipated to begin in April 2023 and is targeted for completion in October 2023.

Implementation

Upon Council approval, a contract will be executed with the low bidder, J-AAR Excavating Limited, prior to proceeding with the work.

The limits of the proposed work, as shown in Attachment 1, is split into two phases to minimize the impact to the residents of the City of Woodstock and other roadway users.

During Phase 1, Huron Street will be fully closed from Adelaide Street to Dundas Street and Wilson Street will be fully closed from Dundas Street to Peel Street. Dundas Street will remain open, but lane restrictions and periodic flagged traffic will be required during construction in order to accommodate the planned works. A planned detour via Peel Street, Wellington Street and Ingersoll Avenue will be utilized during Phase 1, with a planned duration of nine weeks.

For Phase 2, Wilson Street will be closed from Dundas Street to Henry Street. Local traffic to residences and businesses will be maintained during construction. Completion of Phase 2 is expected in October 2023. A planned detour via Henry Street, Wellington Street and Dundas Street will be utilized during Phase 2.

Planned detour routes for both Phase 1 and Phase 2 are shown in Attachment 2.

During construction, the contractor will maintain local traffic access to properties for residents, businesses and emergency vehicles at all times. Regulatory authorities, bus services and emergency services will receive advanced notice of the road closure and detour routes from Oxford County staff through *Ontario 511* notifications.

Financial Impact

The approved 2023 budget to complete this project (including road work, sanitary sewer replacement, storm sewer improvements, watermain replacement, traffic signal and street lighting replacement and restoration) is \$5,166,000, (excluding HST). The construction costs and funding sources for this project are summarized in Table 1.

Based on the information provided in Table 1, additional funding is required to cover the costs of the construction contract. In order to proceed with awarding the contract to the low bidder, it is recommended that an additional \$230,000 be transferred from reserves to fund the anticipated deficit amounts for the Oxford Road 59 (Wilson Street) Reconstruction.

Table 1: Funding Summary for Oxford Road 59 (Wilson Street) Reconstruction

2023 Budget Summary Account / Description	Available 2023 Budget	Bid Amount (excluding HST)	Non- Refundable HST	Budget Surplus (Deficit)	Funding Request
930059 – Oxford Road 59 (Wilson St.) (Approved budget: \$2,410,000) (Less other projects: \$10,000) (Includes cost recovery – City: \$100,000)	\$2,400,000	\$2,193,720	\$38,609	\$167,671	-
930054 – Oxford Road 54 (Huron St.) (Approved budget: \$300,000) (Add cost recovery – City: \$21,000 not in 2023 budget)	321,000	297,398	5,234	18,368	-
930198 – Urban Storm Sewer (Approved budget: \$460,000) (Less other projects: \$60,000)	400,000	277,332	4,881	117,787	-
960153 – Woodstock Water Linear County Road Projects (Approved budget: \$800,000) (Less other projects: \$100,000)	700,000	881,371	15,512	(196,883)	\$200,000
950174 – Woodstock Wastewater Linear County Road Projects (Approved budget: \$560,000) (Less other projects: \$60,000)	500,000	518,162	9,120	(27,282)	30,000
930300 – Traffic Signals (Approved budget: \$1,315,000) (Less other projects: \$620,000) (Add cost recovery – City \$150,000 not in 2023 budget)	845,000	829,374	14,597	1,029	-
Subtotal	\$5,166,000	\$4,997,357	\$87,953		\$230,000
Estimated Contract Administration, Inspection & Materials Testing		150,000			
Non-Refundable HST (1.76%)		87,953			
2023 EXPENDITURES TOTAL		\$5,235,310			

The above noted water and wastewater budget shortfalls are proposed to be addressed by funding transfers from the Water – Woodstock Reserve (\$200,000) and Wastewater – Woodstock Reserve (\$30,000), which have sufficient reserve balances of approximately \$20.5 M and \$11.5 M respectively.

Proposed sidewalks and street lighting have been planned and designed in collaboration with the City of Woodstock Engineering staff, and budgeted as part of the City of Woodstock's 2023 Capital Budget.

Communications

The communication strategy for this project will be similar to other County construction projects. The Contractor's project manager and the County's project manager will form an open channel of communication and will include other members of the project team as needed. These communications will commence upon approval of this report and will continue for the duration of the project.

Oxford County staff has communicated with City of Woodstock staff with respect to the scope of work, planned project schedule, road closure and detours. Additionally, County Public Works staff and City of Woodstock Engineering and Operations staff typically meet on a quarterly basis to discuss capital projects, operational and development-related issues, and the Wilson Street reconstruction project has been discussed at these meetings. Furthermore, as part of the County's detailed design process, the City has actively participated in each design review meeting. Ongoing communication is planned with the City prior to and throughout the construction period.







A Public Information Centre (PIC) was held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at the Oxford County Administration Building to allow residents and businesses to view the construction plans and speak to Public Works staff about the project. A community update and notice of the PIC was delivered to affected residents on February 8 and, leading up to March 1, the PIC was advertised through social media, in the *Oxford Review*, and *What's On Woodstock*. A project description has also been added to www.oxfordcounty.ca/2023construction. Approximately 10 residents and local business owners attended the PIC. The feedback received from PIC attendees will be considered in the capital delivery of this project.

A second notice, the Notice of Construction letter, will be delivered to nearby property owners and business owners, along with posting of construction signage at the project location in advance to alert the general public. During construction road closure, access to businesses and commercial properties will be maintained and any interruptions will be communicated in advance. As construction begins, residents and businesses will continue to be informed about road closures and progress through *Speak Up, Oxford* and through social media. If needed, expanded advertising may also be considered.

Oxford Road 59 (Wilson Street) has been selected to receive partial funding from the Canada Community-Building Fund. As part of the requirements of this type of funding, mandatory communication activities and promotion are required to help the public recognize the importance of infrastructure funding and its impact to their community; this includes the installation of project-appropriate information signs at project sites, additional advertisement on the County website and social media campaigns.

Staff will continue to work with key internal stakeholders (County Management staff, Transportation staff, Waste Management staff, and Water/Wastewater staff) and external stakeholders during the execution of this project as required to ensure the appropriate level of communication and outreach is maintained, and further ensuring all parties involved are updated on project status and outcomes as needed.

Strategic Plan (2020-2022)

					
<i>WORKS WELL TOGETHER</i>	<i>WELL CONNECTED</i>	<i>SHAPES THE FUTURE</i>	<i>INFORMS & ENGAGES</i>	<i>PERFORMS & DELIVERS</i>	<i>POSITIVE IMPACT</i>
	2.i.	3.iii.			

DISCUSSION

Background

Oxford Road 59 (Wilson St.) is an urban arterial road located between Cedar Street and Dundas Street within the City of Woodstock. This 0.5 km long section of roadway is an integral part of the north-south connection to the downtown core of Woodstock, and is an important commuter route for residents in north-central Woodstock. It experiences an annual average daily traffic (AADT) volume of 15,000 vehicles per day. Wilson Street also serves as a transit route for the Woodstock Transit system.

This construction project consists of the 0.1 km portion of Huron Street from Adelaide Street to Dundas Street, and 0.5 km portion of Wilson Street from Dundas Street to the CN Railway crossing. The existing roadway has a 4-lane cross section with curb faced sidewalk on both sides. The County is implementing a ‘Road Diet’ initiative to improve overall traffic efficiency, reduce accidents and increase safety for all modes of transportation by reducing the existing four lanes to two lanes, providing a centre two-way left-turn lane, dedicated bike lanes and widened sidewalks.

The general scope of work includes:

- Replacement of storm sewer appurtenances and catch basin leads;
- Replacement of approximately 472 metres of sanitary sewer and appurtenances;
- Replacement of approximately 660 metres of watermain and appurtenances;
- Full depth pavement structure replacement of 540 metres of arterial roadway; consisting of one through lane in each direction, a centre two-way left turn lane, and bike lanes;
- Curb and gutter and sidewalk replacement;
- Grading and restoration;
- Replacement of traffic signals (3) and signal timing coordination;
- Street light replacement; and
- Utility relocations and coordination.

Comments

A prequalification process was completed ahead of the tendering stage of this project. 17 contractors expressed interest and 16 were pre-qualified. The evaluation of submissions was based on a number of factors including Contractors' previous experience with similar projects of scope and scale, team background and experience managing projects of this scale.

As this project has the possible risks that would be associated with any construction project of this scale and scope, the successful Contractor is also required to secure construction bonds and insurance to mitigate risks related to the exposure of financial loss.

After the prequalification process was completed and the Contractors that were eligible to move forward were selected, the project was tendered through a competitive bidding process. County staff received the following bids at tender close on Thursday, February 16, 2023.

Table 2: Summary of Bid Submissions

Contractor	Bid Amount (HST Excluded)
1. J-AAR Excavating Limited	\$4,997,357
2. Viewcon Construction Ltd	\$5,122,432
3. Sierra Infrastructure Inc	\$5,280,856
4. E. & E. Seegmiller Limited	\$5,449,327
5. Oxford Civil Group Inc.	\$5,608,743
6. Network Sewer and Watermain Ltd	\$6,546,451
7. Aecon Construction and Materials Limited	\$6,609,300
8. Amico Infrastructures Inc.	\$7,845,403

Staff have reviewed the submissions and confirmed that the low bid received from J-AAR Excavating Limited, in the amount of \$4,997,357 (excluding HST) represents good value for the work. J-AAR Excavating Limited's ability to complete the project in accordance with the schedule and specifications can be confidently expected as evidenced by previous projects completed for Oxford County.

Should the contract not be awarded and the work does not proceed, the condition of the County's affected assets will continue to deteriorate.

Conclusion

Review of the competitive bid submissions confirms that it is appropriate to award the proposed Reconstruction on Oxford Road 59 (Wilson Street) to the low bidder, J-AAR Excavating Limited of Woodstock, Ontario.

SIGNATURES

Report Author:

Original signed by:

Daniel Koppert, LET, PMP
Project Engineer

Departmental Approval:

Original signed by:

David Simpson, P.Eng., PMP
Director of Public Works

Approved for submission:

Original signed by:

Benjamin R. Addley
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Project Limits, February 24, 2023
Attachment 2: Detour Map, February 24, 2023