

**To: Warden and Members of County Council**

**From: Director of Public Works**

## **Contract Award – Oxford Road 59 (Norwich Avenue) and Juliana Drive Intersection Improvements, City of Woodstock**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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- 1. That Oxford County Council award a contract to the low bidder, Cassidy Construction London Inc., in the amount of \$1,157,451 (excluding HST) for the intersection improvements of Oxford Road 59 (Norwich Avenue) and Juliana Drive in the City of Woodstock;**
- 2. And further, that Oxford County Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Public Works to sign all documents related hereto.**

### **REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

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- The purpose of this report is to obtain County Council approval to award the above-noted project to Cassidy Construction London Inc. in accordance with the County Purchasing Policy.
- The proposed intersection improvements will improve overall traffic congestion and safety operations for all transportation end-users, including drivers and pedestrians.
- The proposed capital works are planned to be completed in the 2021 construction season with all road and watermain improvements to be 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.
- This project is anticipated to begin in May 2021 and targeted for completion by September 2021.

### **Implementation Points**

Upon Council approval, a contract will be executed with the low bidder, Cassidy Construction London Inc., prior to proceeding with the work.

Juliana Drive will be closed from the east side of Norwich Avenue to the SmartCentres Woodstock Plaza entrance for the duration of construction. The entrance itself will not be blocked; traffic from the east side of Juliana Drive may still enter the plaza or from the entrance on the north side of Montclair Drive.

A planned detour via Montclair Drive, between Juliana Drive and Norwich Avenue, will be utilized to manage traffic and also afford continued access for emergency response vehicles. Regulatory authorities and emergency services will receive advanced notice through Oxford County road closure notifications. This project is anticipated to begin in May 2021 and targeted for completion by September 2021.

## Financial Impact

This work was planned for in the 2021 Business Plan and Budget, and the low bid amount is within budget. The construction costs and funding sources for this project are summarized in Table 1 below.

*Table 1: Funding Summary for Oxford Road 59 (Norwich Avenue) and Juliana Drive Intersection Improvements*

<b>2021 Budget Summary Account / Description</b>	<b>Available 2021 Budget</b>	<b>Bid Amount (excluding HST)</b>
<b>930059 – Oxford Road 59</b> (Approved budget: \$1,025,000) (Less other projects: \$100,000) (City contribution: \$400,000)	\$925,000	\$823,144
<b>930198 – Urban Storm Sewer</b> (Approved budget: \$790,000) (Less other projects: \$555,000)	\$235,000	\$11,995
<b>930300 – Traffic Signals</b> (Approved budget: \$915,000) (Less other projects: \$515,000)	\$400,000	\$243,282
<b>960153 – Water City contribution</b> (Approved budget: \$1,560,000) (Less other projects: \$1,260,000)	\$300,000	\$79,030
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,860,000</b>	<b>\$1,157,451</b>
<b>Estimated Contract Administration; Inspection &amp; Materials Testing</b>		<b>\$60,000</b>
<b>Non-Refundable HST (1.76%)</b>		<b>\$20,372</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$1,237,823</b>

## 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 have had communicated with City of Woodstock staff with respect to the scope of work and planned schedule, and further communication is planned prior to and throughout construction. A Notice of Construction letter will be delivered to nearby commercial property owners and construction signage will be posted at the project location to alert the general public in advance.

As construction begins, residents will be informed about road closures and progress through a dedicated webpage focusing on the several projects starting in Woodstock in 2021 as well as through social media. If needed, expanded advertising may be also be considered.

An electronic copy of the tender drawing set including staging/detour plans was submitted to the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) as a courtesy for their acknowledgement. The MTO returned with no concerns regarding the construction works planned for this assignment.

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)

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

## DISCUSSION

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### Background

The intersection of Oxford Road 59 (Norwich Avenue) and Juliana Drive in the City of Woodstock is signalized and experiences periods of significant traffic congestion throughout the day, especially during peak traffic hours. In particular, noticeable delays occur for westbound to southbound left turns and for eastbound through/right movements.

Development proposals for new residential, industrial and commercial land uses are occurring along both of these roadway corridors within the southern part of Woodstock, and it is anticipated that this build-out will add to increased traffic congestion in the foreseeable future.

The County retained a consultant to conduct an engineering assessment of traffic conditions to examine traffic growth implication and identify any traffic operations and/or geometric improvements to reduce congestion observed at this intersection.

As part of the County's review process, ongoing discussions and feedback from the City of Woodstock were solicited throughout the detailed design phase. During an early stage of detailed design, the City requested that the construction limits of the original scope of work be extended along Juliana Drive, east of Norwich Avenue, to the SmartCentres Woodstock Plaza entrance. This request was initiated by the City to upgrade the aging 250mm cast iron watermain and complete the associated roadworks on Juliana Drive to meet the City's ongoing capital works. The decision to include this scope of work within the County's project was in order to reduce disruption to traffic at the City's busiest intersection and take advantage of more competitive pricing by executing the assignment under one single contract.

A map identifying the project site location is included as Attachment 1 to this report.

The general scope of construction work includes:

- Full depth pavement structure removal and replacement within construction limits, converting the westbound to southbound lane to include double left-turn lanes against one protected eastbound to northbound single left-turn lane;
- Install new traffic signals at the intersection;
- Curb and gutter and sidewalk installation to meet AODA standards;
- Repaving and line painting; and
- Relocation of telecommunications and hydro pole (by others).

Proposed sidewalks have been planned and designed in collaboration with the City of Woodstock Engineering staff.

As part of the planned road reconstruction, underground linear infrastructure that is nearing the end of its useful service life will be bundled into the project and replaced as follows:

- Remove/replace existing 250mm watermain, approximately 160 m in length, east of Juliana Drive; and
- Remove/replace water services where required.

## **Comments**

Prior to tender, Public Works advertised for the pre-qualification of Contractors. Staff reviewed the prequalification submissions and recommended that fifteen Contractors be pre-qualified for invitation to submit bids on this tender opportunity. The evaluation of submissions were based on a number of factors including Contractors' previous project experience with similar projects of scope and size, overall management 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 eight bids from the pre-qualified Contractors at tender close on Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

**Table 2: Summary of Bid Submissions**

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Bid Amount (HST Excluded)</b>
<b>1. Cassidy Construction London Ltd.</b>	\$1,157,451
2. Oxford Civil Group Inc.	\$1,310,951
3. J-AAR Excavating Limited	\$1,333,970
4. Bre-Ex Construction Inc.	\$1,364,257
5. Amico Infrastructure (Oxford) Inc.	\$1,413,588
6. Dufferin Construction Company	\$1,470,500
7. Sierra Infrastructure Inc.	\$1,490,432
8. E. & E. Seegmiller Limited	\$1,518,827

Staff have reviewed the submissions and confirmed that the low bid received from Cassidy Construction London Ltd. in the amount of \$1,157,451 (excluding HST) represents good value for work.

## Conclusions

Review of the competitive bid submissions confirms that it is appropriate to award the proposed Reconstruction Works on Oxford Road 59 and Juliana Drive to the low bidder, Cassidy Construction London Ltd.

## SIGNATURES

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### Report Author:

Original signed by

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Heather Van, P.Eng., PMP  
Project Engineer

### Departmental Approval:

Original signed by

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

### Approved for submission:

Original signed by

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Michael Duben, B.A., LL.B.  
Chief Administrative Officer

## ATTACHMENT

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Attachment 1: Project Site Map, March 17, 2021