

# HALIFAX

P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

**Item No. 14.1.2**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**April 25, 2017**

**TO:** Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed by 

**SUBMITTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** March 30, 2017

**SUBJECT:** **Award - Unit Price Tender No. 17-001, Fort Needham Memorial Park Improvements**

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## **ORIGIN**

The Approved 2016/17 Capital Budget and Approved 2017/18 Advanced Capital Budget.

## **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

Section 79 of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* provides that, "The Council may expend money required by the Municipality for: ...

(n) lighting any part of the Municipality; (ah) playgrounds, trails ... and other recreational facilities; ... (ai) public grounds, squares, halls, museums, parks, tourist information centres and community centres;"

The recommended contract award complies with all of the pre-requisites for awarding contracts as set out in section 34 of Administrative Order 2016-005-ADM, the *Procurement Administrative Order*.

Section 36 of the *Procurement Administrative Order*, provides that Halifax Regional Council may approve contract awards of any amount, and that Council is required to approve all contracts awards resulting from tenders where the award amount exceeds \$1,250,000.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Award Tender No. 17-001, Fort Needham Memorial Park Improvements, to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Turf Masters Landscaping Ltd., for a Total Tender Price of \$2,001,023 (net HST included) from Project Account No. CP000012, Fort Needham Master Plan Implementation, as outlined in the Financial Implications section of this report.
2. Award construction and administration fees to Ekistics Planning & Design in the amount of \$75,404 (net HST included), with funding from Project Account No. CP000012, Fort Needham Master Plan

Implementation, as outlined in the Financial Implications section of this report.

**BACKGROUND**

Fort Needham Memorial Park is a 15.6 acre regional park located in the north end of the Halifax peninsula. The Park is one of the most notable sites associated with the Halifax Explosion. It is the site of the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bell Tower, a monument erected in the 1980's, to commemorate the Halifax Explosion. Each year, the municipality commemorates this event at Fort Needham Park, overlooking the spot in the harbour where the Explosion occurred.

As part of the Municipal Commemorative Program for the 100th Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion, the Municipality has undertaken the initiative to revitalize Fort Needham Memorial Park. On October 27, 2015 Regional Council adopted the Fort Needham Master Plan as direction for future improvements to the park, and directed staff to undertake detailed design for the implementation of Phases 1 and 2 as outlined in the Master Plan. The full document of the Master Plan report can be found online at: <http://www.halifax.ca/parks/fort-needham/index.php>.

The Halifax Explosion has cultural significance at a regional, national and international scale. The Fort Needham Master Plan gives vision to transform Fort Needham Park as a meaningful legacy for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by enhancing the park as a commemorative and interpretive site to present the Explosion story for residents and visitors.

In April 2016, RFP 16-015 was awarded to Ekistics Planning & Design to provide design services for the implementation of specified components of the 2015 Fort Needham Park Master Plan. This work resulted in the completion of detailed design tender drawings for park upgrades and interpretive elements to prepare the site for the 100th anniversary commemoration of the Halifax Explosion on December 6, 2017.

In order to implement the Master Plan in preparation for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the following tasks have been completed:

- On November 17, 2016 HRM staff hosted an open house to provide updates on the general implementation of the Master Plan.
- On December 13, 2016 an Information Report was presented to Council in regards to a petition to either maintain or improve the existing tennis courts. The report confirmed that the tennis courts would be removed and construction of the new playground be undertaken in the first phase of the project as outlined in the Fort Needham Master Plan.
- In February 2017, RFP 16-182R, Design-Build Upgrades to the Fort Needham Bells was awarded to Black & MacDonald Limited for the restoration of the Memorial Bell Tower which generally includes electrical upgrades, data and control wiring, mechanical bell ring equipment, HVAC for the control room, and bird/animal controls.

The proposed 2017/18 Capital Budget also includes funds to implement a marker program to showcase locations across the region which have a connection to the explosion and the creation of a website to highlight the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Halifax Explosion. Work on those components are ongoing.

**DISCUSSION**

Tender No. 17-001 was publicly advertised on the Province of Nova Scotia's Procurement website on February 27, 2017 and closed on March 21, 2017. Bids were received from the following companies:

**Name of Company**

**Bid Price (net HST included)**

Turf Masters Landscaping Ltd.	\$2,001,023*
Provincial Pavement Markings Inc.	\$2,223,816
Ocean Contractors Limited	\$2,353,944
Elmsdale Landscaping Limited	\$2,363,758
Dexter Construction Company Limited	\$2,627,277
Mid-Valley Construction (1997) Limited	\$3,612,410
<b>*recommended bidder</b>	

The scope of work for this tender generally consists of the following:

- hard surface plaza around the monument;
- lighting of the monument;
- accessible parking lot off Needham Street;
- asphalt pathways;
- decorative pathway lighting;
- selective tree trimming;
- forest trails;
- new stairs from Union Street (across from the stairs leading to Devonshire Avenue);
- interpretive elements;
- new furnishings (bike racks, picnic tables, benches, waste receptacles)
- tennis court removal;
- grading for a new playground (the new playground will be installed in 2017 under a separate tender);
- landscaping/planting beds; and
- signage.

It is anticipated that work will commence within three weeks of the tender award and be completed by October 2017.

This is a **UNIT PRICE** contract and the cost will be dependent upon the actual quantities measured and approved by the HRM Project Manager.

Ekistics Planning & Design was the successful proponent for RFP 16-015 Fort Needham Master Plan Implementation. The detail design component of that project was awarded by the CAO on April 18, 2016. The total proposal cost, including construction administration, was included for evaluation purposes; however, it is appropriate to award the construction components when it is confirmed that the Tender will proceed. As a result, this report also recommends the awarding of the construction administration.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Based on the lowest tendered price of \$2,001,023 (net HST included), funding is available in the Approved Capital Budget from Project Account No. CP000012, Fort Needham Master Plan Implementation. The budget availability has been confirmed by Finance.

Budget Summary: **Project Account No. CP000012 – Fort Needham Master Plan Implementation**

Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$3,038,180
<b>Less: Tender No. 17-001</b>	<b>\$2,001,023*</b>
<b>Less: Ekistics Planning &amp; Design</b>	<b>\$ 75,404**</b>
Balance	\$ 961,753

\* This project was estimated in the Approved Capital Budget 2016/17 and Approved 2017/18 Advanced Capital Budget at \$2,200,000 and \$1,500,000 respectively.

\*\* The contract administration and inspection cost will be dependent upon the contractors schedule and is currently an estimate based on hours of services provided by the consultant. The actual hours of services will be managed and approved by the HRM Project Manager.

The balance of funds will be used to implement a new playground, provide archaeological monitoring during construction, integration with Transportation & Public Works on street improvements at the Park entrances, and for unforeseen works.

### **RISK CONSIDERATION**

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations of this Report. The risks considered rate low. To reach this conclusion, consideration was given to financial, legal and compliance, and service delivery risks. The greater risk is not proceeding with the recommendation as it may result in the work not being completed in time for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

A phase 1 environmental site assessment and an archaeological resource impact assessment were undertaken in 2016. No significant implications were identified.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

Council could choose not to approve the recommendations in this report.

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Jeff Spares, P.Eng., Construction Project Manager, Parks and Recreation  
902.490.6820

Report Approved by: Original Signed  
Ray Walsh, Manager, Parks 902.293.9354

Financial Approval by: Original Signed by Director  
Amanda Whitewood, Director of Finance and Information Technology/CFO,  
902.490.6308

Report Approved by: Original Signed by Director  
Brad Anguish, Director, Parks, Recreation & Communities, 902.490.4933

Original Signed by 

Report Approved by:

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John Traves, Q.C., Municipal Solicitor, 902.490.4226

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