

DATE: September 20, 2021

REPORT NO: PW-19-2021

SUBJECT: **Approved Roster List for Wind Project Tree Replacement Program**

CONTACT: Mike DiPaola, P.Eng., Director of Public Works and Recreation

OVERVIEW:

- At the April 19, 2021 Public Works / Recreation / Arena Committee meeting, Report PW-10-2021 outlined the Township's process of instituting a tree replacement program with the funds received from the Proponent of the Wind Project, to fairly distribute and compensate the affected property owners for the trees removed on the abutting road allowances, by providing them with the option of having trees planted on their lands.
- Council endorsed the Township's protocol/process and the development of a "Roster List" for the Wind Project Tree Replacement Program at its April 2021 meeting.
- In an effort to expedite the tree planting program and to implement such a program in a manageable manner, staff issued a pre-qualification/expressions of interest procurement process in May 2021, so that the Township has a list of pre-qualified nurseries and landscape contractors (or a "Roster List") to undertake and implement this program.
- Staff have completed their review and evaluations and are recommending that the following firms be approved to supply and install trees as part of this program:
 - B.A. Loney Services Inc.
 - CSL Group Limited
 - Division 2 Contracting Limited
 - Earthgen International Ltd.
- That Council authorizes staff to enter and execute purchase orders to the recommended firms in order to implement this tree replacement program to a total upset limit of \$624,000, which represents the funds received from the Proponent of the Wind Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT, Report PW-19-2021; re: Approved Roster List for Wind Project Tree Replacement Program dated September 20, 2021, be received, and
2. THAT, the following firms be approved to supply and install trees as part of this project: B.A. Loney Services Inc.; CSL Group Limited; Division 2 Contracting Limited; Earthgen International Ltd., and
3. THAT, Council authorizes staff to enter and execute purchase orders to the recommended firms up to a total upset limit of \$624,000.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Theme #5

- **Community Health & Safety** - West Lincoln continues to be a safe community where all residents are supported to thrive throughout their lives.

Theme #6

- **Efficient, Fiscally Responsible Operations** – The Township of West Lincoln is a lean organization that uses sustainable, innovative approaches and partnerships to streamline processes, deliver services and manage infrastructure assets.

BACKGROUND:

Section 10.3 of the Road Use Agreement (RUA), between the Township and the Proponent of the Wind Project, dealt with trees that were removed as part of the Wind Project and outlined how the removed trees are to be treated.

Once the Wind Project was completed, an Amendment to the RUA with respect to the Proponent's obligations under Section 10.3 was discussed by both parties. A mutual release and settlement agreement was reached by both parties in December of 2019, in which the Township received \$624,000. These funds are to be used to replant trees that were removed as part of the Wind Project.

Report PW-10-2021, dated April 2021, outlined the Township's protocol/process to implement a tree replacement program that would fairly distribute and compensate the affected property owners for the trees removed on the abutting road allowances, by providing them with the option of having trees planted on their lands.

CURRENT SITUATION:

At its meeting in April 2021, Township Council endorsed/approved the tree planting protocol and procurement method to deliver this program.

Letters were sent to the affected property owners in May, June, and August, to advise each property owner how many trees were removed within the road allowance along the frontage of their property; provided them each with the estimated number of trees they are entitled to; and to confirm their interest in participating in the replacement program by having trees planted on their property.

In addition, in an effort to expedite the tree planting program and to implement such a program in a manageable manner, staff issued a pre-qualification/expressions of interest procurement process in May 2021, so that the Township has a list of pre-qualified nurseries and landscape contractors (or a “Roster List”) to undertake and implement this program. Submissions have been received and staff have completed their review and evaluations and are recommending that the following firms be approved to supply and install trees as part of this program:

- B.A. Loney Services Inc.
- CSL Group Limited
- Division 2 Contracting Limited
- Earthgen International Ltd.

Now that the “roster list” is finalized, staff will now connect each affected property owner, who expressed interest in participating in this tree replanting program, with one of the above mentioned firms, in an effort to rotate or share the tree planting work, rather than retaining one firm to complete all the work. The property owners and their respective tree planting firm will develop a tree planting plan that would include the amount of trees, the type of tree species, tree planting locations, and the cost for each respective property location.

As such, staff is now seeking Council approval to authorize staff to enter and execute purchase orders to each firm up to a total upset limit of \$624,000, with the intent to hopefully commence tree planting work this Fall and/or during the Spring of 2022.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications to the Township as the cost for this tree replacement program will be borne by the funds, totalling \$624,000, which was received as part of the Settlement Agreement which amended Section 10.3 of the Road Use Agreement for the Wind Project.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTS:

This report was reviewed by the Director of Finance, the Clerks Department, and the CAO.

CONCLUSION:

In summary, staff recommends that the following firms be approved to supply and install trees as part of this project / program:

- B.A. Loney Services Inc.
- CSL Group Limited
- Division 2 Contracting Limited
- Earthgen International Ltd.

In addition, staff is seeking Council’s authorization to allow staff to enter and execute purchase orders to the recommended firms up to a total upset limit of \$624,000.

Prepared & Submitted by:



Mike DiPaola, P.Eng.,
Director of Public Works & Recreation

Approved by:



Beverly Hendry
Chief Administration Officer