



To: Board of Management

From: Robin D. Hale
Chief Operating Officer

Subject: **HIGH VOLTAGE EQUIPMENT & CABLE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

Date: 2010-08-09

Summary:

This report recommends approval for the Chief Executive Officer to award a tender for the High Voltage Equipment & Cable Replacement project.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the CEO be authorized to award the contract for the High Voltage Equipment & Cable Replacement Project of the Building & Services Refurbishment allocation within the 2010-2014 Capital Works Program. The budget available for this work is \$550,000.

Financial Impact:

There are no financial implications to this report, as the required funds are within the approved 2010-2014 Capital Works Program.

Background:

A site services study was undertaken and completed in 1999 by a consulting engineering firm. This report prioritized refurbishment requirements to ensure safe and reliable operations. The Zoo's site services (hydro, water, gas, telephone and sewers) are over 36 years old and require planned refurbishment to ensure reliable operation.

Significant sections of the Zoo's high voltage and communications distributions systems have already been replaced in previous years. Remaining areas to be completed include sections of African Savanna, Canadian Domain and Eurasia. These remaining high voltage distribution and communications systems are showing their age with failures of both the underground cabling and submersible transformers. Each outage creates significant hardship for both the animal collection and public. The Site Services Study recommends the replacement of both systems on a phased basis.

Comments/Discussion:

The project involves the replacement of high voltage cables serving the giraffe, lion, hyena, racoon, moose, cougar, red panda, bird barn, siberian tiger, grizzly holdings and exhibits, Twiga Snack Bar and the Canadian Domain Zoomobile Station. In addition, high voltage equipment will be replaced including submersible transformers and a section of the Zoo's main switch gear. Consulting engineering firm Morrison Hershfield is preparing the specifications and drawings for a tender during the week of 2010-08-09. The tender results will not be available until the beginning of September. With the potential of a change to the timing of the September Board meeting, and no further meetings scheduled until after the City elections, it is necessary to ensure a timely award of the tender.

Approval for the CEO to award the tender for the High Voltage Equipment & Cable Replacement Project will allow construction to be undertaken for an end of year completion.

R. D. Hale
Chief Operating Officer