

To: Board of Management

From: Director, Facilities & Infrastructure

Subject: **POLAR BEAR EXHIBIT MODIFICATIONS FOR WALRUS**

Date: 2020-05-06

SUMMARY:

This report recommends the award of the tender for the Polar Bear Exhibit Modifications For Walrus project. The project will upgrade the Life Support systems for the habitat and provide suitable holding and exhibit space for walrus.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

1. the tender for the Polar Bear Exhibit Modifications for Walrus project be awarded to Midome Construction Services Ltd. in the amount of \$638,000 (including 10% owner's contingency) + HST.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are no changes to the approved 2020 Capital Budget as a result of this recommendation, as the required funds are allocated within the approved 2020 Capital Budget under Exhibit Refurbishment.

DECISION HISTORY:

City Council approved the 2020 Capital Budget for the Toronto Zoo at its meeting on 2020-02-19 as per the attached link:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2020.EX13.2>

COMMENTS:

In late 2019 the Toronto Zoo signed a Loan Agreement with Quebec Aquarium to exchange polar bears for walruses for a period of 3 years, with the potential for extension. Walrus are listed as a vulnerable species by the IUCN and wild populations face significant challenges due to climate change. The Toronto Zoo will participate in research programs with these animals in collaboration with other accredited facilities. Our organization has never hosted walrus and this will be a new and exciting experience for the Zoo and our guests.

The existing polar bear exhibit in the Tundra Trek was renovated in 2009 as part of the North Zoo Site Redevelopment project. The existing space has three exhibits – one of which has a large fresh water pool.

This project includes updates to the Life Support systems, modifications to the polar bear house and changes to two of the exhibits to accommodate walruses. Once construction is complete, walruses and polar bears will both be able to use the exhibits and would alternate the use of the spaces. When the Loan Agreement expires the exhibit and holding space can revert to polar bear occupancy only.

A request for tender (RFT) for construction services was advertised on the Toronto Zoo website. A project site briefing was held on 2020-01-31. Two (2) submissions were received on 2020-02-19 as per Schedule I attached. The submissions included a base bid plus several additional items. The Zoo has elected to proceed with the base bid as well as items C1 (all work required to enlarge doors D01, D02, D03 & D04 in the polar bear holding building) and D1 (all work required to enlarge the pool in the maternity exhibit). All work includes all associated services and rockwork. Based on this, Midome is the lowest bidder at \$580,000 vs. Rutherford's bid of \$676,695.63.

Funding for this project was approved by Council in the 2020 Capital Budget. At this time, we are requesting approval to engage Midome Construction Services Ltd. for the project.

CONTACTS:

Leona Mitchell, Director
Facilities & Infrastructure
lmitchell@torontozoo.ca
416-392-5985

L. Mitchell
Director, Facilities & Infrastructure

ATTACHMENTS:

Schedule I – Tender Summary – TZC T 03-2020-01

Schedule I

TORONTO ZOO

**Polar Bear Exhibit & Holding Modifications for Walrus
TZC T 03-2020-01**

SCHEDULE OF TENDER SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED

CONTRACTOR	BULK TENDER PRICE (excludes HST)	COMMENTS
Midome Construction Services Ltd.	\$580,000.00	Recommended
Rutherford Contracting Ltd.	\$676,695.63	Not Recommended