

Award of Doc4618961713 to Torbear Contracting Inc. for Rehabilitation and Upgrades of Two Stormwater Pumping Stations - Group 7 for Toronto Water

Date: October 1, 2024

To: General Government Committee

From: General Manager, Toronto Water and Chief Procurement Officer

Wards: 1 - Etobicoke North, 3 -Etobicoke-Lakeshore

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to advise of the results of the Request for Tender Doc4618961713, Contract Number 22TW-CTS-16CWD, issued for the Rehabilitation and Upgrades of two (2) Stormwater Pumping Stations – Group 7 and to request authority to enter into an agreement with Torbear Contracting Inc., the lowest compliant bid received for the solicitation in the amount of \$26,798,294 net all applicable taxes and charges (\$27,269,944 net of HST recoveries), all in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications contained in the Request for Tender documents.

The construction for this project is expected to commence on date of award and be completed within one hundred and fifty (150) weeks from the order to commence date . The two (2) locations are the Islington Stormwater Pumping Station and the Martin Grove Stormwater Pumping Station.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Toronto Water and Chief Procurement Officer recommend that:

The General Government Committee, in accordance with Section 195-8.4 of the Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 195 Purchasing By-Law, grant authority to award Request for Tender Doc4618961713, Contract Number 22TW-CTS-16CWD for the Rehabilitation and Upgrades of the Islington Stormwater Pumping Station and the Martin Grove Stormwater Pumping Station and enter into an agreement with Torbear Contracting Inc. being the lowest bid meeting the specifications and requirements of the Request for Tender Doc4618961713, Contract Number 22TW-CTS-16CWD in the amount of \$26,798,294 net all applicable taxes and charges (\$27,269,944 net of HST recoveries).

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The total contract award identified in this report is \$26,798,294 net of all applicable taxes and charges. The total cost to the City is \$27,269,944 net of HST recoveries.

Funding is available in the 2024 Capital Budget and 2025 - 2033 Capital Plan for Toronto Water. Funding details are summarized in Table 1 below.

Table 1 - Financial Impact Summary (net of HST Recoveries)

WBS Element (Description)	CWW476-06 (SPS Upgrades - Group 7)
2024	\$500,000
2025	\$3,000,000
2026	\$8,000,000
2027	\$10,000,000
2028	\$5,769,944
Total	\$27,269,944

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the information in the Financial Impact Section.

DECISION HISTORY

The Bid Award Panel adopted Item Number BA96.3 at its meeting held on September 12, 2018, thereby authorizing the award of Request for Proposal No. 9117-18-7018 to WSP Canada Group Limited (WSP) for Engineering Services for Rehabilitation/Upgrade of Eight (8) Pumping Stations (SPS Group 7) in the amount of \$3,501,725 net of all applicable taxes and charges (\$3,563,355 net of HST recoveries). The Bid Award Panel decision can be found at:

[Agenda Item History - 2018.BA96.3 \(toronto.ca\)](#)

The Request for Tender Doc4618961713 was prepared by WSP under the engineering services assignment Request for Proposal No. 9117-18-7018. WSP will also provide contract administration services during the construction services included under Request for Tender Doc4618961713.

COMMENTS

Background

Wastewater pumping stations are critical components of the City's wastewater collection system, ensuring that wastewater is effectively moved through the system and delivered to treatment facilities. Also known as lift stations because they pump wastewater from lower to higher elevations, a pumping station collects and stores wastewater in an underground pit equipped with electrical instrumentation to detect the level of wastewater present. When the wastewater level rises to a predetermined level, a pump is activated to push the sewage through a pressurized pipe system (force mains) to other areas of the wastewater collection system and eventually to a wastewater treatment plant.

Toronto Water is currently responsible for operating and maintaining 96 wastewater pumping stations and approximately 39 kilometres of associated sewer force mains. The pumping stations vary in age, capacity, and complexity.

Toronto Water's approved 2024 Capital Budget and 2025-2033 Capital Plan includes \$143,350,000 for Sewage Pumping Station Upgrades. The purpose of these projects is to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, maintain infrastructure in a state of good repair, and accommodate growth and improved service.

The scope of work under Contract Number 22TW-CTS-16CWD rehabilitation and upgrades of two stormwater pumping stations (Islington SWPS and Martin Grove SWPS) includes construction of a new parking lot for maintenance, installation of new water service connection and curb stop, installation of force mains with connection to existing, exhaust and HVAC system upgrades, backflow preventer installation, fire safety, lighting, other electrical, concrete and masonry work and restoration. The contract also requires temporary bypass pumping to facilitate the installation of a permanent bypass connection.

Procurement Process

Due to the complex nature of the construction project, the City pre-qualified the general contractors by requesting that they demonstrate experience in successfully delivering projects of similar scope and complexity.

Prequalification of Contractors

Request for Supplier Prequalification Number Doc3408100287 for the Pre-qualification of the Rehabilitation and Upgrade of Seven (7) Sewage Pumping Stations (SPS G7) was issued by the Purchasing and Materials Management Division and was advertised on the City's website on May 13, 2022 and closed on June 22, 2022. The following five (5) General Contracting firms met the minimum technical threshold outlined in the Request to Prequalify and to bid on the subsequent Request for Tenders.

1. Alberici Constructors Ltd.
2. Asco Construction Toronto Ltd.
3. Bennett Mechanical Installations (2001) Ltd.
4. Black and McDonald Limited
5. Torbear Contracting Inc.

Award of Request for Tender Doc4618961713

Request for Tender Doc4618961713, Contract Number 22TW-CTS-16CWD for Rehabilitation and Upgrades of 2 Stormwater Pumping Stations – Group 7 was issued by Purchasing and Materials Management Division and was advertised on the City's website on June 18, 2024, with a closing date of April 19, 2024, and an issuance of four (4) Addenda. The submissions received from the two (2) Suppliers that responded were reviewed for compliance by staff from Purchasing and Materials Management Division and Toronto Water. Both Suppliers were found to be in conformance with the Request for Tender requirements. The recommended Supplier for Contract Number 22TW-CTS-16CWD is Torbear Contracting Inc. The results are listed in Table 2 below:

Table 2 - Summary of Bids Received

Supplier Name	Bid Price (excluding HST)
Torbear Contracting Inc.	\$24,486,658*
Asco Construction Toronto Ltd.	\$30,357,026

*Pursuant to the Request for Tender document the contract award value includes contingency.

Toronto Water staff compared the bids to the engineering estimate of \$22,193,856 net of HST recoveries. The bid price of the recommended Supplier is in the amount of \$27,269,944 net of HST recoveries is 22.87 percent higher than the engineering estimate.

The higher bid price compared to the engineering estimate was primarily resulting from increases in current market prices, underestimation of unit costs, and the means and methods determined by the Supplier. For lump sum bid items, the costs incurred by the Supplier are related to their proposed schedules and methods that the City is not aware of until the contract is awarded. For unit price bid items, the higher bid prices may be due to recent increases in costs of equipment, materials, and specialized labour to do the work.

The Fair Wage Office has reported that the recommended Supplier has indicated they have reviewed and understand the Fair Wage Policy and Labour Trades requirements and the recommended Supplier has agreed to comply fully.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Lou Di Gironimo,
General Manager Toronto Water

Geneviève Sharkey
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