

Report to Civic Works Committee

To: Chair and Members
Civic Works Committee

From: Shawna Chambers, P.Eng., DPA
Division Manager, Stormwater Engineering, Environment and Infrastructure

Subject: Funding to Support the Continuation of UTRCA Monitoring Program for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed

Date: June 11, 2024

Recommendation

That on the recommendation of Deputy City Manager, Environment and Infrastructure, the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to the Dingman Creek Surface Monitoring Program:

- (a) Upper Thames River Conservation Authority **BE APPOINTED** to complete the 2024 Dingman Creek Surface Monitoring Program in accordance with the estimate, on file, at an upset amount of \$161,550, excluding HST, in accordance with Section 14.4 (d), (e) & (h) of the City of London's Procurement of Goods and Services Policy;
- (b) the financing for this project **BE APPROVED** as set out in the Sources of Financing Report attached, hereto, as Appendix 'A';
- (c) the Civic Administration **BE AUTHORIZED** to undertake all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection with this project;
- (d) the approval given, herein, **BE CONDITIONAL** upon the Corporation entering into a formal contract; and
- (e) the Mayor and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute any contract or other documents, if required, to give effect to these recommendations.

Executive Summary

This report seeks approval to continue funding the Dingman Creek subwatershed 2024 annual surface monitoring program on behalf of the City.

Dingman Creek Surface Monitoring Program

The Dingman Creek subwatershed is the largest subwatershed within the City of London with a total area of 17,200 hectares, 74% of which is located within city limits. The subwatershed is the focus of significant urban development and is the subject of an on-going Environmental Assessment and floodplain mapping update. The proposed one-year monitoring program would continue the City's historical water quantity, quality, and biological monitoring programs in Dingman Creek. Data obtained by this program is used to calibrate floodplain modeling, assess overall stream health, and identify opportunities for stormwater management improvements.

After successful implementation of a three-year pilot project, this report recommends the UTRCA continue with a one-year monitoring program of the Dingman Creek, recognizing that the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) are expected to provide new stormwater management monitoring guidance to municipalities by the end of 2024.

Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

This recommendation supports the following 2023-2027 Strategic Plan areas of focus:

- Climate Action and Sustainable Growth:
 - London is one of the greenest and most resilient cities in Canada in alignment with the Council-declared climate emergency and the Climate

Emergency Action Plan.

- London's infrastructure and systems are built, maintained, and operated to meet the long-term needs of the community.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

- Civic Works Committee – June 13, 2023 - Funding to Support UTRCA Capital/Maintenance Projects and City Watercourse Monitoring Program
- Civic Works Committee – April 20, 2022 – Appointment of Services for Dingman Creek Surface Water Monitoring Program
- Civic Works Committee – June 22, 2021 – Appointment of Consulting Engineer for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed Stage 2 Lands; Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment
- Civic Works Committee – March 18, 2019 – Appointment of Services for Dingman Creek Surface Water Monitoring Program (ES2452)

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

Prior to 2018, surface water monitoring programs within the Dingman Creek subwatershed were conducted by various consultants and City staff, in addition to UTRCA completing their own monitoring separate from City programs. In 2018, the City awarded UTRCA a three-year subwatershed pilot monitoring program. The program was intended to streamline surface water monitoring data collection, data sharing, and reporting between the City and UTRCA. Benefits of this collaborative approach include long-term consistency in data collection, reduction in data collection duplication, and digital data archiving through UTRCA's existing Western Ontario Environmental Database (WOED) accessible to both parties.

The 2018 pilot project successfully achieved its goals and staff recommend continuing to work with the UTRCA staff to conduct monitoring of Dingman Creek. The one-year Dingman Creek surface water monitoring program includes:

- Continuous flow and water level monitoring data at 23 different existing permanent stations in the Dingman Creek subwatershed to calibrate future floodplain and stormwater modeling conditions,
- Collection of Dingman Creek monitoring data to build upon the existing historical datasets of water chemistry data and biologic data, including aquatic invertebrate and fisheries data,
- Compiling data into a single database that can be shared, accessed, and utilized by both UTRCA and the City, and
- An annual Dingman Creek Subwatershed Surface Monitoring Report, to be updated at regular intervals to consider overall trends of the Dingman Creek system.

3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

3.1 Procurement Process

The UTRCA has experienced and knowledgeable staff trained in performing surface water monitoring tasks as part of their day-to-day activities. These staff are well-versed in the Dingman Creek monitoring program, surface water monitoring protocols, and

have a vested interest in ensuring consistency and reliability in data collection. Additionally, UTRCA owns and operates specialized equipment and software licenses such as the existing continuous water flow monitoring network and Water Information Systems by KISTERS (WISKI), which support the overall long-term monitoring program.

As a result of the above, the selection procedure for the assignment utilized a non-competitive procurement process is in accordance with Section Section 14.4 (d), (e) & (h) of the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy. This one-year program is an extension of services previously provided by the UTRCA.

Conclusion

City Staff and UTRCA staff are committed to continuing the surface water monitoring program. The proposed team at UTRCA has experience in consistently delivering the Dingman Creek subwatershed monitoring program and is well-qualified to deliver an annual monitoring report. Based on the review of the submitted work plan, it is recommended that retaining UTRCA is in the best financial and technical interests of the City.

Prepared by: **Shawna Chambers, P.Eng., DPA**
Division Manager, Stormwater Engineering

Submitted by: **Ashley Rammeloo P.Eng., MMSc.**
Director, Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater

Recommended by: **Kelly Scherr, P.Eng., MBA, FEC**
Deputy City Manager, Environment and Infrastructure

CC:

Appendix 'A' – Sources of Financing

Appendix "A"

#24111

June 11, 2024

(Award Contract)

Chair and Members
Civic Works Committee

RE: UTRCA Monitoring Program for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed
(Subledger NT24ES08)

Capital Project ES543519 - Subwatershed Impact Monitoring (2019-2023)
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority - \$161,550.00 (excluding HST)

Finance Supports Report on the Sources of Financing:

Finance Supports confirms that the cost of this purchase can be accommodated within the financing available for it in the Capital Budget and that, subject to the approval of the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Environment and Infrastructure, the detailed source of financing is:

Estimated Expenditures	Approved Budget	Committed To Date	This Submission	Balance for Future Work
Engineering	1,280,473	337,282	164,394	778,797
Construction	6,106	6,106	0	0
Total Expenditures	\$1,286,579	\$343,388	\$164,394	\$778,797

Sources of Financing

Drawdown from City Services - Stormwater Reserve Fund (Development Charges) (Note 1)	1,286,579	343,388	164,394	778,797
Total Financing	\$1,286,579	\$343,388	\$164,394	\$778,797

Financial Note

Contract Price	\$161,550
Add: HST @13%	21,002
Total Contract Price Including Taxes	182,552
Less: HST Rebate	-18,158
Net Contract Price	\$164,394

Note 1: Development charges have been utilized in accordance with the underlying legislation and the approved 2019 Development Charges Background Study and the 2021 Development Charges Background Study Update.

Jason Davies
Manager of Financial Planning & Policy

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