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TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON JANUARY 5, 2016
FROM:	JOHN BRAAM, P.ENG. MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER
SUBJECT:	WESTERN ROAD / WHARNCLIFFE ROAD NORTH WIDENING APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTING ENGINEER

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Environmental & Engineering Services and City Engineer, the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to the Western Road / Wharncliffe Road North Widening:

- (a) AECOM Canada Ltd., **BE APPOINTED** Consulting Engineers for the detailed design and tendering of the project, in the amount of \$737,044.00 (excluding HST), in accordance with Section 15.2 (g) of the City of London’s Procurement of Goods and Services Policy;
- (b) the financing for this project **BE APPROVED** in accordance with 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 approvals given herein **BE CONDITIONAL** upon the Corporation entering into a formal contract with the Consultant for the work; and,
- (e) the Mayor and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute any contract or other documents including rail-related agreements, if required, to give effect to these recommendations.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

- Civic Works Committee – October 22, 2015 – Western/Wharncliffe Road North Widening Environmental Study Report.
- Civic Works Committee – January 6, 2014 – Appointment of AECOM Canada Limited, Western / Wharncliffe Road North Widening from Platts Lane to Oxford Street, Schedule ‘C’ Environmental Assessment.
- Civic Works Committee - July 22, 2013 – Reprioritization of Growth Management Implementation Strategy (GMIS) Transportation Projects.
- Civic Works Committee – June 19, 2012 – London 2030 Transportation Master Plan

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2015-19 STRATEGIC PLAN

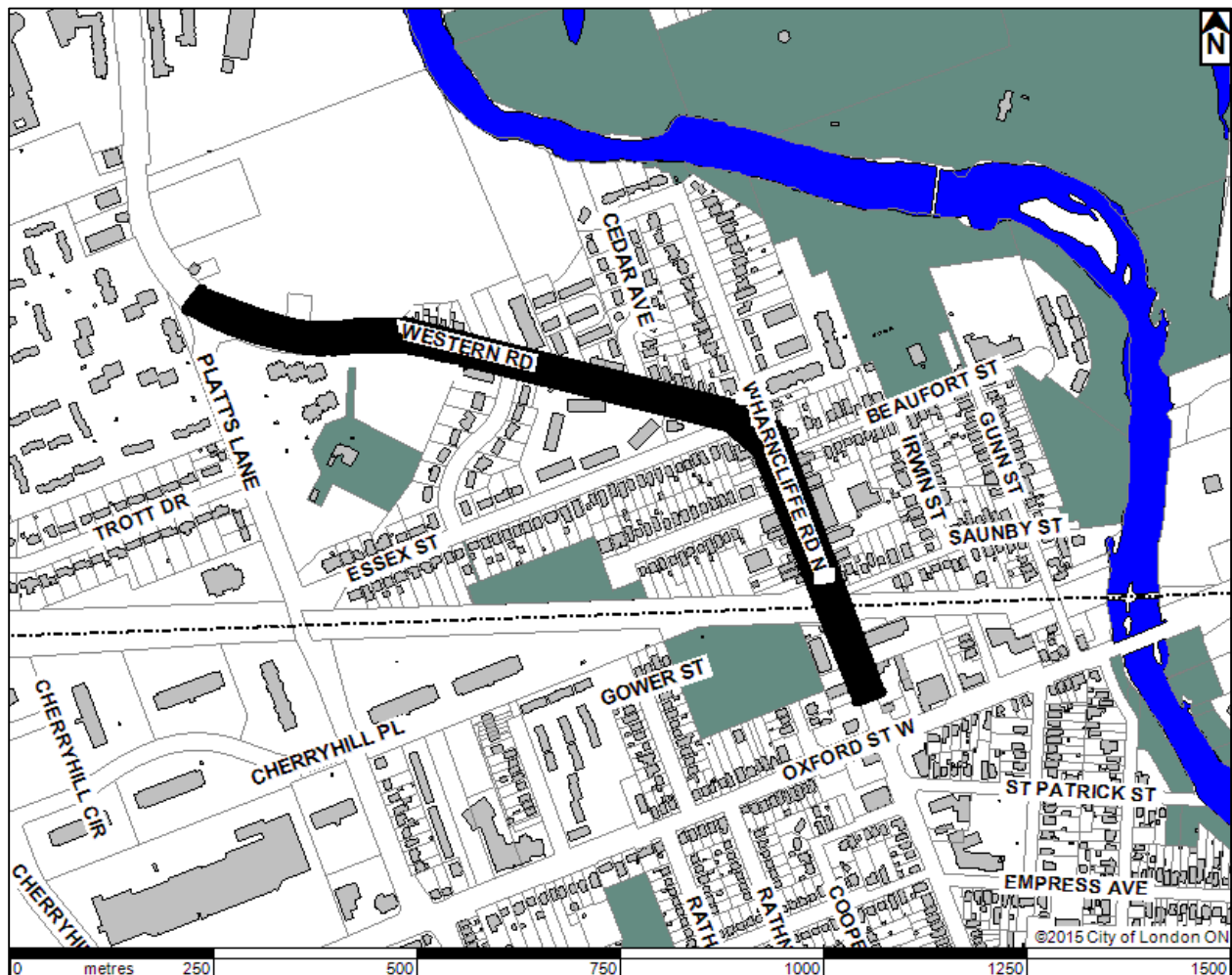
The following report supports the Strategic Plan through the strategic focus area of *Building a Sustainable City* by improving mobility for cyclists, transit, automobile users and pedestrians. The reconstruction and widening of the grade separation will also improve the reliability of the local transit service and provides a vital roadway network improvement that is integral to the rapid transit project.

BACKGROUND

Purpose

This report seeks the approval of the Municipal Council to retain an engineering consultant to undertake the detailed design and tendering for the Western / Wharncliffe Road North Widening from Platts Lane to Oxford Street displayed in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Western Road / Wharncliffe Road North Widening Project Limits



Context

Western / Wharncliffe Road North is a major transportation corridor designed to carry high volumes of traffic. Improvements to the subject section will accommodate the high volumes of pedestrian traffic, vehicle through traffic and residential and commercial traffic in a safe and efficient manner and improve mobility within the surrounding community in their day to day activities.

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An Environmental Study Report (ESR), the result of a comprehensive environmental Assessment (EA) for the Western Rd / Wharnccliffe Rd North was completed in November 2015. The subject road section was identified as a priority in the 2030 Transportation Master Plan (TMP) as part of reprioritization of Growth Management Implementation Strategy (GMIS) for transportation projects. The Development Charge Background Study recommended the widening of the road in 2018. Western / Wharnccliffe Road North from Platts Lane to Oxford Street will be widened to a 4 lane cross-section, including the reconstruction of the railway grade separation, with bike lanes, localized turning lanes and urbanized with curbs, sidewalks and illumination improvements.

DISCUSSION

Background

Western Road and Wharnccliffe Road North are currently congested in the peak hours. Long traffic queues occur on these roads. Under future conditions, growth is expected to continue during peak hours and will further deteriorate traffic operating conditions along the study route. Despite the close proximity to Western University and demands for improved active transportation facilities, Western Road and Wharnccliffe Road North do not currently have bicycle lanes and the sidewalks are narrow.

The CPR structure is the primary constraint that has prevented the implementation of road capacity increases consistent with the existing four lane road improvements to the north and south. The existing CPR subway structure cannot accommodate the proposed increased cross-section of Wharnccliffe Road North and will be replaced with a wider structure as part of this project.

The widening of Western Road / Wharnccliffe Road North corridor will improve traffic operations by addressing congestion and efficiency throughout the corridor, as well as improve safety for all road users (e.g. motorists, cyclists and pedestrians) and deteriorating road conditions. The completion of this project and elimination of the CPR bridge constraint prior to rapid transit implementation is important for construction-related network traffic management.

Project Description

This is a large complex project involving numerous property acquisitions, utility relocations and approvals. The cost for the first phase of works north of Oxford Street is estimated at \$23 Million. The cost estimate includes roadway construction, the railway grade separation, street lighting and signalization, stormwater management, utility relocation, landscaping, traffic control, sanitary sewers, watermain, landscaping, staging and property acquisitions. Second phase works including the Oxford Street west intersection are anticipated to be implemented through the rapid transit initiative.

The primary deliverables from this detailed design assignment include field investigations, design, approvals, contract preparation, property acquisition support, and traffic assessment. Particular focus areas for the assignment include:

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- Detail Design
 - Bridge Replacement
 - CPR Temporary Diversion
 - Sanitary/Storm Sewers, and Watermain
 - Street Lighting and Signalization
 - Streetscaping
 - Traffic Management and Staging Plan
 - Prequalification of Contract
 - Cost Estimates
- Design Co-ordination
 - Utility Coordinating Committee (UCC) Liaison
 - Agency approvals
- Geotechnical Investigation
- Surveys
- Property acquisition support
- Preparation of the complete tender package, including advertisement, review of the submitted tenders for completeness, and contractor recommendation.

Schedule and Financing

Construction of this project is predominantly planned to take place in 2018 as identified in the Development Charges Background Study. The commencement of construction of the rail diversion will be required in 2017 to facilitate the widening. This assignment will include preliminary design of all underground infrastructure within the Oxford Street West intersection with the intent that final design and construction will be done with the Rapid Transit initiative since the intersection is part of the preliminary preferred rapid transit route.

Consultant Selection

AECOM Canada Ltd., completed successfully the EA for the Western Road / Wharncliffe Road North Widening. AECOM Canada Ltd was selected to undertake the EA after a competitive consultant procurement process in accordance with the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy Section 15.2 (e) in which the assignment was publicly advertised and three firms were subsequently shortlisted and invited to submit detailed proposals.

The performance of AECOM Canada Ltd. during the EA was positive and detailed knowledge of the project was obtained. Appointment of AECOM Canada Ltd., as the consulting engineer for the design phase creates efficiencies providing financial advantage to the City by eliminating duplication that would be required if another firm were introduced. Considering the performance of AECOM Canada Ltd., a design proposal in accordance with the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy Section 15.2 (g) was requested and the scope and fees were negotiated. AECOM's experience on similar design projects combined with a project proposal that demonstrated a thorough understanding of the goals and objectives illustrated the suitability for the undertaking. The firm is familiar with City staff and procedures through other projects with the City.

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AECOM Canada Ltd. provides the best value for the City to complete the detailed design and contract preparation for the Western Road / Wharnclyffe Road North Widening from Platts Lane to Oxford Street. Subject to successful completion of the design phase of this project, AECOM Canada Ltd. may be considered for the construction administration stage.

CONCLUSION

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Western Road / Wharnclyffe Road North Widening from Platts Lane to Oxford Street was completed by AECOM Canada Ltd. The EA was prepared with input from residents, external agencies, utilities, emergency service providers, community and other stakeholders, as well as First Nations and property owners in proximity to the study.

It is recommended that AECOM Canada Ltd. be awarded the consulting assignment for the detailed design and tendering of the Western Road / Wharnclyffe Road North Widening from Platts Lane to Oxford Street, in the amount of \$737,044.00 (excluding HST).

Acknowledgements

This report was prepared with assistance from Max Kireev C.E.T., Technologist II and Ted Koza, P. Eng., Transportation Design Engineer in the Transportation Planning & Design Division.

PREPARED BY:	REVIEWED AND CONCURRED BY:
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RECOMMENDED BY:	
JOHN BRAAM, P.ENG. MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES & CITY ENGINEER	

Attach: Appendix A – Sources of Financing

c: Peter McAllister, P.Eng. PMP; AECOM Canada