

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON APRIL 16, 2019
FROM:	KELLY SCHERR, P. ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER
SUBJECT:	AUDIBLE PEDESTRIAN PUSHBUTTON EQUIPMENT IRREGULAR RESULT

RECOMMENDATION

That on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Environmental & Engineering Services and City Engineer:

- a) The irregular bid submitted by Tacel Ltd. at its tendered price of \$215,250.00 (excluding H.S.T.) **BE ACCEPTED** in accordance with the 'Procurement of Goods and Services Policy' Section 8.10 Irregular Result, Clause b and Section 13.2 Clause b;
- b) the financing for this project **BE APPROVED** 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 approval given herein **BE CONDITIONAL** upon the Corporation entering into a formal contract for the material to be supplied and the work to be done relating to this project (RFT19-25); and,
- e) the Mayor and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute any contract or other documents, as required, to give effect to these recommendations.

2015-19 STRATEGIC PLAN

The following report supports the [Strategic Plan](#) through the strategic focus areas of:

- **Strengthening Our Community** Health, safe and accessible city; and
- **Building a Sustainable City** - Convenient and connected mobility;

by improving mobility for pedestrians at signalized intersections and to address the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

For additional information, please refer to the following committee reports:

1. September 27th, 2010: Environment and Transportation Committee “Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) and Countdown Pedestrian Signals (CPS);
2. May 2nd, 2011: Built and Natural Environment: Accessible Pedestrian Signals – Single Source”; and
3. January 6th, 2015: Civic Works Committee “Accessible Pedestrian Signals – Single Source”.

BACKGROUND

Accessible pedestrian signals (APS) assist pedestrians with vision loss by providing locator sounds so that they can find the pushbutton. The APS further assists by providing an audible indication that acts in conjunction with the “walk” signal. During the intersection’s walk phase, the APS emits a “cuckoo” sound for east-west crossings and a “Canadian AP melody” for the north-south crossings. Samples of these sounds can be found on the City’s [web site](#).



APS equipment was first installed at the intersection of Grand Avenue and Ridout Street North in 2003 and to date APS equipment have been installed at 197 intersections which represents 49% of the network. A number of different products have been reviewed and the City has adopted the Polara Navigator equipment for use that has addressed the concerns that were generated with the other equipment.

The Polara Navigator equipment has an integrated speaker/button so that the sound is kept at sidewalk level. The equipment can also be configured to adjust the volume of the sound based on the ambient noise, which has further mitigated concerns from residents. In addition to being a reliable product, the use of a single type of APS equipment provides a consistent message to users so that each intersection operates the same. Utilizing a single type of APS equipment also reduces maintenance costs since technicians can be trained on the repair of one piece of equipment and it reduces the number of spare parts that must be kept in inventory. It should be noted that the Polara Navigator meets the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements.

EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT

The tender for the Purchase of Audible Pedestrian Pushbutton Equipment (RFT19-25) with three one-year renewals was issued February 19th, 2019 and closed March 7th, 2019. There were two bid takers and one bid submission. The bid submission from Tacel Ltd. is \$215,250.00 (excluding HST). The tender estimate prior to the tender opening was \$220,000.00 (excluding HST).

After consultation with the Manager of Purchasing and Supply, the decision was made to open the sole bid. It is recommended that the contract be awarded to Tacel Ltd. as an irregular result in accordance with Section 8.10 Clause b and Section 13.2 Clause b of

the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy. The bid submitted by Tacel Ltd. is within the budget for the purchase of Polara Navigator APS equipment.

CONCLUSION

The Polara Navigator equipment addresses the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements, provides a consistent message to users and reduces maintenance costs. The Polara Navigator equipment at the 197 intersections have been performing well.

It is recommended that the single bid submitted by Tacel Ltd. be accepted; noting that it is within the approved Capital budget. These units will be used on a variety of capital improvement projects and reduce the cost of these projects when compared to purchasing the units on a per project basis. The contract includes three one-year contract renewals, which can be exercised at the sole direction of the City.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

This report was prepared with the assistance of John Freeman, Manager - Purchasing and Supply.

PREPARED BY:	REVIEWED & CONCURRED BY:
SHANE MAGUIRE, P. ENG. DIVISION MANAGER, ROADWAY LIGHTING & TRAFFIC CONTROL	DOUG MACRAE, P.ENG., MPA DIRECTOR, ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION
REVIEWED & CONCURRED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
IAN COLLINS, CPA, CMA DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL SERVICES	KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER

March 11, 2019/sm

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Attach: Appendix A - Source of Financing

cc Purchasing and Supply Division
Tacel Ltd., 179 Bartley Dr., Unit B, Toronto, ON M4A 1E8