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| TO: | CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON JUNE 23, 2020 |
| FROM: | KELLY SCHERR, P. ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER |
| SUBJECT: | NOTIFICATION OF EXPENDITURE – ENVIRONMENTAL SPILLS RESPONSE |

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| RECOMMENDATION |
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That on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Environmental and Engineering Services and City Engineer, the following action **BE TAKEN** with respect to addressing an environmental spill that occurred on Wilton Grove Road:

- a) The action taken by the Managing Director, Environmental and Engineering Services and City Engineer, in accordance with the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy (Section 4.3 d “Triggering Event”) **BE RECOGNIZED**, it being noted that immediate actions were taken to comply with direction of the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP);
- b) Financing for this environmental spills cleanup **BE PROVIDED** by the Council approved, 2020 Sewer Operations Division, Operating Budget.

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| 2019-2023 STRATEGIC PLAN |
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The following report supports the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan through the strategic focus area of Building a Sustainable City: Protect and enhance waterways, wetlands, and natural areas.

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| BACKGROUND |
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Purpose

The purpose of this report is to satisfy the City’s Procurement of Goods and Services Policy (Section 4.3 d) following the cleanup of an environmental spill that occurred on Wilton Grove Road on March 9th, 2020.

Context

The Sewer Operations Division is responsible for providing emergency environmental spills responses. All environmental responses are reported to the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP). When the owner of the spill cannot be contacted, the spilled material cannot be identified, and/or the complexity of the spill is greater than the City’s capabilities, Sewer Operations will engage a qualified, licensed contractor to address the spill to the satisfaction of the MECP.

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| DISCUSSION |
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The City of London maintains an Environmental Spills Response Plan which lays out how spills are handled when discovered on City-owned lands. The plan requires City responders to identify the type of spilled material whenever possible and initiate appropriate actions to minimize potential impacts to the natural environment, including waterways within the immediate vicinity and downstream of the spill location. All

environmental responses are reported to the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP). Higher volume spills are generally addressed by the owner of the spill through contractual arrangements. When the owner of the spill cannot be contacted, the spilled material cannot be identified, and/or the complexity of the spill is greater than the City's capabilities, Sewer Operations will engage a qualified, licensed contractor to address the spill to the satisfaction of the MECP.

When immediate action is required and an expenditure exceeds \$50,000, the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy requires that a report be submitted to Council. The policy speaks to a "triggering event" that is defined as an occurrence resulting from an unforeseen action, or the consequence of an unforeseen event, which must be remedied on a time sensitive basis to avoid a material financial risk to the City or serious or prolonged risk to persons or property. The relevant details surrounding the triggering event are required to be included in a report and submitted to Committee as soon as possible. The following section provides details of the "triggering event".

Triggering Event

On March 9, 2020, the City's Sewer Operation Division responded to an emergency spill that occurred on Wilton Grove Road, just west of Old Victoria Road. A spill location map is included for reference in Appendix 'A'. Three barrels were found on the spill site. Two of the three barrels discovered were ruptured and emitting an unidentified powdery substance. The third barrel was fully intact and contained an unidentified liquid. Since City responders could not identify the substances, and the owner of the spill could not be accounted for, a decision was made to contract a qualified, licensed spills response contractor, Clean Harbours.

In turn, Clean Harbours subcontracted an experienced environmental consultant, Pario, who is well known to the MECP. Although analytical testing in a certified laboratory identified the spilled substances as non-hazardous, the MECP still required the spill site be restored to pre-spill conditions. Site remediation was completed by March 13, 2020. Administration has reviewed and confirmed the documentation to support a final invoice in the amount of \$57,301.46, plus HST. The expenditure will be funded out of the Council approved 2020 Sewer Operations Division Operating Budget.

CONCLUSION

On March 9, 2020, the City's Sewer Operations Division was called to respond to an environmental spill on Wilton Grove Road. Because of the uncertainties associated with the spilled material, a decision was made to retain a qualified, licensed environmental spills contractor to undertake a cleanup under Section 4.3 d) of the City's Procurement of Goods and Services Policy.

The spill site was restored to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) to a pre-spill condition. Restoration costs amounted to \$57,301.46, plus HST. Funding was provided for through the approved 2020 Sewer Operations Division Operating Budget.

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| SUBMITTED BY: | REVIEWED AND CONCURRED BY: |
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| RICK PEDLOW, C.E.T. DIVISION MANAGER SEWER OPERATIONS DIVISION | SCOTT MATHERS, MPA, P. ENG. DIRECTOR WATER AND WASTEWATER |
| RECOMMENDED BY: | |
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| KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER | |

Appendix 'A' – Spill Location Map

c.c. John Freeman

APPENDIX 'A'

SPILL LOCATION MAP

