

<b>TO:</b>	<b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2020</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>KELLY SCHERR, P. ENG, MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>WINDERMERE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTING ENGINEER</b>

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
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That on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Environmental & Engineering Services and City Engineer the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to the appointment of a Consulting Engineer for the Windermere Road Improvements Environmental Assessment Study:

- (a) Stantec Consulting Ltd. **BE APPOINTED** as the Consulting Engineer to complete the Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Windermere Road Improvements at an upset amount of \$429,398.79 (excluding HST) in accordance with RFP20-45 and Section 15.2 (d) of the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy;
- (b) the financing for this assignment **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 assignment;
- (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 agreements, if required, to give effect to these recommendations.

<b>PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER</b>
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- Civic Works Committee – June 19, 2012 – London 2030 Transportation Master Plan
- Civic Works Committee – September 7, 2016 – London ON Bikes Cycling Master
- Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee – May 6, 2019 – Approval of 2019 Development Charges By-Law and DC Background Study

## COUNCIL'S 2019-2023 STRATEGIC PLAN

The following report supports the Strategic Plan through the strategic focus area of Building a Sustainable City by building new transportation infrastructure to meet the long term needs of our community and increase access to transportation options such as walking and bicycling.

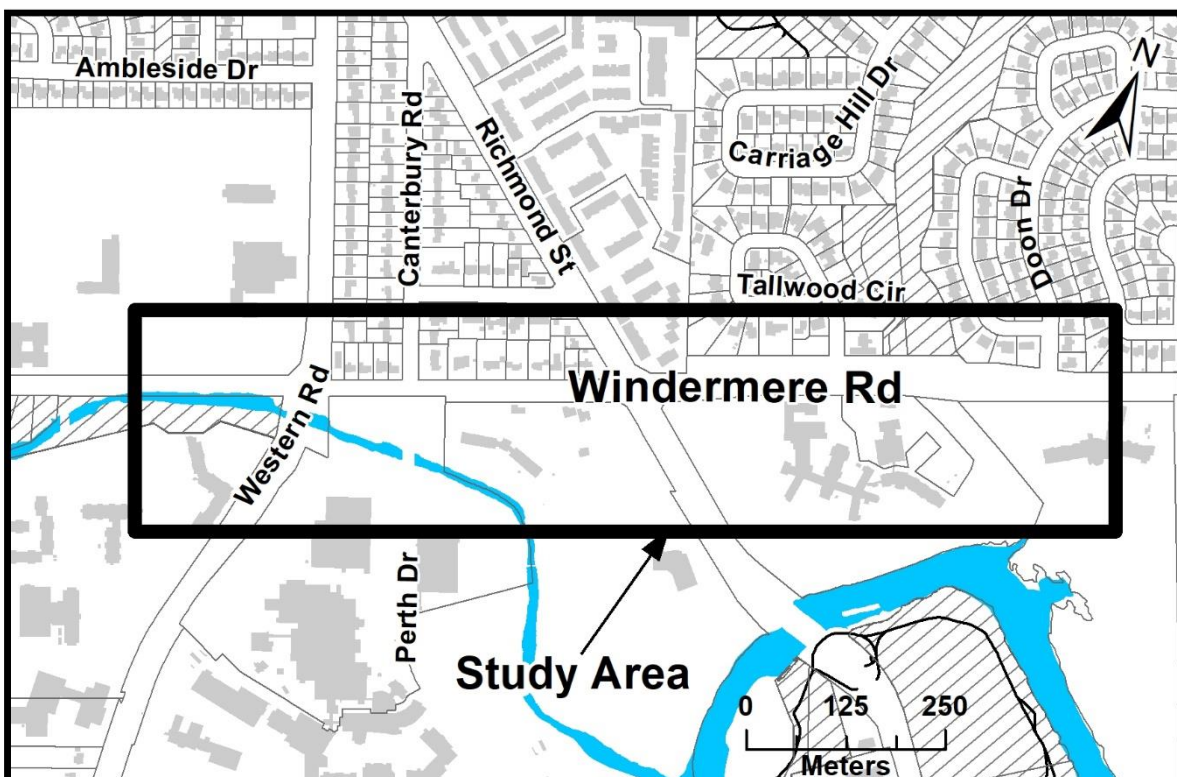
## BACKGROUND

### Purpose

This report recommends the appointment of a consulting engineer to complete the environmental assessment (EA) for the Windermere Road improvements from Western Road to Doon Drive (west leg). The purpose of this EA is to satisfy the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act by providing a comprehensive, environmentally sound planning process with public participation. The process will also facilitate consultation with surrounding stakeholders.

### Context

The study area for this EA includes the Windermere Road corridor from Western Road to the west leg of Doon Drive as shown below. Windermere Road is classified as a Rapid Transit Boulevard from Western Road to Richmond Street and as a Civic Boulevard east of Richmond Street. The majority of this corridor is a three-lane roadway that accommodates between 9,000 and 14,500 vehicles per day. Peak hour operational congestion is observed related to nearby destinations including University Hospital and Western University destinations. This condition was recently exacerbated during the temporary closure of the University Drive bridge which is owned by Western University.



Environmental Assessment Study Area

The EA will identify the needs and balance the requirements of the full range of potential users within the community including users of all ages and abilities, pedestrians, cyclists, transit vehicles and motorists. The EA will also consider the impacts associated with climate change in the context of the proposed improvements.

## DISCUSSION

### Project Description

The need for the Windermere Road improvements project was identified in the 2019 Development Charges Background Study and the 2016 Cycling Master Plan. The following transportation related improvements will be reviewed as part of the EA study:

- Alternatives for improved traffic flow based on current demands and considering potential influences from surrounding transportation network changes and developments;
- Introduction of new cycling facilities between Western Road and Richmond Street and improvements to the existing cycling facilities;
- Improvements to the intersections along the corridor that will satisfy the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements and account for the future transit plans;
- Traffic signals and street lighting improvements.

The intent of this EA is to explore various geometric design alternatives and to develop a functional plan for the preferred design based on the input received through consultation. These alternatives will be evaluated using a range of criteria including impacts on the natural, social, cultural, and economic environments.

The proposed EA will also:

- Recommend the future improvements for the corridor and intersections to mitigate deficiencies, accommodate increased traffic demand, and improve safety;
- Develop a functional and visually attractive design concept;
- Engage the public and stakeholders to allow public input and active involvement throughout the study process;
- Determine the appropriate right-of-way and property requirements;
- Coordinate underground service needs;
- Coordinate with ongoing EAs, projects, studies and surrounding development;
- Assess and document the ecological and natural features within the corridor and identify management needs; and,
- Document in a clear and transparent manner the process undertaken and provide formal documentation and presentations.

**Consultant Procurement**

The consultant selection process has been undertaken in accordance with the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy. The procurement followed the two stage process with the first stage being an open, publicly advertised expression of interest/pre-qualification stage (REOI/RFQUAL). Subsequently a consultant shortlist was developed. The consultants were asked to submit detailed proposals and work plans. Proposals were received from the consultants on July 24, 2020. The selection committee evaluated the proposals against an established evaluation criteria which included the experience and qualifications of the consultant team as well as their approach, methodology and understanding of project goals and objectives.

The evaluation committee determined that the submission from Stantec Consulting Ltd. engineering firm provides the best value for the City. Stantec Consulting Ltd. has experienced project team members with the required qualifications and expertise. Their proven experience on similar projects combined with a project proposal that demonstrated a thorough understanding of the goals and objectives determined their suitability for this assignment.

<b>CONCLUSION</b>
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Stantec Consulting Ltd. has demonstrated an understanding of the requirements for this project. Based on the competitive consultant procurement process, it is recommended that Stantec Consulting Ltd. be appointed to undertake the environmental assessment study for the Windermere Road improvements in the amount of \$429,398.79 (excluding HST).

There are no anticipated additional annual operating costs to the Environmental and Engineering Services Department associated with this assignment.

<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	<b>REVIEWED &amp; CONCURRED BY:</b>
<b>GARFIELD DALES, P. ENG. DIVISION MANAGER TRANSPORTATION PLANNING &amp; DESIGN</b>	<b>DOUG MACRAE, P. ENG., MPA DIRECTOR ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION</b>
<b>RECOMMENDED BY:</b>	
<b>KELLY SCHERR, P. ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER</b>	

c: John Freeman, Manager, Purchasing and Supply  
John Stevely, Procurement Officer, Purchasing and Supply  
Gary McDonald, Budget Analyst  
Stantec Consulting Ltd.