

Report to Civic Works Committee

To: Chair and Members
Civic Works Committee

From: Kelly Scherr, P.Eng., MBA, FEC
Deputy City Manager, Environment & Infrastructure

Subject: Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement - RFP22-097

Date: September 13, 2022

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Environment & Infrastructure, the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to RFP22-097 Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement:

- (a) Matrix Solutions Inc. **BE APPOINTED** Consulting Engineers to complete consulting services for the Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement with the estimate, on file, at an upset amount of \$562,665 including 20% contingency, excluding HST, in accordance with Section 15.2(e) 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 work;
- (d) the approvals given, herein, **BE CONDITIONAL** upon the Corporation entering into a formal contract with the consultant for the project; and,
- (e) the Mayor and the City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute any contract or other documents, if required, to give effect to these recommendations.

Executive Summary

Purpose

This report seeks Council approval for Matrix Solutions Inc. to undertake the design and construction administration of the Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement and Harris Park Master Plan design elements.

Context

The City of London owns flood and erosion control structures throughout the watershed. Through recent assessments undertaken of the City's erosion control structures, deficiencies found in Harris Park were identified as a high priority. Missing and broken gabion baskets have degraded the integrity of the structures, while erosion has occurred in multiple areas of the park.

Harris Park includes key sections of the Thames Valley Parkway pathway system which has up to 5,000 users per day. Restoration of the east shoreline in Harris Park will provide opportunities to enhance river level access for lookouts, fishing, canoe, and kayak activities, as well as opportunities for restoration of riparian and aquatic habitat in this reach consistent with the recommendations of the One River Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) - River Management Plan.

The objective of the proposed project is to remediate the erosion control structures along the bank and implement the recommendations of the One River EA related to Harris Park.

Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

This project supports the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan through the following: Building a Sustainable City, Build infrastructure to support future development and protect the environment, Improve London's resiliency to respond to future challenges, and Maintain or increase current levels of service; manage the infrastructure gap for all assets.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

Planning and Environment Committee – December 14, 2015 – Back to the River Design Competition

Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee – January 28, 2016 – Downtown Infrastructure Planning and Coordination

Civic Works Committee – February 2, 2016 – West London Dyke Master Repair Plan Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study

Civic Works Committee – March 8, 2016 - One River - Master Plan Environmental Assessment

Municipal Council - March 22, 2016 - One River- Master Plan Environmental Assessment: Background Information

Civic Works Committee – November 1, 2016 – One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment: Terms of Reference

Civic Works Committee – February 21, 2017 – One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment: Appointment of Consultant

Civic Works Committee – March 18, 2019– One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment Notice of Completion

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

2.1 Discussion

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) installed a number of erosion control structures along the river over the past century, including several within the City of London. In conjunction with the flood control dams, these structures help protect homes, infrastructure, and existing landscape from damage that may be caused by flood waters or natural erosion of the river. Although ownership of the structures remains with the municipality, the UTRCA has historically been involved with maintenance of the erosion control structures.

Erosion Control Structure Assessment

In 2004, UTRCA retained a consultant to undertake an assessment of the flood control structures within the City boundaries and establish an inspection protocol with standardized inspection sheets that could be used for all major and minor erosion control structures. This report identified several rehabilitation projects to be completed, which UTRCA placed on hold due to lack of funding to complete the work.

In 2021, the City retained a consultant to update the 2004 study to assess current conditions, identify deficiencies and develop a roadmap for the City to lead the repair of the structures. In the 2021 assessment, the erosion control structures along Harris Park were identified as high priority.

Harris Park Priority Site

The proposed project area spans approximately 700m in length from north of the Queen Street Bridge to south of Blackfriars Bridge, however, the area of studies will extend further south to the King Street Bridge (Figure 1) to facilitate future detailed design.

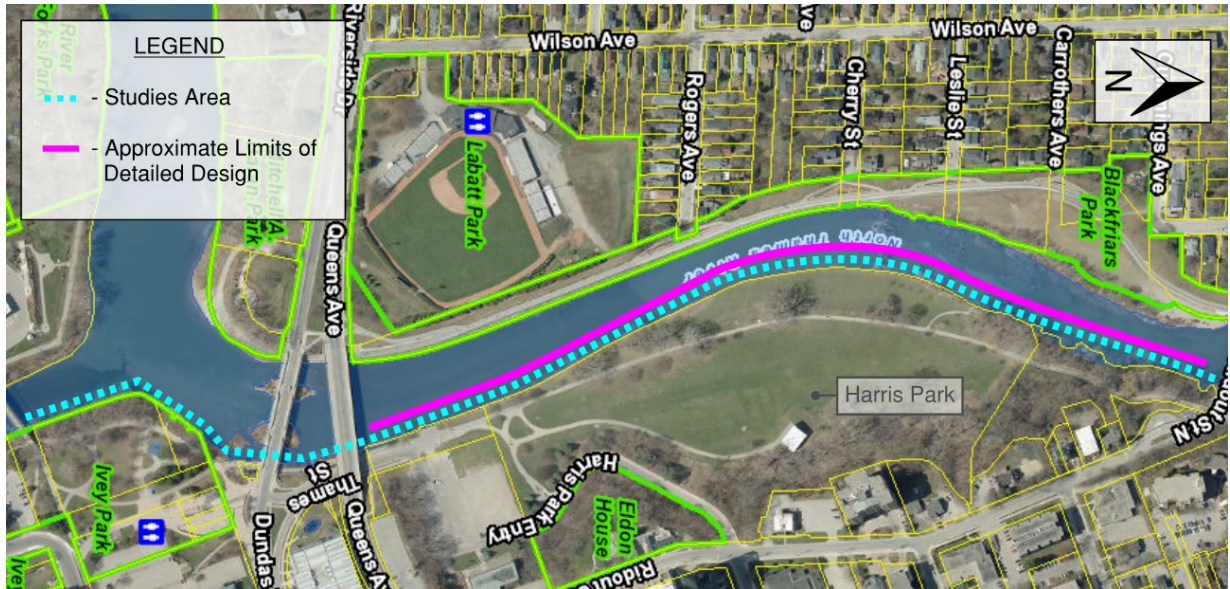


Figure 1: Harris Park Erosion Control Structure project area overview

The Harris Park erosion control structures have deteriorated over time. The photograph below shows sections of the retaining wall that have started to collapse (Figure 2). Missing and broken gabion baskets have degraded the integrity of the structures while erosion and ground slump has occurred in multiple areas.

The Thames Valley Parkway multi-use recreational trail runs adjacent to the erosion control structures in some areas. Harris Park includes key sections of the Thames Valley Parkway (TVP) pathway system which has up to 5,000 users per day. The One River Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) also included a River Management Plan that identified the need for river access improvements for the existing Harris Park boat access and fishing access.



Figure 2: Harris Park, partial failure of gabion retaining wall (2021)

The main objectives of the proposed project are to integrate the recommendations of the Erosion Control Structures Assessment with the Harris Park Master Plan design elements identified in the One River EA River Management Plan. This includes rehabilitating failing erosion control structures, replacing vegetation and removing debris from the banks and water course. Restoration of the east shoreline in Harris Park will also include opportunities to enhance river level access for lookouts, fishing, canoe, and kayak activities, as well as opportunities for restoration of riparian and aquatic habitat.

3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

3.1 Consultant Selection

The engineering consultant selection procedure for this assignment utilized a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process in accordance with Section 15.2(e) of the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy. Three qualified engineering firms from the City's pre-approved consultant list submitted a formal proposal to undertake the Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement. The evaluation of each consultant proposal focused on the understanding of project goals, experience on directly related projects, project team members, capacity and qualifications, and overall project fee.

Based on a review of the submitted proposals, it is recommended that Matrix Solutions Inc. be authorized to carry out the Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement.

3.2 Financial Impact

There is adequate budget to complete the detailed design of this project in 2023. Construction is planned for 2024. The long-term strategy to address all erosion control structure deficiencies will be presented to Council as part of the next four-year budget cycle in 2024 as the total estimated cost to repair all structures is \$31M.

Conclusion

The implementation of the Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement project will restore the decrepit east shoreline of Harris Park and provide enhancements to river level access of the Thames River. The replacement of infrastructure at the end of its lifecycle is essential to building a sustainable City. The recommendation of an engineering consultant assignment for the Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement project represents another step forward in replacing London's aging infrastructure, while improving current levels of recreational service.

The Matrix Solutions Inc. team has demonstrated that they offer an experienced project team with a clear understanding of the project scope and requirements. They clearly identified the objectives of the study including the design of the erosion control structure, develop strategies and concept designs for Harris Park and implement the concepts in consultation with the City. It is recommended to appoint Matrix Solutions Inc. to lead the Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement project. The consultant assignment is valued at an upset amount of \$562,665.00 (including contingency, excluding HST).

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

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

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

Attachments: Appendix 'A' – Source of Financing

CC: John Freeman
Gary MacDonald
Alan Dunbar
Jason Davies
Elaine Nickerson
Monica McVicar

Appendix "A"

#22130

September 13, 2022
(Appoint Consulting Engineer)

Chair and Members
Civic Works Committee

RE: RFP22-097 - Harris Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement
(Subledger SWM22013)
Capital Project ES2474 - UTRCA Remediating Flood Control Works within City Limits
Matrix Solutions Inc. - \$562,665.00 (excluding HST)

Finance Supports Report on the Sources of Financing:

Finance Supports confirms that the cost of this project 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 This Date	This Submission	Balance for Future Work
Engineering	7,404,478	6,831,910	572,568	0
Construction	13,377,640	6,101,580	0	7,276,060
City Related Expenses	80,859	80,859	0	0
Total Expenditures	\$20,862,977	\$13,014,349	\$572,568	\$7,276,060

Sources of Financing

Capital Sewer Rates	1,000,000	1,000,000	0	0
Debenture By-law No. W.-5610-251	2,750,000	0	0	2,750,000
Drawdown from Sewage Works Renewal Reserve Fund	17,061,232	11,962,604	572,568	4,526,060
Other Contributions	51,745	51,745	0	0
Total Financing	\$20,862,977	\$13,014,349	\$572,568	\$7,276,060

Financial Note:

Contract Price	562,665
Add: HST @13%	73,146
Total Contract Price Including Taxes	<u>635,811</u>
Less: HST Rebate	<u>-63,243</u>
Net Contract Price	\$572,568

Jason Davies
Manager of Financial Planning & Policy

jg