SUBJECT: Red Hill Valley Project (RHVP) - Integrated Environmental Monitoring Program (PW07077) - (City Wide)

RECOMMENDATION:
That the General Manager of Public Works or his designate be authorized to negotiate single source contracts with the Red Hill Valley Project’s design consultants (i.e., Philips Engineering Ltd., C. Portt and Associates, Blackport and Associates, Water Regime Investigations and Simulations Ltd., and Dougan and Associates) for the provision of multi-year environmental monitoring services as required by the regulatory agencies for the RHVP.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
As required by Federal and Provincial regulatory approvals for the Red Hill Valley Project, the City must undertake a post-construction multi-year environmental monitoring program to confirm the effectiveness of newly constructed works (i.e., stormwater management system, realigned Red Hill Creek, and related fish habitat including riparian plantings). If necessary, Adaptive Management measures will be undertaken to make adjustments to the aforementioned works should the monitoring results reveal such a need.

The City has consistently approached the development of these works in an integrated fashion from re-design to construction. This was made possible through the development of a multi-disciplinary Consultant Team comprised of Philips Engineering
Ltd., C. Portt and Associates, Blackport and Associates, Water Regime Investigations and Simulations Ltd., and, Dougan and Associates that have collaborated each step along this process. The harmonization of the numerous sciences involved has been fundamental to the success we have experienced so far. This particular Team has the intimate knowledge and understanding of the designs that will enable them to evaluate the performance of the constructed systems against the level of performance that regulatory agencies have issued approvals. Staff believe this consulting Team has provided the City with exceptional service on this Project and have been very satisfied with their work.

Staff therefore recommend that Council approve the following:

That the General Manager of Public Works or his designate be authorized to negotiate single source contracts with the Red Hill Valley Project’s design consultants (Philips Engineering Ltd., C. Portt and Associates, Blackport and Associates, Water Regime Investigations and Simulations Ltd. and Dougan and Associates) for the provision of multi-year environmental monitoring services as required by the regulatory agencies on the RHVP.

BACKGROUND:

The mandate of the RHVP office includes the design, construction, and commissioning of the Project. Construction recommenced on the North-South section in 2003 and the roadway, stormwater management system, creek realignment, and combined sewer overflow pipe are expected to be complete in Fall 2007. The remaining work which will continue beyond 2007 includes post-construction environmental monitoring.

The City is committed to undertaking environmental monitoring of various aspects of the Project as outlined in the Permits and Approvals. The purpose of the monitoring program is twofold: (i) to evaluate the performance of the approved works; (ii) to determine if adjustments are required through a process of Adaptive Management. Like the design and construction phases of this project the monitoring plan is integrated. This integration allows the synergies already established by this Team to be utilized further so that any recommendations for modification that may arise will be thoroughly developed with all the appropriate considerations.

This Consultant Team was established in the preliminary design phase of the RHVP and Council has supported continuance of this model on numerous occasions including: award of the detail design (Report PW03026), the permit application process (Report PW04054) and subsequently construction supervision (Report PW03026). At each of these phases, staff advised Council that they were satisfied that the City was continuing to receive good value for the money.

ANALYSIS/RATIONALE:

The Red Hill Valley Project has a history which spans five decades. The Project has, over the course of its development, utilized an integrated approach whereby each discipline has collaborated to produce results. The RHVP Consultant Team has amassed a significant amount of knowledge about the environment which has been
reflected in their design and is referenced in the permits and approvals granted by the government agencies.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION:**

The alternative is to acquire the provision of monitoring services through a competitive bidding process. A change in any one of the consultants at this juncture would result in increased costs to the City in additional expenditures by other consultants on the Team that would be generated to bring the new member up to speed on the history and requirements of the Project. Moreover, should an adjustment be required, the new consultant would need to consult with the original designer and thus ultimately would be engaging the same firm. This alternative would cost the City more and be less productive.

**FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

**Financial**

Estimated costs for the multi-year monitoring program were included in Report PW06087/FCS06075 Cost to Complete the Red Hill Valley Project approved by Council on July 12, 2006. The forecast budget for the integrated monitoring plan is between $1.2 and $1.7 million over the five years.

**Staffing**

As previously reported to Council last year (Report PW06087/FCS06075) the mandate of the RHVP Office was anticipated to be completed by the Spring of 2008, however, there are a number of responsibilities which will extend beyond that time period. The Public Works Department is developing the administration necessary to manage this body of work which includes the monitoring program, valley restoration, MTO works, noise mitigation program, and other remaining work on the RHVP.

**Legal**

The City is obligated to conduct post-construction monitoring as identified in the various approvals for the Project and there is no alternative to these requirements.

**POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:**

Pursuant to Section 4.11 of the Purchasing Policy - Policy for Negotiations, Council approval is required for single source procurements that are valued at $250,000 or greater.

**RELEVANT CONSULTATION:**

Purchasing Section, Financial Services Division, Corporate Services Department
Budgets Section, Budgets and Finance Division, Corporate Services Department
CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:

By evaluating the “Triple Bottom Line”, (community, environment, economic implications) we can make choices that create value across all three bottom lines, moving us closer to our vision for a sustainable community, and Provincial interests.

Community Well-Being is enhanced. ☐ Yes ☐ No
N/A

Environmental Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No

Economic Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No

Utilizing a competitive bidding process could impact our ability to deliver our commitment in a timely and efficient manner. A change in any one of the consultants at this juncture would result in increased costs to the City in additional expenditures by other consultants on the Team that would be generated to bring the new member up to speed on the history/requirements of the Project.

Does the option you are recommending create value across all three bottom lines? ☐ Yes ☑ No

Do the options you are recommending make Hamilton a City of choice for high performance public servants? ☐ Yes ☐ No
N/A