CITY OF HAMILTON

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Environment and Sustainable Infrastructure Division

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<th>TO: Chair and Members Public Works Committee</th>
<th>WARD(S) AFFECTED: WARD 2</th>
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<td>COMMITTEE DATE: June 14, 2010</td>
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<td>SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Tree Removal Request - New Ferguson Avenue Pumping Station (PW10065) - (Ward 2)</td>
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<td>SUBMITTED BY: Gerry Davis, CMA General Manager Public Works Department</td>
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RECOMMENDATION:

That the necessary existing trees be approved for removal (as identified in Appendix “A” to Report PW10065) in order to facilitate the implementation of a capital project that includes the site preparation work for the construction of the new Ferguson Avenue Water Booster Pumping Station at 231 Ferguson Avenue South.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**NOTE:** This is an Infrastructure Stimulus Funded project; therefore, in order to achieve the March 31, 2011 Substantial Performance funding deadline, the Site Preparation Contract has already been awarded and through consultation with the Environmental Services Section, the required trees have been removed, and financial compensation has already been provided to Forestry and Horticulture from the project budget.

The removal of trees is needed to facilitate the implementation of a capital project (which has been identified to receive Infrastructure Stimulus Funding) that includes the site preparation work for the construction of the new Ferguson Avenue Water Booster Pumping Station at 231 Ferguson Avenue South, Hamilton. These trees are in a varied state of health. An inventory of all the trees within the working area for the site preparation work was undertaken and the impacted trees are identified and shown in Appendix “A” (Tree Survey Results). Where possible, Forestry staff have provided their review and comments on the condition of the existing trees to be removed, and have
determined that 31, 318mm of tree calliper will require replacement according to the existing tree replacement policy. Trees designated to remain are identified. Removal costs and applicable compensation value are to be borne by the corresponding Capital Budget account for the project. Due to the construction work, a total of one hundred and thirty-six (136) trees, which are in poor to good condition, will be affected and will have to be removed. The total removal costs and replacement compensation have been determined by Forestry staff. Council approval is being sought at this time to remove the trees in order to facilitate the proposed construction in accordance with Hamilton Tree By-law 06-151 and the City of Hamilton Public Tree Removal Policy.

Alternatives for Consideration - See Page 4

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: The removal and replacement of trees will be funded from the Capital Budget appropriation allocated to the project. There is sufficient budget in the project Capital Budget account (which has been identified to receive Infrastructure Stimulus Funding). Appendix “A” outlines where the trees will be removed. Locations for replacement trees will be chosen in consultation with Forestry staff.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The information/recommendations contained within this Report primarily affect Ward 2. The present Ferguson Avenue Pumping Station was commissioned in 1912, and has served continuously since that time providing potable drinking water and fire protection supply to approximately half of the City’s urban population, as well as St. Joseph's Hospital, McMaster University Medical Centre, and McMaster University. A detailed condition assessment (2005) and facility investigation report (2008) identified a number of serious deficiencies and inadequacies in this aging facility. A Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study report (2009) recommended the replacement of the existing pumping station with a new water booster pumping station, to be followed by the decommissioning of the existing pumping station. Subsequently, the construction of the new water booster pumping station was identified to receive Infrastructure Stimulus Funding in the amount of $20 million, subject to the work being substantially performed by March 31, 2011.
VISION:
To be the best place in Canada to raise a child, promote innovation, engage citizens and provide diverse economic opportunities.

VALUES:
Honest, Accountability, Innovation, Leadership, Respect, Excellence, Teamwork

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council approval is being sought in accordance with the provisions of City of Hamilton Tree By-law 06-151 and the City of Hamilton Public Tree Removal Policy

The tree replacement is in accordance with the ‘Innovate Now’ priority of greening and stewardship, and the coordination among Divisions supports the priority of defining and aligning business plans.

The Public Works Strategy Plan, Innovate Now –

The recommendations from this Report will assist in meeting Public Works’ key goal, to be recognized as the centre of environmental and innovative excellence in Canada. In addition, implementing the recommendations will also assist Public Works in building on our Strategic Vision Drivers as follows:

- **Communities (Services our communities connect with and trust)** –
  Implementing the pumping station replacement will improve our local environment. Efficient and reliable operation of the new water pumping station will ensure excellent service to all respective communities well into the future. The transparent and consultative nature of the Class Environmental Assessment process builds trust within the community and Review Agencies, demonstrating Hamilton's and Public Works’ commitment to Service Excellence.

- **People (Skilled teams ready for any situation)** –
  This program demonstrates the ability of City staff to respond to an important and complex opportunity that affects our community. Implementing proposed water improvements requires the knowledge and skill of many staff that work with the system on a daily basis. Through an extensive consultation process, stakeholders, including many employees, were invited to provide their input and contribute throughout the process of decision making. The proposed solution represents forward thinking and contemporary practice. Projects such as this have the ability to contribute to the positive image that Hamilton seeks to maintain and will promote a sense of pride in staff.

- **Process (Smart processes to match our needs)** –
  Throughout the development process, plans have been formulated to ensure that all aspects of the Triple Bottom Line approach to problem solving are considered. Social, Environmental, and Economic impacts were all assessed to provide a balanced approach to the preferred alternative. A detailed evaluation process was employed in order to effectively arrive at the optimal solution, which meets Hamilton-specific goals and objectives. The result is a sustainable long-term approach that addresses pressures from City growth, legislated requirements, and environmental protection.
Finances (Sound finance management for the long haul) –

Government policy and legislation have been considered in the development of the preferred solution. The economic impact to the City was a significant factor in the decision-making process.

Other policies affecting or impacting this Report include:
- Ontario Environmental Assessment Act.
- Ontario Safe Drinking Water Act.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

The following were consulted in the preparation of this report:
Public Works Department, Operations and Waste Management Division, Environmental Services Group, Forestry and Horticulture Section.

The Ward Councillor has been consulted and is in agreement with the recommendations.

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

A detailed condition assessment (2005) and facility investigation report (2008) was completed and a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study report (2009) recommended the replacement of the existing pumping station with a new water booster pumping station. In order to undertake this critical project, trees are required to be removed as part of the construction. As a result and as per Hamilton Tree By-law 06-151 and the City of Hamilton’s Tree Removal Policy the trees as outlined in Appendix “A” are being recommended for removal.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION:

This is an Infrastructure Stimulus Funded project; therefore, in order to achieve the March 31, 2011 Substantial Performance funding deadline, the Site Preparation Contract has already been awarded and through consultation with the Environmental Services Section, the required trees have been removed, and financial compensation has already been provided to Forestry and Horticulture from the project budget. As such no alternatives exist.

Financial Implications: N/A

Staffing Implications: N/A

Legal Implications: N/A
CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN


Skilled, Innovative & Respectful Organization
- A culture of excellence
- More innovation, greater teamwork, better client focus

Financial Sustainability
- Delivery of municipal services and management capital assets/liabilities in a sustainable, innovative and cost-effective manner
- Address infrastructure deficiencies and unfunded liabilities
- Sustainable Tri-part Government Agreement

Intergovernmental Relationships
- Acquire greater share of Provincial and Federal grants (including those that meet specific needs)

Growing Our Economy
- Newly created or revitalized employment sites

Social Development
- N/A

Environmental Stewardship
- Natural resources are protected and enhanced
- Reduced impact of City activities on the environment
- Aspiring to the highest environmental standards

Healthy Community
- Adequate access to food, water, shelter and income, safety, work, recreation and support for all (Human Services)

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

Appendix “A” - Tree Survey Results (Drawing No. 9260-C1004)