

City of Mississauga Corporate Report



9.3

Date: February 2, 2021

To: Chair and Members of General Committee

From: Shari Lichterman, CPA, CMA, Commissioner of
Community Services

Originator's files:

Meeting date:
March 10, 2021

Subject

**Renewal of Alternate Locate Agreement with Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. for
Municipally Owned Parkland**

Recommendation

1. That the Commissioner of Community Services or designate be authorized to negotiate and enter into alternate locate agreements with Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. related to underground utility locates on municipally-owned parkland, including any renewals and all necessary documents ancillary thereto, in a form satisfactory to Legal Services, as outlined in the report dated February 2, 2021 from the Commissioner of Community Services.
2. That all necessary By-laws be enacted.

Background

The intention of the original Alternate Locate Agreement ("ALA"), executed between the City and Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. ("Enbridge") in August 2015, was to increase the efficiency of City Contractors and staff in gaining clearances for stump grinding operations without compromising safety within City Parks by not removing stumps to a depth of more than 12 inches. The goals were successful and as stump removal numbers in City Parks have increased, time spent administering utility locate clearances have been minimized without compromising safety. In 2018, the agreement was renewed. Acknowledging the related benefits of continuing the agreement, Enbridge has confirmed that they are amenable to renewing the agreement for another two (2) year period. The current agreement expires in March 2021.

This process not only facilitates the speed to safely remove tree stumps within Parks, but also makes available more field locating personnel to attend to the projects where locates are imperative. This ensures that City Parks are safe from ground hazards, are more aesthetically pleasing and ensures that Parks are prepared for replacement trees in a timely manner. ALA's apply to project works where there are numerous excavations of similar work or do not exceed a certain depth at multiple locations such as City Parks where, due to ash mortality, stumps are still present in large quantity and re-planting sites are inter-changeable.

Present Status

Prior to the current ALA, City staff had to send out for locate requests over wide areas due to the size of City Parks and in part to the vast number of removals due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). As per Ontario1Call ("OOC"), five (5) business days is the goal to get Locate Service Providers (LSPs) on site to confirm clearances, however that is not always the case, as often these timelines are amplified due to increased activities during the Spring, Summer and Fall when breaking of ground peaks due to construction, maintenance and landscaping practices.

The current stump removal in Parks timelines as associated with the existing ALA are working efficiently due to several factors including; less time spent administratively by City Staff in requesting locates and submitting associated maps; less personnel and field work spent on site by the LSPs; less administrative work for OOC and the LSPs; decreased time for Contractors waiting for work to be assigned to them.

Comments

Due to the success of past ALAs, Forestry is currently seeking delegated authority to enter into another 2-year ALA with Enbridge and for future renewals when necessary. Such delegated authority will avoid the need to seek new Council approval, every two or three years for a process and agreement that have been established as a success.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts resulting from the recommendations in this report.

Conclusion

Renewing the current ALA with Enbridge would enable Contractors and Staff to continue to work effectively and safely to administer the removal of stumps in City Parks by expediting the stump removal process. This ensures that City Parks are safe from ground hazards, are more aesthetically pleasing and ensures that Parks are prepared for replacement trees; and by delegating authority to the Commissioner of Community Services or designate, any future renewal ALAs with Enbridge can take place in a timely manner.



Shari Lichterman, CPA, CMA, Commissioner of Community Services

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