



# Municipality of Port Hope Staff Report

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## Report Title: Sylvan Glen Bridge Replacement Project

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**Report to:** Council

**Date of meeting:** July 4, 2023

**Report Author:**

Mike van den Broek, Manager Engineering

**Department responsible:**

Works & Engineering

**Report Number:** WE-14-23

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### Recommendation:

Refer to resolutions.

### Highlights:

- 2022 and 2023 approved project budget \$1,965,000.00.
- Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, project design and tender package were completed in 2022/2023 at a total cost of \$128,517.79 net HST.
- Project was tendered in June 2023 with a low bid of \$1,918,445.55 net HST.
- An additional \$400,000.00 is requested as a 2024 pre-budget approval to complete the construction in 2023 as soon as possible.

### Background:

The existing Sylvan Glen bridge (concrete T beams supported on concrete abutments), which currently conveys one and a half lanes of traffic, was constructed in 1921 with an additional 7.3 m length span added at a later date. The existing bridge has two spans and an overall bridge length of 22.1m.

A mandatory Ontario Structure Inspection Manual (OSIM) inspection in 2020 and again in 2022 concluded that the bridge is in an overall fair to poor condition with recommendations for replacement in one to five years. A detailed structure assessment and evaluation was carried out in 2021. This assessment determined that the structure was no longer capable to withstand the load of the standard CL-625 ONT Design Truck. As a result, 9/15/23 tonne load limit signs were posted on each of the approaches to the bridge.

The design and Class Environmental Assessment were completed by Ainley Group at a total cost of \$128,517.79 in 2022/2023. The project was tendered in late May 2023 and 5 bids were submitted, with the low bid being \$1,918,445.45 as submitted by 2274084 Ontario Ltd. o/a GMP Contracting.

The remaining 4 bids were more than \$2 Million, with the high bid at \$2,900,260.50. The existing budget is insufficient to cover all the costs associated with the project and

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additional funds in the amount of \$400,000 are proposed to be included in the 2024 budget to be considered by Council in the future.

**Discussion:**

In order to remove the existing structure and construct the footings and abutments for the new structure the contractor will need to complete this work 'in-water'.

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has established timing window guidelines to restrict in-water work related to an activity during certain periods to protect fish from impacts of works or undertakings in and around water during spawning migrations and other critical life stages. This window is from September 15<sup>th</sup> until July 15<sup>th</sup> where work within water is restricted.

Works and Engineering is requesting pre-budget approval in the amount of \$400,000.00 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve fund to award the project as soon as possible. Delaying budget approval will result in the work not proceeding until after July 15<sup>th</sup>, shortening the in-water works window which closes September 15<sup>th</sup>. The delay would likely necessitate the construction being deferred until 2024, and additional funds would likely be required as construction costs continue to increase.

Staff is requesting that Council approve a resolution to authorize funding in the amount of \$400,000 from the 2024 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) allocation and immediately award the project to 2274084 Ontario Ltd. o/a GMP Contracting to allow work to proceed in 2023.

This report has been brought directly to Council to maintain current pricing and complete the work prior to the restrictions coming into effect for in-water work.

**Financial Considerations:**

The combined 2022 and 2023 approved budget for this project is \$1,965,000.00. Engineering Design and Environmental Assessment costs amount to \$128,517.79 net HST. The low bid tender for the project is \$1,918,445.55 net HST. Pre-budget approval of an additional \$400,000.00 is requested to be included in the proposed 2024 budget to cover the cost for construction in 2023/24. The request for additional funds includes for contract administration, inspection and materials testing as well as a 10% contingency for the project.

**Communication and Public Engagement:**

A Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) was undertaken for this project and commenced in May 2022. The Public Information Centre was held on January 26, 2023, where the project was introduced and the design alternatives were presented for the public /stakeholders to comment on. Comments from agencies and the public were accepted, and correspondence has been documented in the project file. The Project File Report must be made available to the public for a 30-day review period to complete the MCEA process. The Project File Report was filed and advertised on April 20, 2023. No further comments were received during the 30 day review period.

**Conclusion:**

Staff recommends the award of the Sylvan Glen bridge project to GMP Contracting in the amount of \$1,918,445.55 net HST. In order to move forward with construction in 2023, it is also recommended that Council approve the pre-budget approval request in the amount of \$400,000 to be funded from the OCIF 2024 allocation.

**Attachments:**

None.