Report to Council

Department: Infrastructure Services
Division: Capital Works and Infrastructure
Date: July 5, 2021
Prepared by: Kevin Girard, P.Eng, MBA
Director, Infrastructure Services
Report Number: Capital Works and Infrastructure-2021-09
Subject: King-Queen Traffic Signal Replacement
Number of Pages: 4

Recommendation(s)

That Capital Works and Infrastructure – 2021-09 entitled, “King-Queen Traffic Signal Replacement” prepared by Kevin Girard, Director of Infrastructure Services dated July 5, 2021 be received, and

That Council approve the additional expenditure for the replacement of the traffic signals at the King Street and Queen Street intersection in the amount of $170,820.00 (including applicable HST) as part of the Harrow Streetscape project (GG-20-0008).

Purpose

To inform Council of the recent damage sustained to the Harrow traffic signal at the intersection of Queen Street and King Street due to a severe weather event. Additional, to provide options to Council for the replacement or rehabilitation and repair of this traffic signal.
**Background and Discussion**

In the evening of June 20\textsuperscript{th}, 2021, a severe thunderstorm occurred in Windsor-Essex County where administration believes that the King-Queen Traffic Lights were either struck by lightning or received a surge of electricity, causing permanent damage and failure to multiple components within the Traffic Signal cabinet, including the controller.

As part of the approved 2021 Capital Budget, the Harrow Streetscape project was tendered and awarded to JCS Construction and is well underway. Included in the scope of the project was the rehabilitation of the traffic signals at King Street and Queen Street with provisions to construct the underground infrastructure required to install new traffic signals in the future when the traffic lights reached their useful life in 5 to 7 years. Included in the Harrow Streetscape budget was $33,870.82 (including applicable taxes) to aesthetically rehabilitate the existing infrastructure. Following the damage from the recent storm event, the additional cost to repair is approximately $36,000 (including applicable taxes). Therefore, the total cost to rehabilitate and repair the traffic lights is approximately $69,870.82 (including applicable taxes). It is important to note that if Council decides to only rehabilitate and repair the traffic signals, this would not extend the useful life of the overall infrastructure and would require replacement in 5-7 years.

Due to this unpredictable storm event and the additional cost to replace the critical components, Administration investigated replacing the entire traffic signal as part of the Harrow Streetscape project rather than repairing the damage caused from the thunderstorm. The total cost to purchase and install new traffic signal infrastructure including, poles, arms, traffic signal heads, surge protection, battery backup, audible pedestrian traffic signals, etc. is approximately $170,820.00 (including applicable taxes). Therefore, for an additional cost of approximately $100,949.18 the Town can install new traffic signals that will include battery backup, surge protection, and accessibility improvements.
Financial Impact

The 2021 capital budget included $5,492,018.00 for the Harrow Streetscape project (GG-20-0008). On February 16, 2021, Council awarded JCS Construction the construction contract in the amount of $4,664,479.36 (including applicable HST). Further, on March 16, 2020, Council awarded the engineering services for the project in the amount of $506,764.80 (including applicable taxes) of which $329,514.15 was spent in 2020. Therefore, there is sufficient unallocated budget remaining in the 2021 approved capital budget for the additional expenditure of $170,820.00 (including applicable taxes) to replace the existing traffic signals at the King Street and Queen Street intersection as part of project GG-20-0008 – Harrow Streetscape.

Based on the information provided herein, it is recommended that Council approve the additional expenditure of $170,820.00 (including applicable taxes) to replace the existing traffic signals at the King Street and Queen Street intersection as part of project GG-20-0008 – Harrow Streetscape.

Consultations

Jackson Tang, Assistant Manager, Business Services

Kate Giurissevich, Manager, Finance and Business Services/Deputy Treasurer

Richard Beausoleil, Manager, Capital Works and Infrastructure
Link to Strategic Priorities

- Manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure which meets current and future needs of the municipality and its citizens.

☐ Create a safe, friendly and inclusive community which encourages healthy, active living for people of all ages and abilities.

☐ Provide a fiscal stewardship and value for tax dollars to ensure long-term financial health to the municipality.

☐ Manage responsible and viable growth while preserving and enhancing the unique rural and small town character of the community.

☐ Improve the experiences of individuals, as both citizens and customers, in their interactions with the Town of Essex.
### Report Approval Details

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This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Chris Nepszy, Chief Administrative Officer - Jun 29, 2021 - 2:46 PM