

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-09-24-79

Date: September 27, 2024

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: 2024 Road Site Preparation and Surface Treatment Contract Increase

Recommendation:

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority increase the Cornell Construction contract value by \$130,357.00 for the 2024 Road Site Preparation and Surface Treatment to align with the completed essential road repairs on GRCA properties throughout the watershed.

Summary:

Not applicable

Report:

The Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) constructs and maintains approximately 146 kilometers of paved roadways and 11.6 hectares of paved parking lots. Conservation Area roads and cottage lot roads are heavily used during the operating season and it is necessary to ensure that these roads are maintained to provide safe driving surfaces for GRCA patrons.

GRCA roads are maintained to provide an appropriate driving surface in keeping with the nature of the areas that the roads serve. Each year deteriorated portions of roadway are built up, leveled, and compacted. This work is completed using either in-house resources or through the use of external contractors. Build-up for the Conservation Area roads was included in the tender, along with surface treatment for Conservation Area and Cottage Lot Roads. Once the road base has been prepared the road is resurfaced using a combination of emulsified asphalt and aggregate to form a paved surface. Application of this surfacing material requires specialized equipment and there are very few companies that specialize in this type of work.

The General Membership approved \$550,000.00 excluding HST of road repairs to Cornell Construction at the March 2024 meeting based on the estimated quantity of road repairs required.

Cornell completed the required road repairs from April to June 2024 at 9 different GRCA sites throughout the watershed. After quantifying the actual amount of road repairs completed the total actual cost was \$680,357.00 using the approved unit rates. This results in a contract increase of \$130,357.00.

GRCA staff have reviewed the actual quantities from Cornell Construction and agree with the total amount of repairs completed to adequately maintain the GRCA roads in 2024. Initial estimates completed in the fall of 2023 underestimated the amount of build-up materials required to adequately prepare the roads in 2024.

Going forward, staff aim to improve our annual road repair estimates to account for the increased traffic that sites are experiencing throughout the year, account for various seasonal freeze/thaw cycles, increase the internal contract contingency to account for unanticipated road repairs and strive to improve monitoring of ongoing road repair expenses.

Financial Implications:

Funding for road resurfacing is included in both the Conservation Area and Property Rentals (Cottage Lot Program) budgets. These programs are classified as Category 3 programs (i.e. municipal apportionment funding is not used) which are funded with self-generated program revenue. The \$680,357.00 contract amount is within the amount budgeted for the Cottage Lot Program and a forecast adjustment was made to the Conservation Area Program budget.

Other Department Considerations:

Not applicable

Prepared by:

Paul Lucier
Supervisor of Maintenance and Operations

Brandon Heyer
Manager of Central Services

Approved by:

Karen Armstrong
Deputy CAO, Secretary-Treasurer