



TOWN OF INNISFIL STAFF REPORT

STAFF REPORT NO: DSR-008-16

DATE: January 6, 2016

To: Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Members of Council

From: Jason Inwood, Manager of Operations

Subject: South Innisfil Creek Drain Peer Review Update

Cross Reference:

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive the presentation from R.J. Burnside on the phase one and two of the peer review, and,

That Council direct staff to refer the phase one and two peer review reports to Dillon Consulting for consideration in the final report, and,

That staff engage Dillon Consulting to provide a proposal to the Town for consideration in making the recommended changes to the final report, and,

That Staff bring a report back to Council outlining Dillon Consulting's proposal and any costs which may be associated.

BACKGROUND:

On May 6, 2015 Staff Report DSR-093-15 (Town Engineer), re: South Innisfil Creek Drain Update was received and the subsequent Council Resolution CR-094-06.15 directed staff to proceed with a two phase peer review of the South Innisfil Creek Drain Drainage Engineer's report dated August 2013.

Council and the public received a copy of the phase 1 peer review on October 7 (CR-196-04.15) with the phase 2 report and findings to come forward in due course. On December 9, 2015, Council and the public received a memo from the Manager of Operations presenting the phase 2 peer review, Council Resolution CR-261-21.15, and confirmation of a presentation and discussion set for the January 6, 2016 Council meeting.

ANALYSIS/CONSIDERATION:

The Phase one peer review provides context to the South Innisfil Creek Drain's history which dates back to February 1903 and further outlines the history of the last major report for repair and improvements dated November 9, 1956. These works included cleanouts, bridge crossings, straightening and improvements from the 5th Line road bridge downstream to the 5th Sideroad bridge. In that same report three branches were constructed, 10th Sideroad Branch, the 3rd Line Branch and the 3rd Line Branch Spur. Branch A and Branch B of the South Innisfil Creek Drain were created under a separate report in 1954.

The Phase 1 peer review also provides context to the Ontario Drainage Referee Order of March 31, 2005, the Preliminary Engineers Report, the Ontario Drainage Referee Order of August 31, 2006 and the 2013 version of the final Engineers Report.

When the final Engineers report was completed in August 2013 there were a number of problems with the wording of the referee's order from 2006 and Council directed staff to commence an application to the referee for reconsideration of the previous order. This matter went before the Ontario drainage referee on November 4, 2014, and subsequently the orders were lifted allowing the Town and its Engineer to review the report and make suggested alternatives and options for the South Innisfil Creek Drain.

The phase one peer review undertaken by R.J. Burnside also took an in-depth look at the heavy financial burden on the affected property owners, this report identified a number of areas where possible reduction in costs may be considered and that the evaluation would require a technical review of the hydrologic and hydraulic modeling of the drain. Subsequently staff directed R.J. Burnside to proceed with the phase two of the peer review process including the technical review and a review of the detailed cost estimates for the proposed works.

As outlined in the phase two report received by Council on December 9, 2015, R.J. Burnside has provided a detailed analysis of the Engineers report, proposed works and cost estimates. Specifically the report outlines the technical review completed on the overall modeling, downstream limits of the study area, overflow area No. 1, Highway No. 400 crossings, proposed grade line, overflow area No. 3, design criteria, Hnydczak outlet relief drain and a review of the cost estimates.

A detailed summary of the recommendations has been provided for consideration within the peer review reports. Staff has reviewed the recommendations in detail as outlined in the phase one and two peer review reports and is supportive of the recommendations moving forward.

R.J. Burnside recommends that Council directs staff to refer the phase one and two reports to Dillon Consulting for consideration of the noted comments and recommendations, and, that staff engage Dillon Consulting to provide a proposal to the Town for consideration in making the recommended changes to the scope of the project.

OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES:

Council has the option to proceed with Engineers report as is; however Council and the affected landowners have expressed concerns with the current Engineers report resulting in the peer review process being initiated in 2015.

Council has the option to start the process over. This option would be a considerable step back given the financial implications associated with starting the process over and the expenses already associated with the drain. Staff is not recommending Council direct that the process start over.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

There are no financial implications associated with this report, staff will bring a report back to Council outlining the proposal from Dillon and any associated financial implications.

CONCLUSION:

Staff have reviewed in detail the phase one and two peer review reports completed by R.J. Burnside and recommend that Council direct staff to refer to the phase one and two peer review reports to Dillon Consulting for consideration in the final report, and, that staff engage Dillon Consulting to provide a proposal to the Town for contemplation in making the recommended changes to the final report.

Staff also recommends that upon receiving a proposal from Dillon Consulting, that a report be brought back to Council outlining the proposal and any associated costs for approval.

Attachments:

- 1 - South Innisfil Creek Peer Review Phase 1
- 2 - South Innisfil Creek Peer Review Phase 2