CITY OF KINGSTON
INFORMATION REPORT TO COUNCIL

TO: Bert Meunier, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Terry Willing, Acting Commissioner, Planning and Development Services
PREPARED BY: Speros Kanellos, Manager, Engineering Division
DATE OF MEETING: June 22, 2004
SUBJECT: WELLINGTON STREET/MID BLOCK EXTENSION MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT – UPDATE & EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

RECOMMENDATION TO:
This report is intended for information only.

ORIGIN/PURPOSE:
The purpose of this report is to:
1) update Council on the status and the future steps for the proposed Wellington Street/Mid Block Extension Environmental Assessment Study and
2) provide a copy of the Request for Expressions of Interest.

The consulting firm Cumming Cockburn Limited (CCL) signed a contract with the City in November 2000 to complete the Wellington Street Extension Environmental Assessment (EA) along with a Precursor Study Report. CCL completed the Precursor Study Report in June of 2003. This preliminary feasibility study was initiated by the City of Kingston in order to examine a proposal to extend Wellington Street from Bay Street north to Rideau Street, to an undetermined location.

Since the completion of the Precursor Study, the City has expanded the study limits of the project to extend further north from Rideau Street, north of River Street, to Elliott Avenue. The extension of the limits is supported by the draft Transportation Master Plan presented to the public in August of 2003 which identified a need for an additional lane in each of the north and south direction from the interior of the central city to the Counter Street Corridor. As the limits of the project have been expanded and the Terms of Reference adjusted, the required funds to complete this EA exceed the initial approved budget. Therefore there was mutual agreement between the City and CCL to terminate the agreement.
The attached Expression of Interest enables CCL and other consultants to compete for the project evaluating the adjusted scope of work now being proposed for the Wellington Street EA, described as the Wellington Street/Mid Block Municipal Class Environmental Assessment.

OPTIONS/DISCUSSION:
The purpose of the Wellington Street Extension EA is to complete a functional design that includes bicycle lanes, sidewalks, intersection design and typical roadway cross sections. The proposed Wellington Street/Mid Block Extension will require the construction of a new roadway adjacent to an area of Kingston’s Inner Harbour that has a history of varied industrial and transportation uses. A critical issue of this project will be how to deal with the presence of contaminated lands and potential archeologically significant areas. The design will be required to serve the transportation system and growth over the next twenty years.

The Precursor Study confirmed that “the construction of the Wellington Street Extension between Bay Street and Rideau Street, north of River Street is feasible and will not produce any significant environmental impacts that could not be addressed by appropriate mitigation measures.” The consultant recommended that the City proceed with the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the new roadway and the preparation of an Environmental Study Report (ESR). As the area from Rideau Street to Counter Street and Elliott Avenue is similar to the area between Bay Street and Rideau Street staff believe that the project remains feasible if the limits are extended north from Rideau Street to Counter Street/Elliott Avenue.

Currently in 2004, Counter Street is being extended easterly from Division Street to Elliott Avenue which will then connect to Montreal Street (see attached map). As shown on the map, the extended scope for the Wellington Street/Mid Block Extension would form an important north/south link between the Downtown area and Highway 401 via Division Street.

The Draft Kingston Transportation Master Plan (KTMP) confirms the need for a new roadway facility in the Wellington Street Corridor and concludes that one extra lane of capacity in each direction is required in this section of the City’s transportation network. The City’s Official Plan also provides for the extension of Wellington Street.

The attached “Request for Expressions of Interest” will be distributed in July of this year by direct mailing in addition to being on the City’s website. Advertisements will also be placed in the local newspaper. The detailed “Terms of Reference” will be available to the selected group of consultants.

EXISTING POLICY/BY-LAW:
N/A

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN:
The most recent “FOCUS” Community Strategic Plan 2000-2010 sets out a number of priority areas, and more specifically, Priority Area No. 7 addresses Planning: Official Plan and Transportation Master Plan, setting out short and long term progress indicators for these initiatives.
FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:
Sufficient funds have been allocated from the 2004 Capital Budget in order to complete the Wellington Street/Mid Block Extension Municipal Class Environmental Assessment.

Additional funds will be sought during future budget deliberations upon completion of the EA for any necessary land purchases, remediation costs, construction costs and other items that may necessary as a result of the outcomes of the EA.

CONTACTS:
Speros Kanellos, Manager, Engineering Division, 384-1770 ext. 3133
Kimberley J. Brown, Infrastructure Engineer, Engineering Division, 384-1770 ext. 3132

DEPARTMENTS/OThERS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:
Planning Division, Shirley Bailey

NOTICE PROVISIONS:
N/A

APPENDICES:
Appendix A – Limits of Study Area for the Wellington Street/Mid Block Extension
Appendix B – Wellington Street/Mid Block Extension Environmental Assessment, Request for Expressions of Interest.
WELLINGTON STREET/MID BLOCK EXTENSION
MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The City of Kingston is initiating a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the extension of Wellington Street from Bay Street north to Elliott Avenue (limits of Study Area attached). Expressions of interest are invited for undertaking this Environmental Assessment for the City of Kingston.

The purpose of the Class Environmental Assessment is to complete a functional design that includes bicycle lanes, sidewalks, intersection designs and typical roadway cross sections. The proposed Wellington Street Extension will require the construction of a new roadway adjacent to Kingston’s Inner Harbour that has a history of varied industrial and transportation uses. A critical issue of this project will be how to deal with the presence of contaminated lands and potential archeologically significant areas.

Other issues specific to the Wellington Street/Mid Block Extension that need to be considered in this Class EA are:

- Limits/Study Area.
- Environmental protection of the Great Cataraqui River.
- Pedestrian facilities and pedestrian safety.
- Integration with existing land uses. i.e. residential, open space, industrial.
- Right-of-way requirements.
- Property ownership.
- Linkage to existing intersections.
- Access/Egress to abutting properties.
- Projected land use.
- Description of existing conditions.
- Contaminated lands assessment.
- Existing and projected traffic volumes.
- Collision history at existing or nearby intersections that would be affected by this project.
- Stormwater linkage and capacities.
- Floodplains and Natural Heritage.
- Integration with the Kingston Transportation Master Plan.
- Integration with the City of Kingston Cycling and Pathways Study.
- Inventory of historic properties.

In addition to the general requirements to complete a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, the following end products must be included, at a minimum, as part of the functional design:
• Conceptual Drainage Plan.
• Identification of geotechnical conditions.
• Identification of requirements and constraints for existing and proposed utilities and any environmentally sensitive roadway crossings.
• Identification of potential environmental issues, including identification of potential contaminated sites.
• Documentation of alternatives considered
• Operational analysis
• Horizontal alignment (1:1000 double line alignment)
• Vertical alignment (single line, typical cross-section)
• Pedestrian/Bicycle circulation
• Major lighting/signing – identify type and quantity
• Noise attenuation requirements
• Cost estimate
• Staging
• Identification of landscaping needs
• Business/residential access requirements
• Transit requirements
• Stage 1 Archeological Study

A multi-disciplinary team with expertise in the Class Environmental Assessment process, transportation planning, roadway design, engineering and public participation, is required to carry out this project. Public consultation is a critical component of the study, and the successful consultant team will be asked to design a thorough public consultation program.

Expressions of Interest will be screened and evaluated, and based on this initial level of review, the Terms of Reference for the study and a Request for Proposals will be provided to a limited number of firms whose qualifications, expertise and background are adequate. Expressions of Interest are to be no longer than 10 single-sided pages, excluding resumes or company profiles or past experience. Five single-sided copies shall be provided. They shall address the above-noted components, and should identify possible conflicts of interest.

Expressions of Interest shall be received before 4:30 p.m. on _____________, and submitted to the attention of:

Speros Kanellos, P.Eng., Manager, Engineering Division
Planning & Development Services
City of Kingston

Mailing Address: 216 Ontario Street, Kingston, Ontario K7L 2Z3

Courier or Drop-in Address: 1425 Midland Avenue, Kingston, Ontario, K7P 2Y2

Contact Person for this study is:
Kimberley J. Brown, P.Eng. Infrastructure Engineer, (613) 384-1770, ext. 3132
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