



**City of Kingston
Information Report to Rural Advisory Committee
Report Number RAC-16-001**

To: Chair and Members of Rural Advisory Committee
From: Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services
Resource Staff: Julie Salter-Keane, Manager, Community Projects
Date of Meeting: December 14, 2015
Subject: Large Renewable Procurement Process Update

Executive Summary:

Council passed a motion on August 26, 2015 directing staff to provide an information report to the Rural Advisory Committee on the implementation of the landscaping and site design guidelines for any successful large renewable energy applications and on the use of funds committed under the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement.

Currently, there is one Landscaping and Site Design agreement that the City is enforcing through the Large Renewable Procurement process, which is with Kingston Solar LP. The required landscaping and buffering works as shown on the approved plans have been completed.

The City will hold securities for a period of two years to ensure the landscaping works are maintained and protected in accordance with good arboriculture practices. Prior to the release of securities, the Owner will provide the City with a letter from a certified Landscape Architect confirming that all landscaping works have been installed and maintained.

The City has a Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement with Kingston Solar LP. The terms require Kingston Solar LP to pay the City a community vibrancy fund contribution of \$2,700 multiplied by the name plate capacity available within the City. The confirmed name plate capacity within the City is 73.6 megawatts. The City has received payment of \$251,530.52 which covers the period from September 25th to December 31st of 2015 and all of 2016.

Council passed a resolution in March 2014 directing these funds to be allocated to the Natural Parkland Reserve Fund for the acquisition of natural lands in the rural area subject to the City of Kingston's Natural Land Acquisition Policy.

With respect to the Large Renewable Procurement Projects considered by the City and filed with the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) in September 2015, until such time

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that the proponents have been selected the Landscaping and Site Design Guideline Agreements and the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement entered into with the City are not applicable.

Recommendation:

This report is for information purposes only.

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Authorizing Signatures:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER
Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:

Cynthia Beach, Corporate & Strategic Initiatives	Not required
Denis Leger, Transportation, Facilities & Emergency Services	Not required
Jim Keech, President and CEO, Utilities Kingston	Not required
Desiree Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer	Not required

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Options/Discussion:

Council passed a motion on August 26, 2015, as described below, regarding the implementation of the landscaping and site design guidelines for any successful large renewable energy applications and on the use of funds, committed under the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement.

“That staff be directed to provide an information report to the Rural Advisory Committee on the implementation of the landscaping and site design guidelines for any successful large renewable energy applications; and

That staff be directed to provide an information report to the Rural Advisory Committee on the use of funds, committed under community vibrancy agreements; and

That staff be directed to provide an information report to the Rural Advisory Committee before the end of 2015 on the implementation of the Landscape and Site Design Guidelines on applicable large renewable energy applications in the City of Kingston.”

There is one Landscape and Site Design Guideline Agreement that the City is currently enforcing through the large renewable energy applications. This agreement is with Kingston Solar LP.

The landscaping works required for the subject properties under the Kingston Solar LP project were approved as the Landscape Plan and Vegetative Buffer details. The landscaping works included vegetative buffers, berming on specific properties and fencing. All landscaping works including the buffers, berming and fencing have now been completed.

The City will hold securities for a period of two years to ensure the landscaping works are maintained and protected in accordance with good arboriculture practices. Prior to the release of securities, the Owner will provide the City with a letter from a certified Landscape Architect confirming that all Landscaping works have been installed and maintained.

The City has a Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement with Kingston Solar LP. The terms of the agreement require Kingston Solar LP to pay the City a community vibrancy fund contribution of \$2,700 multiplied by the name plate capacity available within the City. The confirmed name plate capacity within the City is 73.6 megawatts. The City has received payment of \$251,530.52 which covers the period from September 25th to December 31st of 2015 and all of 2016.

Council passed a resolution in March 2014 directing these funds to be allocated to the Natural Parkland Reserve Fund for the acquisition of natural lands in the rural area subject to the City of Kingston’s Natural Land Acquisition Policy.

With respect to the implementation of the Landscape and Site Design Guidelines Agreements for other projects, until such time that other Large Renewable Energy projects are approved by the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO), the Landscape and Site Design Guideline Agreements and the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreements are not applicable.

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The IESO timetable for the completion of the evaluation of the proposals and the selection of the proponents for the projects submitted in September 2015 is now targeted for March 2016. Originally the date was December 2015, however, due to the high number of proposals received in response to the LRP 1, the target date for the completion of the evaluation of the proposals and the selection of proponents has been extended by the IESO to March 2016.

Existing Policy/By Law:

Not applicable

Notice Provisions:

Not applicable

Accessibility Considerations:

Not applicable

Financial Considerations:

A security in the form of cash or a letter of credit is required to be deposited by the proponent of a Large Renewable Procurement project with the City for any Landscape and Site Design Guideline Agreement entered into. The value of the security will be based on a percentage of the estimated value of the landscaping works.

Commencing within sixty (60) days of the Commercial Operation Date of the Solar Project (September 25, 2015) and continuing annually for twenty (20) years, Kingston Solar LP will pay the City the Community Vibrancy Fund contribution of \$198,720.00.

Contacts:

Julie Salter-Keane, Manager, Community Projects 613-546-4291 extension 1163

Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Not applicable

Exhibits Attached:

Not applicable