

## Report to Council

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**To:** Waterworks Committee  
**From:** Administration  
**File #:** DOP-CC-15  
**Date:** October 26, 2020  
**Re:** WPCF Upgrading Status

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### For Information

Tasks undertaken since mid-June regarding the Portage la Prairie Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) Upgrading project include:

- 1) Maintained communications with Manitoba Sustainable Infrastructure Secretariat regarding the funding agreements, which have not yet been received.
- 2) AECOM prepared a concept plan for a maintenance shop and staff facility at the Operations Department Public Works yard which will be needed by the City when the WPCF contract operator takes over the WPCF site and those facilities are no longer available to the City. Federal and Provincial funding under the ICIP program will not be increased for this work.
- 3) A virtual 'open house' presentation was provided for potential key proponents who had taken out a Request for Qualification document. A virtual video tour of the WPCF site was made available to RFQ respondents.
- 4) The deadline for receipt of submissions for the Request for Qualifications for potential proponents interested in bidding on the project was extended 2 weeks to November 17.
- 5) Continued to compile background information for the prospective proponents to the Project RFQ and RFP. Additional influent wastewater sampling and testing has been conducted. Testing of a SBR basin polyethylene liner is being arranged. This additional information will help reduce the risk, and ultimately reduce the cost for the City for unquantified risk.
- 6) The Project Agreement and Request for Proposal documents are being developed. Further discussion on technical aspects of the scope of the treatment components of the final contract. Defining the influent wastewater mass loading and quality is a key concern and discussions were held with Industry. Industry is to specify their treatment capacity requirements by October 29. These figures will set their wastewater loading limits. This will form part of the scope for the Request for Proposals and Project Agreement. (Note: The Functional Design Report, the upgrading cost estimate, and the application for funding did not consider any allowance for industrial expansion. Due to requests from Industry to accommodate potential processing expansion, preliminary cost estimates were generated for an expanded treatment facility. These additional capital costs would be 100% attributable to the respective Industry,

assuming no additional grant funding was available. These capital costs could be financed by ProjectCo and incorporated into the City's annual service payment.)

- 7) The team held further discussion on the issues of higher relative risk for prospective proponents, such as existing infrastructure condition, staff transfer, and potential mitigation measures. Risk retention by the City and allocation to the Contractor must be specified in the Project Agreement.
- 8) The City's Human Resources lawyer is reviewing RFP and Project Agreement clauses for the staff transition to ProjectCo (the Contract Operator).
- 9) The draft Environment Act Licence was circulated within Provincial Departments by Manitoba Conservation and Climate Environmental Approvals staff, and it is our understanding there were no significant changes except for reduced ammonia discharge limits. The Licence is anticipated to be issued shortly.
- 10) City staff and the Communications Advisor developed a communications plan and initial informational documents for stakeholders.

Tasks over the next month will include finalizing the Environment Act Licence; processing the ICIP and Provincial funding agreements; responding to requests for information from the prospective respondents to the Request for Qualifications; preparing the scope of work for the Request for Proposals and the Project Agreement; and compiling additional historical documents and wastewater characterization documents. City staff, with assistance from Legal Counsel, will collate human resources documents and develop the approach and terms of reference for the transfer of staff to the new contractor.