

Report to Council

To: Waterworks Committee
From: Administration
File #: DOP-CC-15
Date: April 27, 2020
Re: WPCF Upgrading Status

For Information

The WPCF needs to be upgraded to meet the Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines Regulation for discharge of treated wastewater to the Assiniboine River, specifically regarding nutrients, and to improve residuals solids management.

The City has elected to deliver this project in a partnership arrangement using the design-build-finance-operate-maintain (DBFOM) model. The Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba are providing support through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

City Council awarded the contract for the Project Lead and Technical Advisory Services to AECOM Canada Ltd. in March 2020. Solicitations for other Project Advisors including Financial, Legal, Communications, and Fairness Advisors will be issued in May and June.

Due to the restrictions resulting from the Provincial and Federal pandemic control strategies, the project schedule has been delayed. The City is planning to host a project awareness webinar in May for potential bidders. Depending upon the status of the travel restrictions and social distancing requirements, a project open house for prospective bidders will be held in August. Following this, the City will issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the DBFOM teams. The RFQ stage is intended to narrow the field to three prospective bidders moving forward to the Request for Proposal (RFP) stage.

Although there will be an attempt to condense the activities in the RFP stage, it is anticipated that the initial delay will have a ripple effect, with the Financial Close not occurring in the Fall of 2021, as initially anticipated, but in early to mid-2022. The selected Contractor will need several months to complete the design work and obtain necessary permits and approvals, and, therefore, might lose a portion or all the summer of 2022 construction season. It is anticipated the contractor will need at least 30 months for design and construction, with due consideration for commissioning of biological processes in warm seasons.

The project substantial completion, with the treatment facility fully operational and meeting effluent quality requirements, is anticipated in late 2024, with final completion in summer of 2025.