

MEETING DATE: April 10, 2002

SUBJECT: Procurement Authorization – Drain Cleaning And Power Washing

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission approve acceptance of the proposal submitted by Aquablast Corporation for the contract period May 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002 in the upset limit amount of \$700,000.00 for drain cleaning and high power washing operations within the subway system.

FUNDING

Funds totalling \$628,000 have been included in 2002 as part of Work Order #6626 – Subway Drainage Rehabilitation Program, as set out on pages 585-591 in the "State of Good Repair" category of the 2002-2006 Capital Program approved by the City of Toronto Council on March 6, 2002. Staff will monitor the overall Capital Program in an effort to identify under-expenditures to accommodate the additional \$72,000 required for this work within the 2002 approved cash flow.

Sufficient project approval is available within Project 3.4 – Bridges & Tunnels to allow this work to proceed at this time.

BACKGROUND

The underground subway system encompasses approximately 44 kms of below grade structures that were constructed utilizing various construction methods and techniques. Below these tunnel sections is a series of underground drainage systems that divert water infiltration from within the tunnel system.

Since the opening of the subway system in the mid 1950's, extensive deterioration and clogging of the drainage network has occurred, causing excessive water pooling, which in turn, has resulted in deterioration of grout pads, signal components, electrical systems, early track rail and tie replacement and ice accumulation.

A comprehensive drainage improvement program has been implemented to return the subway drainage system to an operable and maintainable state by using high-pressure water jets and augers to clear the accumulated sludge and sediment causing blockages and back-ups.

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DISCUSSION

Specifications were prepared for drain cleaning and power washing of the tunnel drainage system as outlined in the Capital Program. Nine (9) companies were invited to submit proposals in addition to public advertisement on the T.T.C. web site. Two (2) companies submitted proposals as set out in Appendix "A".

The lower priced proposal for drain cleaning and power washing was submitted by Aquablast Corporation, in the amount of \$697,116.13. There were several qualifications related to pricing and obtaining permits submitted by the Aquablast Corporation that were reviewed by staff and are considered acceptable. It should be noted that these same qualifications were noted in the current contract and reviewed and found acceptable by staff in 1999. It is anticipated that the drain cleaning program will be completed by December 2002.

The overall pricing for the 2002 work is approximately 0.50% lower than is currently paid from a 1999 three-year tender. Aquablast has successfully completed similar contracts for the Commission in the past and their tender is considered commercially and technically compliant and is recommended for acceptance.

JUSTIFICATION

It is necessary to proceed with the foregoing procurement expenditure in order to clear the accumulated sludge and sediment causing blockage and back-ups, in order to ensure that underground structure and its subsystem do not deteriorate to a point that can jeopardize the safety of the subway and transit system.

March 26, 2002

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Attachment

APPENDIX "A"

DRAIN CLEANING AND POWER WASHING

PROPOSAL NO. P32AT02020

COMPANY	TOTAL TENDERED PRICE
Aquablast Corporation	\$697,116.13
Roto-Rooter Plumbing and Drains Service Ltd.	\$840,089.10
John Knox Pumping Service Ltd.	Unable to Quote
Action Mobile Wash Systems	Unable to Quote

Engineers Estimate: \$700,000.00