



City of Prince Albert

RPT 2024-237

TITLE: 2024 Sanitation Division Environmental Services

DATE: July 25, 2024

TO: City Council

PUBLIC: X

INCAMERA:

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the Professional Services Agreement for the 2024 Environmental Services be awarded to Tetra Tech Canada Inc. in the amount of \$69,000, plus applicable taxes; and,
2. That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the Agreement and any other applicable documents on behalf of The City, once prepared.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City is required to have annual environmental compliance monitoring and reporting completed at the Landfill and Soil Encapsulation Facility by a Qualified Professional (QP). To meet these requirements Administration is recommending that the Professional Services Agreement for the 2024 Environmental Services be awarded to Tetra Tech Canada Inc. The monitoring program includes inspections, sampling groundwater and surface water to ensure that this regulatory requirement is being met.

BACKGROUND:

In 2021, the Administration engaged QPs to review past monitoring reports for the landfill as well as the Ministry of Environment comments to develop the most cost-effective strategy to address concerns that had been raised. It was expected that the strategy would likely outline actions for Administration to implement over several years in order to collect data to fill in gaps, establish monitoring wells or new techniques, and to identify potential remediation strategies as required.

In 2021 Tetra Tech was selected as the QP to conduct the environmental monitoring work for the landfill and develop an updated strategy as they proposed the most cost-effective option.

Other QPs proposed to spend up to \$445,000 to address the initial Ministry of Environment comments while utilizing the past monitoring strategies. If the Ministry of Environment had ongoing questions, this level of expenditure could have continued for a number of years.

Based upon the work completed in 2022 and through discussions with the Ministry of Environment, changes have been made to the monitoring plan. The changes are to monitor for potential impacts vs trying to prove containment infrastructure, such as the underground cut-off wall around the old mound, are effective. This shift in focus has been supported by the Ministry of Environment. The changes allow us to monitor fewer wells and has reduced costs, while continuing to meet regulatory requirements.

In 2024, for further efficiency the Administration has asked Tetra Tech to also complete the monitoring of the Soil Encapsulation Facility. Because the reduced monitoring cost and increased efficiency we are able to complete both programs for \$69,000, which is a reduction of \$6,330 from last years combined approved expenditures. We plan to continue to review the monitoring programs for both sites and look for additional efficiencies.

PROPOSED APPROACH AND RATIONALE:

The 2024 Landfill Environmental Services program will ensure that the City completes its legislated requirements for environmental monitoring and continues to provide protection to the environment. The 2024 planned work includes:

- Inspecting both sites and verifying monitoring well integrity.
- Collecting water and ground water samples, then having them analyzed and interpreted as appropriate.
- Updating the Environmental Monitoring Plan and Operations Plan as required.
- Providing Environmental Monitoring Reports for submission to the Ministry of Environment to meet regulatory requirements.

It is proposed to continue to work with Tetra Tech to conduct and update the Environmental Monitoring Plans. This is recommended as Tetra Tech is uniquely positioned to continue the work they started in 2021 and has demonstrated an ability to find efficiencies. As well, it would be difficult to effectively transition to a different service provider while still developing and implementing the updated monitoring plan for the landfill.

CONSULTATIONS:

The City has consulted with the Ministry of Environment on the changes to the Environmental Monitoring Plan.

COMMUNICATION AND/OR ANNOUNCEMENT PLAN:

The results of the 2024 Landfill Environmental Monitoring Program will be communicated to the Ministry of Environment as required.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The 2024 Sanitation Fund includes \$90,000 for monitoring, specifically for this purpose. The cost of the 2024 Environmental Services program of \$69,000 plus applicable taxes is well within the budgeted amount.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS/IMPLICATIONS:

The Landfill and Soil Encapsulation Facility are authorized under permits issued by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment. The permits require an annual environmental monitoring program to be conducted by a QP. The Ministry issues these permits under the authority of *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010*, *The Environmental Management and Protection (General) Regulations* and the *Municipal Refuse Management Regulations*. The annual environmental monitoring proposed, meets the legislative requirements for these sites.

OPTIONS TO THE RECOMMENDATION:

There are no options to the Recommendation.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The recommendation supports the Strategic Priority of Delivering Professional Governance and the area of focus of Engaged Government, by strengthening the relationship with our Regulators.

The recommendation also supports the Strategic Priority of Building a Robust Economy and the Area of Focus of Economic Diversity and Stability. Meeting the regulatory requirements allows the continued operation of the landfill, which provides a source of revenue.

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN:

The environmental monitoring supports section 10.3 of OCP which outlines goals and policies to promote the health of our forests, rivers, watersheds and environmentally sensitive water bodies.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Public Notice pursuant to the Public Notice Bylaw No. 24 of 2015 is not required.

Written by: Todd Olexson, Sanitation Manager

Approved by: Director of Public Works & City Manager