

ITEM 9

TRUNK STORMWATER DRAINAGE - WONGAWILLI ROAD (BETWEEN SMITHS LANE AND SHONE AVENUE)

Wongawilli Access Project - Trunk Stormwater Drainage – Wongawilli Rd (between Smiths Lane and Shone Ave)

Works west of Smith's Lane (Stage 1B and 1C) have been undertaken by Council's Civil Construction Crews with trunk drainage, kerb and guttering and driveway crossings on the Southern side of Wongawilli Road complete. Works on kerb and guttering, footpath and drainage crossovers on the northern side of the road have commenced.

Stage 1A of the Wongawilli Road Upgrade Project involves upgrading drainage, kerb and guttering and road pavement from Shone Avenue west to the Smiths Lane intersection west of Shone Avenue. It also involves the installation of a 1050mm trunk stormwater drainage line on the southern side of Wongawilli Road at a approximate depth of 2.4m for a length of 300m.

The installation of the trunk stormwater drainage portion of the project involves high risk work that our crews do not have the experience to undertake (deep excavation and shoring, working in confined spaces and working near high pressure water mains). This type of work would normally be put out to tender to suitably qualified and experienced civil contractors experienced in deep excavations and shoring with project management oversight from Council staff.

Due to the delayed relocation of services by the NBN, temporary drainage was installed to allow the Wongawilli Access Project works to continue. Council officers were recently made aware of the increased risk of localised flooding on the southern side of Wongawilli Road due to the limited capacity of the temporary drainage. By bringing forward the installation of the 1050mm trunk stormwater drainage line works, the risk of localised flooding during storm events and the resulting impact to Wongawilli residents will be significantly reduced.

This report recommends that on this occasion, formal tenders not be invited for the reasons listed in the report and Council instead proceed with a request for formal quotations from reputable and experienced civil contractors for the installation of the trunk stormwater drainage at Stage 1A of Wongawilli Road, Wongawilli.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 Pursuant to section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, tenders are not to be invited for the contract or contracts for the installation of trunk stormwater drainage at Wongawilli Road, Wongawilli between Smiths Lane and Shone Avenue. This is due to extenuating circumstances, being the risk of localised flooding in heavy rain events should these works not be expedited.
- 2 Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to undertake and finalise a formal quotation process, in accordance with Council's procurement policies and procedures with contractors with demonstrated experience and ability to undertake the works with a view to entering into a contract or contracts for these works.
- 3 Council delegate to the General Manager authority to enter a contract (or contracts) with the contractor or contractors selected following the process outlined at 2 above.
- 4 A report describing the outcome of the procurement process be submitted to the next available Council meeting following the successful engagement of contractor or contractors.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Corey Stoneham, Manager City Works
Authorised by: Joanne Page, Director Infrastructure + Works - Connectivity Assets + Liveable City (Acting)

ATTACHMENTS

1 Wongawilli Access Project - Site Location and Map

BACKGROUND

The Wongawilli Access Project will provide an upgraded, flood resistant vehicle access to the growing West Dapto community of Wongawilli. The new link will cover approximately 1.6 km of road, the construction consists of a four-lane road with two (2) lanes being trafficable until the need is there to formalise the two outside parking lane into trafficable lanes.

Council has utilised its own City Works engineers for project management services during procurement, construction and post construction phases.

Council's Civil Construction Crews have been undertaking routine construction works including localised drainage, kerb and guttering, shared pathways, driveway crossings and preparation for road stabilisation.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed that Council seek formal quotations (rather than tenders) from civil contractors with demonstrated experience and ability to undertake trunk stormwater drainage works at Stage 1A of Wongawilli Rd.

The completion of the trunk drainage works is a critical task in this project. Due to the nature of the works a specialist Civil Construction contractor experienced in the following is required:

- deep excavation and shoring;
- working in and around confined space; and
- working near large capacity high pressure water mains.

At a site meeting with Council Senior Managers and residents on the 19th January, the risk of localised flooding of properties during storm events was identified until drainage works along Wongawilli Road, Wongawilli are completed.

Normally Council would prepare a tender for these works as the estimated cost exceeds the Council's tender threshold of \$150,000 (incl. GST). The normal duration to undertake a tender process is approximately 12 weeks (depending on the relationship between commencement of advertising and the actual date of the Council meeting) while a formal quotation process can be undertaken in approximately six (6) weeks if Council were to support the recommendation of this report.

If Council were to undertake a tendering process commencement of the trunk drainage works would not be possible until June 2021. The proposal to utilise a formal quotation process will allow a specialised contractor to be on site in early April 2021 minimising the risk of localised flooding during rainfall events and the associated impact to residents. The commencement and completion of these works is necessary for subsequent kerb and guttering, stormwater crossovers and road pavements to be undertaken.

A formal quotation process carried out under Council's procurement policy mirrors the governance requirements for the tender process but does not require a formal report to Council with the resulting delays in preparing and publishing a report to Council. A formal quote panel is constituted with the same technical, governance and procurement staff which normally constitute a tender panel to ensure probity concerns are addressed. It is proposed that contractors be invited to submit formal quotations using the criteria normally used in the formal tendering process. i.e. Mandatory and Non-Mandatory criteria as outlined below:

Mandatory Criteria

1. Referees – provision of satisfactory references from referees for previous projects of similar size and scope.

2. Financial Capacity – tenderers may be required to provide information required by an independent financial assessment provider engaged by Council. Council will review and determine whether such financial assessment is acceptable to Council and demonstrates the tenderer’s financial capacity to undertake the works.
3. Workplace Health and Safety – Tenderers must have an accredited WH&S management system.
4. Sydney Water W2 accreditation – Tenderer or sub-contractor to undertake works on Sydney Water main.

Assessable Criteria

1. Cost to Council – 35%
2. Appreciation of scope of works and construction methodology – 20%
3. Demonstrated experience and satisfactory performance in undertaking projects of similar size, scope and risk profile, including staff qualifications and experience – 20%
4. Project Schedule – 10%
5. Demonstrated Strengthening of Local Economic Capacity – 10%
6. Environmental management policies and procedures – 5%

Carrying out the work in an accelerated schedule as proposed in this report will result in a reduction in the risk of localised flooding on Wongawilli Road.

Once the quotation process is complete, Council will immediately be able to appoint a recommended contractor to commence works.

Transparency to the community will be assured by reporting the outcome of the procurement process at the next available Council meeting following the engagement of the contractor.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Consultation and Communication

Consultation with key residents has occurred including a site meeting on the 19th January and an update at the 10th February meeting of Neighbourhood Forum 8. An updated works program is loaded to Council’s dedicated Wongawilli web page monthly.

The following Divisions have been consulted during the planning of this project:

- Governance and Customer Service
- Legal Services – General Counsel
- Project Delivery

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Wollongong 2018 goal 5 “We are a healthy community in a liveable city”.

It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Infrastructure Delivery Program 2021.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The following sustainability implications have been considered:

- Durable products incorporated in the design to ensure long-term integrity of the assets.

- Sustainable procurement by providing local companies the opportunity to submit quotations for the work.
- Quotation assessment incorporated weightings to support the ongoing economic development of the region including the source and supply of local labour and materials.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The risk in accepting the recommendation of this report is considered low on the basis that the formal quotation process will fully comply with Council's Procurement Policies and Procedures and the Local Government Act 1993. A formal quotation panel will be established to invite and assess quotations using procedures normally utilised in Council's tender process.

The risk of the project works is considered high. This is based on the risk of localised flooding during heavy rain events until stormwater drainage works are completed. The nature of the drainage works is also considered high risk based on 2.4m trenching alongside large water mains with the need for shoring.

Some of the key risks to the project are listed below:

1. Working in and around confined spaces while constructing pits and laying pipes.
2. Excavation and installation of large pipes at a depth which requires the use of shoring.
3. Working adjacent to large capacity high pressure water mains and the associated risk of engulfment.
4. Working in and around underground services and overhead powerlines.

The proposed use of an experienced and reputable civil contractor, with procurement and project management from Council Officers has reduced the overall risk to medium.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that the total project be funded from the following source/s as identified in the Annual Plan –

2020/21 Capital Budget

CONCLUSION

An opportunity currently exists to mitigate delays in the installation of the Stage 1A Trunk Stormwater Drainage Line at Wongawilli Road. By proceeding immediately Council can minimise local flooding risks and reduce the associated impacts to local residents.

It is recommended that a competitive formal quotation process be used on this occasion (rather than a tender) to achieve these aims.

WONGAWILLI ACCESS PROJECT – STRATEGY PLAN



