Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Notification of the Bid Committee’s approval of contract award for conceptual design of the Dunsmuir Connection to COWI North America Ltd.;
- A summary of the function of the Dunsmuir Connection as a critical piece of the replacement street network for the removal of the Georgia and Dunsmuir viaducts; and
- Confirmation of available funding for the contract commitment from the approved capital budget for the NEFC Infrastructure Project.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jerry Dobrovolny, GM of Engineering Services at jerry.dobrovolny@vancouver.ca or 604.873.7331.

Best,
Sadhu

Sadhu Aufochs Johnston | City Manager
Office of the City Manager | City of Vancouver
sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca
604.873.7627

Pronouns: he, him, his

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.
MEMORANDUM

August 26, 2019

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
    Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
    Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
    Rena Kendall-Craden, Civic Engagement and Communications Director
    Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
    Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor’s Office
    Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor’s Office
    Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor’s Office
    Cheryl Nelms, Deputy General Manager, Engineering Services
    Lon LaClaire, Director, Transportation
    Karima Mulji, Director, Projects and Development Services
    Gil Kelley, General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

FROM: Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Contract Award for Consulting Services: Dunsmuir Connection Conceptual Design

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide notification of Bid Committee approval to award a contract for consulting services of the Dunsmuir Connection conceptual design and consultation with the public.

The City issued a Request for Proposals ("RFP") for consulting services for the conceptual design of the Dunsmuir Connection which closed on June 18, 2019 with five submissions received. This RFP was called in accordance with the terms and condition of the City’s Procurement Policy ADMIN-008. City staff considered the responses received, and recommended that the City negotiate, and if such negotiations are successful, enter into a contract with COWI North America Ltd. With consideration from staff’s evaluation and recommendation, the Bid Committee approved COWI North America Ltd., as the successful proponent.
Background

In February 2018, following several years of planning studies, technical analysis and engagement, Council approved the Northeast False Creek (NEFC) Plan to provide an opportunity to reconnect through historic neighbourhoods to the waterfront by replacing the Georgia and Dunsmuir viaducts with an at-grade street network; new Georgia Ramp and Dunsmuir Connection structures; and the creation of a new vibrant and resilient community with a civic centre, 1,800 units of social housing, and 32 acres of new and renewed parks and open space. The NEFC Plan also allows the City and the Park Board to advance reconciliation with local First Nations and to pursue cultural redress with the Chinatown and Black Canadian communities who experienced displacement through the construction of the viaducts. On June 19, 2018, Council approved the implementation and financial strategy for the NEFC Infrastructure Project (RTS 12338), which includes the conceptual design of the Dunsmuir Connection and consultation with the public.

The Dunsmuir Connection replaces the existing pedestrian and protected cycling facilities on the Dunsmuir Viaduct. The existing cycling facility is an all ages and abilities connection between Downtown and the Adanac/Union bikeway. The new Dunsmuir Connection will be an important and unique addition to the City’s inventory of public spaces that will provide a safe, comfortable, convenient and enjoyable active transportation connection to and from the downtown and the expanded Creekside Park as well as a place to pause and enjoy elevated views of the city. It will also serve as new programmable gathering space for major public event celebrations for areas adjacent to Rogers Arena.

The City has previously commissioned consulting services for the design of the at-grade street network and Georgia Ramp which is nearing completion. The phasing of infrastructure works in NEFC requires the implementation of the at-grade street network and Georgia Ramp, followed by the Dunsmuir Connection.

Conclusion

The City of Vancouver will negotiate and enter into a six month contract with COWI North America Ltd., for consulting services of the Dunsmuir Connection conceptual design and consultation with the public. Funding is available for the contract commitment from Council’s previous approval of the NEFC implementation and financial strategy. Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jerry W. Dobrovolny, P.Eng., MBA
General Manager, Engineering Services
604.873.7331 | jerry.dobrovolny@vancouver.ca