



National Capital Heavy Construction Association (NCHCA) / City of Ottawa

NOTES

Date: Friday, January 21, 2022

Time: 8:00 am to 9:00 am

Place: Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Bruce Kenny, Sue Johns, Luc Marineau, Carol Hall, Gen Nielsen, Joanne Graham, Sanna D'Ornellas, Elsa La Corte, Britney McGrath, Peter McKay, Rob MacLachlan, Robert Leach, Kathy Sutherland, Ryan Donnelly, Jude Tremblay, Edson Donnelly, Paul Lemire, Brian Lane, Debbie Mohr Caldwell, Dale Downey, Nick Bray, Luigi DiNuzzo, Nick Gianetto

1. Review Notes of Previous Meeting

Paid Duty - Focus on using paid duty for situations where they are required under the Highway Traffic Act and avoid use of this strained resource where other measures may be applicable. Britany and Bruce will continue to liaison with OPS. City is looking at other approaches such as having contractors include in their price. Industry has concerns regarding this approach. City will discuss further with industry prior to any pilot project where police services are not reimbursable.

Follow-up – The City will discuss this further with Industry before making any changes.

Explosion Proof Pumps - Availability remains an issue. Explosion-proof pumps are not currently available with a three-month delay in delivery. Industry is looking for additional information on this requirement as their understanding is that this is not widespread common practice across the province and there are acceptable, safe work-arounds available that are commonly used. City's interpretation is that sewer systems fall within the code requirements for explosion-proof pumps. Meeting with City and industry was held on October 13th and no immediate resolution has been found.

Follow-up – A small working group to be set up to discuss further.

Action – NCHCA to put forward names to participate on a working group with the City.

City Reorganization - The new Department will bring together Infrastructure Services with Water and Wastewater, TIES. Asset Management will be a Service separate from Infrastructure. The Industry shouldn't notice a big change. Follow-up – Tammy Rose is the new General Manager. Alain Gonthier will be the new General Manager of Public Works.

Over Dimensional Vehicle permits (for standard moves being valid for 3 to 5 days) - This is being looked at as part of the By-law review in Q1 2022. The City is open to alternative escorts for super weights. Moving forward the City will be formalizing a process whereby single trip ODV permits that do not qualify as Superloads under the By-law will be issued with a three day window within which the move may take place. The permits will contain a condition requiring the permit holder to notify the City as to the specific date and time the move will be occurring. In cases where the move will require the booking of City staff to remove or modify signs and signals due to the size of the ODV, the condition will require such notice be provided two working days in advance of the actual move date so as to allow for the scheduling of staff resources.

Follow-up – Industry will be engaged during the review of the ODV Permits By-law review.

SSM unit rates and the impact of the Excess Soils regulation for disposal of that excess soil - Industry noted that cost of moving soils is going up and asked if the City is reviewing the impact this will have on unit prices. The SSM rates are for the supply and haul of material. The City is willing to discuss this issue in more detail through the Spec Committee with the Industry.

Follow-up – the City is willing to meet with the Industry to discuss this further.

Update on the city's policy for excess soils – on agenda.

Vaccination Policy Implementation - Attestations and action/mitigation plans are allowing most outside jobs to continue. The City is going through attestations received to date to ensure all contractors have submitted their plans. Individual attestations and action/mitigation plans will be reviewed to identify any gaps that need to be corrected and contact affected contractors. The City will follow-up with the NCHCA to discuss the frequently missed information from contractors on their submissions and how submissions can be improved. 2022 expectations will be different than what's been currently adopted. Industry asked if the City can confirm that all City and consultant staff have been vaccinated. City staff, with the exception of OPS, that will be dealing with contractors have been vaccinated. For consultant firms, all inspectors on City projects are required to be vaccinated and no exceptions have been permitted.

Follow-up – The City and NCHCA continue to work on improving compliance. The City requires individual project's Occupational Health and Safety Plans to be more specific (eg. signage, contact names, etc) when unvaccinated staff are working on site. The Industry asked for a sample of what the City would like to see included.

Action – Bruce to provide a sample of feedback provided to industry members.

Broadband Backup Alarms – when trying to obtain Noise By-law exemptions, impact to the community is assessed. Noise attenuation on projects is needed to have more flexibility in doing night work. The Industry noted that in 2019 a pilot project was suggested to see if broadband back up alarms were practical.

Follow-up – A councillor inquiry has been received. The City expects this to be an ongoing issue going forward.

2. Late Locates

The City has met with Ontario One-Call and is looking to meet with the Industry, Ontario One-Call, locate companies and Utilities. Some of the things discussed with Ontario One-Call were:

- Ontario One-Call downloading cost and responsibility to contactors and the City;
- Alternate locate agreement for low-risk work and allowing agreements to follow contractors across the City;
- How to communicate—how do we play into Ontario On-Call system more efficiently;
- Requiring contractors to provide project locates to the City so they can follow-up with Ontario One-Call and Utilities. The City would like to track costs and is looking at a technology tool to do this.

3. FTL and Upcoming Work

Concern was expressed on the accuracy of the information in the Forecasting Tender List. Bruce reviewed the latest list. There are two projects that have been deferred (Frank Kenny and Canterbury) that total approx. 7M in work and ten other projects that are not on the list but are small, totally approx. 5M in work. The next forecast tender list will address these changes.

4. Excess Soil Tracking Software

The City met with Tracenet this week and plans on using their software as a default for contractors who don't use other software to track soil. Contactors are free to use alternative software and costs can be discussed. More information to be provided as soon as the new software is available.

NEXT MEETING

Friday, February 18, 2022
8:00 – 10:00 am
Microsoft Teams