

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

NOTES

Date: Friday, August 19, 2022

Time: 8:00 am to 8:30 am

Place: Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Randy Dempsey, Joanne Graham, Kevin Gibbs, Rob MacLachlan, Elsa LaCorte, Sue Johns, Peter McKay, Renjit Varghese, Kathy Sutherland, Geoff Falls, Ryan Donnelly, Nick Bray, Edson Donnelly, Debbie Mohr Caldwell, Jude Tremblay, Steve McEachen, Nick Gianetto, Paul Lemire, Gary Beisheim, Dale Downey

1. Review Notes of Previous Meeting

Broadband backup alarms pilot project update - Framework has been finalized. A consultant will be hired to do the testing, which is planned for May. The City noted that this would be very helpful for working in the downtown core at night. A site and contractor have been chosen for the pilot project. Additional information will be provided to the City's working group. It is anticipated that the pilot will run until December. The Industry met with the City yesterday. The City have retained Explotech who is currently working on a literature review which will delay the pilot. If it goes ahead, it won't be until August. Draft spec has been developed but not put in place yet. Before doing costly conversions, the Industry would like to ensure equipment is acceptable to the City.
Follow-up – Still on the Department's radar. More discussions will take place in the fall.

Excess soil tracking software update - Regulation implementation phasing has changed. The City is still moving forward. The City is still in discussion with Tracenet but are looking at alternatives. Erin noted that the City is reviewing all options to track soil. The City plans to be ready for January 2023. She encouraged everyone to read the specs in the tenders carefully. Contractor's may use their own software as long as it's compatible with the City's.
Follow-up – change in wording to read "as long as it's compatible with the City's requirements in the tender documents" in the notes of previous meeting.

Fuel Price Adjustments - The City has received requests to include from Industry members. Bruce asked if there was any consensus from the NCHCA. The

NCHCA is working on possible solutions to present to the City. The City has meet with GOTA. As they are subcontractors, they have to work with contractors on their concerns. The City also recommended that they reach out to the NCHCA to discuss their concerns. There are concerns from the Industry that the Fuel Price Index is not covering operating costs and that this issue is an ongoing, escalating problem. The City is not contractually obligated to pay for cost increases and the contracts don't provide any additional mechanisms for it. It was asked how the City and Industry arrived at 7% in original discussions 15 + years ago for the fuel price index. No one had notes indicating how that percentage was determined. The City is open to discussions with the Industry on potential solutions/ideas. Bruce is looking for more information on how the City and Industry arrived at 7% in the past.

Follow-up – Justification for the 7% is being investigated. Discussions are ongoing. This will be an upcoming spec review topic for next year.

2. HSMS

Due to a backlog, some Industry members won't be able to obtain their Core 2020 certification by 2023 even though they're actively engaged in the process.

Follow-up – The City and NCHCA have a meeting scheduled for the end of August. The Industry is proposing changing the wording from "COR 2020" to simply "COR" as the transition from COR2015 to COR2020 will happen automatically.

3. Labour Strike

The Industry asked what the City was seeing and how they were managing the strike's impact. The City is concerned about losing so many days in July. Set-backs are already being experienced. Impacts on schedule are anticipated in the Fall. Project delays will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

4. Heavy vehicle restrictions on Bridge Street

At the request of Traffic Services, NCHCA forwarded a survey to its members asking if restrictions would impact their operations. Ultimately, the City has decided not to move forward with this restriction at this time.

5. Roundtable

Tenders – It was noted that there are lots of errors in recent documents out for tender. It was agreed that there needs to be a better review before tenders go out.

NEXT MEETING

Friday, September 16, 2022

8:00 – 10:00 am

Microsoft Teams