

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

NOTES

Date: Friday, February 16, 2024, 8:00 to 9:00 AM

Place: Microsoft Teams/655W

PRESENT

Bruce Kenny, Luc Marineau, Scott Laberge, Joanne Graham, Don Heath, Marc Hoyles, Carol Hall, Kevin Lamer, Everett Paulin, Sandra Majkic, Erin O'Neill, Rebecca Belrango, Joel McIntyre, Madison Johnson, Ben Musyoka

Kathy Sutherland, Dale Downey, Geoff Falls, Luigi DiNuzzo, Chris Fischer, Edson Donnelly, Daniel Sander, Ryan Donnelly, Chris Phippen, Gary Beisheim, Nick Gianetto, Brian Lane, Debbie Mohr Caldwell, Nick Bray

1. Review Notes of Previous Meeting

DWS scheduling and process clarification - The Industry requested a mapped-out process to improve timing and communication. Renjit noted that timing is important when requesting permits. Discharge permits have been the hold up recently and that this has been happening more on the development side than the capital. If the Industry advises DWS of the approximate timing, permits can be issued in advance. Another problem being encountered and causing delays is that crews have been booked at the same time as permits have been requested. Crews can't schedule and coordinate work before they receive the permit. IS/DWS/ROHUD to meet on 31 January 2024 to discuss process and provide clarification before the spring start up. **Follow-up – Meeting took place and there needs to be further discussions. May require NCHCA involvement (couple of representatives). City will aim for information at the March Educational Session.**

Changes to the Construction Act – The City is looking at building phased holdbacks into new multi-year projects. The City is also considering how fall holdback release could be built into Overlay projects where the work is primarily self performed to avoid situations where the holdback is not released until early the following summer. Scope of the project will need to be reviewed before building into a contract. IS will work with Legal to map out a business process. The City will look at the MTO structured model currently in place to see what they're doing. **Follow-up – IS will continue to work with Legal on a business process.**

Steel Indexing - the Industry asked if there was openness to including it as steel is a commodity that fluctuates quite a bit. There have been discussions at the OCA regarding this also. The City is open to a risk-sharing approach. This will need to be a takeaway to discuss with Standards and Supply to develop a business process. Prepayment is a challenge and if considered would need to include additional surety requirements. Bruce to meet with Supply.

Follow-up – More time is needed to discuss this complex issue with internal partners.

HSMS Requirements - Anything over 10M engineering estimate prior to tender is going to be subject to HSMS requirements.

Follow-up – Further discussion can take place after the first contract is issued.

Tender postings/closings – The Industry asked for some flexibility over the March break. The City will try to stagger tenders put out and will consider requests from the Industry.

Follow-up – Bruce will reach out to his Branch Management Team to discuss. It was noted that the spring tendering schedule is very busy.

2. Proposed VPM Changes

Supply Services met to discuss this week:

- NCHCA Quarterly meeting requests will be sent out within the next week. Updates on progress on implementation will be provided via the quarterly meetings.
- In the interim the following update was provided:
 - The City has received feedback from all industry groups met with as part of the annual engagement process.
 - Updates to the business process guide (mergers) and KPI (scheduling) will be implemented given feedback on that item was consistent/accepted with no material edits.
 - Feedback regarding how VPM is taken into consideration during award was not consistent from each industry. Implementation on that item will require analysis and internal consultation before anything can be implemented and will be part of the quarterly discussions with NCHCA.

3. City of Ottawa's Sewer Use Program/Sewer Use By-law 2003-514: construction dewatering discharge requests and permitting process for internal and external construction projects

Ben attended the meeting and reviewed the discharge request and permitting process. Attached to the notes is a summary of the process and a copy of the discharge request form.

4. Round table

No issues brought forward.

NEXT MEETING

Friday, March 15, 2024
8:00 – 10:00 pm
Microsoft Teams/in person