



On December 19, 2013, following a competitive RFQ process, Tree Risk Abatement Services Contract 1220-040-2013-069 was awarded to BC Plant Health Care Inc. for the one-year period commencing January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014. On December 15, 2014, the contract was extended with BC Plant Health Care Inc. for the one-year period commencing January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015.

## **DISCUSSION**

The work carried out by BC Plant Health Care Inc. during 2014 and 2015 has been fully satisfactory. This company has sufficient resources and expertise to undertake the necessary work with high quality and has a very good safety record.

### Financial Evaluation for 2016

The contract rates have remained the same for 2014 and 2015. BC Plant Health Care Inc. has requested a 1.5% rate increase for 2016 to account for increased costs of equipment and wages over the last two years. City staff have carefully reviewed the proposed rates for 2016 and are satisfied that the rates represent best value for the City.

A number of City departments and sections are responsible for tree risk abatement work, mainly within the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department and the Engineering Department. As such, this contract includes anticipated expenditures from the respective City departments, plus a modest contingency for additional storm events beyond the average and to ensure that scheduled tree risk abatement work that was planned for 2015 but postponed due to storm events is completed in 2016.

The total anticipated cost of the work under the contract in 2015 is \$720,000.00 including GST. This amount is anticipated to be available in the 2016 – 2020 Five-Year Financial Plan. The subject contract will not be executed until Council has approved the 2016-2020 Five-Year Financial Plan.

## **SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

Surrey's tree risk abatement programs support the following Sustainability Charter goals:

1. Socio-Cultural Goal - Specific Goal #5  
"To create a City that is, and is perceived as being, safe and secure."
2. Over-arching Environmental Goal (p 25)  
"To demonstrate good stewardship of the land, water, air and built environment, protecting, preserving and enhancing Surrey's natural areas and ecosystems for current and future generations while making nature accessible for all to enjoy."

## CONCLUSION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that Council:

1. Extend Contract No. 1220-040-2013-069 with BC Plant Health Care Inc. through 2016 for the provision of tree risk abatement services in the amount of \$720,000.00 including GST; and
2. Authorize the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture to execute the one year contract renewal and the authority to execute the final contract renewal option for services in 2017 at the sole discretion of the City to a maximum amount of \$800,000 including GST.

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Parks, Recreation and Culture