



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Committee of the Whole
From: Commissioner Social Services, Commissioner of Finance and
Commissioner of Works
Report: #2023-COW-8
Date: February 15, 2023

Subject:

Tender Award and Additional Financing for Regional Municipality of Durham Tender T-1109-2022 for Early Learning Child Care Centre Playground Refurbishments at Various Locations

Recommendations:

That the Committee of the Whole recommends to Regional Council:

- A) That the lowest compliant bid of DonRos Landscape Construction in the amount of \$1,198,199* be awarded for Regional Municipality of Durham Tender T-1109-2022 for Early Learning Child Care Centre Playground Refurbishments in the Town of Ajax, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering and the Town of Whitby, resulting in a total estimate project cost of \$1,364,500;
 - B) That the previously approved project budget of \$849,500 for the Early Learning Child Care Centre Playground Refurbishments in the Town of Ajax, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering and the Town of Whitby be increased by \$515,000 to a revised total project cost of \$1,364,500; and
 - C) That financing for the additional project commitments in the amount of \$515,000 be provided at the discretion of the Commissioner of Finance.
-

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The report seeks approval for additional financing and to award Tender T-1109-2022 Early Learning Child Care Centre (ELCC) Playground Refurbishments in the Town of Ajax, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering and the Town of Whitby.

- 1.2 Dollar amounts followed by an asterisk (*) are before applicable taxes.

2. Background

- 2.1 On October 28, 2020, the Ontario Government announced the launch of a COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure funding stream as part of the Federal Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). Under the Local Government Stream, \$250 million in dedicated federal-provincial funding was allocated to municipalities across Ontario to help complete infrastructure projects during the pandemic.
- 2.2 On December 18, 2020, the Finance Department issued Report #2020-INFO-128 recommending that the refurbishments of four (4) ELCC Centre playgrounds advanced be submitted in the ICIP funding grant application. The preliminary project cost for the application of \$600,000 was presented as part of the 2020 Social Services 10-year capital forecast, with construction to take place at the City of Pickering and Town of Whitby facilities in 2022, the Town of Ajax facility in 2023 and the City of Oshawa facility in 2025.
- 2.3 In February 2021, the recommended ICIP projects received Council approval through the budget process.
- 2.4 In April 2021, the Region was notified that the ELCC playground refurbishments project qualified for \$520,000 in ICIP funding for the construction portion of the project.
- 2.5 In October 2021, a design and updated project cost estimate was provided by the design consultant. The revised estimated project cost, which reflected cost escalations due to COVID impacts and additional features that were not part of the original design scope, was \$849,500. After consultation between Social Services and Facilities Design, Construction and Asset Management staff, additional funding in the amount of \$249,500 was reallocated to the project through delegated authority as provided in the Regional Municipality of Durham's (Region) Budget Management Policy to revise the project budget to reflect the updated project cost.
- 2.6 The scope of the work includes the supply of playground equipment, and the construction and renovation of the existing playgrounds at the four ELCCs.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 On December 18, 2020, Report #2020-INFO-128 – Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – COVID 19 Resilience Infrastructure Local Government Stream was released, providing background information on the projects being submitted by the Region for funding under this stream of funding.
- 3.2 On February 9, 2021, Report #2021-F-5 – The 2021 Regional Business Plans and Budgets for Property Tax Purposes provided project approval for the playground refurbishment projects.

4. Current Project Status

- 4.1 The Works Department retained CIMA+ to provide design, tender documents, and construction administration for the ELCC playground refurbishment project at an upset limit of \$92,488*. The consultant completed the final design at the end of December 2021.
- 4.2 The tender for construction (T-1037-2022 ELCC Playground Refurbishments) was issued on May 31, 2022 and closed on June 28, 2022. No bids were received.
- 4.3 A second tender for construction (T-1109-2022 ELCC Playground Refurbishments) was issued on December 1, 2022 and closed on December 20, 2022.

5. Tender Information

- 5.1 Two compliant bids were received in response to Tender T-1109-2022 for the ELCC Playground Refurbishments in the Town of Ajax, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering and the Town of Whitby. The tenders received were as follows:

Bidder	Total Tender Amount*
DonRos Landscape Construction	\$1,198,199
Canada Construction Limited	\$1,262,453

- 5.2 Based on an overall evaluation of the bids, it is recommended that DonRos Landscape Construction, the lowest compliant bidder, be awarded the contract at an amount not to exceed \$1,198,199*.
- 5.3 The bid includes costs related to removing aged playground equipment and replacing it with natural play equipment such as stepping log rounds, sand pits,

wood playhouses, log tunnels, natural retaining walls, detailed site work, and pathways. The bid is inclusive of all labour, equipment and products required to complete the project work.

- 5.4 Due to the drive to create outdoor education spaces that allow for year-round extended outdoor programming, and the timelines associated with the ICIP Covid Resilience funding, there is an urgency to award the tender to secure a contractor and begin the construction.
- 5.5 CIMA+ has indicated that bid pricing is 20 per cent to 40 per cent over the estimated project costs due to the current state of the industry. In addition, reduced timelines for construction to minimize closure impacting mobilization, scheduling and coordination, and additional design features have contributed to the increase in the cost of the project.
- 5.6 Based on an overall evaluation of the bids, it is recommended that DonRos Landscape Construction, the lowest compliant bidder, be awarded the contract at an amount not to exceed \$1,198,199*.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Section 15.3 of the Region's Budget Management Policy states that the approval of the applicable Standing Committee and Regional Council for additional project financing requirements exceeding \$250,000 is required prior to the award of the applicable tender.
- 6.2 The proposed changes to the project costs are as follows:

Previously Approved Budget

Playground Replacement Project ID: ICR02

Property Tax	\$329,500
ICIP Covid Resilience Funding	<u>520,000</u>
Total Approved Financing	<u>\$849,500</u>
Additional Financing	
At the discretion of the Commissioner of Finance	<u>\$515,000</u>
Total Revised Project Financing	<u>\$1,364,500</u>

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 It is recommended that the low compliant bidder, DonRos Landscape Construction, be awarded Tender T-1109-2022 for the ELCC Playground Refurbishments in the Town of Ajax, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering and the Town of Whitby.
- 7.2 It is also recommended that the reallocation of funding at the discretion of the Commissioner of Finance to provide additional financing in the amount of \$515,000 be approved.
- 7.3 For additional information, please contact Sandra Taylor, Project Supervisor, Facilities Design, Construction and Asset Management at 905-668-4113 extension 2222.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by:

Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou
Commissioner of Social Services

Original signed by:

Nancy Taylor, BBA, CPA, CA
Commissioner of Finance

Original signed by:

John Presta, P.Eng., MPA
Commissioner of Works

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by:

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer