



Administrative Report

Office of the Manager, Transportation Planning and Development

To: Warden MacDonald and Members of Essex County Council

From: Jerry Behl, P.Eng.
Manager, Transportation Planning and Development

Date: Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Subject: Award of Contract for Engineering Services for the County Road 46 Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Report #: 2023-1115-IPS-R40-JB

Purpose

The purpose of this Administrative Report is to seek approval of County Council to award a contract, following the Request for Proposal (RFP) process conducted to secure the services of a consultant for an Environmental Assessment study of County Road 46, spanning from the City of Windsor limits to County Road 19.

Background

County Road 46 is a high-volume arterial road serving multiple modes of traffic (vehicular, truck and cyclists). It is a major east-west 2-lane rural road in the County of Essex. With anticipated growth in the region, and as presented to Council in report 2023-1018-IPS-R34-AB, Administration considers this corridor a priority candidate for capacity improvement.

Further to a request from the Town of Tecumseh, the RFP and associated Study Area were expanded (please refer to Figure 1) to include the 8th and 9th Concession Roads, from County Road 46 to the Windsor Boundary. It is intended that the Town of Tecumseh will enter into a separate agreement with the successful consultant.

The first step to deliver an infrastructure improvement project is to engage a consulting firm to manage and complete an Environmental Assessment (EA).

An EA will define the operational improvement plan for the facility considering:

- the level of service of intersections,
- safety improvements,
- requirement for additional lanes to improve mobility along the corridor
- accommodation of infrastructure for active transportation.

The successful consulting firm will review background documents, such as the Transportation Master Plan (TMP), County Wide Active Transportation System (CWATS), Official Plan, and other relevant studies. The review process will align the proposed solutions with the County's established vision for transportation and land use.

A detailed work program will include an assessment of design alternatives and a recommendation of a preferred option. This approach will ensure that the proponent's recommendations for County Road 46 improvements and the Concession Road 8/Concession Road 9 studies are grounded in a comprehensive understanding of the existing infrastructure and anticipated future needs.

Stakeholder engagement will include: Indigenous Peoples, Town of Tecumseh, City of Windsor, Essex Region Conservation Authority, property owners and the public.

The study has been broken down into the following stages and tasks.

Stage 1: Identify the Problem or Opportunity

- Project Start-Up
- Data Collection and Background Information Review
- Traffic Study
- Study Design Report (Phase 1 Report)

Stage 2: Identify Alternative Solutions

- Engagement
- Identification of Alternative Solutions
- Community Café/Public Meeting No. 1 (Phase 2 Report)

Stage 3: Evaluation of Alternatives

- Development, Analysis and Evaluation of Alternatives
- Natural Environment
- Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage
- Noise
- Land-use Planning/Transportation
- Stormwater Management and Drainage

- Municipal Servicing
- Archaeology
- Utility Investigation and Coordination
- Air Quality Assessment
- Topographic Survey
- Structural Engineering
- Engagement / Public Meeting No. 2
- Phase 3 Report

Phase 4: Draft the Plan

- Public Meeting No. 3
- Draft Environmental Study Report
- Preliminary Design of the Preferred Solution
- Property Protection Plan

Phase 5: Finalize the Plan

- Final Environmental Study Report, Approval and Notice of Completion
- Meetings with Council and Stakeholders

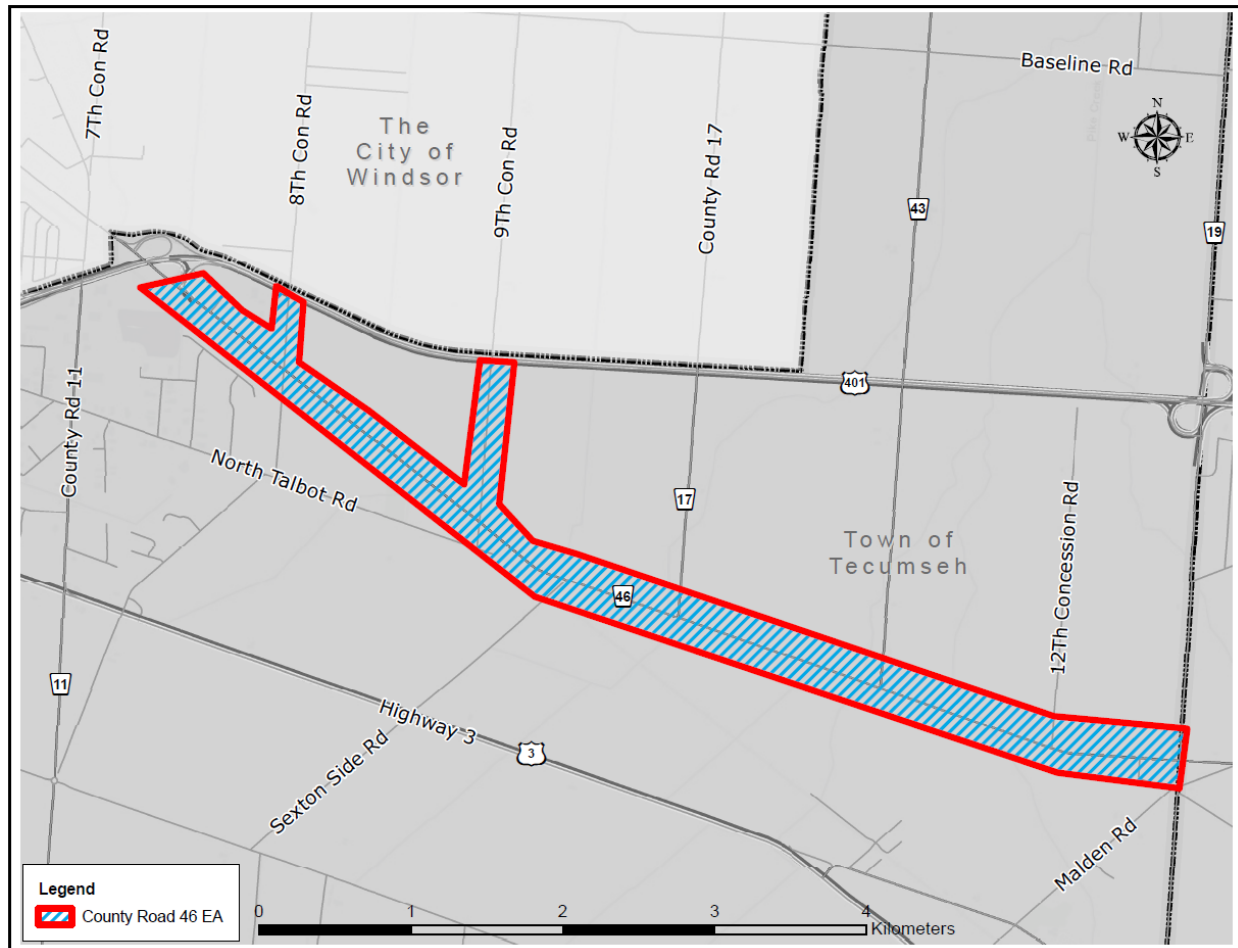


Figure 1

Discussion

A public request for proposals was posted to the County of Essex Bids & Tenders website with a closing date to receive proposals of September 26, 2023. One submission was received, and is compliant with the County's Procurement Policy. Evaluations are now complete.

A review committee, that included County of Essex and Town of Tecumseh staff, finds that BT Engineering Inc. (BT) has provided a good proposal package and work plan.

Financial Implications

Administration's estimate for the subject EA was \$500,000, over two budget years of 2023 and 2024. BTE has provided a favourable price of \$314,883 (including Net HST) to complete the County portion of the proposed workplan.

A breakdown of proposal price is provided in Table 1. Anticipated expenditures for the year 2023 are expected to be no more than \$30,000 carrying over the remaining amount into 2024.

A separate agreement and project costs for the 8th and 9th Concession Roads EA will rest with the Town of Tecumseh.

Table 1

Proposal Cost Shares by Municipality	Amount (excl. tax)	Amount (incl. Net HST)
County of Essex	\$309,437	\$314,883
Town of Tecumseh	\$66,720	\$67,894
Total	\$376,157	\$382,777

Consultations

The Procurement & Compliance group participated in the preparation of the RFP and the evaluation process to ensure that the County's procurement process was followed.

Recommendation

That Essex County Council receive Report 2023-1115-IPS-R40-JB and award a contract to BT Engineering Inc., for the Environmental Assessment for the County Road 46 corridor from The City of Windsor boundary to County Road 19, Manning Road, in the amount of \$309,437 (plus applicable taxes).

Approvals

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Behl

Jerry Behl, P.Eng., Manager, Transportation Planning and Development

Concurred With,

Allan Botham

Allan Botham, P.Eng., Director, Infrastructure and Planning Services

Concurred With,

Sandra Zwiers

Sandra Zwiers, MAcc, CPA, CA, Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix	Title
N/A	N/A