

District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: September 7, 2021	File: 530.20/Rpts
To: Council	From: Chris Matthews, Parks & Roads Manager
Re: Barriere River Bridge Repairs	

Background: Council directed staff to put the Barriere River Bridge repairs out to public tender which closed August 20, 2021.

Discussion: The District received only one bid proposal in the range of \$180,000 which was well above the projected sum of \$100,000 estimated by Westedge Engineering. Staff believe that the reason there was only one proponent bidding and the higher than anticipated cost is due to the fact that most contractors are not available and could not complete the project this fall as required in the tender.

In addition, as the watermain cannot be isolated or depressurized the risk associated with working around a charged main could have dissuaded prospective bidders. Staff are proposing to include concessions to install watermain shut-off valves at either end of the bridge in order to effectively isolate the main for this project and mitigate any unexpected issues that may arise.

Discussions with some Kamloops civil contractors has indicated that we may have multiple firms bidding on the project if we re-tender this winter for a spring start-up and with the possibility of better pricing. As previously reported, costs for the repairs would come from Gas Tax funds.

As a result, we have scheduled our bi-annual bridge inspection mid-September to determine the condition of the soffit and watermain hangers.

Recommendation: That Council direct staff to re-tender the Barriere River Bridge Repair project this winter and increase the funding of this project to \$200,000 to cover increased construction costs.

Prepared by: C. Matthews, Parks & Roads Manager
Reviewed by: B. Payette, CAO