
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 9, 2005
File No.: 5460-03

To: City Manager

From: Transportation Manager

Subject: **Request for Approval of Appointment of IBI Group as Consultants for ITS Project**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT IBI Group be appointed Consultant to the City of Kelowna for the Traffic Signal Integration Project;

AND THAT the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the funding agreement with Transport Canada for this project under the Transport Canada ITS Deployment and Integration Program.

BACKGROUND:

In July 2004 the City submitted an application for funding to Transport Canada under their ITS Deployment and Integration Program. The purpose of the project would facilitate the coordination of the City and Provincial traffic signal systems as envisaged in the Agreement between the City and the Ministry of Transportation for the Okanagan Lake Bridge Project, and as recommended by the Roads Task Force in their report to Council on 31st January 2005. coordination of signals would reduce delays and queuing and associated safety hazards. The project would provide the City with a new signal operating system which would provide enhanced data collection capabilities, fault monitoring, central review of traffic operations, signal timing and coordination, and the ability to add enhancements in future years such as traveler information, variable message signs, etc.

This project also assists in the implementation of the Regional Smart Transit Plan by providing priority to buses at selected intersections and points of congestion. Green signals may be extended or red signals terminated early to reduce delay to buses.

This Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) project has a budget of \$515,000, and is a partnership between the City, Transport Canada, the Ministry of Transportation and BC Transit, with the major funding partners being Transport Canada (\$250,000) and the City (\$200,000). Funds for the City's contribution were approved in the City's 2005 budget, and Transport Canada announced on January 12th, 2005 that Kelowna's application, along with 24 others throughout Canada, had been successful, and would be granted the maximum funding available, i.e. \$250,000.

Since the announcement, Staff has been working with the partners, particularly the Ministry of Transportation, to secure a significant commitment of staff time towards the project to ensure that the project objectives are met, and with IBI to revise the project schedule to reflect the tighter timeline for the project (four months shorter than the original 18 months, due to the late announcement of the project).

Staff is requesting authorization to sole source the consulting appointment to IBI Group for the following reasons:

1. IBI has extensive experience with Transport Canada's ITS Deployment and Integration Program.
2. ITS developed the ITS architecture for both Transport Canada and the BC Ministry of Transportation.
3. IBI has extensive relevant experience in the design of Central Traffic Integration Systems (eg. San Jose Center to Center Control System) and Transit Systems (e.g. 98-B Line in Vancouver).
4. IBI developed the Central Okanagan's Regional Transit Plan and are therefore most familiar with our transit priority needs.
5. IBI assisted the City with preparing the proposal for Transport Canada funding, and played a major role in the success of the application.
6. The role of IBI's team and their competence to undertake the project was integral to the submission which Transport Canada approved.
7. Time is of the essence, due to the late funding announcement by Transport Canada – the completion date has not been changed at all.

Depending on the level of funding by the Ministry of Transportation (in cash and in kind), the project budget could be as much as \$700,000. IBI's fees are \$245,000, and they are also contributing \$25,000 in kind towards the project. All of the partners support retaining IBI to do this work.

Ron Westlake, Transportation Manager



Approved for inclusion:
John Vos
Director of Works & Utilities