

Meeting Date: April 22, 2025
Department: Engineering and Public Works
Report No.: EPW-2025-19
Submitted by: Mark Ortiz, Director of Engineering and Public Works
Approved by: Rob Browning, Chief Administrative Official
SUBJECT: **2025 Tar and Chip Tender Award**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT: Council receive report EPW-2025-19 - 2025 Tar and Chip Tender Award for information, and further;

THAT: Council approve award of the 2025 Tar and Chip Program to Cornell Construction Limited for the amount of \$720,847.50 plus HST

BACKGROUND:

On March 3, 2025, Council directed staff to proceed with tendering the 2025 Tar and Chip program to complete the following roads with tar and chip:

- 1) **Century Drive from Springwell Road to Dead End (1km)**
- 2) **Irish Drive from Melbourne Road to Sutherland Road (5km)**
- 3) **Irish Drive from Christina Road to Adelaide Road (4.5km)**
- 4) **Juliana Drive from Railroad Street to Dead End (150m)**
- 5) **Sutherland Road from Switzer Drive to Longwoods Road (1.3km)**
- 6) **Falconbridge Drive from Sutherland Road to Christina Road (2.5km)**

The annual tender posted for tar and chip is issued using pre-supplied stone and pulverizing the existing roads when double surface treatment is performed. The material is delivered prior to the tar and chip application and loaded by municipal staff to the awarded contractor's hauling trucks. In addition to supplying the stone municipal staff perform grading on the selected roads to reduce cost.

COMMENTS:

The 2025 Asphalt Resurfacing tender was posted publicly on the Bids & Tenders website on March 4, 2025 and closed on March 25, 2025 with 2 bids received.

The tender results are as follows (excluding HST):

1. Cornell Construction Limited	\$720,847.50
2. Walker Construction Limited	\$735,775.00

The recommendation is to award the tender to the lowest bidder, **Cornell Construction Limited**.

Additional program costs of approximately \$140k including the purchase of stone chip, pulverizing services and equipment rental has been procured separately.

Remaining budgetary funds will be allocated toward spot repairs at locations identified as having deteriorated conditions following the winter season. Priority areas currently include:

- Skinner Drive, east of 9054
- Inadale Drive, near 8725
- Rougham Road, near Parkhouse Drive
- Amiens Road approximately 200 meters east of Hickory Drive
- Scotchmere Drive

As spring assessments progress, municipal staff will address these sites by excavating damaged sections down to the road subbase. Repairs will include rebuilding the road structure with appropriate base gravel, followed by the application of a tar and chip surface treatment.

Impact on Residents

Residents will be impacted by the installation of the tar and chip which will cause temporary inconveniences:

- Traffic Disruptions – Temporary lane closures and reduced speed limits during application
- Construction Activity – Equipment movement, noise, and the presence of crews along the roadway
- Dust and Loose Gravel – Initial curing may result in dust and loose gravel until the surface is fully set.
- Access Delays – Driveway access may be temporarily impacted while work is underway

Construction is anticipated to begin in June. Staff will provide advance notice to residents along these roads and post notices on the Municipality's social media platforms to advise of the work.

Dust is a common complaint from residents both during construction and while the hard-surface road is gradually formed over time - this is an inherent feature of the tar and chip process.

Tar and chip roads can take multiple weeks or months, depending on traffic, to have the chip work itself into the tar and form the hard-surface road as intended. Once fully formed dust is significantly reduced.

Staff will monitor the newly surfaced roads and mitigate dust with water application and/or other dust control measures as required. Staff will also work with residents and provide contact information where they may provide input on the program and request dust control measures when needed.

CONSULTATION:

- Manager of Public Works

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Staff recommend approving award of the 2025 Tar and Chip Program to Cornell Construction Limited in the amount of \$720,847.50 (excl. HST).

This falls within the approved 2025 Tar and Chip Capital Budget of \$915,000, including approximately \$140k in additional program costs.

Remaining budgetary funds of approximately \$54k will be allocated toward spot repairs throughout the Municipality.

ALTERNATIVE(S) TO THE RECOMMENDATION:

1. Council to provide alternate direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This matter is in accord with the following strategic priorities:

Local Infrastructure and Capital Investment: Households and businesses in Strathroy-Caradoc will be supported by reliable, financially responsible, and well-maintained infrastructure networks.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.