



**Meeting Date:** April 7, 2026  
**Department:** Engineering and Public Works  
**Report No.:** EPW-2026-22  
**Submitted by:** Walter Easter, Acting Director of Engineering and Public Works  
**Approved by:** Walter Easter, Acting Director of Engineering and Public Works  
**SUBJECT:** **Tree Maintenance Services Tender Award**

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**RECOMMENDATION: THAT:** Council award a Tree Maintenance Services Contract to Summit Tree Services Inc. based on the submitted hourly rates.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Municipality is responsible for the maintenance of municipally owned trees located within road allowances, parks, facilities, and other municipal properties. Tree maintenance services include, but are not limited to:

- Hazardous Tree Removals including disposal of all wood
- Stump Grinding
- Brushing
- Tree Trimming
- Partial Tree Removal (dangerous limbs, hangers, etc.)
- Sight Line Clearing
- Certified Arborist Tree Evaluation
- Emergency Call-Ins

Municipal Operators will continue to safely perform tree maintenance operations within the scope of their training, equipment capabilities, and operational capacity. However, many tree maintenance situations involve large or high-risk trees requiring specialized equipment, certified arborist expertise, or immediate emergency response. Additionally, seasonal workload demands can exceed available internal resources.

To ensure safe, efficient, and timely service delivery, the Municipality engages qualified tree service contractors to supplement municipal operations as required.

Public Works and Community Services have collaborated to streamline service delivery by utilizing a single Contractor to provide tree maintenance services across both departments.

## **COMMENTS:**

The tender was posted publicly on Bids and Tenders on February 12, 2026 and closed March 5, 2026. A total of four (4) bids were received.

Contractors were required to submit hourly rates for the following equipment and labour resources:

Equipment

75' Bucket Truck  
12" Chipper  
Chip Truck – 30 yard capacity  
18" Chipper  
Stump Grinder (100hp minimum)  
40' Crane with 25 yard capacity  
Mini Excavator  
Mini Wheel Loader  
Tracked Manlift

Labour

Certified Arborist  
Foreman  
Labourer

For tender evaluation purposes, an estimated quantity of 300 hours was assigned to the equipment and labour listed above to allow Contractors to submit comparable bids.

Below are the results excluding HST.

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Summit Tree Services Inc.</b>             | <b>\$167,000.00</b> |
| <b>Big Tree Inc.</b>                         | <b>\$216,700.00</b> |
| <b>Aecon Six Nations General Partnership</b> | <b>\$267,704.00</b> |
| <b>Sequoia Tree Services LTD</b>             | <b>\$343,000.00</b> |

As this is an hourly service contract, actual expenditures will depend on operational requirements and will be managed within the approved Public Works and Community Services operating budgets.

**CONSULTATION:**

- Director of IT/Finance-Treasurer
- Director of Community and Development Services
- Manager of Community Services Operations
- Middlesex County Procurement

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Tree maintenance services will be funded jointly through the Public Works and Community Services operating budgets.

For 2026, Public Works has \$95,000 allocated in the Operating Budget and Community Services has \$35,000 allocated in the Operating Budget for tree maintenance.

On March 2, 2026, Council approved a motion to remove high-risk rural trees using \$65,000 from the Public Works Operating Budget, leaving \$30,000 for annual maintenance. Staff will coordinate this work using the hourly rates submitted by Summit Tree Services Inc.

The Municipality retains an option to renew the contract for three (3) additional one (1) year terms at the sole discretion of the Municipality. If the Municipality elects to renew the contract, pricing adjustments will be limited to the lesser of the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI) All Items year-over-year for the previous January or three percent (3%).

Public Works and Community Services will allocate tree maintenance funding accordingly in the 2027-2030 Operating Budgets.

**ALTERNATIVES 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:**

N/A