

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Rural Municipality of St. Andrews
PROPOSAL NAME: River Road Stabilization - Phase 2
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: Two
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Transportation and Transmission -
Two Lane Road
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4089.10

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on August 29, 1997. It was dated August 28, 1997. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by the Rural Municipality of St. Andrews to construct riverbank stabilization works along River Lots 108 and 109 in the Parish of St. Andrews. This location is on the east side of River Road between St. Andrews Lock and Dam and the Red River Floodway outlet, and is immediately north of the Phase 1 stabilization project which was completed in the late winter of 1996. The proposed work is similar to the Phase 1 work, and consists of the installation of a limestone rock shear key in the riverbank. The bank would then be graded and revegetated in the project area. Construction would take place in the late fall and early winter of 1997.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Selkirk Journal on Monday, September 15, 1997. It was placed in the Main, Centennial, Eco-Network and Selkirk Community Library public registries. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on September 10, 1997. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was October 13, 1997.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public responses were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Environment - Eastern - Interlake Region No comments or concerns.

Manitoba Environment - Water Quality Management Concerns appear to have been generally addressed by the proposal. The trench is approximately 25 metres from the water's edge and should not involve any excavation or deposition of materials in the Red

River. There is also an intention to grade and re-seed the area after construction is concluded. The proposal indicates the contractor will be responsible for oil and grease control. Any storage of fuel, oil or grease should be at least 100 metres from the water's edge. Re-fueling should also be done at least 100 metres from the water's edge.

.../2

- 2 -

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

Historic Resources Branch In 1995, the Historic Resources Branch requested that the R. M. of St. Andrews conduct a heritage resources impact assessment of the first phase of the River Road Stabilization Project. Branch staff assisted with this assessment and mitigation. The majority of the excavations were across river lots 105, 106 and 107, Parish of St. Andrews. The Branch has reduced concerns about the second phase of the project. Only a small quantity of heritage resources was exposed in the north end of the shear key trench excavated in 1995. Furthermore, Branch monitoring of construction of buildings revealed that heritage resources along the frontage of river lots 108 and 109 between the Red River and River Road are minimal. Branch concerns can be addressed by the Branch's Impact Assessment Archaeologist monitoring the key trench excavations to recover any exposed heritage resources and to record soil stratigraphy in the trench walls. Some short term suspension of excavation may be necessary for Branch staff to complete their examination of the trench. The construction contractor should be advised of these potential delays. The Branch will require several days notice prior to construction commencement so that staff can prepare for the monitoring project.

Disposition:

Notification to the Historic Resources Branch as to the start of construction can be provided as a licence condition.

Mines Branch No concerns.

Urban Affairs No objections.

Natural Resources Measures should be taken to control erosion from the reconstructed bank and to prevent sediment from entering the river. The soils placed on the shear keys should also be stabilized until vegetation has had an opportunity to be re-established. The department is in general agreement with the methods proposed to stabilize the banks, but would like to point out that clearing in riparian zones, such as has been done along the Red River banks, results in wildlife habitat losses, increased bank erosion and river sedimentation.

Disposition:

Comments respecting construction practices can be addressed as licence conditions. With respect to riparian zone clearing, it is noted that clearing likely took place in this area decades ago. The clearing probably contributed to the long term instability of the slope which the present proposal is addressing.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency Application of CEAA with respect to this project will not be required. Fisheries and Oceans, Public Works and Government Services Canada and Parks Canada wish to participate in the provincial review process.

.../3

- 3 -

Disposition:

Federal agencies expressing interest in the project will be provided with a copy of the Project Summary and Draft Licence for comment.

Fisheries and Oceans DFO has an interest in the project pursuant to the fish habitat protection provisions of the Fisheries Act. The project as described is not likely to cause significant adverse effects on fish and fish habitat after taking into account the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures. The following measures will ensure that any potentially adverse effects on fish and fish habitat are mitigated. During construction and until final re-grading, riprap placement and re-seeding is completed, temporary erosion protection measures such as silt fencing or straw bales should be employed on the river bank down slope of the shear key to prevent sediment laden runoff from entering the Red River. Permanent erosion control measures should be implemented as soon as possible following completion of the shear key. All debris and temporary structures should be removed upon completion of construction. The duration of construction within the proposed schedule should be minimized. No instream work should occur between April 1 and June 15 of any year. The deposition of deleterious substances into water frequented by fish is prohibited under the Fisheries Act. Appropriate precautions must be taken to ensure that deleterious substances do not enter the Red River. The refueling and servicing of equipment should take place at least 100 m from the Red River.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

PUBLIC HEARING:

As no public concerns were identified, a public hearing is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

All comments received on the Proposal can be addressed as licence conditions. Therefore, it is recommended that the Development be licensed under The Environment Act subject to the limits, terms and conditions as described on the attached Draft Environment Act Licence. It is further recommended that enforcement of the Licence be assigned to the Eastern-Interlake Region.

PREPARED BY:

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