

DATE: February 11, 1998

SUBJECT: BLOEDEL CONSERVATORY CHILLER

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Acting General Manager be given the authority to award the supply of a chiller for the Bloedel Conservatory.

BOARD POLICY

The Board approves the awarding of all contracts over \$50,000.

BACKGROUND

Replacement of the cooling system for Bloedel Conservatory and the transfer of \$205,260 of additional funds for this project, which is estimated to cost \$300,000, was approved by the Board last September.

DISCUSSION

We have been advised by our mechanical consultant that delivery of the chiller, estimated to cost \$64,000 could be about 16 weeks. If an order for this item is not placed now, delivery would result in the new cooling system not being ready in time for the onset of warm weather which could be early this year. The waste water cost for the present cooling system is \$5,000 to \$10,000 per month. The alternative would be to tender the chiller as part of the tender package to mechanical contractors in about a month but this would result in a significant delay.

Staff recommend that the chiller supply be tendered now to three qualified bidders and awarded by letter of intent to the successful bidder by the Acting General Manager on approximately February 17 instead of delaying the award until the day following the next Board meeting on March 2. The tendering of the remainder of the supply and installation work would follow. This tender would assign the purchase of the chiller to the successful contractor who would pay the supplier directly. The Park Board would guarantee the purchase.

The bid prices from the mechanical contractors would include the cost of the assigned chiller as a cash allowance in their tenders. The bids will exceed \$50,000 and approval to award the remainder of the work would be by the Board following receipt of the tenders. During the intervening period, the successful chiller supplier would be constructing the chiller.

JUSTIFICATION

In order to not delay the project and avoid paying additional cooling water costs, permission is requested for the Board to authorize the Acting General Manager to award the purchase of a chiller estimated to cost \$64,000.

Prepared by:
Planning and Development Division
Board of Parks and Recreation
City of Vancouver
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