

Tender - Living Colour Floral Display Program

File No: X027207

Tender No: 1980

Summary

This report provides details of the tenders received for Living Colour Floral Display Program.

Since 2000, each spring and summer for eight weeks, the City has installed Living Colour floral displays, which have become one of the largest displays of their kind in Australia, bringing vibrant colour to over 30 locations in the City's local government area.

The Living Colour Floral Display Program enhances the City by being vibrant, innovative, colourful and beautiful, and raises the quality of public spaces through high quality design, presentation and maintenance.

Designs are created by using potted plants arranged in patterns in the City's display infrastructure which includes planters that form multiple geometric configurations complemented by hanging baskets, garsy floral towers, a 22-metre greenwall and a pyramid.

The Living Colour Floral Display Program is very popular with residents, workers and visitors to Sydney, generating compliments and positive feedback.

Changes to the new tender include the provision of additional sites and a schedule of rates to install floral displays as crowded place protection barriers along the pedestrian zone of the George Street light rail (Bathurst Street to Hunter Street and Alfred Street).

This report recommends that Council accept the tender offer of Tenderer D for the provision of the Living Colour Floral Display Program.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council accept the tender offer of Tenderer D for Living Colour Floral Display Program Part A for the price and contingency sum outlined in Confidential Attachments A and B to the subject report for a period of three years, with the option of an extension of two years if appropriate;
- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer the contracts relating to the tender; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to exercise the option referred to in clause (A), if appropriate, and negotiate the price to extend the contract accordingly.

Attachments

Attachment A. Tender Evaluation Summary (Confidential)

Attachment B. Lump Sum Annual Price and Schedule of Rates (Confidential)

Background

1. The City has installed living colour floral displays since 2000, which have become one of the largest displays of their kind in Australia, bringing vibrant colour to over 30 locations in the City's local government area.
2. Living Colour allows for predominantly hardstand areas, such as Martin Place, Taylor Square and St. Mary's Cathedral Forecourt, to be greened and to come alive with colour. The program engages with the public through photography and social media, promoting social connectedness and environmental awareness.
3. The majority of the displays are located in the City's Central Business District, plus main streets in the surrounding urban villages, where permanent gardens are not otherwise possible due to environmental conditions.
4. The locations for the floral displays are:

Spring/Summer	Christmas	Hanging Baskets/Greenwall
Alfred Street and Customs House Square	Cathedral Square	Castlereagh Street
Castlereagh Street	Erskineville	Darlinghurst Road
Cathedral Square	Fitzroy Gardens	Elizabeth Street
Green Square Library Plaza	Green Square Library and Plaza	Flinders Street
Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre	Glebe	Glebe Point Road
Martin Place	Surry Hills Library	Kings Cross (Greenwall)
Queens Square / Hyde Park Barracks	Union Square	Martin Place
QVB and Town Hall		Macquarie Street
Springfield Plaza		Oxford Street
Taylor Square		Park Street
Union Square		Redfern Street
		Springfield Plaza
		Stanley Street
		William Street

New Sites

Bridge Street - Museum of Sydney Forecourt

Hyde Park South - Liverpool and College Street

Abercrombie Street

Erskineville Town Hall

Redfern - Jack Floyd Reserve

In addition, a new continual display of living colour along the light rail pedestrian zone corridor in George Street (Bathurst Street to Hunter Street and Alfred Street).

5. The Living Colour Program consists of the following displays:
 - (a) 8 week spring display;
 - (b) 5 week Christmas display;
 - (c) 8 week summer display; and
 - (d) 9 month greenwall and hanging basket display.
6. Display infrastructure for the program includes containers, hanging baskets, floral towers (garsy) and a 22-metre long green wall.
7. To produce the displays, over 100,000 plants are grown in nurseries for up to five months before installation, each spring and summer.
8. The Living Colour Floral Display Program is very popular with residents, workers and visitors to Sydney, generating compliments and positive feedback.
9. The City is investigating the provision of non-potable water for the Living Colour Floral Display Program.
10. Changes in the new specification include:
 - (a) Five additional display sites have been added to the core services. In response to positive feedback, popularity of relocated displays due to light rail construction and to achieve further greening of the City, new sites have been added in the CBD, Erskineville, Redfern and Chippendale.

- (b) Crowded Place Protection George Street Light Rail - schedule of rates for a new continual display of living colour along the light rail pedestrian zone corridor (Bathurst Street to Hunter Street and Alfred Street). The display along the light rail corridor is an interim crowded place protection measure as part of broader measures being implemented to protect the corridor. The schedule of rates allows for new planters and ongoing annual maintenance until an alternative solution is implemented.
 - (c) Schedule of rates for new and replacement display infrastructure to improve asset management practices and to allow for new display sites and infrastructure required for the light rail corridor pedestrian zone.
 - (d) The annual Christmas display in the core services.
 - (e) Simplified reporting and streamlined program.
 - (f) Clear quality performance and service levels to ensure a vibrant and well maintained display.
 - (g) Improved environmental and sustainability requirements to prevent waste going to landfill, including: recycling of suitable green waste, reuse or recycling of clean soil and recovery of metal waste.
 - (h) Distribution of plants to the community, including: local schools, day care centres, community gardens, City Farm and customer service centres.
11. Tenderers were invited to price:
- (a) Part A for core services using the City's existing display infrastructure, and/or
 - (b) Part B for new ideas and designs using new display infrastructure that have not been featured in the program previously.

Invitation to Tender

12. Requests for Tenders were advertised in The Sydney Morning Herald and The Daily Telegraph, and on the City's e-Tender portal, on 29 October 2019, and closed on 3 December 2019.

Tender Submissions

13. Five submissions were received from the following organisations:
- Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd;
 - Laidre Group Pty Ltd;
 - Marsupial Landscape Management;
 - Plantabox; and
 - Skyline Landscape Services Pty Ltd.

14. No late submissions were received.

Tender Evaluation

15. All members of the Tender Evaluation Panel have signed Pecuniary Interest Declarations. No pecuniary interests were noted.
16. The relative ranking of tenders as determined from the total weighted score is provided in the Confidential Tender Evaluation Summary – Attachment A.
17. All submissions were assessed in accordance with the approved evaluation criteria being:
 - (a) demonstrated experience in carrying out services of a similar size and nature;
 - (b) personnel allocation, qualifications, experience and capacity, including sub-contractors and fair work requirements;
 - (c) proposed program;
 - (d) proposed concept design for the 2020 program;
 - (e) environmental management;
 - (f) Work, Health and Safety;
 - (g) financial and commercial trading integrity, including insurances (mandatory); and
 - (h) lump sum price and schedule of rates.

Performance Measurement

18. The appointed Service Provider will have their performance measured against an extensive list of key performance indicators including:
 - design quality;
 - plant supply quality;
 - display infrastructure;
 - display maintenance;
 - display installation and demobilisation;
 - customer service;
 - environment and sustainability;
 - Work, Health and Safety; and
 - contract management.

Financial Implications

19. Additional funds will be required for this project in future years' forward estimates for the addition of the five new sites and the inclusion of the light rail corridor display under schedule of rates. New infrastructure, for example, Garsies and Green Walls, is also required to support these displays. This additional requirement will be incorporated within budget planning for the 2020/21 financial year. Financial implications for the 2019/20 financial year can be accommodated within existing divisional operating budgets.
20. New infrastructure to be purchased using schedule of rates will be subject to annual plant and asset budget bids.

Relevant Legislation

21. The tender has been conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and the City's Contracts Policy.
22. Attachments A and B contain confidential commercial information of the tenderers and details of Council's tender evaluation and contingencies which, if disclosed, would:
 - (a) confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; and
 - (b) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.
23. Discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it would compromise Council's ability to negotiate fairly and commercially to achieve the best outcome for its ratepayers.

Critical Dates / Time Frames

24. The existing contract for the Living Colour Floral Display Program ends on 26 July 2020.
25. The new contract is proposed to start on 1 April 2020 to allow adequate lead time to design, grow and program for the Spring, Christmas and Summer 2021 displays. Maintenance of existing displays will be delivered under the existing contract until 26 July 2020.
26. The contract term is three years with the option of an extension of two years subject to satisfactory performance.

Public Consultation

27. There was no public consultation prior to the tender being advertised.

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