

Contract Variation - Head Design Consultant - Ultimo Road to Campbell Street Cycleway

File No: X034641

Tender No: T-2023-914

Summary

The Ultimo to Surry Hills cycleway is a new east west active transport route connecting Ultimo and Surry Hills. The cycleway is the second half of the Glebe to Surry Hills regional route, complementing the Glebe to Ultimo cycleway along Kelly and Mary Streets.

In May 2023 the City engaged AECOM Australia Pty Ltd as the head design consultant to complete the design and documentation of the cycleway. Following public exhibition of the concept design and community consultation, the project scope for the cycleway was endorsed by Council in August 2023.

In December 2023 Council endorsed the Haymarket Public Domain Plan. The Plan identified a number of opportunities for improvements for streets and public spaces in the precinct including the delivery of domain upgrades on Ultimo Road between Thomas and Quay Streets with the Ultimo to Surry Hills cycleway.

In June 2024 Council endorsed the 2024/25 Long Term Financial Plan which incorporated a revised project budget for the Ultimo to Surry Hills cycleway project to allow for the delivery of the public domain upgrades concurrent with the cycleway project. Additional head design consultant services are required to complete the design and documentation of the public domain upgrades and co-ordinate these works with the cycleway design.

This report recommends approving a variation to the City's contract with AECOM Australia Pty Ltd as outlined in Confidential Attachment A.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve a contract variation and an increased value for the existing Head Consultant Contract with AECOM Australia Pty Ltd for the Ultimo Road to Campbell Street Cycleway to cover additional services as described in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (B) Council note the financial implications detailed in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report.

Attachments

Attachment A. Financial Implications (Confidential)

Background

1. The Ultimo to Surry Hills cycleway is part of the City's Cycling Strategy and Action Plan and the NSW Government's Principal Bicycle Network. The cycleway creates a new east west active transport route connecting Ultimo and Surry Hills and is the second half of the Glebe to Surry Hills regional route, complementing the Glebe to Ultimo cycleway along Kelly and Mary Streets.
2. In May 2023 the City engaged AECOM Australia Pty Ltd as the head design consultant to complete the design and documentation of the cycleway. Following public exhibition of the concept design and community consultation the project scope for the cycleway was endorsed by Council in August 2023.
3. In December 2023 Council endorsed the Haymarket Public Domain Plan. The Plan identified a number of opportunities for improvements for streets and public spaces in the precinct including footpath widening on Ultimo Road between Thomas and Quay Streets with the delivery of the Ultimo to Surry Hills cycleway. The public domain upgrade includes widened footpaths with new paving, lighting and street furniture.
4. In June 2024 Council endorsed the 2024/25 Long Term Financial Plan which incorporated a revised project budget for the Ultimo to Surry Hills cycleway project to include the delivery of a planned stormwater upgrade and the public domain upgrades concurrent with the cycleway project.
5. Additional head design consultant services are required to complete the design and documentation of the public domain upgrades and co-ordinate these works with the cycleway design.

Key Implications

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision

6. Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision renews the communities' vision for the sustainable development of the city to 2050. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the city, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. This report is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
 - (a) Direction 5: A city for walking, cycling and public transport. These cycleway projects will complete the missing links in the bike network, providing a safe, sustainable and active transport option for people travelling across and throughout the city.

Financial Implications

7. There are sufficient funds allocated to cover the requested increased design consultancy contract amount within the current year's capital works budgets and future years' forward estimates. Refer to Confidential Attachment A.

Relevant Legislation

8. The original tender process was conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and the City's Procurement and Contract Management Policy.
9. Local Government Act 1993 - Sections 10A provide that a council may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises the discussion of information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and if discussion of the information in an open meeting would, on balance be contrary to public interest.
10. Attachment A contains confidential commercial information which, if disclosed, would confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the City is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
11. 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

12. Complete design April 2025.
13. Construction Mid 2025 to Early 2026.

Options

14. Quotations could be sought from alternative design consultants to complete the design and documentation of the stormwater and public domain upgrades. This is not recommended as it will significantly delay the project, increase design and construction coordination risks, and likely cost substantially more.
15. The stormwater and public domain upgrades could be delivered separately from the cycleway project. This is not recommended as it would involve redundant design and construction work, and increased community disruption.
16. It is recommended to incorporate the design, documentation and construction of the stormwater and public domain upgrades into the cycleway project as this provides substantial project efficiencies, minimises community disruption and avoids abortive work.

Public Consultation

17. Public consultation for the project was undertaken in May 2023. The community will be notified ahead of construction start.

KIM WOODBURY

Chief Operating Officer

Joel Munns, Design Manager