



Request for Expression of Interest

Pre-Construction Inspection of Proposed Brazier Road Greenway

Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) will receive expressions of interest from qualified contractors regarding the proposed construction of approximately 725m of trail improvements along an old logging road off Brazier Road. The logging road is located on private property and serves as a rough equestrian trail.

The CVRD is issuing this REI to ensure interested contractors have had an opportunity to walk the proposed trail during wet weather. Contractors are encouraged to walk the trail during or after heavy rainfall to gain an understanding of the volume of water the drainage works will need to accommodate.

A request for proposals or request for quotations (RFP/RFQ) for construction will potentially be issued in the spring of 2012 with work starting in July or August 2012. The project is subject to approval of funding and land use agreements being obtained including approval from provincial Agricultural Land Commission.

Request for Expression of Interest documents outline further details about this project and may be obtained from the RD Bid tab of the CVRD website (www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/section_business/)

Printed copies are available between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm at the CVRD office located at 600 Comox Road, Courtenay, BC.

CLOSING DATE AND TIME 2:00 pm Pacific time Tuesday March 27, 2012



**Request for Expression
of Interest**

**PRE-CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION OF
PROPOSED BRAZIER ROAD GREENWAY**

CLOSING LOCATION

600 Comox Road
Courtenay, BC
V9N 3P6

CLOSING DATE AND TIME

2:00 pm Pacific time
Tuesday March 27, 2012

ENQUIRIES

Brian Allaert, parks technician
Community Services Branch
ballaert@comoxvalleyrd.ca
Fax: 250-334-4358

PRE-CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION OF PROPOSED BRAZIER ROAD GREENWAY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

INTENT

The Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) is seeking expressions of interest from qualified parties interested in the proposed construction of approximately 725m of trail improvements along an old logging road off Brazier Road that currently serves as a rough equestrian trail (see yellow dotted line on the attached map).

The improvements will occur on private property within a proposed 10 metre wide statutory right-of-way (SRW) being acquired by the regional district. The property owners wish to maintain vehicle access to the back of their property via this old road and proposed SRW.

A request for proposals or request for quotations (RFP/RFQ) for the trail construction will potentially be issued in the spring of 2012 with construction of the trail to occur in July or August 2012. The project is subject to approval of funding in March and land use agreements being obtained in April/May of 2012.

The CVRD is issuing this REI to ensure contractors who may be interested in participating in the future RFP/RFQ process for the project have had an opportunity to walk the proposed trail during the wettest times of the year. Contractors are encouraged to walk the trail during or after heavy rainfall to gain an understanding of the volume of water the drainage works will need to accommodate.

The proposed trail, flagged with blue and pink tape, is currently located on private property pending the acquisition of a statutory right of way (SRW). When on-site, contractors are not to approach any of the homes on the property. No pets should be brought onto the property. Vehicles are to be parked on Brazier Road. Visitors are responsible for their own safety and should be prepared to encounter hazards including vehicle traffic along the road, falling trees and branches, high winds, mud/soft soils, uneven ground, cold water, bears and cougars, and remote conditions with no shelter or services.

PRELIMINARY PROJECT OVERVIEW

The proposed trail improvements will include removal of potential hazard trees (primarily alders and small maples), excavation of ditches, installation of rock check dams, rolling dips, knicks, culverts and other drainage works, spreading and compacting of fill materials, posting of signs, and erection of fences on both sides of the trail.

Drainage works will be required to retain water on the property as much as possible rather than directing it downstream. The ditches and culverts on Brazier Road already fill to capacity during storm events. Spreading the water out to create sheet flow rather than digging ditches is preferred. All drainage works will need to occur within the fenced edges of the future SRW to ensure trail maintenance can occur from the trail side of the fences.

It is anticipated that pit run gravel and road crush will need to be trucked in to both elevate the trail and provide a suitable year round surface. The imported gravel will generally be spread to a width of approximately 1.8m and a depth of 15cm.

The SRW, once acquired, is to be fenced on both sides. The fence along the boundary of the abutting farm operation (Dove Creek Heritage Farm) will be a pole fence similar to the one found along the nearby One Spot Trail. The fence on the other side of the trail will be a four or five strand smooth wire fence with no-treated posts. Clearing of brush will be required prior to fencing.

Construction planned for 2012 is subject to approval of the provincial Agricultural Land Commission (ALC). An application was submitted to the ALC in November 2011 however a decision may not be received until April 2012.

A preliminary budget estimate for construction of the trail on the subject property totals \$36,000 including fencing.

The trail improvements may also include clearing alders and installing culverts and road material on Brazier Road to create either a turn-around area or roadside parking area for two vehicles.

Construction of an additional 400m to 500m of trail to the west is tentatively planned for 2013. The trail would be built through second growth forest in Wildwood Forest (the red dotted line on the attached map – orange flagging tape on-site) to establish a trail between Wildwood Forest and the One Spot Trail. This work will not part of the 2012 construction and will be awarded separately.

PROCESS

CVRD will review the outcome of this Request for Expression of Interest (REI) and, pending budget and SRW approvals, will subsequently conduct a formal Request for Proposal (RFP) or Request for Quotation (RFQ) process to engage a suitably qualified contractor that can provide all labour, equipment and materials required to complete construction of the trail, drainage works and fencing. There will be no ranking of REI submissions since this REI stage is not a competition.

CVRD reserves the right in selecting the invitees for any RFP/RFQ process that may follow this REI. Submission of a response to this REI would not automatically warrant an invitation to participate in the RFP/RFQ process and conversely, not responding to the REI will not exclude firms from the RFP/RFQ stage. Any upcoming RFP/RFQ is expected to follow receipt of ALC approval and execution of the SRW documents.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project works could involve the following tasks but may be modified prior to the issuance of an RFP/RFQ as a result of the outcome of this REI process and other information received:

1. Determine ditching and culvert requirements;
2. Identify, source and supply materials that will be needed to construct the trail;
3. Complete hazard tree assessment and present a list of trees to be removed or modified to CVRD staff;
4. Remove and modify hazard trees following approval of CVRD to do so;
5. Clear trail and fence lines, salvaging plants for replanting disturbed areas;

6. Dig ditches, install check dams, culverts; etc.
7. Truck spoils to a nearby property;
8. Grade trail;
9. Install fencing and signage;
10. Surface and compact trail;
11. Rehab disturbed areas by transplanting native plants saved during construction and spreading a native seed mix.
12. Install barriers to block vehicle use of this new trail and possibly the One Spot trail.

The successful Contractor engaged to construct the trail improvements will also be required to provide the following:

Insurance - comprehensive general liability insurance to the limit of not less than \$3,000,000 in respect of each occurrence with the Comox Valley Regional District added as an additional insured.

Safety - Workers' Compensation Board coverage in good standing for all employees working on the project. The Contractor will, for the purposes of the Workers Compensation Act, and for the duration of the Work be designated as the prime contractor for the work site. The Contractor will be required to sign a CVRD safety agreement and provide both a WCB clearance letter and detailed safety program.

Hazards Assessment - The Contractor will be responsible to assess and deal with hazards prior to beginning work and throughout the project as needed. This includes hiring a faller or tree climber to modify any trees that have been verified by a certified arborist or hazard tree assessor to pose a hazard to workers or trail users.

SUBMISSION

Interested parties are invited to submit Expressions of Interest to the following address by 2:00 p.m. (Pacific time) on Tuesday, March 27, 2012:

Comox Valley Regional District
600 Comox Road
Courtenay, BC V9N 3P6
E-Mail: communityservices@comoxvalleyrd.ca

Expressions of Interest may be e-mailed, mailed or delivered to the above location. Please submit a concise submission that addresses at a minimum the following information

1. Profile: Name, address, telephone number, fax number, e-mail address of business, number of years in operation, types of services offered.
2. Capability: Size of workforce, available equipment.
3. Fees: Labour and equipment rates.
4. Personnel: Identify the training, knowledge, qualifications and experience that qualify your business operation for this project.

5. Subcontracting: Identify any work you may subcontract and list the contractors you are likely to use for this work.
6. Experience: Provide information demonstrating experience with projects of similar size and scope within a similar environment. State the number of hours your equipment operators have spent building trails.
7. References: Provide names, addresses and contact numbers of at least two (2) client references for whom similar works have been performed.
8. Safety: The number of days since your last WCB claim, and incidents where your business received a penalty from WorkSafeBC in the past five years for unsafe work practices.
9. Site Inspections: List dates the person that would potentially supervise this project visited and walked the site of the proposed trail.
10. Other: Provide other relevant information you believe would be essential in the consideration of your submission including comments or observations about the proposed trail.

Submissions will become the property of the CVRD and will not be returned.



