



Corporation of the Township of Brock

Staff Report to the Members of Council

From: James Peitos
Position: Capital Projects Coordinator
Title / Subject: Pile Testing
Date of Meeting: January 12, 2026
Report No: 2026-OP-002

1.0 Issue / Origin

The Township currently has four bridges that were inspected and now require further investigation, with particular focus on timber piles that support the superstructure. These timber piles are critical to maintain the integrity of the structure above.

2.0 Background

Every two years the Township is required to inspect all structures. During the completion of the structure inspections, each structural element is measured and its condition assessed in accordance with the Ontario Structure Inspection Manual (OSIM), as prepared by Chisholm, Fleming and Associates. Where structural elements could not be adequately assessed through visual inspection alone, additional recommendations were identified for further investigate work to determine the condition and performance of the element.

3.0 Analysis

The Township has received two quotations for the completion of this work, both provided by Chisholm, Fleming and Associates (CFA). The quotations received are as follows:

- FprimeC: \$20,750 not including non-refundable HST
- Engineering Link: \$66,100 not including non-refundable HST

Upon review of the submissions and in consultation with CFA, staff recommend awarding the work to Engineering Link. While Fprime C submitted a lower cost proposal, the firm does not have prior experience in non-destructive testing and extraction of timber piles.

This lack of experience introduces a level of uncertainty with respect to the accuracy and reliability of the test results.

Engineering Link has demonstrated extensive experience performing this specific type of testing and analysis on timber piles. Their proven expertise provides greater confidence in the accuracy of the results. Public works staff agree with the CFA recommendation, the reliability of the testing outcomes is critical in the decision making regarding the condition and the safety of the structures.

Per the Procurement Policy, staff are required to obtain Council approval when recommending that the award not be given to the highest ranked compliant bidder and in this case, FprimeC submitted a much lower quote, however, does not have the appropriate experience required to complete the work requested.

4.0 Related Policies / Procedures

N/A

5.0 Financial / Budget Assessment

The 2026 budget included \$50,000 for timber pile Investigation which is currently funded from the asset management reserve.

The Public works department is requesting an additional \$17,263.36 in funding from the Asset Management Reserve.

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|---------------------------|---|
| Engineering Link | \$67,263.36 (Includes non-refundable HST) |
| 2026 Timber Pile Budget | \$50,000.00 |
| Additional Funds Required | \$17,263.36 |

Before this additional withdrawal, it is estimated that the Asset Management Reserve balance will be approximately \$105,977 at year-end 2026 (or approximately \$88,714 after this additional withdrawal).

5.1 Asset Management

2025 Structure Inspections Summary report

6.0 Climate Change Impacts

N/A

7.0 Communications

N/A

8.0 Conclusion

Staff recommend retaining Engineering Link to undertake the required pile testing, as the firm has demonstrated expertise in timber pile assessment. Hiring an experienced consultant will provide staff with reliable test results. This information will enable the Township to proactively plan for any required repairs or remedial works identified in the pile testing investigation.

9.0 Recommendation

Be It Resolved That Report No. 2026-OP-002 entitled "Pile Testing," be received for information; and

That Staff be authorized to hire Engineering Link for an additional cost of \$17,263.36, funded from a draw from the Asset Management Reserve.