



## Memorandum

**Date:** 10-02-13

**To:** Steve Giesbrecht, Borough Manager  
**From:** Chris Cotta, Assistant Public Works Director  
**Re:** Rasmus Enge Bridge Wood Materials Bid Award

As you know the Rasmus Enge Bridge is much in need of repairs to keep it safe for regular traffic. DOT recently derated the bridge to 3 tons per axle, and the possibility of future safety-related bridge closures and/or further load derating is high due to extensive deterioration of the bridge structure, especially the deck and railings. Stringers, pile caps, piles and cross braces are also showing significant deterioration, but most should be ok for the next few years.

Although Public Works was successful in securing bridge design funding from Denali Commission and has engaged PND Engineers to begin design work for full replacement of the bridge, construction funding has not been secured yet. Given the heavily deteriorated state of the existing structure, major repair work needs to be done right away to keep the bridge in operation until the Borough can afford to replace the entire structure.

In September, Public Works advertised for bids for timber materials to replace all decking and railings; as well as several failing stringers, braces, piles and pile caps. Once the material is on hand, the Streets Dept. will start the rehabilitation work this winter (weather permitting) and finish up next spring. This will keep the bridge functional for a few more years until replacement funding is obtained.

Four bids were received in response to the timber materials bid solicitation (bid tab attached for reference). The Mill, Inc. of Petersburg was low bidder, with a base bid of \$64,270 and a price of \$4,500 for Additive Alternate #1 (to upgrade bridge decking from the base bid timber grades); for a total bid price of \$68,770. There is currently around \$150,000 remaining in the Rasmus Enge Bridge capital project fund. Going ahead with this materials purchase will leave approx. \$81,000 which should be enough for us to purchase the necessary hardware for the rehab effort, as well as get through the next phase of the replacement design (geotechnical investigation).

For the reasons outlined above, Public Works recommends award of the Rasmus Enge Bridge Wood Materials bid to The Mill, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$68,770. If you agree with this recommendation, please forward it to the Borough Assembly for consideration at their next regular meeting on October 7, 2013. Thank you.

**Public Works Department**

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