



**Subject: Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Funding for Clarke Area Sanitary Sewer Remediation Project**

**To: Council**

**From: Public Works Department**

Report Number: 2021-278

Meeting Date: November 8, 2021

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### **Recommendation:**

That Public Works Department Report 2021-278 be received; and

That the Manager of Water and Wastewater be directed to apply for Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation funding for the Clarke Area Sanitary Sewer Remediation Project.

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### **Purpose:**

This report is submitted to seek Council's approval to apply for Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation funding for the Clarke Area Sanitary Sewer Remediation Project.

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### **Background:**

In 2018, the Government of Canada launched the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF), committing \$10 billion over 10 years to the program. In 2021, an additional \$1.375 billion in federal funding over 12 years was announced to renew the DMAF. Starting in 2021, funding was split between two streams – small-scale projects (\$1 million to \$20 million) and large-scale projects (\$20 million and above).

To be considered eligible, projects must be aimed at reducing the socio-economic, environmental and cultural impacts triggered by natural hazards and extreme weather events taking into consideration current and potential future impacts of climate change in communities and infrastructure at high risk.

Natural hazard and extreme weather events include floods and storms. Eligible infrastructure projects must involve new construction of public infrastructure and/or modification or reinforcement of existing public infrastructure to prevent, mitigate or

protect against the impacts of climate change, disasters triggered by natural hazards, and extreme weather.

The maximum funding that a municipality may receive is 40%. The application deadline is November 15, 2021.

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## **Discussion:**

As part of the 2022 Wastewater Capital budget request, staff requested funding for the Clarke Area Sanitary Sewer Remediation Project, contingent upon receiving DMAF funding.

This project will remediate sanitary sewer assets in the Clarke Area sanitary sewershed to decrease the amount of infiltration entering the sanitary sewer system, therefore reducing the risk of sanitary sewer backups during extreme rainfall events. The Clarke Area is roughly the entire area of the sanitary collection system east of the Welland Canal, north of Killaly Street East. This project will involve repairing deficiencies in sanitary sewer pipes, either through grouting and spot repairs, or through full-length pipe lining methods (a much more cost-effective alternative to pipe replacement) and will also involve repairing deficient maintenance holes by grouting and spot repairs and/or lining or full replacement.

The City has been battling ever increasing levels of inflow and infiltration (I&I) over the past 30 years and the Clarke Area sewershed was identified in the 2007 Pollution Control and Infrastructure Study as a priority area to investigate and remediate sources of I&I. The basement flooding that occurred in this area on July 17, 2021 also indicates that this area should be a priority to address the sources of I&I that caused the Region's Pumping Station to be overwhelmed and the sanitary sewers to back up. The proposed remediation efforts will address infiltration in the Clarke Area sanitary sewershed through deficient maintenance holes and/or sanitary sewer pipes.

If the City is successful at receiving funding for the project, CCTV inspection records, maintenance hole inspection records and records of any known or discovered private side connections will be reviewed to finalize where and what remediation is required. Tender documents will be released in 2022, with remediation efforts anticipated to be completed in late 2022/early 2023.

If approved, staff will submit an application under the DMAF program for \$1 million to complete this project.

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## **Financial Implications:**

Should the City's funding application be successful, the maximum amount the City will need to contribute towards the project would be \$600,000. This amount was included in the 2022 Capital and Related Project. Funding includes \$29,897 from the 2022 wastewater rate with the remaining \$570,103 coming from previously approved unspent wastewater capital.

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## **Strategic Plan Alignment:**

The initiative contained within this report supports the following pillar(s) of the strategic plan:

- City-Wide Investments in Infrastructure and Recreational/Cultural Spaces
  - Value: Financial Management to Achieve Financial Sustainability
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## **Conclusion:**

The Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund provides an opportunity to leverage \$600,000 of municipal funds to complete \$1 million in wastewater system remediations by acquiring \$400,000 in federal funds.

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## **Appendices:**

- a. Government of Canada launches new program intake to help reduce the impacts of climate change and better protect Canadians against natural disasters

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Suddard  
Manager of Water Wastewater  
905-835-2900 x256  
[Darlene.Suddard@portcolborne.ca](mailto:Darlene.Suddard@portcolborne.ca)

## **Report Approval:**

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final review and approval by the Chief Administrative Officer.