



Subject: Funding for Inflow and Infiltration Projects

To: Council

From: Public Works Department

Report Number: 2022-88

Meeting Date: May 10, 2022

Recommendation:

That Public Works Department Report 2022-88 be received; and

That Council approve \$561,900 of funding for the 2021 inflow and infiltration projects from the wastewater reserves.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to use wastewater reserve funds for the City's portion of the 2021 inflow and infiltration reduction projects approved for funding by Regional Council in 2021.

Background:

At the January 11, 2021, meeting of Council, a memorandum was presented seeking Council approval to apply for funding through the Region of Niagara's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Policy and cost sharing program. This program is intended to facilitate shared funding with local area municipalities to help mitigate the impacts of wet weather events. The program reflects the need for a coordinated effort between the Region and local area municipalities to address the issue of wet weather overflows to the environment.

The City's applications targeted inflow source control on private side laterals as well as investigative work throughout the wastewater system to isolate and repair problematic areas. Through this program, the Region of Niagara provides funding ranging from 30-60% of overall project costs. The remaining project costs are required to be funded by the municipality.

Discussion:

In January of 2021, staff submitted applications for three (3) projects, A, B and C in Table 1 below, and were approved by the Region for all three projects. In the fall of 2021, the Region's program administrator notified the local municipalities that there were funds remaining and asked for applications for any additional projects. Staff applied for two (2) additional projects (D and E in Table 1), which were also approved by the Region.

Table 1: Inflow and Infiltration Projects Submitted for Funding to Niagara Region

| Project | Total Project Cost | City Portion |
|---|--------------------|--------------|
| Project A: Investigation of Innovative Stormwater Management Strategies for the Omer Area Drainage Investigation Focus Area | \$200,000 | \$119,900 |
| Project B: Investigation and Remediation of Outstanding Inflow and Infiltration Contributors in the Omer Area | \$298,000 | \$190,000 |
| Project C: Inflow and Infiltration Public Education Campaign | \$30,000 | \$15,000 |
| Project D: Pollution Prevention Control Plan and Sewer Model | \$250,000 | \$125,000 |
| Project E: Maintenance Hole and Mainline Sewer Repairs | \$300,000 | \$210,000 |

The scope of these projects was summarized in Public Works Department Report No. 2022-65.

The total cost of these projects is \$1,078,000. The total funding approved by the Region is \$450,000 and the City's portion totals \$659,900. \$98,000 in funding from the wastewater reserves was previously approved by Council in Public Works Department Report 2022-23. This report is seeking approval for the additional \$561,900 to complete the remainder of these projects. All projects will be procured in accordance with the Council approved Procurement Policy, provided the projects receive funding.

Internal Consultations:

Staff confirmed with the Finance Department that there are wastewater reserves available to fund these projects.

Financial Implications:

The \$561,900 required to complete the inflow and infiltration projects can be funded from wastewater reserves. At the time of writing this report the wastewater reserve is forecasted to end fiscal 2022 at approximately \$1,474,200. Allocating the \$561,900 proposed in this report will reduce the forecast wastewater reserve balance to \$912,300.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

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

- Service and Simplicity - Quality and Innovative Delivery of Customer Services
 - City-Wide Investments in Infrastructure and Recreational/Cultural Spaces
 - Governance: Communications, Engagement, and Decision-Making
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Conclusion:

Approval of wastewater reserve funding will permit these projects to proceed. These projects will assist in reducing Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) to the wastewater system. Although there is no estimate on the amount of I&I to be reduced, as the amount is dependant on many different variables (rainfall, lake level, other I&I projects, etc.), approval of these projects require in situ measurement of pre- and post-implementation flows that will, averaged over a few years, estimate the quantity of I&I reduction.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Suddard
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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.