

Appendix B – Options for Storm Sewer and Municipal Drain Rates Charges

Option 1 (Not Recommended)

Do Nothing. Properties within the Stormwater Boundary are often charged both the Storm Sewer System Rate and the Municipal Drainage maintenance and repair costs.

This is often confusing as not all properties immediately drain to both systems; however, some Storm Sewer Systems do eventually flow to the Municipal Drains and some properties are only on Municipal Drains but pay both rates.

Municipal Drain charges are larger one-off invoices compared to comparatively smaller monthly Storm Sewer System rate charges. This can also be confusing for property owners who are invoiced for both Systems.

Option 2 (Not Recommended)

All properties within the Stormwater Boundary be identified as either 50%+ immediately draining to the Storm Sewer System OR Municipal Drainage and the property be charged only the rate the majority of the property immediately drains to.

This will require staff to identify permeable and non permeable areas of each property within the Boundary and delineate where most of the stormwater drains, and this percentage can change over time within a property. It is a highly contentious and labour-intensive undertaking.

As Storm Sewer Systems or Municipal Drains are repaired/replaced, the property owners receive larger, one off invoices. Staff also maintain two rate systems.

Option 3 (Recommended)

All properties within the Stormwater Boundary be charged only the Storm Sewer System rate charge. Any Municipal Drainage or ditching works conducted within the boundary will be paid for through Storm Sewer System funds.

There is only one rate for property owners within the Stormwater Boundary and staff only maintain one rate system.

The property owners receive regular invoices and as the Storm Sewer System, ditches or Municipal Drains are repaired, they are paid for through the previous or future collected funds.

The Storm Sewer System rate will remain proportional to the existing structure and all infrastructure in the Stormwater Boundary area is considered one drainage system.