



UTILITY SERVICES

TO: Council
DATE: July 27, 2021 **DIVISION:** 6
FILE: 4060-100 **APPLICATION:** N/A
SUBJECT: East Rocky View Wastewater Transmission Main Repair – Cost Recovery

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On May 25th, 2021, Council approved a budget adjustment for \$985,000 for blockage removal and remediation required for the East Rocky View Wastewater Transmission Main.

At the May 25th meeting of Council, Administration informed Council that a cost recovery report would be a forthcoming report to Council once Administration has finalized its review and assessment of the root cause of the blockages and developed repayment options for consideration. Administration has completed a thorough investigation and due to the history of the pipeline and the nature of the blockage, Administration was unable to truly determine a root cause. As noted in the report to Council on May 25th, infrastructure has been installed to ensure any future blockage can be accessed easier.

Administration has determined a rate increase to the system would be the most appropriate method of cost recovery. Based on the existing flows a 10%, 20% and 30% rate increase to the per cubic meter rate to all East Rocky View Sewer customers has been outlined below. For clarity, the rate increase would be applied to all gaining service from the East Rocky View Wastewater Transmission Main inclusive of Conrich and Langdon service customers.

Percentage Increase	Dollar Increase	Estimated Annual Repayment	Years of Recovery
10%	\$0.21	\$94,374.00	10.5
20%	\$0.41	\$184,202.00	5.4
30%	\$0.62	\$274,549.00	3.5

Administration would recommend a 10% rate increase. Should Council approve a rate increase, Administration would bring forward an amendment to the Master Rates Bylaw with the reflective changes

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends approval in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

Administration recently discovered a force main blockage affecting the East Rocky View Wastewater Transmission Main. Multiple blockages were identified throughout the 9000 meter stretch of force main between Balzac and Conrich. Such blockages forced the shutdown of the wastewater



transmission line and resulted in the emergency and necessary cleaning of the force main. Wastewater was delivered via trucks from the Balzac area to the Conrich lift station and pumped to the Langdon Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Administration hired contractors to perform the necessary cleaning and repairs of the wastewater force main to return the line to service, which included flushing the blocked areas and vacuuming out the waste. This resulted in the cleaning of a total of 1800 meters of the force main. The recently cleaned areas that were flushed are susceptible to the collection of debris and flush points were installed along the line for cleaning and pipe access. This infrastructure will remain in place for future maintenance to the system.

Administration ensured that no service disruptions occurred throughout the duration of the cleaning and repair of the force main. It is anticipated that the current increased flows will provide enough scouring velocity to ensure the system is kept clear of debris. Ongoing inspections of the interior of the force main will occur to monitor any potential build-up within the pipe.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Should Council approve the rate increase to the East Rocky View Wastewater System an increase of revenue would be recorded for the system. The increase revenue (\$94,374.00) would be transferred to the Reservice as part of the cost recovery process.

OPTIONS:

- Option #1: THAT Administration be directed to prepare an amendment to the Master Rates Bylaw that reflects a 10% increase to user rates for the East Rocky View Wastewater System. .
- Option #2: THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

"Byron Riemann"

"Kent Robinson"

Executive Director
Operations
SS/bg

Acting Chief Administrative Officer