



## **Committee of the Whole Report**

### **For the Meeting of March 19, 2020**

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**To:** Committee of the Whole **Date:** March 12, 2020  
**From:** Jas Paul, Assistant Director of Engineering  
**Subject:** Water Conservation Plan in Support of the Grant Application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the City of Victoria's water conservation plan, which is a requirement for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program grant application.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of a water conservation plan which is required to support the City's application to the *Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program – Environmental Quality Sub-Stream* for \$7.5 million in grant funding for sewer projects to reduce inflow and infiltration.

On February 13, Council approved the following motions:

1. Direct staff to submit a grant application for \$7.5 million in funding for Sewer Projects to Reduce Inflow and Infiltration through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - Green Infrastructure - Environmental Quality Sub-Stream.
2. If the grant application is approved, authorize the City entering into a shared cost agreement with the Province of British Columbia, generally as described in this report, on the terms acceptable to the Director of Finance and the Director of Engineering and Public Works and in the form acceptable to the City Solicitor.

Part of the province's initiatives intended to positively affect behaviour includes the creation of mandatory activities as requirements in the grant process. For example, asset management planning activities have become mandatory pre-requisites for provincial grant applications. Up to date, Council-endorsed water conservation plans have also become a requirement for local governments to qualify for grant funding of infrastructure projects.

Although the City did not previously have a water conservation plan, water conservation policy and practice has been embedded in various City policies, bylaws, maintenance routines and infrastructure planning documents. As a bulk purchaser of water from CRD, the City also shares responsibility for water conservation through CRD bylaws, programs and regional planning.

The scope of the water conservation plan is based on provincial guidelines and is intended to provide an overview of the City's water supply system and future impacts, to outline current conservation efforts, and to identify future initiatives. Staff have drafted the water conservation plan as attached in Appendix A.

#### *2019-2022 Strategic Plan*

The water conservation plan is a required component of the ICIP Grant application. Should the funding request be successful, the project will contribute to Objective Six – Climate Leadership and Environmental Stewardship and aligns with, and helps to achieve the following actions:

- 13. Begin to plan for mitigating the inflow and infiltration issues on private property
- 21. Promote rain gardens and improve water quality entering waterways
- 25. Work with partners to clean up the harbour and steward waterways

#### *Impacts to Financial Plan*

There are no financial impacts as a result of the water conservation plan.

#### *Official Community Plan Consistency Statement*

This water conservation plan is consistent with the following sections of the Official Community Plan:

11 (B), Victoria's healthy, clean, high-quality drinking water is used in a thrifty way and maintained through generations.

11 (c) That demand for potable water is reduced, and its supply and distribution is cost-effective

11.14 Continue to support water demand management through green building policies for private development and civic facilities with water conservation building features and permeable surfaces and low water plantings in site design.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

Staff are seeking endorsement of a water conservation plan as attached in Appendix A, a required document for application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program Environmental Quality Sub-Stream.

Respectfully submitted,

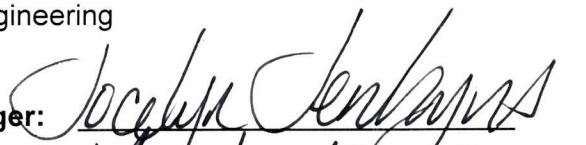


Nina Sutic-Bata, Manager  
Underground Utilities



Jas Paul, Assistant Director  
Engineering

**Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:**

  
Date: March 13, 2020

## **List of Attachments**

Appendix A – Water Conservation Plan