



RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER

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STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENTED: January 24, 2023 **REPORT:** 23-012
FROM: Utilities Group **FILE:** ES2007
SUBJECT: SEWER USAGE REGULATION AMENDMENT BYLAW (ALTA LAKE ROAD TIME
EXTENSION) NO. 2382, 2023

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

That the recommendation of the General Manager of Infrastructure Services be endorsed.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council consider giving first, second, and third readings to “Sewer Usage Regulation Amendment Bylaw (Alta Lake Road Time Extension) No. 2382, 2023”.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update Council regarding the need to further amend the Public and Private Sewer Usage Regulation Bylaw No. 551, 1987 and request Council approval to make this amendment. The specific item that this recommendation addresses is the allowance for properties to have 28 months to connect to the new municipal sewer after receiving official notice to do so, rather than the 18 months previously approved through “Sewer Usage Regulation Amendment Bylaw (Alta Lake Road) No. 2313, 2021”; due to difficulties in securing contractors to complete this work in the time allotted.

Information Report Administrative Report (Decision or Direction)

DISCUSSION

Background

On May 3, 2019 the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) sent out a formal petition to a section of properties along Alta Lake Road that were in need of a municipal sewer connection. The petition process was used after many unsuccessful grant applications. The petition was for the creation of two Local Service Area bylaws that would apply specifically to the parcels that will benefit from the installation of municipal sanitary sewer along the developed section of Alta Lake Road. The deadline to return petitions to the RMOW was August 30, 2019. The properties that returned the petition represented more than 50 per cent of the properties in the specified area, and more than 50 per cent of the total property value. The petition was given a certificate of sufficiency by the Corporate Officer.

The petition included the statement:

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- *All residential parcels in the service area would be required to connect to the new sanitary sewer 18 months after the completion of the project (staff would propose an amendment to Public & Private Sewer Usage Regulation Bylaw No. 551, 1987 to facilitate this timeline); Vacant land or undeveloped properties are exempt from the 18-month connection requirement.*

“Sewer Usage Regulation Amendment Bylaw (Alta Lake Road) No. 2313, 2021, a bylaw to amend the Public and Private Sewer Usage Regulation Bylaw No. 551, 1987” was adopted on July 21, 2021 to allow for the extended 18 month connection period specified in the petition once the Notice to Connect dated August 27, 2021 was issued.

However, several property owners have informed the RMOW of their difficulty in engaging contractors to complete the required work within the 18 month connection period. This second amendment to the Sewer Usage Regulation Bylaw No. 551, 1987 will provide another 10 months for residents and their contractors to complete the required work in the 2023 construction season.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Relevant Council Authority/Previous Decisions

“Sewer Usage Regulation Amendment Bylaw (Alta Lake Road) No. 2313, 2021”, a bylaw to amend the Public and Private Sewer Usage Regulation Bylaw No. 551, 1987” was adopted on July 20, 2021 to allow for the extended 18 month connection period specified in the petition once the Notice to Connect was issued to the homeowners on August 27, 2021.

Corporate Plan

The RMOW Corporate Plan is updated annually and articulates strategic direction for the organization. This section identifies how this report links to the plan.

Council Focus Areas

Community Balance

*Effectively **balance resort and community needs** through deliberate planning, partnerships and investment*

Climate Action

*Provide leadership to **accelerate climate action and environmental performance** across the community*

Housing

*Advance strategic and innovative initiatives to enable and **deliver additional employee housing***

Pandemic Recovery

*Leadership and support for **community and tourism recovery and sustainability** – priority focuses are where recovery needs intersect with other Council focus areas*

Not Applicable

Corporate Goals

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- Community character and mountain culture is reflected in municipal initiatives
- Municipal decision-making supports the effective stewardship of natural assets and ecological function
- Corporate policies and operations ensure continuous excellence in infrastructure, facility and program management
- A high level of accountability, transparency and community engagement is maintained
- Corporate financial health is optimized to ensure long-term community success
- A vibrant local economy and safe, resilient resort community is effectively reinforced by organizational activities

Community Vision and Official Community Plan

The Official Community Plan (OCP) is the RMOW's most important guiding document that sets the community vision and long-term community direction. This section identifies how this report applies to the OCP.

12.2. Goal - Whistler's sewer systems meet all applicable standards and are maintained in a manner that is cost-effective, ensures reliability and minimizes or eliminates environmental impacts.

12.2.1.1. Policy - Maintain a sewage collection and treatment system that transports and treats sufficient wastewater quantities for current and planned future development, and ensures discharge quality meets or exceeds the Operational Certificate issued by the B.C. Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

There are no budget considerations connected with this Bylaw Amendment.

LÍ'WAT NATION & SQUAMISH NATION CONSIDERATIONS

The RMOW is committed to working with the Líl'wat People, known in their language as *L'il'wat7úl* and the Squamish People, known in their language as the *Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw* to: create an enduring relationship; establish collaborative processes for Crown land planning; achieve mutual objectives; and enable participation in Whistler's resort economy.

There are no specific considerations to include in this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Level of community engagement commitment for this project:

- Inform Consult Involve Collaborate Empower

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Comment(s):

The construction project has now been completed and RMOW staff have been actively engaged with the neighbourhood residents on a regular basis. Specifically to arrange for assembly and delivery of the RMOW supplied residential pump stations required on the majority of the lots. Information about the project is being shared in a number of different ways and the most up-to-date information for the project can be found on the RMOW website at: [Alta Lake Road Sewer Upgrade Project | Resort Municipality of Whistler](#)

An information package describing the steps for each property to connect was prepared and was sent out before the installation of the sewer main was completed in September 2021. Residents have been made aware via the RMOW website of the RMOW intent to further extend the deadline for the residential sewer connection through the 2023 construction season.

REFERENCES

Sewer Usage Regulation Amendment Bylaw (Alta Lake Road Time Extension) No. 2382, 2023
(included in Council Package)

SUMMARY

Implementation of this bylaw amendment will extend the standard 180-day requirement to a 28-month period for the properties to connect to the new sewer. This will provide adequate time for the remaining unconnected properties in the Alta Lake Road Sewer Extension Local Area Service to arrange for the delivery and installation of the required pump stations, electrical connections, and service lateral tie-ins to the sewer main.

SIGN-OFFS

Written by:

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Reviewed by:

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Virginia Cullen,
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