

October 31, 2020

Via email: corporate@whistler.ca

To Mayor and Council

cc: Chief Administrative Officer

Resort Municipality of Whistler
Whistler, BC

Re: Alta Lake Road Sewer Extension (Petition)

Staff provided an update on the Alta Lake Road Sewer Extension (Sewer) Project on October 8, 2020.

Subsequent conversations with neighbours confirmed that:

- most everyone would like to see the project proceed now,
- but everyone is of the opinion that the original cost sharing arrangement under the Petition is unfair to the owners as it fails to take into account the significant use of the sewer by RMOW in the future to service the Parks properties.

The cost of the Sewer project to the owners has been the overriding issue since the original Sewer project was proposed many years ago.

Competing financial and other interests of the various parties benefiting from the Sewer have led to a difficult situation for staff.

The tensions of these competing interests could be mitigated with RMOW, on behalf of Parks, recognizing the use by Parks and contributing more to the initial build of the Sewer so as to reduce some of the burden on the owners. The current burden is onerous and out of line with what other owners have paid in the past for similar projects.

It is clear that RMOW intends to make significant use of the Sewer to deal with the increasingly large use of Rainbow Park by visitors and the increasing use of the old hostel lands by the community. This large increase in use also impacts the local residents in our neighbourhood in myriad other ways.

The Petition appears to cap the allocation of design and construction cost to owners at \$900,000 or (900k/33) \$27,273 per parcel not including the RMOW parcels. In addition, the owners face additional substantial costs to connect to the Sewer, and also RMOW connection fees of \$3,811, easily bringing the cost per parcel to be in excess of \$45,000.

I respectfully ask Mayor and Council to reduce a portion of the cost burden on the 33 Alta Lake parcel owner's share of the \$900,000 capital cost (Capital Cost) to recognize the future use of the Sewer by RMOW Parks.

My suggestion to accomplish this cost burden reduction would be to consider a formula that includes a recognition of Parks lands along Alta Lake such that additional parcels are allocated to the Youth Hostel lands, Rainbow park and the other RMOW properties resulting in an allocation of the Capital Cost allotment being shared by the 33 parcels and a reasonable number of parcels for the RMOW lands. Consider for example 12 additional parcels. Thus, reducing Owners allocation of Capital Cost to \$20,000.

In addition, consideration should be given to waiving the RMOW connection fee which has been done in the past under similar projects.

The Petition wording is unclear as to the actual maximum cost per parcel under the current allocation of design and construction costs for each of the 33 parcels petitioned; would you also please confirm that the current maximum cost for the 33 parcels is capped at \$900,000 and owners can in fact pay their one time share of that Capital Cost being (under the current formula) \$27,273.

I trust that you find this request to be reasonable and look forward to receiving your considered reply.

Respectfully,

David Ashby



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