



Council Report

Report Number:	CA2022-003
Meeting Date:	April 19, 2022
Title:	Workplan for Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Program
Description:	This report seeks Council approval of the workplan recommended for the recently created Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Program.
Author and Title:	Adam Found, Manager of Corporate Assets

Recommendation(s):

That Report CA2022-003, **Workplan for Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Program**, be received;

That the workplan outlined in Table 1 of Report CA2022-003 be approved for the purposes of the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario program;

That the projects comprising the workplan be added to the applicable 2022 capital budgets and each designated a completion date of June 30, 2024; and

That staff be authorized to adjust financing of the workplan as needed to exhaust funding from the program and maximize the extent of the Rehabilitation of Various Bobcaygeon Gravity Sewer Mains project subject to meeting the objectives of the other projects in the workplan.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

At its meeting of March 22, 2022, Council adopted the following resolution:

CR2022-093

That Report CA2022-002, **Funding Agreement for Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Program**, be received;

That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the funding agreement contained in Appendix A of Report CA2022-02; and

That by June 30, 2022 the Manager of Corporate Assets present to Council a recommended workplan for the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Program.

This report fulfills the latter part of that direction.

Rationale:

As Council is aware, the Province of Ontario initiated earlier this year the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Program (hereinafter, the “Watershed Grant” for short). This capital grant is designed to assist municipalities with making improvements to the quality of wastewater and stormwater discharges into Lake Ontario’s watershed. As an eligible municipality, the City of Kawartha Lakes has been allocated \$565,019 in capital funding under the program. As conditions of accessing that funding, the City has executed a funding agreement and must now submit a workplan to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for approval under the program.

To fulfill the latter condition, Corporate Assets Division consulted internally and with MECP to identify capital projects best aligned with the parameters of the Watershed Grant and with the City’s capital priorities. As a result of that consultation, Corporate Assets Division is recommending that the capital projects identified in Table 1 below be approved as the workplan for the Watershed Grant. Therein, a nominal \$15,000 commitment to the Sewage Reserve is included as a buffer to ensure exhaustion of the available grant funding. Key factors in the formulation of Table 1 were two program parameters: (i) projects must be substantially completed by March 31, 2024 and (ii) a maximum of 30% of eligible cost (per project) can be dedicated to engineering, design, asset inspection and studies. With those constraints in mind, further remarks regarding the intent of the recommended projects is provided below.

Table 1: Workplan Recommended for the Watershed Grant				
Capital Project	Estimated Cost (\$)	Financing (\$)		
		Watershed Grant	Sewage Reserve	Total
Rehabilitation of Wilson Fields Stormwater Pond	250,000	250,000		250,000
Installation of Lindsay-Ops Landfill Compost Pond Valve Chamber	70,000	70,000		70,000
Rehabilitation of Various Bobcaygeon Gravity Sewer Mains	260,000	245,000	15,000	260,000
Total	580,000	565,000	15,000	580,000

Rehabilitation of Wilson Fields Stormwater Pond: Constructed in 1996 as part of the development of Wilson Fields in Lindsay, this pond is in immediate need of rehabilitation, primarily cleanout and reshaping, after more than 25 years of accumulation of sediment and vegetation. Led by Engineering Division, this project will entail minimal engineering work, restore functionality of the stormwater pond and improve the quality of stormwater discharges into the watershed.

Installation of Lindsay-Ops Landfill Compost Pond Valve Chamber: With an overflow spillway at its northern end, this pond collects stormwater and sediment generated by the compost pad at the Lindsay-Ops Landfill. Solid Waste Division is finding that demands on the pond typically exceed its designed capacity, causing overflows. As per regulatory requirements, such overflows must be reported to the MECP as spills, raising environmental, operational and regulatory compliance-related concerns. As an interim measure, Solid Waste Division stabilizes the pond as needed by manually pumping stormwater into Lagoon 1 of the Lindsay Water Pollution Control Plant. This, however, is an unsustainable and inefficient method of leveraging Lagoon 1 as a stabilizer of the pond. This project is designed to provide for a permanent and efficient solution through installation of a valve chamber, inclusive of piping and earthworks, which will automate and regulate pond discharges into Lagoon 1 under the force of gravity. To mitigate ongoing staffing shortages in Engineering Division, the project will be led by Corporate Assets Division.

Rehabilitation of Various Bobcaygeon Gravity Sewer Mains: Due to watery and rocky ground conditions, Bobcaygeon's sewage collection system is afflicted by extensive inflow and infiltration which result in sewer main overload and excessive volumes of stormwater being circulated and processed within the wastewater system. This project focuses on rehabilitative interventions, such as stormwater disconnection, joint repairs and pipe relining, aimed at reducing inflow and infiltration. Such interventions will mitigate sewer main surcharging and over-processing at pumping stations and the wastewater treatment plant. They will also reduce wastewater operating costs and improve wastewater effluent. Determination of the specific sewer mains and capital interventions to be included in the project requires assessment of sewer main

conditions and capital needs through video footage and engineering analysis. Accordingly, the project will be led by Corporate Assets Division and aided by operational funding budgeted in that division annually for the assessment and registration of assets.

Other Alternatives Considered:

As the projects identified in Table 1 above are those best aligned with the parameters of the Watershed Grant and the City's capital needs, no alternatives to them are being presented at this time.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

The recommendations of this report support responsible financial and asset management, and hence align with the strategic priority of "Good Government" identified in the City's 2020-2023 Strategic Plan.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

As the workplan outlined in Table 1 consists of immediate capital priorities and as the complementary operational support for the third project therein is already budgeted for in 2022, the recommendations of this report carry no added financial commitment to the City beyond a nominal draw on the Sewage Reserve and modest acceleration of planned capital expenditures. The complementary operational support is needed to ensure the Watershed Grant is focused primarily on capital works as required.

Consultations:

MECP
Manager of Technical Services
Manager of Environmental Services
Manager of Water-Wastewater Operations
City Treasurer

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Department Head: Juan Rojas, Director of Engineering and Corporate Assets