

August 1, 2024

We, the residents of King Street West and Hamilton Road in Ingersoll affected by the upcoming road and sewer project are objecting to mandatory hookup costs and any new surcharges for sewers proposed for our street/road. Based on research residents have done independently we have seen some examples within the province where residents were not forced to opt in to services and are of the opinion that the developers, new residents, and businesses should garner the same level of self determination when it comes to opting in to such services and costs.

We have young families and retired residents and under the current economic conditions many will not have the funding available and do not feel comfortable having to borrow money for the costs, when current systems are appropriate for the community. This is even more greatly felt by residents who have had to recently upgrade or install alternative systems.

It is our understanding that the county has allowed individuals to opt in to services when they are planning expansions rather than be forced to accommodate these costs or changes and has granted relief in the past. We stress that we do not believe hookups will never take place, but simply that these should be on a case by case basis, and individual residents should have the ability to choose their own approved and certified contractors and timelines with the county retaining responsibility for servicing the new development. Should the time come that a system would need repair, hook up to sewers would certainly be a requirement and if the property is up for sale hook up would be mandatory before selling or be an agreed clause in any sale.

We feel the old saying is true to form in this case. **“IF IT AIN’T BROKE, DON’T FIX IT!!!”**

For further consideration we have seen where similar exceptions have taken place, eg. Belleville Council stated when choosing not to push these charges onto residents that “We’d be asking citizens who are maybe just scraping by to put up this extra money to connect when they don’t have any need to do so and it certainly wasn’t anything they had previously planned.” The passing of this bill and wording can be seen below.

“...by-law 2019-183 being a by-law to impose water and sanitary sewer charges to recover the capital costs to install water and/or sanitary sewer works in the urban service area be amended by amending the “connection charge imposed” section to read that the owner of a pre-existing constructed residence shall have an indeterminate period of time from the date of notice to construct and install at the owner’s expense a private service connection to connect to a water works and sanitary sewer woks and that the wording “shall become mandatory” be removed as it pertains to pre-existing constructed residences and that when notice from the city is provided, the homeowner can decline such services and can complete a waiver to the satisfaction of the city.”

This would allow homeowners who benefit from cheaper hookups through the initiative to opt in while retaining freedom for existing residents to decide which option they prefer and when and with the ultimate goal of connection.

Additionally we have attached rates from other municipalities along with individual costs associated with specific connections done in the last 12 months and replacement cost estimates. This would make one feel that certain fees need not be paid before hookup is necessary.

Sewer Line Replacement

A complete sewer line replacement may be necessary in cases of severe damage or extensive tree root intrusion. The cost of a sewer line replacement can vary significantly, with prices typically starting at \$3000 and potentially exceeding \$10000 for more complex projects.

Operations – Sanitary/Wastewater Rates Fees and Charges (excluding HST)

Description

HST

Unit

2024 Amount

Sanitary Sewer Connections

Services 3 meters deep or less **,**

a) Up to 100 mm Service Installation (April 1 to November 14)

Exempt

Each

\$8000.00

b) Up to 100 mm Service Installation (November 15 to March 31)**

Exempt

Each

\$10000.00

Services greater than 3 meters deep **,**

a) Up to 100 mm Service Installation (April 1 to November 14)

Exempt

Each

\$12000.00

b) Up to 100 mm Service Installation (November 15 to March 31) ***

Exempt

Each

\$14000.00

Service Installation – larger than 100 mm*

Exempt

Each

Actual Cost – Minimum \$8000.00

Inspection Fee per connection to main/stub

Extra

Each

\$100.00

Inspection Fee per disconnection to main

Extra

Each

\$100.00

Frontage fees on property line facing sewer

Exempt

Per m

\$300.00

Grinder Pump Package (in accordance with Policy ES-SOP-01-21)

Extra

Each

Supplier invoiced cost

Consolidated Linear Infrastructure – Environmental Compliance Approvals

Sanitary Sewers – gravity and/or forcemain – adding, modifying, replacing or extending

Exempt

Each

\$3000.00

Sanitary Sewers Appurtenances (ex. Odor control, oil grease separator) (Form SS2) – adding, modifying, replacing or extending

Exempt

Each

\$2000.00

Sanitary Sewer Pump Station (Form SS2) – adding, modifying, replacing or extending

Exempt

Each

\$5000.00

Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Emergency Standby Power (Form A1) – adding, modifying, replacing or extending

Exempt

Each

\$2000.00

CLI ECA application amendment for MECF review (Schedule C)

Exempt

Each

\$6000.00