



Report to: General Committee

Meeting Date: June 01, 2020

SUBJECT: The Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks – Markham Distribution System – Inspection Report, January 29, 2020

PREPARED BY: Helena Frantzke, Ext. 2449
Water Quality Coordinator, Environmental Services

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the report entitled “The Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks – Markham Distribution System – Inspection Report, January 29, 2020” be received; and,
2. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Not Applicable

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the findings of the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)’s Inspection of Markham’s Water Distribution System undertaken on January 29, 2020. This MECP inspection covered regulatory compliance since our last inspection conducted on January 09, 2019.

BACKGROUND:

The objective of the MECP Inspection is to provide a rigorous and comprehensive inspection program for municipal residential drinking water systems to determine if the systems are in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 (SDWA) and associated Regulations. The Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 (SDWA) states that a provincial officer may at any reasonable time conduct an inspection for the purpose of determining compliance with regulatory requirements contained within the Act, or any of the associated Regulations. Traditionally, the MECP has conducted an annual inspection of Markham’s Water Distribution System.

On January 29, 2020 the MECP conducted a remote inspection of Markham’s Water Distribution System, as part of the MECP’s new “Remote Inspection Pilot” project. The MECP Inspector reviewed Waterworks procedures, policies and records since their last inspection which was held on January 09, 2019.

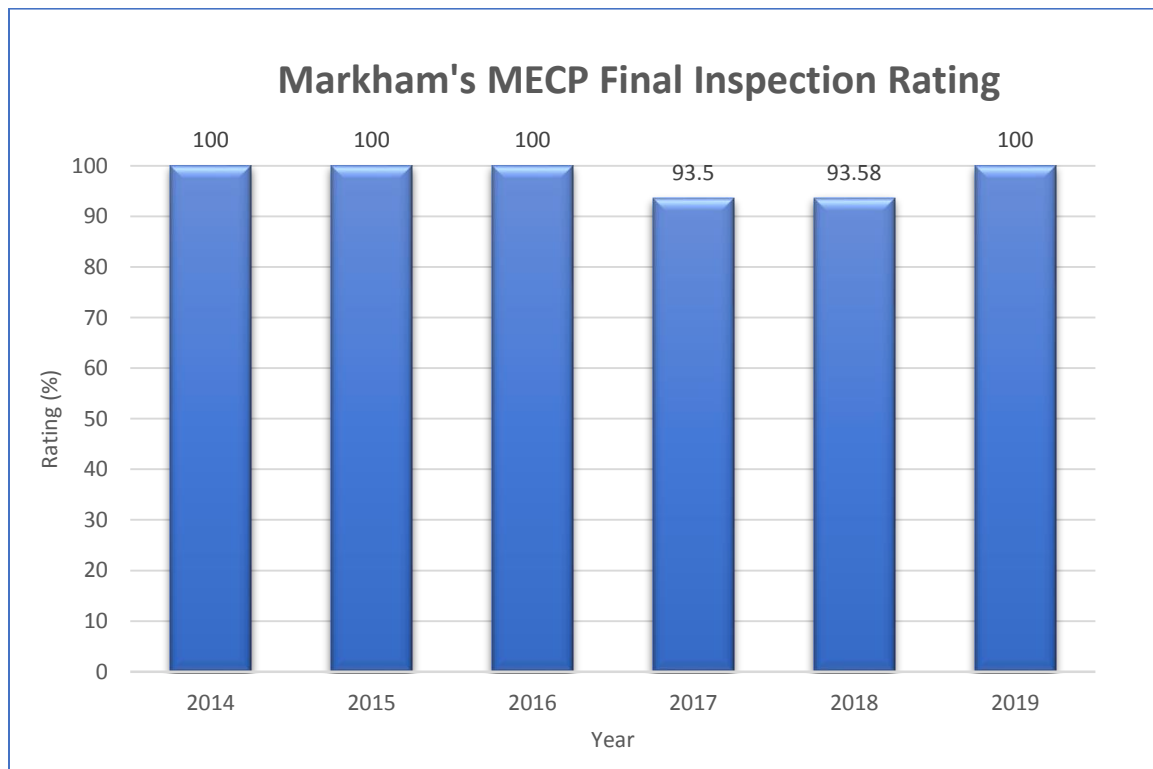
The final MECP inspection report was received on March 13, 2020, (see attachment “A”).

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

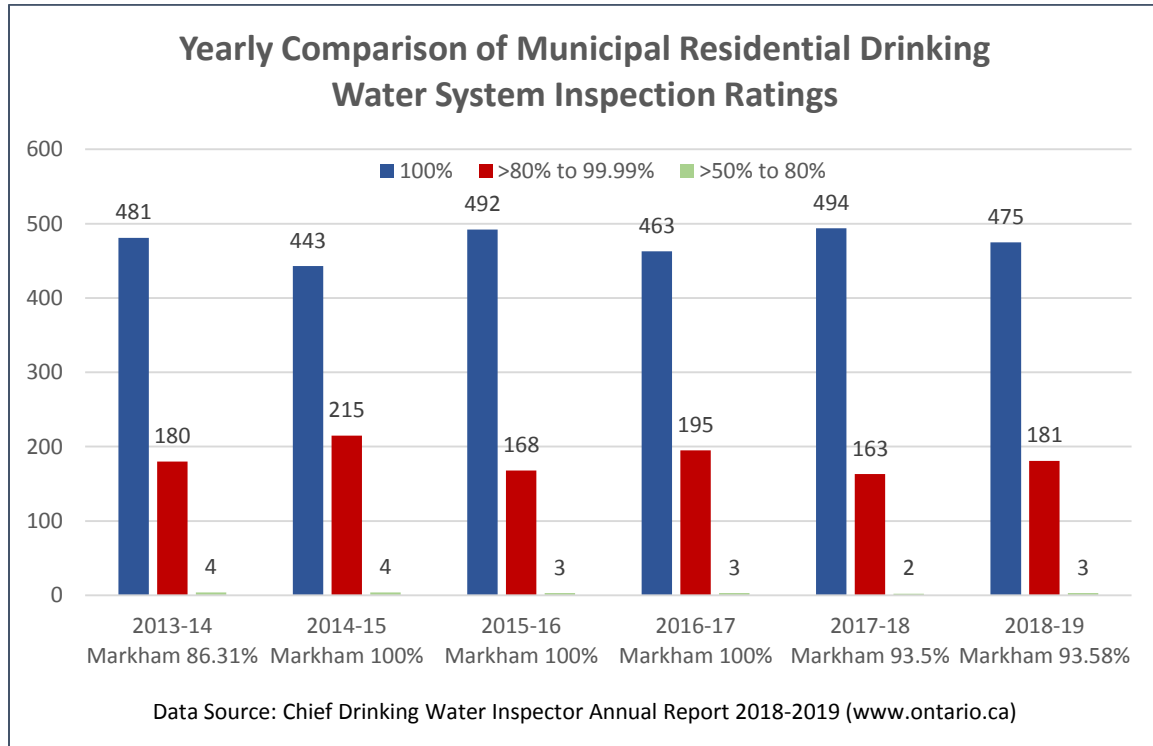
The inspection was conducted remotely as part of the MECP's new "Remote Inspection Pilot" project. As a result of Markham's outstanding record of compliance, Markham's drinking water system qualified to be included in this pilot project and was the first municipality within York Region to participate. The inspection protocol used and the list of data and documents needed to complete the inspection remained consistent with inspections from previous years. All documents were provided by staff to the MECP inspector via the MECP's online Enterprise Attachment Transfer Service (EATS) and no physical site inspection was required.

During the inspection time period, between, January 09, 2019 to January 29, 2020, there were no incidents of regulatory non-compliance identified. As a result, the City of Markham received a Final Inspection Rating of 100.0% for compliance with the MECP's Drinking Water Systems Regulation 170/03 during the period covered. This Inspection Rating is used to measure Municipal Residential Drinking Water System Inspection Results. The MECP's inspection program is an important aspect of the MECP's drinking water safety net and the primary goal is to encourage ongoing improvement of drinking water systems and to work toward the goal of 100% regulatory compliance.

Below is a summary of Markham's MECP Inspection Ratings over the past six years:



Below is a comparison of Markham's MECP Inspection Ratings to other municipalities over the last 6 years. The 2019-2020 Municipal Inspection Ratings will be published in October 2020 by the MECP that will capture our latest rating.



MECP BEST PRACTICE ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no best practice issues or recommendations identified during this inspection period.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Not Applicable

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

Not Applicable

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Not Applicable

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

Not Applicable

The report presented herein, communicates the results of the annual MECP Inspection conducted on January 29, 2020.

The undersigned represent the Top Management of the City of Markham's Drinking Water Distribution system and by signing below the Top management of the Operating Authority have reviewed the MECP Inspection Report.

RECOMMENDED BY:

Phoebe Fu
Director, Environmental Services

Brenda Librecz
Commissioner, Community & Fire Services

Andy Taylor
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment "A" – Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks,
Markham Distribution System – Inspection Report, January 29, 2020.