



Report to: General Committee

Meeting Date: May 23, 2023

SUBJECT: 2022 Wastewater Collection Performance Report
PREPARED BY: Edgar Tovilla, Senior Manager – Waterworks Operations,
Environmental Services, Ext. 2445

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the report entitled “2022 Wastewater Collection Performance Report” (the 2022 Report) be received; and
2. That Council acknowledge and endorse the 2022 Report and its outcomes as a baseline for future reporting; and
3. That Staff be authorized to share this 2022 Report with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ministry), as a best practice and to seek early feedback, in anticipation of reporting requirements under the Consolidated Linear Infrastructure (CLI) Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) for the City’s Collection System; and
4. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the 2022 Report is to identify and create a baseline of reporting parameters associated with the City of Markham’s (City) Wastewater Collection System (Collection System) to assist the City in anticipation of reporting requirements to be included in the Ministry of the Environmental Conservation and Parks’ (Ministry) Consolidated Linear Infrastructure (CLI) Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, the Ministry initiated a process to modernize its existing approval program for all municipal wastewater systems under a new framework consolidating all previous individual ECAs into one single permit called the CLI ECA under section 20.3 of Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act* (EPA). The new CLI ECA will bring into compliance previous existing works that do not have individual ECAs. The new permit approach requires Ontario municipalities to assess its system performance and submit an annual report. This new permit regime mimics the existing permit process for municipal water systems, including pre-authorization of works that meet minimum design criteria.

In 2022, Environmental Services staff submitted an application to obtain the CLI ECA for its Wastewater Collection System. Currently, three of the five sewage pumping stations and sewage force mains do not have individual ECAs. The application submitted in 2022, will bring the entire Collection System into compliance with the EPA.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

The City's Collection System serves the City's residents, businesses and institutional users. The Environmental Services staff performs a number of operations and maintenance activities, asset management programs, as well as infrastructure renewal to ensure the Collection System performs as expected in compliance with provincial regulatory requirements and in conformance with industry's best management practices.

In 2023, in response to the City's application for a CLI ECA for the Collection System, the Ministry prepared a Draft ECA, which is currently under review by Environmental Services and Engineering staff. The City anticipates having the new CLI ECA issued by the Ministry by Q3 2023. New monitoring and reporting requirements include an annual performance report of the City's Collection System. The first performance report required in the CLI ECA shall cover the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025, and it is to be submitted to the Ministry on or before April 30th, 2026. This 2022 Report does not need to be submitted to the Ministry, but it is prepared in anticipation of future requirements, and it will assist Environmental Services staff to build a baseline for future reporting, and ensure compliance with Ministry's expectations.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not Applicable.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The Wastewater Collection Performance Report is aligned with City's goal to provide better quality services to the public and is consistent with the Building Markham's Future Together strategic priority on the "Growth Management" and "Environment" as it considers sustainability on the built environment.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDED BY:

Eddy Wu, P. Eng.

Director, Environmental Services and Acting Commissioner, Community Services

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment A – 2022 Wastewater Collection Performance Report