



Building Markham's Future Together
Journey to Excellence

STATUS UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STORMWATER FEE



GENERAL COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 17, 2014

AGENDA

1. BACKGROUND
2. STORMWATER FEE: RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES
3. STORMWATER FEE: NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES
4. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. BACKGROUND

FEBRUARY 2013:

- Council approved 30-year project period for level of service up to a 100-year storm protection.

SPRING 2013

- City Staff conducted five (5) Community Information meetings of the Flood Control program inviting both residents and business community.

NOVEMBER 2013:

- Council approved a City-wide Stormwater Fee structure that allocates fees in proportion to City-wide runoff potential:
 - 60% residential
 - 40% non-residential.

JUNE 16, 2014:

- Council approved the following:
 - Residential Stormwater Fee of \$47 per property.
 - Non-Residential Stormwater Fee of \$29 / \$100,000 of CVA.
 - Stormwater Fee to be billed by PowerStream on water bill.

2. STORMWATER FEE

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

- Many residents expressed support for the City-wide Stormwater Fee through the community meetings

POWERSTREAM

- Nov. 2013 meeting of Council, Staff recommended that the Stormwater Fee be included with the water bill, which was expected to commence in 2015.
- PowerStream is currently upgrading its billing system, which is now not anticipated to be available until 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

- Council approved the implementation of the residential Stormwater Fee of \$47 per year to begin in 2015.
- Since the PowerStream system is currently not available, Staff recommend billing the Stormwater Fee for residential properties on the 2015 tax bill. The \$47 Stormwater Fee will be included as a separate item on the tax bill.

3. STORMWATER FEE NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

- Following Council approval of the Stormwater Fee, Staff held a Non-Residential Information meeting in May 2014 for the business sector. The meeting was not well attended.
- The business community has since identified the following issues:
 - Lack of awareness / consultation in the overall process; and
 - Impact of the Council approved methodology for fee distribution

POWERSTEAM

- Markham has been advised that the integration and implementation of the Non-Residential Stormwater Fee can only be completed after the PowerStream system upgrade is complete, which is now not anticipated to be available until 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

- Staff recommend deferring the implementation of the non-residential Stormwater Fee until the completion of the communication engagement process with the business community to seek input on methods of apportioning the 40% non-residential share for the City-wide flood control program, amongst the non-residential sector.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Staff recommend proceeding with billing the Residential Stormwater Fee, and that it be included as a separate item on the 2015 tax bill.
2. Staff recommend deferring the implementation of the non-residential Stormwater Fee until the completion of the communication engagement process with the business community to seek input on methods of apportioning the non-residential share (40%) of the City-wide flood control program.
3. City Staff will report back to Council upon completion of further consultation with business community, by the end of the 1st quarter 2015.