



July 31, 2013

Dear West St. Paul residents and stakeholders:

On behalf of the Mayor, Council and CAO, we hope you've been enjoying a safe and relaxing summer.

Following the last wastewater sewer update on May 30, we have been working with our engineering partners, the province's water services board and local residents to move forward with the West St. Paul sewer project in a way that is both fair and cost-effective for all.

This newsletter contains updates on important project developments and resolutions passed by Council since our last update.

We extend our thanks to all West St. Paul residents and businesses for your continued interest in a project that will significantly enhance the quality of life and economic prosperity for everyone in our growing community.

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New Project Developments

The RM remains committed to bringing permanent sewer infrastructure to our community at the lowest possible cost to homeowners and businesses. As reported at the May 1 public hearing, the RM has secured a combined \$8 million in matching funds from the provincial and federal governments, as well as a further \$2 million from the Manitoba Water Services Board. The RM continues work to maximize revenue opportunities via surplus land sales, development fees for new lots, and additional grant funding to minimize the anticipated levy on existing homeowners. Our ultimate goal is to raise sufficient funds to bring the levy for current homeowners as close to zero as possible.

At our June 13 meeting, Council passed a number of important resolutions to allow this work to move forward. Some of the key resolutions passed by Council include:

- Final, unanimous approval from Council to authorize the expenditure and borrowing of funds to construct the main sewer line;
- A resolution that allows Council to raise revenues via levies from new developments, surplus land sales, additional government grants and other means, and to direct those funds to the sewer project;
- Authorization to collect and share engineering data with the Manitoba Water Services Board as necessary to support an engineering study on Phase 2 and 3 options and costs;
- A resolution that would facilitate the creation of a sewer reserve fund to ensure that for the duration of the wastewater sewer project, funds can be directed to the

funding of future phases, including any funds left after tendering of contracts on the main trunk line.

The full minutes of the June 13 meeting can be viewed at:

<https://weststpaul.allnetmeetings.com/pubs/minutes2.asp?ID=466>

Next Steps

With project expenditures approved by Council, contract tendering for the main sewer trunk line can now move forward. As committed, we are continuing to work with our partners at the Manitoba Water Services Board to issue tenders by this coming September, which would allow construction to begin as early as October.

We are continuing to meet through the summer with Stantec, our engineering partner, to finalize development plans for the main line and to proceed with an engineering study on Phase 2 and 3 options. The completed engineering study will allow the RM to negotiate grant funding and finalize cost-sharing agreements for future phases. We will share the results of the studies as they are completed.

We remain committed to keeping you up-to-date at each stage as this project moves forward. Our work will continue over the summer, and we look forward to providing further updates at regular intervals as project work progresses.

Questions?

If you have a question about the sewer project, you may wish to review the Frequently Asked Questions document posted on the [wastewater sewer project page](#) of our website. This document is updated as project work moves forward.

We have also established a dedicated email address for this project at

wastewaterproject@weststpaul.com. If your question has not been addressed in the FAQ document, we ask that you direct project-related questions here in order to ensure all queries can be addressed with a timely, considered response.

Although answers to some location-specific questions can only become known as engineering work continues, it remains our commitment to share all new information with the community as soon as it becomes known to us.

Thank you again for your interest in an important community issue, and best wishes for the rest of your summer.

Our project partners:

