

**5. TOWNSHIP OF CUMBERLAND - WASTEWATER PUMPING STATIONS,
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the use of staff of the Region of Ottawa-Carleton to perform operation and maintenance activities, on a cost-recovery basis, for the five wastewater pumping stations and associated forcemains of the Township of Cumberland.

DOCUMENTATION

1. Director, Water Environment Protection Division, Environment and Transportation Department report dated 14 Mar 2000 is immediately attached.
2. An Extract of Draft Minute, 28 Mar 2000, immediately follows the report and includes a record of the vote.

REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON
RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT
RAPPORT

Our File/N/Réf. **50 02-00-0020-CC/50 05-00-0749-CC**
Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 14 March 2000

TO/DEST. Co-ordinator
 Planning and Environment Committee

FROM/EXP. Director
 Water Environment Protection Division

SUBJECT/OBJET **TOWNSHIP OF CUMBERLAND - WASTEWATER
 PUMPING STATIONS, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION

That the Planning and Environment Committee recommend that Council approve the use of staff of the Region of Ottawa-Carleton to perform operation and maintenance activities, on a cost-recovery basis, for the five wastewater pumping stations and associated forcemains of the Township of Cumberland.

BACKGROUND

In January 2000, the Township of Cumberland approached the Environment and Transportation Department to discuss opportunities with respect to the operation and maintenance of their five wastewater pumping stations and associated forcemains. At that time, the Township of Cumberland was considering contracting for external services for the delivery of the operation and maintenance requirements for these wastewater facilities

DISCUSSION

In light of the municipal reform and the upcoming amalgamation of the overall sewer system, the Township of Cumberland and the Region of Ottawa-Carleton entered into negotiations to facilitate the integration of the operation and maintenance of these wastewater facilities during the year 2000 with the objective of ensuring a smooth transition for 2001. Integrating these activities with the operation and

maintenance of the Region's facilities at this time will ensure an efficient delivery of services and will provide valuable experience to all parties for the future integration of all sewer systems in 2001.

With the assistance of the Legal Department, the parties have successfully negotiated the terms and conditions of an operation and maintenance agreement that recognizes the jurisdiction of both organizations while ensuring cost-effective and efficient delivery of services. The terms and conditions specifically address responsibilities for ordinary and for emergency activities, indemnification arising from claims, action and damages, payment terms, capital improvements, termination provisions and dispute resolution.

Staff within the Water Environment Protection Division have the required technical expertise and legislated operator certification in accordance with the *Ontario Water Resources Act* to assume the operation and maintenance of the subject facilities from the Township of Cumberland. In addition, existing operational procedures, maintenance plans and emergency response plans already exist for the type of activities to be performed. Although assuming this work will require a temporary staffing complement increase, all costs associated with resources and equipment usage attributed to the operation and maintenance of these facilities will be recovered by the Region and offset against Cumberland's purchased services budget. There will be no net cost increase to the Operating Budget through the provision of these services.

CONSULTATION

The operation and maintenance activities for the five wastewater pumping stations and associated forcemains will continue to meet the level of service standards established by the Township of Cumberland. Although public consultation activities have not taken place, approval of this agreement by the Council of the Township of Cumberland is also required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All costs associated with the delivery of these operation and maintenance activities will be recovered from the Township of Cumberland. It is expected that the experience gained in integrating these services at this time will be used effectively as part of the transition to a single sewer system.

Approved by
Nancy B. Schepers, P. Eng.

FJ/ls

**TOWNSHIP OF CUMBERLAND - WASTEWATER
PUMPING STATIONS, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
- Director, Water Environment Protection Division, Environment**

Councillor Legendre noted discussions had taken place between Regional staff and the City of Cumberland, to ask the Region to perform some work at the City's cost. He also noted that Cumberland had considered contracting out for external services. The Councillor asked if, when the opportunity arises, there is a possibility of having the work performed by the private sector, rather than by Regional staff.

Nancy Schepers, Director, Water Environment Protection Division, Environment and Transportation Department, explained the City of Cumberland had examined the possibility of contracting out for services, but had been unable to find a private sector provider to perform the services required. She said the City had approached the Region to ask if the Region could work with them and undertake to perform the maintenance. Ms. Schepers further explained that the City had been unable to find a private sector service delivery partner because the City had been performing the work itself, and had not had the time to put together a detailed description of the work to be performed. She said the City had been doing the work without documented procedures that would be required for contracting. In addition, she noted the City realized it needed certified operators to run the operation, and had been unable to find them in the private sector.

Councillor Legendre suggested some of this kind of activity was currently occurring in the private sector elsewhere within Ottawa-Carleton.

Ms. Schepers believed the City of Nepean was contracting for very specific services at pumping stations, and noted the Region did as well, for specific preventative maintenance activities, but that these were clearly defined, tendered, and contracted for. She offered that given the City's time restraints, and the fact that it wanted to get into an agreement quickly, the City began discussions with the Region in January. Ms. Schepers noted it would have taken at least six to nine months for the City to put together a contract, requests for interests, and to look at proposals, by which time municipal restructuring would be well underway. She stated that to get into a multi-year contract at such a time would be difficult.

Councillor Legendre said he wanted assurance, on record, that the Region would not be entering into a long-term agreement with the City of Cumberland which would prevent the new amalgamated City, shortly after its formation, and if it so desired, to privatize this kind of function.

Extract of Draft Minute
Planning and Environment Committee
28 March 2000

Ms. Schepers confirmed the agreement was for the short term, and intended only to cover until the end of the current year.

That the Planning and Environment Committee recommend that Council approve the use of staff of the Region of Ottawa-Carleton to perform operation and maintenance activities, on a cost-recovery basis, for the five wastewater pumping stations and associated forcemains of the Township of Cumberland.

CARRIED