

DATE: December 3, 2021**FILE:** 5330-20/RUBSEP**TO:** Chair and Directors
Electoral Areas Services Committee**FROM:** Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative OfficerSupported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer*R. Dyson***RE:** Update on the Grant Application Strategy for Extension of Sewer Services South**Purpose**

To provide an update on the grant application strategy currently under development for the Sewer Extension South Project.

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:

None. This report is presented for information purposes.

Executive Summary

At the November 8, 2021 meeting, the Electoral Areas Services Committee (EASC) received an update on the Sewer Extension South Project, including information on a new funding opportunity under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). At the meeting, EASC passed the following motions:

1. THAT staff proceed with the development of a funding application strategy for the Sewer Extension South Project for consideration by the Electoral Areas Services Committee at its December 6, 2021 meeting.
2. THAT staff proceed with a virtual open house on November 30 and an in-person open house on December 2 at Union Bay Hall on the topic of sewer planning for the Royston and Union Bay communities.

Staff have been working to progress project planning and development in order to present a grant proposal for the committee's consideration. A successful funding proposal will need to address feedback from Ministry of Municipal Affairs staff on project scope and risks, maximize benefits to local residents and ensure per property costs remain reasonable. A status update on project development work is provided below.

- A virtual open house (83 attendees) and in-person open house (75 attendees) have taken place with positive response from the community. The results of these public events, including questions and answers, can be found on the project page ([link](#)). This is a project of great importance to local residents and many detailed questions were asked that will need to be addressed in future engagement.
- Project engineering and cost estimates are being updated by engineering consultants. Once complete, this work will be used to inform the phase one project scope for the ICIP funding application.
- Multiple meetings with staff from relevant provincial agencies have taken place to build support for the project, including meetings with Island Health, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, and Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries.

- The development of a public engagement plan and elector assent strategy is underway.
- Discussions with Union Bay Estates and K'ómoks First Nation staff are ongoing.

It is expected that initial project development work will be ready to present to the EASC at its January 2022 meeting in advance of a funding application deadline of January 26, 2022. At that time, staff expect to bring forward a report for the committee's consideration with more detailed information on project scope, costs, impacted communities, assent process options and timing, and a public engagement strategy.

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Government Partners and Stakeholder Distribution (Upon Agenda Publication)

K'ómoks First Nation	✓
Comox Valley Sewage Commission	✓