



## Report to Council

Department: Infrastructure Services  
Division: Environmental Services  
Date: March 3, 2025  
Prepared by: Rob Mackie, C.E.T., Manager, Environmental Services  
Report Number: Environmental Services-2025-02  
Subject: Health and Safety Water Stream Application  
Number of Pages: 7

### **Recommendation(s)**

**That** Environmental Services 2025- 02, “Health and Safety Water Stream Application” prepared by Rob Mackie, Manager, Environmental Services dated March 3, 2025, be received

**That** Council direct Administration to make an application to the Health and Safety Water Stream fund for the design and construction of upgrades to the Harrow Raw Sewage Pumping Station.

**That** Council approve (upon successful grant award) the post budget approval of \$115,000 for the Capital Project “SS-25-0012 Harrow Lagoon Pumpstation Upgrades” to be funded fully from the Development Charges Reserve.

## **Purpose**

To request Council to approve an application to the Health and Safety Water Stream Fund for upgrades to the Harrow Raw Sewage Pumping Station.

## **Background and Discussion**

The Health and Safety Water Stream is a \$175 million funding opportunity through the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program and is available to municipalities and First Nations to build, expand or rehabilitate aging water, wastewater, stormwater, flood and erosion infrastructure. Projects under this fund will help preserve the current housing supply and protect communities during extreme weather events.

To be eligible for funding, projects must:

- Protect or maintain housing units that are otherwise compromised by health and safety risks
- Demonstrate that they will create climate resiliency and adaptation
- Be new construction, rehabilitation or expansion
- Have not started construction
- Have a clear start and end date

- Start no later than **June 30, 2026**, and must be completed by **March 31, 2029**
- Include capital components and may also include pre-construction planning and design work
- Be in the process of, or completed, the design and planning phase
- Meet all relevant provincial regulatory requirements and policy direction, as applicable

Projects will be cost shared between the applicants and the province. The province would fund a maximum of 73% (up to \$30 Million) of eligible project costs, and the applicant would be required to fund all the remaining (a minimum of 27%) project costs.

Considering the criteria of the grant, the most applicable initiative that would be applicable at this time is the upgrade of the Harrow Raw Sewage Pumping Station.

In December of 2024 as part of the 2025 budget deliberations, Council approved \$290,000 for Pump Upgrades at the Harrow Raw Sewage Pumping station. This project was initiated to address additional sewage capacity needs for the redevelopment of the Harrow Highschool property as well as provide additional wet weather capacity in the Harrow Sanitary Collection System.



***Figure: Harrow Sanitary Pumpstation Pumps***

Initially, in consultation with our contractor, the project was intended to be the replacement of both pumps to increase the pumping capacity of the station. Further investigations have revealed that in order to address both growth and wet weather flows, the pumps would need to be sized beyond the electrical limits of the pumpstation and generator capabilities. This would require the electrical service and the electrical control components to be upgraded as well as the standby generator.

Alternatively, exploring other options, the impellers on the existing pumps could be upgraded to provide an additional 20-25 L/s, with no additional electrical needs. However, this option would only provide sewage capacity or wet weather capacity, but not both. This alternative can be achieved through the existing approved 2025 budget.

In consultation with our engineer of record on the sanitary system and the engineering who completed the modelling analysis of the Harrow Sanitary Collection System, Stantec Consulting, the estimated cost of the necessary upgrades to the Harrow Raw Sewage Pumping Station is approximately \$1,500,000 including engineering design and contingency.

Considering the cost of the project proposed, this is an opportunity to construct the pump station upgrades for a fraction of the cost. Therefore, it is the recommendation of Administration to proceed with an application to the Health and Safety Water System Fund for the improvements to the Harrow Raw Sewage Pumping Station.

### **Financial Impact**

As previously mentioned, the total estimated cost to complete the project is estimated to be \$1,500,000 including engineering design, contingency, and applicable taxes. Assuming that the Town will receive the full 73% of applicable funding, the Town would need to fund \$405,000 of the project.

Capital project number SS-25-0012 includes \$290,000 of Council approved funds where \$145,000 was allocated from Wastewater (Ward 4) Development Charges (DC) reserves and the other \$145,000 from Wastewater Lifecycle Reserve (Ward 4). However, since this project is a DC eligible project and grown substantially in scope, Administration is recommending that the Town's full allocation toward the

project be funded from the Wastewater (Ward 4) DC Reserve in the amount of \$405,000, resulting in a post budget approval request in the amount of \$115,000

Should Council deny the application toward the Health and Safety Water Systems fund, Administration does intend to complete the impeller retrofit, described herein, as budgeted in the 2025 Capital Budget to facilitate the redevelopment of Harrow Highschool lands at a cost of approximately \$100,000 from Capital Project SS-25-0012. Any savings from the project would remain in the original reserves to fund future initiatives.

### **Consultations**

Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services

Ann Marie Unis, Manager, Finance, Finance & Business Service

Kate Giurissevich, Chief Administrative Officer

RaeAnn Schroeder, Analyst, Economic Development and Business Relations

## **Link to Strategic Priorities**

- ☒ Embrace asset management best practices to build, maintain, and continuously improve our municipally owned infrastructure.
- ☐ Leverage our Town's competitive advantages to promote jobs and economic investment.
- ☐ Take care of our natural environment and strengthen the sense of belonging to everyone who makes Essex "home".
- ☐ Deliver friendly customer service in an efficient, effective, and transparent manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.
- ☐ Build corporate-level and community-level climate resilience through community engagement and partnership and corporate objectives.

## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Health and Safety Water Stream Application - Environmental Services-2025-02.docx
Attachments:	- 2025-05-14-017.pdf
Final Approval Date:	May 28, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Girard', with a large loop at the end.

**Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services - May 27, 2025 - 9:14 AM**

**Ann Marie Unis, Manager, Finance & Business Services - May 27, 2025 - 4:56 PM**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Giurissevich', written in a cursive style.

**Kate Giurissevich, Chief Administrative Officer - May 28, 2025 - 9:57 AM**