



# **Corporate** NO: R234

# **Report** COUNCIL DATE: *October 30, 2000*

## **REGULAR COUNCIL**

**TO: Mayor & Council**    **DATE: October 4, 2000**

**FROM: General Manager, Engineering**    **FILE: 1299-907**  
**XC: R2092**

**SUBJECT: Local Improvement Water Extension on 184 Street, North of 32 Avenue**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

For information.

## **INTENT**

To respond to Council Resolution 2092 - *"That staff look at ways to deal with water extension north of 32 Avenue, along 184 Street"*.

## **BACKGROUND**

In 1999, the Engineering Department received a preliminary petition requesting a local improvement water main extension to serve residents between 32 Avenue and approximately 34 Avenue. However, because the closest point of City water supply on 184 Street is at 24 Avenue, the extension would have to run from 24 Avenue to 34 Avenue to supply those residents needing City water.

The cost of this overall extension was estimated, and all the fronting properties were then polled to determine support for such a local improvement extension. However, because the residents between 24 Avenue and 32 Avenue have adequate well water supply, the water main extension did not receive the necessary level of support to proceed.

An alternative extension is possible from an equally-distant source at 176 Street and 32 Avenue (please see attached sketch). This alternative alignment will potentially have the same problems as the 184 Street and also has the problem of fronting large parcels of farm land, which, because there are fewer parcels to share in the costs, leads to higher per property local improvement charges.

One option pursued by the City was the possibility of GVRD providing a source point on their South Surrey supply main at 28 Avenue and 184 Street. This would mean a shorter extension and avoiding a section of the extension, on 184 Street, where the residents did not support it. However, such source points are not in conformity of the normal way the City and regional water system integrate. In the standard process, the GVRD supplies water to the main reservoirs from where City pump stations and mains provide adequate pressure and distribute water out to the utility customers. This allows the GVRD to periodically close down their supply mains and pumping systems for maintenance and construction purposes, as well as re-direct flows between reservoirs and have periods of virtually no pressure.

Because of these periodic shut downs and fluctuations in flow direction and pressure, the GVRD is not able to guarantee adequate reliability at the source point requested and therefore have denied our requested connection to their system. Having this looked at, and investigated other options, there does not appear to be any better alternative to the extension that was proposed previously.

Another approach that we are currently working on is to change the formula by which local improvement charges are calculated. Currently, all parcels pay an equal amount for a local improvement water service, regardless of the size of the property. We are now reviewing adjusting the formula to vary the charge in some proportion of lot area; currently we are considering using the square root of the area. The square root approach is being considered as it, to some extent, takes into account different lot configurations with regard to frontage and flankage. A new formula will be brought forward for Council's consideration and potential amendments of the Water Extension By-law.

In addition to the above, we will submit our application to the Province for funding under the Sewer and Water Grants Program.

With this approach, and potentially some funding from the Province, and expanding the service area to include the properties on 29A Avenue, a new petition could be circulated to determine neighbourhood support.

Jorgen Johansen, P. Eng.  
General Manager, Engineering

PH:sew

#### Attachment

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