



GRAND VALLEY

MEMO TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor Soloman and Members of Council

From: Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk

Meeting Date: 2025-07-22

Subject: Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program Health and Safety Water Stream Application for funding

Purpose

To give Council an update on an application to the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program Health and Safety Water Stream grant.

Background

The Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program – Health and Safety Water Stream (MHIP-HSWS) is an application-based program from the Province of Ontario. Projects funded through the program will aim to protect communities by investing in the development, rehabilitation and expansion of core water, wastewater, stormwater, and water management, flood, and erosion infrastructure projects to address critical health and safety issues while maintaining the current housing stock. The Province will fund a maximum of 73% (up to \$30 million) with the recipient required to fund all remaining eligible project costs (minimum of 27%).

Eligible projects must meet the following project outcomes:

- Support aging water infrastructure to improve critical health and safety issues in Ontario;
- Preserve the province's current housing stock to increase options for Ontario residents looking for a home; and
- Promote resiliency and adaptation across communities in Ontario.

This funding intake is a competitive process. Funding approval is not guaranteed.

Projects should be informed by an applicant's asset management plan. This means the proposed project was identified based on the plan's prioritized lifecycle activities (e.g., construction, maintenance, renewal, rehabilitation, replacement, etc.) for the applicable asset category. For example, if an applicant has identified drinking water needs as a priority lifecycle activity within its asset management plan, then the submission of a drinking water project would

be appropriate. Asset management plans should be developed in accordance with the *Asset Management for Municipal Infrastructure* regulation (O.Reg. 588/17).

Discussion

Upon review of the grant's opportunity to improve our existing infrastructure, the CAO consulted with our drinking water system operator and our water engineers to consider options. Within the Town's Asset Management Plan and based on drinking water system reports, the rehabilitation of Well 3 has been identified as a priority task.

Well 3 is located at the Melody Lane Pump house. The capacity of Well 3 continues to significantly decline to a point where the well pump breaks suction. The well casing is showing significant signs of degradation as well. The pump house's piping is extremely corroded and leaks continue to be patched up and repaired.

In consideration of the criteria for this grant, other potential projects (e.g., Southeast Sewage Pumping Station, stormwater management pond rehabilitation) did not seem to fit as well as the Well 3 rehabilitation. Therefore, an application was submitted on the June 26 deadline for Well 3. Cost for the project estimated for the grant is \$1,827,500. If approved, the construction project would take place between 2026 and 2028, and preparation costs incurred can be included retroactive to April 2024.

Financial Impact

If we are successful, water system reserves and in-year revenues can be used to cover the Town's portion of project costs not covered under the grant.

This Council Memo was submitted by,
Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk

This Council Memo was approved by,
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