



The Corporation of the Township of King Report to Council

From: Public Works - Environmental Services Division
Report Number: PW-ENV-2024-003
Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024
Title: **Nobleton Septic Disconnection Program**

Recommendation

1. That Council Report PW-ENV-2024-003 be received; and
2. That Council approve the addition of Sewer Use Bylaw penalties to be administered through the Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS); and
3. That By-law 2022-040, as amended, being a By-law to implement the AMPS system, be further amended to update Schedule 'B' with penalty fines related to violations of the Sewer Use Bylaw; and
4. That By-law 2014 - 72, as amended, being a By-law to regulate the discharges and connections to the Municipal Sewage System, be amended to include administrative penalties under the AMPS system and be amended to include updates to Sewer Connection provisions.

1. Report Highlights

- The Nobleton Septic Disconnection Program is nearing completion. There was a connection By-law approved by council for each phase of the program. All of those connection By-laws will be consolidated upon approval of this report under the Sewer Use By-law.
- The Region of York's Nobleton Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) requires a new Environmental Compliance Approval from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks (MECP) for the operation of the expanded plant, which is dependant on the completion of the septic disconnection program.
- Some properties remain unconnected to the new sewers and an enforcement mechanism is required to address lots that contravene related sewer connection Bylaws.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to consolidate, under the Sewer Use By-law, the various sewer connection By-laws approved by council and to add administrative penalties under the AMPs system. This will improve the Township's ability to ensure septic disconnections are achieved and demonstrate ongoing due diligence concerning septic disconnections. It is a condition of the MECP that all septic disconnections must be complete as part of approval conditions surrounding the Nobleton Water Resource Recovery Facility.

3. Background

The Nobleton WRRF is in the process of being expanded to support growth in Nobleton. It is currently in the detailed design phase at York Region but has gone through many earlier phases including an Environmental Assessment. During that process, the MECP established a condition for approval of the WRRF which included a phosphorus trading strategy. This required King to mandate a Septic Disconnection Program (the "Program").

The Program was undertaken through a phased approach. All but one phase of the new sanitary sewers has been installed and property owners were required to connect. The Township enacted a successive series of [Bylaws](#) for the Programs septic conversion contracts mandating connection to the Municipal sanitary sewer system. The initial Bylaw was adopted in 2010 and the most recent in 2022.

The Program has been largely adopted and completed with an approximate seven percent (7%) of lots remaining with a known outstanding connection status. All lots identified as having an outstanding connection status have exceeded the twelve (12) month period to comply, per the enacted Bylaws.

A monetary disincentive has been imposed to encourage further connections; per the enacted Bylaws, all addresses are required to connect. Those that remain unconnected are billed for wastewater services in the same manner as those who have confirmed connection status, and all lots have reconciled the mandatory Capital Charge.

The Nobleton WRRF Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) expansion application is dependant on the conversion projects, successful implementation and, the Township's ability to demonstrate ongoing due diligence and commitment to the Program.

In these efforts, additional enforcement tools are proposed under the AMPS umbrella to further encourage septic connections, lessen environmental impacts of wastewater treatment in Nobleton, and promote the application of the Nobleton WRRF expansion.

The intent is to incorporate the Sewer Use Bylaw into Schedule B of Bylaw [2022-040](#).

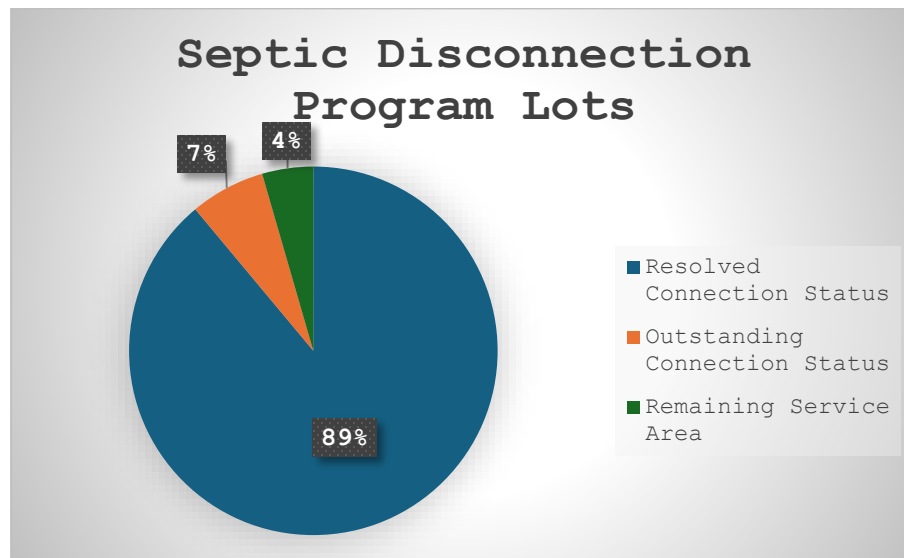
4. Analysis

All lots in the Program are required to connect. AMPS inclusion and enforcement are logical next steps to promote Program compliance.

Benefits to the Township of King and its citizenry, with respect to using AMPS to enforce By-laws, are expected to include, but not limited to:

- **Improved customer service** matters can be resolved on-line, at the Township of King, more efficiently and timely for all involved, and greatly minimize the requirement for courts, justices of the peace and the officer that issued the charge etc.
- **Process efficiencies:** *Provincial Offences Act (POA)* trials are often delayed due to court backlogs. Through AMPS, these wait times may be significantly reduced.
- **Streamlined enforcement:** Using AMPS to enforce non-parking related By-laws will permit the municipality to move matters forward without having to wait for scheduled court times from the Provincial Courts. It is estimated that all matters will be resolved within a 90-day period.
- **Optimized use of time:** Using AMPS to enforce By-laws will unequivocally save staff time that would otherwise be required to process matters through the courts, allowing officers to focus efforts on other service priorities.

The expansion application submittal and rationale are predicated on the success of the Program. To ensure outstanding connections continue to trend downward additional incentives are required to promote compliance and demonstrate due diligence to the MECP.



5. Financial Considerations

The capital charge for the various Nobleton Sewer connections have been collected and all properties regardless of connection are charged the sewer charge on the water billing each billing cycle. For the properties not connected, the implementation of the Administrative

Monetary Penalty System (AMPS) for enforcement will generate additional charges / revenues as well as additional building permit fees.

6. Alignment to Strategic Plan

The 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan (CSP) was adopted by Council on June 12, 2023. The CSP reflects the priorities of upmost importance to the community and defines the obligations and commitments of the Township of King to its citizens and to the public. The CSP is aligned with the Townships long-term vision defined in the “Our King” Official Plan. The CSP also aims to ensure that staff initiatives focus on and work towards supporting King’s Vision, Mission and Values.

This report is in alignment with the CSP’s Priority Area(s), and/or associated Objective(s) and/or Key Results(s):

Priority Area: Sustainable Asset Management

Objective: Improve our linear (transportation and environmental) and non-linear (facilities and parks) assets for continued community use and enjoyment.

7. Conclusion

The Township has a regulatory obligation to ensure the success of the Program under the original Nobleton WRRF ECA approval conditions.

The Program has been a great success. The vast majority of lots in the Program have connected into the sanitary system lessening environmental impacts and complying with applicable By-laws and ECA conditions of approval. For the outstanding property connections additional tools are needed to promote compliance and ensure Program equity.

Staff recommends that Council supports the recommendation in this report to amend AMPS By-law 2022-040 Schedule ‘B’ to support compliance efforts for those lots identified with an outstanding connection status.

These measures will support the Nobleton WRRF ECA expansion application currently under review.

8. Attachments

[Sewer Use Bylaw 2014 - 072](#)

[Authorization to Connect to Nobleton Sanitary & Imposition of Charge - Bylaw - 2022 - 012](#)

[Authorization to Construct - Nobleton Sanitary Sewer System - Bylaw 2010 - 38](#)

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