




INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	November 28, 2022
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Provincial Funding to Improve Wastewater and Stormwater in Ontario (PW22010(a)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Cassandra Kristalyn (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3791
SUBMITTED BY:	Nick Winters Director, Hamilton Water Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

On February 14, 2022, the Public Works Committee approved the recommendations in Provincial Funding to Improve Wastewater and Stormwater in Ontario (PW22010) (City Wide) which included item (d):

“That should the City of Hamilton’s submission under the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks’ funding programs be approved, that staff be directed to report back to the Public Works Committee with a list of the approved projects and a financing strategy for any project costs that are not eligible under the programs.”

INFORMATION

On January 27, 2022, the Province of Ontario (Province) announced two new project-based funding programs to assist municipalities to build, upgrade and rehabilitate wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. The City was advised that its total combined funding allocation is \$1,819,614 under the:

1. Improving Monitoring and Public reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program (\$885,936), and

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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2. Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program (\$933,678).

On February 14, 2022, the Public Works Committee enacted two by-laws authorizing the City to enter into funding agreements with the Province.

On March 31, 2022, the City of Hamilton (City) entered into funding agreements with the Province.

The purpose of this report is to provide a list of projects approved by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) under each funding program and the financing strategy related to the projects.

1. Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Program

a) Funding Available from the Province

The City is eligible for up to \$885,936.00 from the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Program. All eligible expenses must be submitted via quarterly reporting, with the last report due on March 31, 2024. Expenses incurred after this date will not be eligible for funding.

b) Objective of the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Program

The objective of the the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Program is to help municipalities implement and/or make improvements to the municipal monitoring/modelling and public reporting of sewage overflows and bypasses.

c) Project Details

The approved project for this funding program is the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Facilities Rehabilitation Project. General improvements include the following:

- Replacement and addition of new monitors (flow, level, direction, etc.) at critical overflow locations.
- Addition of flow measurement/detection (velocity-area flow meter and/or level sensors) at 16 new locations.
- Addition of new cameras at critical overflow locations.
- Repairs and modifications required to improve monitoring, performance, reliability including safety enhancements.

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- Repairs and modifications required to return each outstation to regular functionality and provide enhanced control and visibility at potential environmental discharge locations.
- Review and assess all signage (or provide new if required) at locations with potential of discharges (overflows or bypasses) of sanitary or combined sewage into the environment. Possible addition of QR codes to signs that direct users to the relevant pages on the City’s website.
- Evaluate and provide recommended improvements to the current monitoring, data collection, reporting and information that is available to the public regarding sanitary overflows/bypasses.

d) Funding Strategy

The totally funding required for the CSO Facilities Rehabilitation Project is approximately \$4,550,000. The project is to be funded as follows:

Table A - Funding Strategy for CSO Facilities Rehabilitation Project

Funding Stream	Funds Available
Provincial Funding - MECP Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Program	\$885,936*
2023 Rate Budget Request - CSO Facilities Rehabilitation Project ID# 5162166713 (Design and Contract Administration)	\$550,000
2023 Rate Budget Request - CSO Facilities Rehabilitation Project ID# 5162367421 (Construction)	\$3,114,064**
Total Funding Required	\$4,550,000

*Funds from the Provincial funding stream will be reimbursed to the corresponding account supporting the approved project.

** Project expenses that are deemed ineligible and/or that exceed the City’s total eligible allocation of \$885,936 under the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Program. These expenses are funded through the City’s 2023 Rate Budget.

For more information on the specifics of the CSO Facilities Rehabilitation Project, please refer to Appendix “A” to report PW22010(a) which provides the second quarterly report for the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Program.

2. Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program

a) Funding Available from the Province

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The City is eligible for up to \$933,678 from the Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program. All eligible expenses must be submitted via quarterly reporting, with the last report due on March 31, 2024. Expenses incurred after this date will not be eligible for funding.

b) Objective of the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Program

The objective of the Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program is to make improvements to municipal wastewater and stormwater systems through projects that would lower phosphorus discharges from municipal wastewater and stormwater, reduce the likelihood of sewage overflows and bypasses, and improve the quality of stormwater discharges.

c) Project Details

The approved projects for this funding program are the Targeted Private Disconnection Program and the Regulator Renewal Program.

i) The Targeted Private Disconnection Program details are as follows:

- In areas of the City that have confirmed inflow and infiltration into the sewer system, private sources of inflow into the combined sewer system that contribute to overflow and bypasses during wet weather events will be targeted for disconnection. This can include, but will not be limited to, downspout disconnections and sump pump disconnections.
- The initial focus of this program will begin with the following neighbourhoods before being extended to the rest of the City: Old Dundas, West Mountain, West 18th, Lawsfield & Berrisfield and Beach Boulevard.

ii) The Regulator Renewal Program details are as follows:

- Up to nine (9) critical combined sewer overflow regulators will be replaced or upgraded. A critical sewer overflow regulator is defined as having the ability to result in a direct overflow/spill to the environment during high flows or if the regulator fails.
- Each of the nine (9) regulators are located within manholes and will require individual assessments and designs unique to each location.
- The objective is to renew the existing regulators to achieve a more reliable system with lower maintenance demands.

d) Funding Strategy

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- i) The totally funding required for the Targeted Private Disconnection Program is approximately \$500,000. The project is to be funded as follows:

Table B - Funding Strategy for the Targeted Private Disconnection Program

Funding Stream	Funds Available
Provincial Funding - MECP Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program - Split between the two projects (\$466,839 each allocated)	\$466,839*
2023 Rate Budget Request - Targeted Private Disconnection Program Project ID# 5162361351	\$33,161**
Total Funding Required	\$500,000

*Funds from the Provincial funding stream will be reimbursed to the corresponding account supporting the approved project.

** Project expenses that are deemed ineligible and/or that exceed the City's total eligible allocation of \$466,839 under Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program. These expenses are funded through the City's 2023 Rate Budget.

For more information on the specifics of the Targeted Private Disconnection Program, please refer to Appendix "B" to report PW22010(a) which provides the second quarterly report for the Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program.

- ii) The totally funding required for the Regulator Renewal Program is approximately \$466,839. The project is to be funded as follows:

Table C - Funding Strategy for the Regulator Renewal Program

Funding Stream	Funds Available
Provincial Funding - MECP Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program - Split between the two projects (\$466,839 each allocated)	\$466,839*
2023 Rate Budget Request - Sewer Regulator Rehabilitation/Replacement Project ID# 5162361350	\$0**
Total Funding Required	\$466,839

*Funds from the Provincial funding stream will be reimbursed to the corresponding account supporting the approved project.

** Project expenses that are deemed ineligible and/or that exceed the City's total eligible allocation of \$466,839 under Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program. These expenses are funded through the City's 2023 Rate Budget.

For more information on the specifics of the Regulator Renewal Program, please refer to Appendix "B" to report PW22010(a) which provides the second quarterly report for the Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to report PW22010(a) – Second quarterly report to the Province for the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Program.

Appendix "B" to report PW22010(a) – Second quarterly report to the Province for the Improving Lake Ontario Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges Program.