



RM of Gimli: North Regional Sewer System

- PRELIMINARY INFORMATION ONLY -

1. Proposal

- Gimli is seeking ratepayer interest to develop a north Regional Sewer System.
- The sewer system will convey all of the wastewater from areas north of Camp Morton to the Municipal wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) located in the Industrial Park.
- Potential northern areas include: Camp Morton, Lake Forest, Loch Woods, Ness Country, Glen Bay, Brewster Bay, Spruce Sands, Spruce Bay, Bay Shore Heights, Arnes and Silver Harbour.
- The area Trailer Parks will also have an opportunity to connect to the north sewers.
- The North Sewer System will consist of 3 main components:
 - Low Pressure sewers in each of the areas, connecting to a Lift Station. A Service connection with curb stop will be installed at each property;
 - A new Lift Station to be built in the vicinity of Brewster Bay; and
 - A Forcemain from the new lift station to Gimli's WWTP.
- Each of the homeowners will be responsible for connecting to the curb stops, at their own cost. Gimli will assist in selecting contractors for on-property connections.

2. Background

- Increases in nutrients entering Lake Winnipeg are causing long term degradation of the Lake. Nutrients, especially phosphorous cause the growth of algae, which impacts negatively with the flora and the fauna in the lake ecosystem.
- If the nutrient levels keep rising, ultimately "Eutrophication" could result. This eventually results in the "death" of the lake, as has occurred in other parts of the world.

- Lake Winnipeg is one of our best natural resource and all Manitobans, especially Gimli residents, need to ensure that the Lake will provide benefits to us and our future generations.
- One of the causes of increased nutrients is from untreated wastewater leaching into the Lake.
- A report prepared by the Lake Winnipeg Stewardship Board recommends that all communities, in the Red River corridor and along the shores of Lake Winnipeg, should install piped sewer and treatment systems, to reduce the amount of nutrients entering the Lake.

3. Gimli's Plans for protecting the Lake

- The RM of Gimli Council, as well as other municipal councils in the Lake Winnipeg watershed supports the action plans and recommendations of the Lake Winnipeg Stewardship Board. As a first step, about 5 years ago, Gimli began planning for developing a South Regional Sewer System.
- Gimli was fortunate to get partial funding for the South system from a federal/provincial infrastructure program.
- Phase 1 South Regional Sewer system is currently being developed in 2014-15. Future phases will be undertaken over the next 5 years to provide a sustainable management of wastewater in the south part of Gimli.
- Gimli council has done some conceptual planning to consider the feasibility of developing a North Regional Sewer System.

4. Types of Sewer Collection System

- Council considered both low pressure sewers (LPS) and gravity sewers for collection system.
- A gravity system requires the pipes to be installed in the ground with a slope or grade to prevent the solids from settling in the sewers. Gravity sewers are also buried deeper and require manholes and more than one lift station.
- In a LPS system, the pipes convey the liquids only and as such the mains are smaller in size. These lines do not require to be laid at a grade and hence are much shallower buried than gravity mains.
- For these reasons, generally, a gravity sewer system is about 2 to 2 ½ times more costly than a LPS system.
- Therefore a Low Pressure Sewer system has been selected as the best cost effective option for your area.

5. Cost Estimates and per lot costs

- There are about 1,300 lots in the 11 communities in the north, excluding the trailer parks.
- Based on the tender prices we received in 2014 and extrapolating the costs for 2015-16 construction, we anticipate the per property costs to be about \$12,500. These costs will reduce if Gimli is successful in receiving federal/ provincial grants towards this project.
- As we have done in the South, we will split the north regional sewer system costs as follows:
 - The common elements, such as the Lift Station and the Forcemain will be paid:
 - ◆ 50% by northern properties, based on land and building assessments; and
 - ◆ 50% by the entire Municipality on land assessment.
 - The LPS within each development will be paid for by the 1,300+ property owners only. Gimli will establish Local Improvement Districts (LIDs) for each of these areas.
- The “per lot” costs do not include “on-property” connection cost, which is estimated to be \$3,000 to \$6,000.
- Annual costs for operating and maintaining the sewer system and treatment costs will be borne through a sewer charge, collected quarterly. Gimli’s current sewer service charges are approved by the provincial Public Utilities Board (PUB) and can be found on the website.

6. Phasing & Schedules

- Gimli will begin development plans for the North Regional System, if there is interest to do so, as expressed by the ratepayers.
- This public forum is the first opportunity for the ratepayers to review options and to provide comments back to Council.
- If sufficient interest is shown, the project construction of the Forcemain and Lift Station may begin as early as 2015.
- The sewer systems in each area will require the creation of LIDs and could begin in 2016.

7. Ratepayer Feedback

North Regional Sewer System Proposal

Open House: Saturday, July 26, 2014, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Located at: Gimli Municipal Office Building, 62 2nd Ave, Gimli, MB

The purpose of the open house is to determine whether there is sufficient tax payer interest for the installation of a municipal sewer system in the north and to provide information on the process for initiating a sewer system and potential costs to tax payers.

If you are interested in developing the North Regional Sewer System, please provide your comments by August 22, 2014.

Comments may be sent:

- **In writing or by phone** to the Municipal Office; 204-642-6650, gimli@rmgimli.com or PO Box 1246, Gimli MB R0C 1B0; or
- **By email** to Dick Menon, P.Eng. at Dillon Consulting Limited; dmenon@dillon.ca

Thank you