

**REPORT TO CEDARS OF TUAM WATER SERVICE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2008**

SUBJECT **CAPITAL PROJECT SUMMARY-AMENDMENTS TO REPORT OF 25 SEPTEMBER 2008**

PURPOSE

To provide the Cedars of Tuam Water Service committee (CTWSC) with an update on expenditures and work completed for the present capital works project and to identify a strategy to develop an alternate water supply for the community.

BACKGROUND

The Capital Regional District (CRD) has been trying to locate and develop an alternative groundwater source for the Cedars of Tuam water utility. Staff have made a number of inquiries to landowners in the general vicinity to the water area requesting permission to search for groundwater. Few residents in the immediate area have indicated willingness to assist the water utility in this regard, citing a variety of reasons, most plausible. It has come to a point when the committee may need to identify an alternate strategy to providing a water supply for their community. Staff will assist the committee in this regard through development and costing of current available alternatives.

Original Capital Project

A summary of funds on hand and expenditures to set up the original capital project has been assembled for the information of the committee. A summary of the expanded project, with funding from the Community Water Improvement Program grant received from the Province, is shown following

Item		Notes
Funds on Hand		
Original capital project budget	\$24,000	Borrowing
Interest deposited	\$4,456.62	Interest on funds held from borrowing
Funds transferred from Reserve (1)	\$9,186.64	funds accumulated in operating budgets transferred
Total	\$37,643.26	
Expenditures on Original Project		
Consultants (groundwater)	\$4,036.76	
CRD staff time	\$116.24	
Total	\$4,153.00	
Net Funds Available For New Project	\$33,490.26	Total Funds less Total Expenditures

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Expanded Project Funding		Notes
Local Government Share 1/3	\$33,334	Funded from Cedars Project
Provincial Share 2/3	\$66,666	From CWIP Grant
Total Project Funding	\$100,000	
Expenditures		
Consultants (groundwater)	\$1,666	Expended, Prioritize sites
Upgrade disinfection system	\$6,000	Estimate, 17 October completion
Immediate system maintenance	\$2,000	Estimate, Piping, strainers, 17 October completion
Continuous monitoring equipment	\$12,000	Proposed, requires Fulford to be operational
Improve site access	\$1,000	Required for reservoir work
Acquire new well site, drill, test	\$20,000	Proposed, dependent on acquisition of site
Develop well	\$30,000	Proposed, only if testing proves out
Uncommitted Funds	\$27,334	Available for redevelopment, maintenance of existing well casing as necessary.
Total	\$100,000	

Comments on Proposed Program

The program assumes the following:

- 1) Ability to maintain the current well and optimize delivery of water and manage consistent chlorine residuals is paramount.
- 2) Regardless of future sources, connection of the well site to the CRD SCADA system is necessary for improved response to low water levels and alarm conditions. The SCADA equipment at Fulford will relay information.
- 3) Sites for well exploration are still being evaluated. The opportunity for a well site in close proximity to the subdivision is very unlikely. The cost for extending water pipe between a remote site and a new well is going to be very expensive and well beyond the present uncommitted funds in the project.
- 4) Regardless of #3, unless a new well site is found, well drilled and tested positively, there is no reason to seek additional funds to connect it to the system.
- 5) Proposal is to continue to seek a new well site.
- 6) Regardless of whether a new site is located it is likely necessary to undertake maintenance on the existing well casing.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the Cedars of Tuam Water Service committee continue to support the current program which includes upgrade of the well site infrastructure to provide more consistent disinfection and seeking agreement with a local landowner in the general area to carry out drilling and testing of an exploratory well shaft.
2. That the Cedars of Tuam Water Service committee direct staff to seek another direction to solve the present water shortage problem.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed program as outlined will exhaust the present capital funds. If additional funds are required to interconnect a new well located under this program with the water system, or to develop another alternative, the committee will need to again poll the residents of the water area to approve a further borrowing.

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS

A number of minor but important upgrades to the well site will be completed by the middle of October which will permit a more consistent disinfection through the system. The next phases of the project include installation of a continuous monitoring device for the system (which will require similar equipment to be installed in the neighbouring Fulford system), minor access improvements, exploratory well drilling and likely remediation work on the existing well. The available program costs will be insufficient to interconnect any new well developed with the existing water system however without a proven well this cost can not be projected nor approved.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cedars of Tuam Water Service committee continue to support the current program which includes upgrade of the well site infrastructure to provide more consistent disinfection and seeking agreement with a landowner in the general area to carry out drilling and testing of an exploratory well shaft.



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