
**REPORT TO JUAN DE FUCA WATER DISTRIBUTION COMMISSION
MEETING OF TUESDAY, 3 JULY 2007**

SUBJECT RECONSTRUCTION OF WALE ROAD

PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to provide information to the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission on the events leading to the replacement of water main during the reconstruction of Wale Road in Colwood, and to clarify comments in the staff report to the City of Colwood Transportation and Public Works committee (**Attachment 1**), which was forwarded to Council on May 28, 2007.

BACKGROUND

During the period November 2005 to December 2006, we were requested to review preliminary design drawings from the consultant for the City of Colwood, 1st Team Engineering, detailing the proposed reconstruction of Wale Road. Our review of the drawings showed that we had three water mains in the area of construction, two asbestos-cement (AC) distribution mains and the No. 3 steel supply main. Both of the AC mains were in the shoulder of the existing road, but the preliminary design showed the curb and catch-basins to be directly over the mains. The potential conflict with these watermains was pointed out at the preliminary design stage, but ignored in the final design.

The pipes, constructed in the 1970's, are in good condition and are not scheduled to be replaced until the period 2016 to 2022. Typically, if a pipe is scheduled to be replaced within 1 or 2 years under the pipe replacement program, replacement will be brought forward in such circumstances. To do otherwise would result in higher priority replacements being deferred. Despite requests to realign the curb to avoid the mains, or realign the main, Colwood refused to do so.

The No. 3 main, constructed in the late 1950's, which runs along Goldstream Avenue then down Wale Road, would not be affected however, some upgrades were required to two underground chambers because they would now be in the traveled portion of the road. As noted in the report, construction standards in the 1950's and 1970's are inferior to today's.

On March 30, 2007, after construction had started, a meeting was held to discuss a possible cost sharing arrangement for replacing the AC mains. The meeting was attended by the Colwood City Engineer and staff, the contractor, Chew Construction, and the consultant. The decision was made to replace the AC mains in the construction zone even though one section was not in conflict. The costs were significantly below those stated in the Colwood report. It was agreed that Colwood would pay to replace the mains and CRD Water Services would pay for the connections to existing mains and relocation of services. It should be noted that, had another utility been in conflict with the new works, Colwood would have been responsible for the relocation costs. The cost incurred by the City of Colwood for replacing the pipe is estimated to be less than \$80,000.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The work carried out by CRD Water Services will be approximately \$8,000 - \$9,000.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission:

1. Receive the staff report for information, and
2. Forward the report to the City of Colwood for information.