



City of Port Colborne  
Committee of the Whole  
Budget Meeting Addendum

Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021  
Time: 6:30 pm  
Location: Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, City Hall  
66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

Pages

4. Staff Reports

4.1. 2021 Rate Budgets, 2021-80

- a. *Staff Presentation Regarding 2021 Rate Budget and Rate Setting*

1

# Rate Budget & Rate Setting

Water – Wastewater – Storm Sewer



1

## Table of Contents

Average Household Comparison  
Cubic Meter Statistics

### Rate Budget

- Recommendation
- Overview Water and Wastewater
- Combined Water and Wastewater
- Water
- Wastewater
- Storm Sewer
- Capital Funding to Amortization
- Capital Funding to Replacement Cost
- Capital Project Example
- Forecasted Reserve Funds
- Recommendation

### Rate Setting

- Recommendation
- Overview Water and Wastewater Rates
- Seniors on Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Water and Wastewater - Historical
- Water and Wastewater - Proposed
- Storm Sewer - Proposed
- Implementation Date
- Recommendation



2

## Average Household Comparison

	Port Colborne	Local Area Municipalities *
Property Taxes	\$3,434 <sup>^</sup>	\$4,099
Water / Wastewater	\$1,343 <sup>~</sup>	\$997
	\$4,777	\$5,097

\* Calculated as simple average  
<sup>^</sup> Includes storm sewer charges

~ 150 m3

Property Taxes = Assessment  
 Water / Wastewater = Water Loss and I&I



3

## Business Comparison

Comparison by BMA Management Consulting of Local Area Municipalities

Business and Commercial	14% to 21% Less
Business and Commercial (excluding two highest LAMs*)	2% to 8% Less

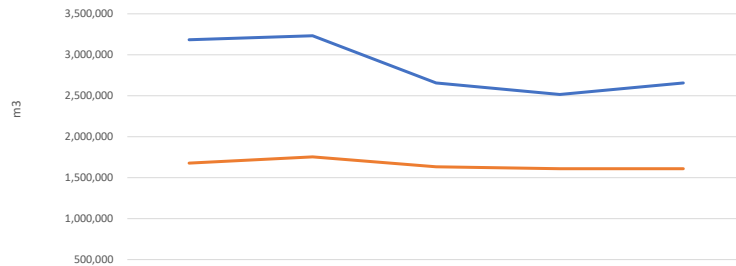
\* LAMs refers to Local Area Municipalities



4

## Cubic Meter Statistics

Water Billed to Customers vs. Purchased from Niagara Region



Budgeted at 1.65  
m<sup>3</sup> Purchased  
vs. 1 m<sup>3</sup> Billed

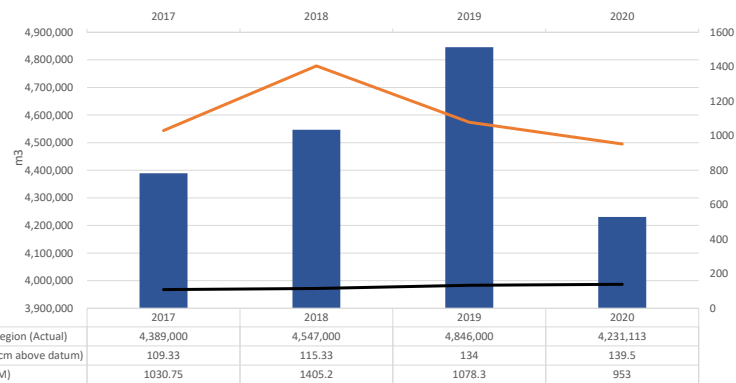


Longer Term  
Goal 1.18 m<sup>3</sup>  
Purchased vs. 1  
m<sup>3</sup> Billed

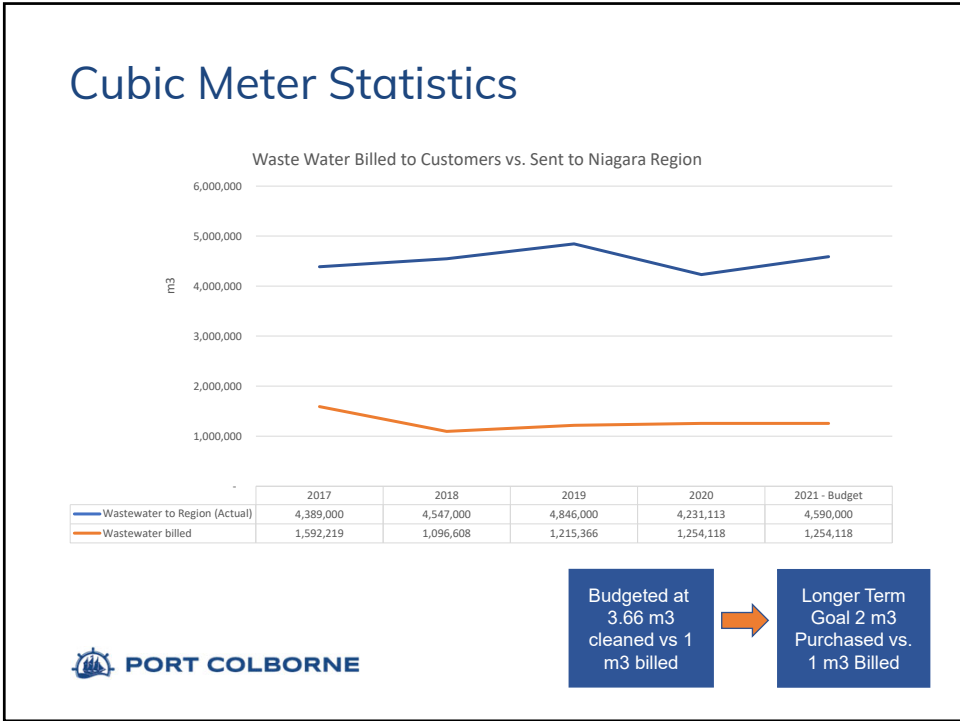
5

## Cubic Meter Statistics

Waste Water Sent to Niagara Region vs. Lake Level and Percipitation



6



7

## Rate Budget

Water – Wastewater – Storm Sewer

**PORT COLBORNE**

8

## Recommendation

That Corporate Services Department 2021-80 be received; and

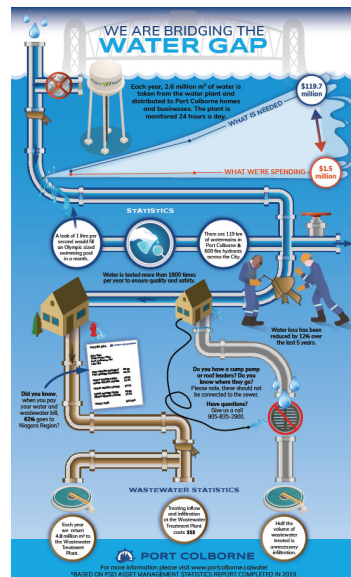
That the 2021 Rate budget as set out in Appendix A, B, and C of report 2021-80 be approved.



9

## Overview Water and Wastewater

- We have a two-tier water system.
- The Niagara Region cleans the water and wastewater.
- The City buys water from the Niagara Region and distributes it to households. We collect wastewater and send it to the Niagara Region to be cleaned for a fee.
- Niagara Region represents 61% of the costs.
- City represents 39% of the costs.



10

## Combined Water and Wastewater

	2020	2020	2021	\$	%
	Forecast	Budget	Budget	Y/Y Budget	Change
Penalties and other fees	58,102	69,100	72,998	3,898	5.64%
Variable	3,916,395	5,159,839	4,336,213	- 823,626	-15.96%
Fixed	6,170,930	5,939,314	7,091,895	1,152,581	19.41%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>10,145,427</b>	<b>11,168,253</b>	<b>11,501,106</b>	<b>332,853</b>	<b>2.98%</b>
<b>Fixed vs. Variable</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>62%</b>		
Niagara Region	6,655,617	6,974,499	7,017,840	43,341	0.62%
Personnel costs	649,699	1,144,524	1,122,700	- 21,824	-1.91%
Operations	1,599,271	1,327,081	1,524,310	197,229	14.86%
Capital	171,261	1,054,792	600,000	454,792	43.12%
Capital Pay-as-you-go (Carry forward)	883,531	-	-	-	0.00%
Borrowing costs	362,242	364,299	364,300	1	0.00%
Reserve transfers	- 176,194	303,058	871,956	568,898	187.72%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>10,145,427</b>	<b>11,168,253</b>	<b>11,501,106</b>	<b>332,853</b>	<b>2.98%</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Niagara Region	65.6%	62.4%	61.0%		
Capital & Reserves	0.0%	12.2%	12.8%		
% of Total Revenue	65.6%	74.6%	73.8%		

20,000 Communications  
40,000 New Monthly PAP Incentive  
100,000 New Senior GIS Grant  
40,000 Monthly Mailing (October)  
200,000

Capital increase 114,106

Proposed  
Budget  
Increase of  
2.98%

Variable vs. Fixed illustrated on traditional model



^ The capital budget was approved at the November 23, 2020 Council meeting through Report 2020-125.

11

## Water

	2020	2020	2021	\$	%
	Forecast	Budget	Budget	Y/Y Budget	Change
Penalties and other fees	43,772	49,600	39,998	- 9,602	-19.4%
Variable	2,192,599	2,600,201	2,128,931	- 471,270	-18.1%
Fixed	2,649,504	2,530,023	2,572,569	42,546	1.7%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4,885,875</b>	<b>5,179,824</b>	<b>4,741,498</b>	<b>- 438,326</b>	<b>-8.5%</b>
<b>Fixed Ratio</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>55%</b>		
Niagara Region Charges	2,124,086	2,430,382	2,212,840	- 217,542	-9.0%
Personnel costs	540,705	790,145	561,350	- 228,795	-29.0%
Operations	877,788	741,748	739,260	- 2,488	-0.3%
Capital Pay-as-you-go <sup>^</sup>	171,261	509,219	250,000	- 259,219	-50.9%
Capital Pay-as-you-go (Carryforward) <sup>^</sup>	337,958	-	-	-	-
Borrowing Costs <sup>^</sup>	362,242	364,299	364,300	1	0.0%
Reserve Transfers	471,835	344,031	613,748	269,717	78.4%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,885,875</b>	<b>5,179,824</b>	<b>4,741,498</b>	<b>- 438,326</b>	<b>-8.5%</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Progress in water

City has the benefit from work done in the past few years to improve the water system. Niagara Region charges have been less than budget.

Moved to a 50/50 budget model where staff time is budgeted on a split basis. This recognizes more work will be occurring in wastewater moving forward.

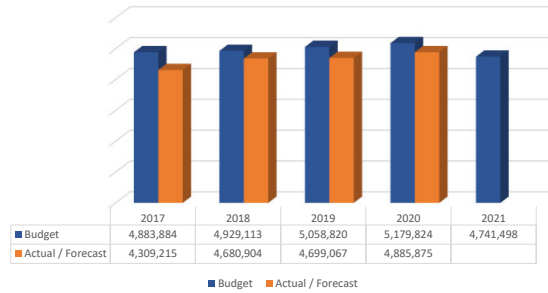


^ The capital budget was approved at the November 23, 2020 Council meeting through Report 2020-125.

12

## Water

Water Revenue Budget to Actual / Forecast

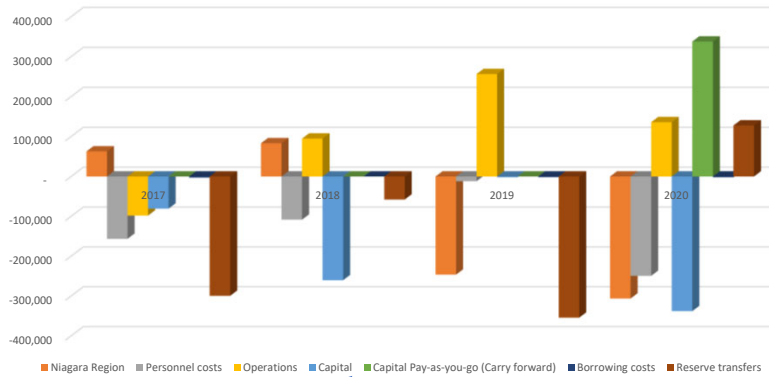


Multi-year  
revenue  
shortfall of  
approximately  
\$1.5 million

13

## Water

Water Actual / Forecasted Expenditures (Over) / Under Budget



Underfunded budgeted capital by  
Approximately \$900,000 to make up the  
majority of the underfunding.

14



## Wastewater

	2020		2021	\$	
	Forecast	Budget	Budget	Y/Y Budget Change	%
Penalties and other fees	14,330	19,500	33,000	13,500	69.2%
Variable	1,723,796	2,559,638	2,207,282	- 352,356	-13.8%
Fixed	3,521,426	3,409,291	4,519,326	1,110,035	32.6%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>5,259,552</b>	<b>5,988,429</b>	<b>6,759,608</b>	<b>771,179</b>	<b>12.9%</b>
<b>Fixed Ratio</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>67%</b>		
Niagara Region Charges	4,531,531	4,544,117	4,805,000	260,883	5.7%
Personnel costs	108,994	354,379	561,350	206,971	58.4%
Operations	721,483	585,333	785,050	199,717	34.1%
Capital Pay-as-you-go <sup>^</sup>	-	545,573	350,000	- 195,573	-35.8%
Capital Pay-as-you-go (Carryforward) <sup>^</sup>	545,573	-	-	-	-
Borrowing Costs <sup>^</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Reserve Transfers	- 648,029	40,973	258,208	299,181	-730.2%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,259,552</b>	<b>5,988,429</b>	<b>6,759,608</b>	<b>771,179</b>	<b>12.9%</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

In 2020 approximately 86% of every dollar charged for wastewater went to pay Niagara Region charges

Balanced revenue shortfall of approximately \$700,000. Estimated Reserve balance is \$NIL.

Variable vs. Fixed illustrated on traditional model

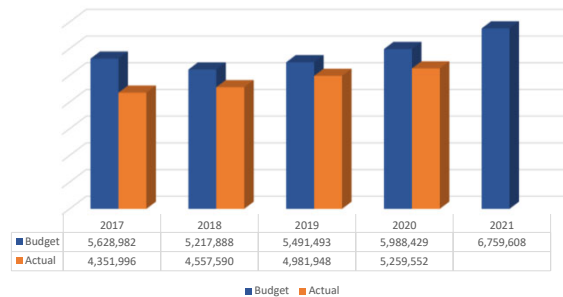


<sup>^</sup> The capital budget was approved at the November 23, 2020 Council meeting through Report 2020-125.

15

## Wastewater

Waste Water Revenue Budget to Actual / Forecast



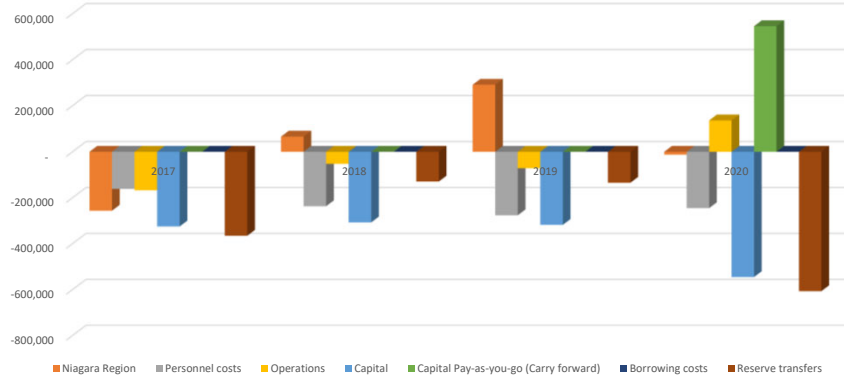
Multi-year revenue shortfall of approximately \$3.2 million



16

## Wastewater

Waste Water Actual / Forecasted **Expenditures** (Over) / Under Budget



Personal costs under budget by approximately \$900,000, as staff reassigned to various projects ranging from drainage to levy transportation, and parks. Refocusing on wastewater may create some capacity issues in other departments moving forward.

Underfunded budgeted capital by approximately \$2,200,000 to make up the majority of the underfunding.

17

## Storm Sewer

	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021	\$	%
	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Budget	Budget	Y/Y Budget Change	
Installation Service Fee	1,112	5,000	- 276	5,000	-	5,000	-100.00%
Rate Fees	730,566	740,800	777,016	770,279	854,720	84,441	10.96%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>731,678</b>	<b>745,800</b>	<b>776,740</b>	<b>775,279</b>	<b>854,720</b>	<b>79,441</b>	<b>10.25%</b>
Operations	265,847	220,350	278,264	248,181	252,870	4,689	1.89%
Capital	-	-	39,998	-	23,724	23,724	-
Borrowing Costs	299,819	299,819	308,186	299,819	535,819	236,000	78.71%
Reserve Transfers	166,012	225,631	150,292	227,279	42,307	184,972	-81.39%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>731,678</b>	<b>745,800</b>	<b>776,740</b>	<b>775,279</b>	<b>854,720</b>	<b>79,441</b>	<b>10.25%</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Proposed  
Budget  
Increase of  
10.25%

\$66,031 represents  
Capital funding

Increase in borrowing costs  
as a result of Nickel Storm  
Sewer. Recent debenture  
was for 30 years, at 2.29%.

18

## Capital Funding to Replacement Cost

	Water	Wastewater	Storm Sewer
Capital Funding (Pay-as-you-go)	\$ 863,748	\$ 608,208	\$ 66,031
Replacement Cost <sup>^</sup>	\$ 1,158,787	\$ 633,038	\$ 684,886
	\$ (295,039)	\$ (24,830)	\$ (618,855)
Additional budgetary increase required*	34%	4%	937%

Caveat is the replacement cost assumes annual spend and that the functions of the system are operating as intended.

<sup>^</sup> Based on PSD Research Consulting Asset Management Status Report performed in 2019.

\* At this time, staff are not recommending these additional budgetary increases to fund this difference.



19

## Capital Funding to Amortization

	Water	Wastewater	Storm Sewer
Capital Funding (Pay-as-you-go)	\$ 863,748	\$ 608,208	\$ 66,031
Amortization	\$ 636,214	\$ 368,763	\$ 363,382
	\$ 227,534	\$ 239,445	(\$ 297,351)
Additional budgetary increase required*	(26%)	(39%)	450%

Illustrates amortization is a historically looking view and our infrastructure is significantly aged.

\* At this time, staff are not recommending these additional budgetary increases to fund this difference.



20

## Capital Projects Example

Example of a project for 2021 – Maintenance Holes



21

## Capital Projects Example

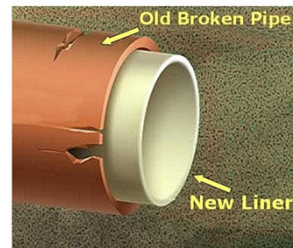
Example of Smoke Testing – Finding Eavestrough to Sanitary



22

## Capital Project Example

Example of Future Projects



23

## Forecasted Reserve Balances

	Approximate Balance
Water	\$ 700,000
Wastewater	\$NIL
Storm Sewer	\$ 470,000

As of December 31, 2020



24

## Recommendation

That Corporate Services Department 2021-80 be received; and

That the 2021 Rate budget as set out in Appendix A, B, and C of report 2021-80 be approved.



25

## Rate Setting

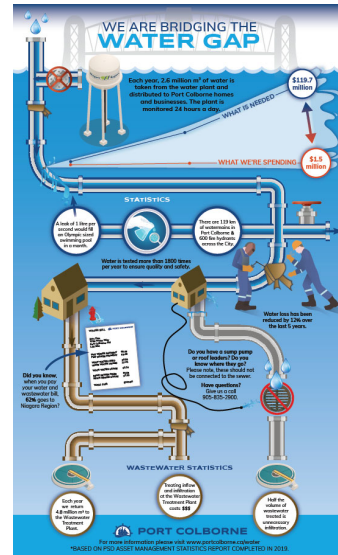
Water – Wastewater – Storm Sewer



26

## Overview Rate Setting

- Rates are set either on a fixed or variable basis.
- Historically the City has used a combination of fixed and variable for water and wastewater, and all fixed for storm sewer (although the rate was only implemented in 2019).
- Some municipalities also consider social economic factors supported by grants through an application process.
- The following slides highlight status quo, moving residential wastewater to fixed and the impact of providing grants for Seniors on GIS.



27

## Recommendation

That Corporate Services Department 2021-84 be received; and

That the 2021 Water, Wastewater and Storm Sewer Rates as set out in page 5 and 8 of Report 2021-84 be approved.



28

## Overview Water and Wastewater Rates



29

## Overview Water and Wastewater Rates

Varies depending on usage and  
potential granting program / incentive



2.98%

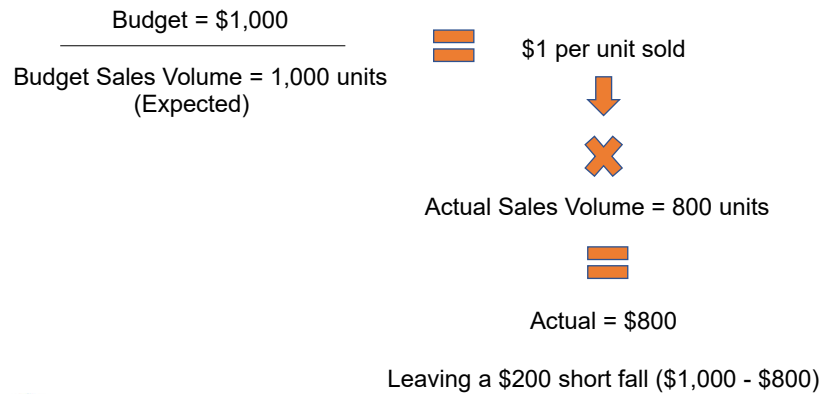
	Water (m3)	Wastewater (m3)
Budget Volume	1,905,034	1,610,607
Actual Volume	1,794,017	1,254,118
Missed budget by	(15%)	(30%)

30



## Overview Water and Wastewater Rates

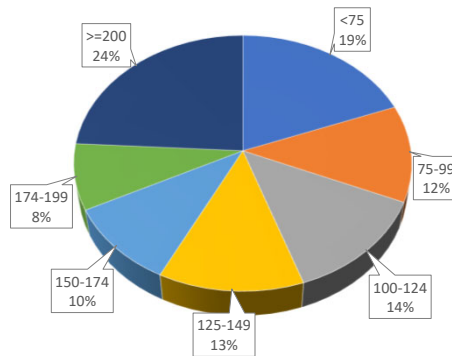
Volume Impact on Revenue as the "Seller"



31

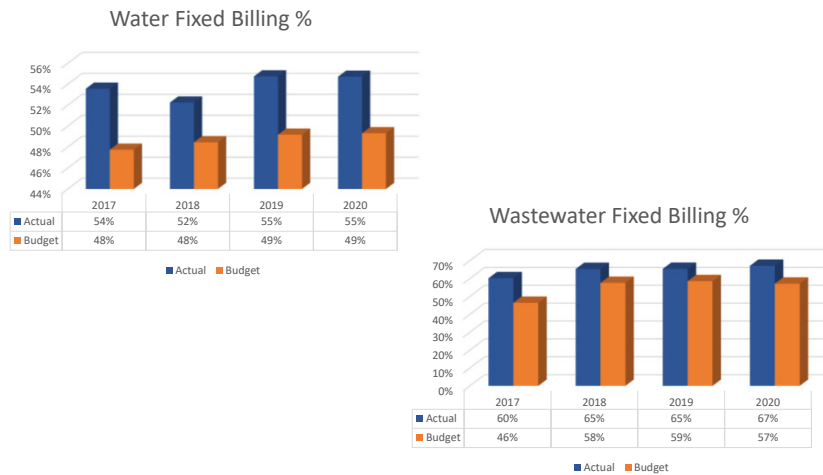
## Overview Water and Wastewater Rates

Residential Water Customer Water Usage



32

## Overview Water and Wastewater Rates



33

## Seniors on Guaranteed Income Supplement

Two different amounts (options) are proposed in this budget. Amounts will be discussed on the following slides.

To qualify the following conditions are recommended to be required:

1. Applicant (or spouse) is a water and wastewater rate payer and considered responsible for the account; and
2. Applicant (or spouse) is 65 years of age or older; and
3. Applicant (or spouse) uses the property for which the application is being made for the purpose of their personal residence; and
4. Applicant (or spouse) is in receipt of a monthly GIS pursuant to Part II of the Old Age Security Act (Canada)



34

## PAP Incentive

This report recommends a one-time \$25 dollar credit for any resident that signs up for the PAP (Pre-authorized Payment Plan).

Effectively, this is a 2% reduction for most water and wastewater residential customers.

Currently this payment is quarterly (error in the report that said it was currently monthly)

The proposal is to make it monthly as we roll out monthly billing.

Benefits: Helps the **customer** manage their bill payments and the **City** collections and cashflow to run the water and wastewater program



35

## Water and Wastewater - Historical

### Residential Example

	2020	If effective Jan 1			Effective April 1		
		Annualized Change			Blended Change		
		2021	\$	%	2021	\$	%
Water	\$ 395.01	\$ 379.72	-\$ 15.29	-3.9%	\$ 383.54	-\$ 11.47	-2.9%
Wastewater	\$ 535.64	\$ 738.03	\$ 202.39	37.8%	\$ 687.43	\$ 151.79	28.3%
	\$ 930.65	\$ 1,117.74	\$ 187.09	20.1%	\$ 1,070.97	\$ 140.32	15.1%
Water - Rate	\$ 1.365	\$ 1.307	-\$ 0.06	-4.2%	\$ 1.322	-\$ 0.043	-3.2%
Wastewater - Rate	\$ 1.382	\$ 1.886	\$ 0.50	36.5%	\$ 1.760	\$ 0.378	27.4%
	\$ 2.747	\$ 3.193	\$ 0.45	16.3%	\$ 3.082	\$ 0.335	12.2%



36

## Water and Wastewater - Historical

### Residential Example

		If effective Jan 1				Effective April 1			
		Annualized Change				Blended Change			
	2020	2021	\$	%		2021	\$	%	
User 200 m3	\$ 1,480	\$ 1,756	\$ 276	18.7%		\$ 1,687	\$ 207	14.0%	
User 175 m3	\$ 1,411	\$ 1,677	\$ 265	18.8%		\$ 1,610	\$ 199	14.1%	
User 150 m3	\$ 1,343	\$ 1,597	\$ 254	18.9%		\$ 1,533	\$ 191	14.2%	
User 125 m3	\$ 1,274	\$ 1,517	\$ 243	19.1%		\$ 1,456	\$ 182	14.3%	
User 100 m3	\$ 1,205	\$ 1,437	\$ 232	19.2%		\$ 1,379	\$ 174	14.4%	
User 75 m3	\$ 1,137	\$ 1,357	\$ 221	19.4%		\$ 1,302	\$ 165	14.6%	



37

## Water and Wastewaters - Historical

### Residential Example

	Blended Change			Blended Change w/ PAP			
	2021	\$	%	PAP	2021	\$	%
User 200 m3	\$ 1,687	\$ 207	14.0%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,662	\$ 182	12.3%
User 175 m3	\$ 1,610	\$ 199	14.1%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,585	\$ 174	12.3%
User 150 m3	\$ 1,533	\$ 191	14.2%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,508	\$ 166	12.3%
User 125 m3	\$ 1,456	\$ 182	14.3%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,431	\$ 157	12.3%
User 100 m3	\$ 1,379	\$ 174	14.4%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,354	\$ 149	12.3%
User 75 m3	\$ 1,302	\$ 165	14.6%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,277	\$ 140	12.4%



38

## Water and Wastewater - Historical

### Residential Example

	Blended Change w/ Senior GIS					Blended Change w/ Senior GIS + PAP				
	Senior GIS	2021	\$	%		PAP	2021	\$	%	
User 200 m3	-\$ 152	\$ 1,536	\$ 55	3.7%		-\$ 25	\$ 1,511	\$ 30	2.1%	
User 175 m3	-\$ 152	\$ 1,458	\$ 47	3.3%		-\$ 25	\$ 1,433	\$ 22	1.6%	
User 150 m3	-\$ 152	\$ 1,381	\$ 39	2.9%		-\$ 25	\$ 1,356	\$ 14	1.0%	
User 125 m3	-\$ 152	\$ 1,304	\$ 30	2.4%		-\$ 25	\$ 1,279	\$ 5	0.4%	
User 100 m3	-\$ 152	\$ 1,227	\$ 22	1.8%		-\$ 25	\$ 1,202	\$ 3	-0.2%	
User 75 m3	-\$ 152	\$ 1,150	\$ 14	1.2%		-\$ 25	\$ 1,125	\$ 11	-1.0%	



39

## Water and Wastewaters - Proposed

Some factors to consider when establishing the fixed vs. variable ratio:

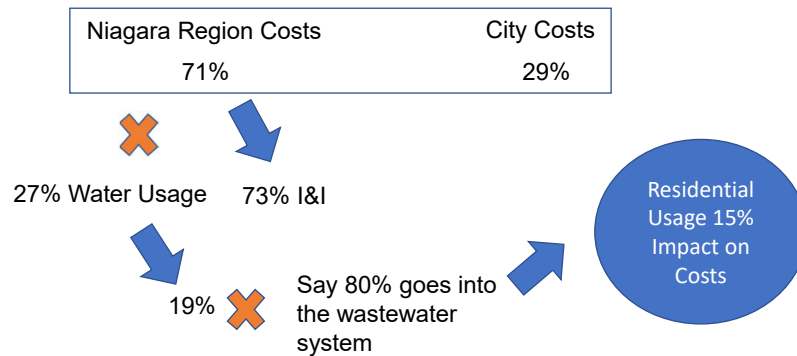
- Nature of the costs (variable vs. fixed)
  - How much Customer volume changes impact costs
  - Importance of access vs. importance for volume (recognizing the system currently does not have a volume constraint)
- Stabilization goals on billing for the customer and corporation
- Supporting equitable benefit
  - Concept of conservation – potential to “game” the system.
  - Concept of stability – leak situations



40

## Water and Wastewaters - Proposed

How much Customer volume changes waste water impact costs



41

## Water and Wastewaters - Proposed

Variable				
Water (all meter types)				1.307
Waste Water (all meter types)				-
Waste Water (all non - 5/8 to 3/4 residential meter types)				1.886
				3.193
Fixed Rate				
Meter	Ratio	Water	Waste Water	Combined
N 5/8 to 3/4 - Residential	1	\$ 379.72	\$ 1,002.38	\$ 1,382.09
N 5/8 to 3/4 - Non-Residential	1	\$ 379.72	\$ 738.03	\$ 1,117.74
N 1	1.4	\$ 531.60	\$ 1,033.24	\$ 1,564.84
N 1 1/2	1.8	\$ 683.49	\$ 1,328.44	\$ 2,011.94
N 2	2.9	\$ 1,101.18	\$ 2,140.28	\$ 3,241.46
N 3	11	\$ 4,176.88	\$ 8,118.29	\$ 12,295.17
N 4	14	\$ 5,316.03	\$ 10,332.36	\$ 15,648.40
N 6	21	\$ 7,974.05	\$ 15,498.55	\$ 23,472.59
N 8	29	\$ 11,011.78	\$ 21,402.75	\$ 32,414.53
N 10	40	\$ 15,188.66	\$ 29,521.04	\$ 44,709.70

42

## Water and Wastewaters - Proposed

### Residential Example

		If effective Jan 1				Effective April 1			
		Annualized Change				Blended Change			
	2020	2021	\$	%		2021	\$	%	
Water	\$ 395.01	\$ 379.72	- 15.29	-3.9%		\$ 383.54	- 11.47	-2.9%	
Wastewater	\$ 535.64	\$ 1,002.38	466.74	87.1%		\$ 885.69	350.05	65.4%	
	\$ 930.65	\$ 1,382.09	451.44	48.5%		\$ 1,269.23	\$ 338.58	36.4%	
Water	1.3650	1.3074	- 0.058	-4.2%		1.3218	- 0.0432	-3.2%	
Wastewater	1.3820	-				1.3820	-	0.0%	
	2.7470	1.3074	- 0.058	-2.1%		2.7038	- 0.0432	-1.6%	



43

## Water and Wastewaters - Proposed

### Residential Example

		If effective Jan 1				Effective April 1			
		Annualized Change				Blended Change			
	2020	2021	\$	%		2021	\$	%	
User 200 m3	\$ 1,480	\$ 1,644	\$ 164	11.0%		\$ 1,603	\$ 123	8.3%	
User 175 m3	\$ 1,411	\$ 1,611	\$ 200	14.1%		\$ 1,561	\$ 150	10.6%	
User 150 m3	\$ 1,343	\$ 1,578	\$ 236	17.5%		\$ 1,519	\$ 177	13.2%	
User 125 m3	\$ 1,274	\$ 1,546	\$ 271	21.3%		\$ 1,478	\$ 204	16.0%	
User 100 m3	\$ 1,205	\$ 1,513	\$ 307	25.5%		\$ 1,436	\$ 231	19.1%	
User 75 m3	\$ 1,137	\$ 1,480	\$ 343	30.2%		\$ 1,394	\$ 258	22.7%	



44

## Water and Wastewaters - Proposed

### Residential Example

	Blended Change			Blended Change w/ PAP			
	2021	\$	%	PAP	2021	\$	%
User 200 m3	\$ 1,603	\$ 123	8.3%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,578	\$ 98	6.6%
User 175 m3	\$ 1,561	\$ 150	10.6%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,536	\$ 125	8.8%
User 150 m3	\$ 1,519	\$ 177	13.2%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,494	\$ 152	11.3%
User 125 m3	\$ 1,478	\$ 204	16.0%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,453	\$ 179	14.0%
User 100 m3	\$ 1,436	\$ 231	19.1%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,411	\$ 206	17.1%
User 75 m3	\$ 1,394	\$ 258	22.7%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,369	\$ 233	20.5%



45

## Water and Wastewaters - Proposed

### Residential Example

	Blended Change w/ Senior GIS				Blended Change w/ Senior GIS + PAP			
	Senior GIS	2021	\$	%	PAP	2021	\$	%
User 200 m3	-\$ 244	\$ 1,359	-\$ 121	-8.2%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,334	-\$ 146	-9.9%
User 175 m3	-\$ 244	\$ 1,317	-\$ 94	-6.7%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,292	-\$ 119	-8.5%
User 150 m3	-\$ 244	\$ 1,275	-\$ 67	-5.0%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,250	-\$ 92	-6.9%
User 125 m3	-\$ 244	\$ 1,234	-\$ 40	-3.2%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,209	-\$ 65	-5.1%
User 100 m3	-\$ 244	\$ 1,192	-\$ 13	-1.1%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,167	-\$ 38	-3.2%
User 75 m3	-\$ 244	\$ 1,150	\$ 14	1.2%	-\$ 25	\$ 1,125	-\$ 11	-1.0%

Adjusted from \$152 in earlier option to keep the impact on the user 75 m3 the same.



46



## Storm Sewer- Proposed

Property Description	Flat Fee per Year	
	2020	2021
Single Family Properties	\$105.00	\$115.50
Multi-Residential 2 to 5 Units	\$183.75	\$202.13
Multi-Residential 6 to 9 Units	\$236.25	\$259.88
Institutional / Multi Res > 10 Units	\$288.75	\$317.63
Small Commerical	\$183.75	\$202.13
Medium Commerical	\$236.25	\$259.88
Large Commercial	\$288.75	\$317.63
Light Industrial	\$393.75	\$433.13
Heavy Industrial	\$498.75	\$548.63
City Owned	\$236.25	\$259.88
CNPI Owned	\$236.25	\$259.88
Hydro One Owned	\$236.25	\$259.88
Niagara Peninsula Housing	\$288.75	\$317.63
Niagara Region	\$236.25	\$259.88
Niagara Regional Housing	\$288.75	\$317.63
Transport Canada Owned	\$236.25	\$259.88
MTO Owned	\$236.25	\$259.88

10% Change



47

## Storm Sewer- Proposed

### Option 1 (Not Recommended)

Do Nothing. In some instances, properties within the Urban Storm Drainage Boundary are charged both the Storm Sewer System Rate and the Municipal Drainage maintenance and repair costs.

This is often confusing, as not all properties immediately drain to both systems; however, some properties on the Storm Sewer System do eventually flow to the Municipal Drains and some properties are only on Municipal Drains but pay both rates.

Municipal Drain charges are larger one-off invoices compared to smaller monthly Stormwater System rate charges. This can also be confusing for property owners who are invoiced for both systems.



48

## Storm Sewer- Proposed

### Option 2 (Not Recommended)

All properties within the Urban Storm Drainage Boundary be identified as either 50%+ immediately draining to the Storm Sewer System OR Municipal Drainage Ditch, and the property be charged only the rate the majority of the property immediately drains to.

This will require staff to identify permeable and non-permeable areas of each property within the Boundary and delineate where most of the stormwater drains, and this percentage can change over time within a property.

It is a highly contentious and labour-intensive undertaking. As Storm Sewer Systems or Municipal Drains are repaired/replaced, the property owners receive larger, one off invoices. Staff also must maintain two rate systems in this scenario.



49

## Storm Sewer- Proposed

### Option 3 (Recommended)

All properties within the Urban Storm Drainage Boundary be charged only the Storm Sewer System rate charge. Any Municipal Drainage works conducted within the boundary will be paid through Storm Sewer System funds.

Under this option, there is only one rate for property owners within the Boundary and staff only maintain one rate system.

The property owners receive regular invoices and as the Storm Sewer System or Municipal Drains are repaired, they are paid for through the previous or future collected funds.

The Storm Sewer System rate will remain proportional to the existing structure and all infrastructure in the Urban Storm Drainage Boundary area is considered one drainage system.



50

## Implementation Date

**Rate changes and Senior GIS Grant Program, if approved, will be effective the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2021.**

**Pre-authorized payment (PAP) program, if approved, will be introduced pre monthly billing which is planned to go live in October 2021.**



51

## Recommendation

That Corporate Services Department 2021-84 be received; and

That the 2021 Water, Wastewater and Storm Sewer Rates as set out in page 5 and 8 of Report 2021-84 be approved.



52