



Town of Newmarket  
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## **2021 Stormwater Rates Staff Report to Council**

Report Number: 2020-94

Department(s): Financial Services

Author(s): Anita Gibson, Sr. Financial Analyst

Meeting Date: December 7, 2020

### **Recommendations**

1. That the report entitled 2021 Stormwater Rates dated December 7, 2020 be received; and,
2. That the attached Schedule A being the Town of Newmarket Stormwater Rates be approved and adopted by by-law; and,
3. That the rates come into full force and effect on January 1, 2021; and,
4. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

### **Executive Summary**

See below.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to propose adjustments to the Town's Stormwater rates for 2021.

This report recommends rate increases of 10.0% as per the 2017 Six-Year Stormwater Financial Plan to better finance the protection of homes and businesses from the adverse effects of excessive stormwater.

## Background

A stormwater charge was established in 2017 to provide a fair, transparent and dedicated funding source to help protect homes and businesses from possible flooding due to excessive stormwater.

The Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001 authorizes a municipality to enact by-laws imposing fees and charges pertaining to a stormwater system pursuant to sections 9, 10, 11 and 391 of the Act.

The recommendation contained within [Report 2017-30](#), being the 2017 Six-Year Stormwater Financial Plan, were adopted. The rates approved in the plan for 2021 are being recommended for adoption in this report.

## Discussion

The stormwater utility is subject to cost drivers. The main drivers for the increases are:

- Meeting immediate capital replacement needs;
- Building a reserve to replace assets when they reach the end of their useful life;
- Managing increased runoff due to more severe weather patterns;
- Reducing phosphorus runoff to meet rising environmental standards

## Conclusion

The attached schedule represents the proposed increase in stormwater rates and fees.

The investment required for capital is growing. The 6-Year Financial Plan needs to be reviewed and updated with that in mind.

## Business Plan and Strategic Plan Linkages

This report supports the Strategic Pillar of Long-term Financial Sustainability by aligning rate adjustments with multi-year operating and capital plans, as demonstrated by the 6-Year Stormwater Financial Plan adopted by Council in 2017.

Consideration has been given to the recommendations of the Fiscal Strategy:

- Commission or carry out a comprehensive rate-setting study that covers stormwater rates
  - An update of the 6-year Financial Plans is scheduled for 2022

## **Consultation**

Advertisement on the Town of Newmarket's website has been provided in accordance with the Town's Procedure By-law and distribution of the Committee of the Whole agenda.

## **Human Resource Considerations**

Not applicable to this report.

## **Budget Impact**

This report recommends increasing stormwater rates by 10.0% in 2021.

## **Attachments**

Schedule A – 2021 Stormwater Rates

## **Approval**

Mike Mayes, CPA, CGA, DPA  
Director, Financial Services/Treasurer

Esther Armchuk, LL.B  
Commissioner of Corporate Services

## **Contact**

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