

District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: March 28, 2022	File: 530.20/Rpts
To: Council	From: Bob Payette, CAO
Re: Administrative Updates	

CAO UPDATE:

Community Relations:

Ongoing meetings with Gary Forsythe to discuss next steps for the Clary/Siska development including the build out Phase 9, zoning and the Ridge Trail project.
More discussions with BC Housing to discuss the cancellation of the YCS affordable housing project, BC Housing was going to review the situation and get back to us on the discussion with YCS.
Met on site at HYL building with Simpcw Resources Group (SRG) CEO to discuss development opportunities with SRG, housing and any potential partnerships that could support the region.

Development Projects:

Voyageur Country Wilderness Estates at Dixon Creek Rd Development DL 57 & DL 570, Mr. Delaney has submitted his information indicating his proof of water for approval. A detailed report is now presented for Councils final approval on bulk water as a source of water for subdivision.
Staff met with the new owners of DeeJay trailer park, to discuss possible expansion and development of the property, staff focusing on water availability and options, owners are putting together a plan to bring forward for Councils consideration.

Protective Services:

The TNRD has separate contracts for fire service delivery with multiple Municipalities and First Nations within the region. However, due to the nature of when each service was created, coupled with the evolution and ongoing complexities of fire service delivery, an overall evaluation is required. As such, the TNRD has engaged in the services of Dave Mitchell and Associates for the purposes of reviewing how the fire service delivery is currently contracted, examine costs drivers and develop base metrics to ensure fairness, equity and transparency when establishing ongoing fees for fire protection services. Part of this process will require Dave Mitchell and Associates to contact every service provider to better understand the dynamics of each area. The project timeline is 14 weeks based on documentation request turn around and access to the respective Fire Chiefs.

Utilities:

The new DW3 well is now fully connected to the system, commissioned and put into service with the PLC processor, now also installed. More work to is planned this week to continue with conditioning the well, automation and pumping data. More information is required to fully understand the capacity of the system on a go forward basis.

Discussions continue regarding the Dam decommissioning process. Next steps include:

- Council meeting with TRUE Engineering to confirm costs for study, ongoing direction.

2 new staff have been hired, Graham Hogg as Utilities Operator and Mark as roads and parks staff

2021 Annual compliance reports have now been submitted to MOE for the Sewer plants, as required by the WWT regulations.

Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP) - Water Expansion Project was approved by the Province of BC Ministry of Forest, lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development for the expansion of the Louis Creek Industrial Park water system. The current water supply provides a small amount of potable water services to the companies that have started up in the LCIP over the past few years, however the old reservoir, on site, was not commissioned for potable water and therefore needed significant maintenance each summer to be used for the fire suppression system to be available.

The full build out of the water system at the Louis Creek Industrial Park has been designed to be constructed in phases. Phase 1 of the system was constructed in 2020 and comprises a supply well, rated at 50 USgpm. The water is chlorinated and distributed as potable water meeting the requirements of the Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines to the Phase 1 Industrial Park properties. The potable water distribution system is comprised of a 100mm diameter supply main. 50mm diameter services have been extended from the potable water supply main. A larger distribution main consisting of 250mm PVC has also been constructed to front the serviced properties. This main is connected to Tolko's former open-air reservoir and is capable of providing fire protection to the LCIP service area. The 250mm diameter main is not potable and is not connected to the 100mm potable supply system. The District presently utilizes the open-air reservoir and also relies on fire protection from its fire truck apparatus' directly. Future phases of the LCIP system will include the reservoir, a second supply well, and extension of the distribution system. Upon completion of the reservoir, the small diameter potable main will be connected to the larger diameter fire suppression system such that fire protection and potable supply can be provided to the service area.

This new grant of 1 million dollars from economic recovery will support the construction and expansion of the water system, and include an enclosed water reservoir that will be able to provide more secure and a reliable water source of water for fire suppression and potable use. The reservoir will provide a buffering volume and will allow the District to provide stabilized water pressures and increased fire protection to the service area. The complete buildout of the water system at the LCIP is a separate system from that which the DOB uses for our residents in Town, and has its own water well directly in LCIP. Our engineering consultants have completed the preliminary reviews, including geotechnical studies and we look forward to expanding the water system over the next two years. Having a secure and reliable fire suppression system at the LCIP is a critical component of the LCIP, that will help drive our economic recovery in this Region.

FINANCE OFFICER:

The 2022 Budget Process continues with four (4) Council reviews in public meetings of the 2022 budget which was approved at the March 14, 2022 Council Meeting. Tax Rate and Financial Plan Bylaw readings will take place once the final figures from the TNRD are available, likely in April.

Annual Audit by KPMG began on March 14th and is once again being conducted virtually.

**submitted for information*

Prepared by: Bob Payette, CAO