



## The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Public Works & Engineering Services

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Phil Bartnik, Director Public Works & Engineering Services

**Date to Council:** Tuesday, February 25, 2025

**Report Number:** PWES-2025-15

**Subject:** Mulberry Drive Trunk Watermain Emergency Repairs

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### Recommendations

It is recommended:

**That** Report PWES-2025-15 Mulberry Drive Trunk Watermain Emergency Repairs, **be received;**

**And that** a budget allocation of \$150,000 **be approved and funded** from the Watermain Reserve Fund.

### Background

In January 2025 Water Staff responded to a suspected water leak on Mulberry Drive just east of Southfield Drive. Once investigated, it was determined that the air relief valve on the 600mm diameter trunk watermain had failed and the two adjacent couplings were leaking which caused a loss of pressure in the system. Water Staff also encountered inoperable mainline gate valves on the 600mm diameter trunk watermain when trying to isolate the area which further complicated their ability to conduct repairs.

The 600mm diameter trunk watermain is a critical component of Tecumseh's water distribution system. The Mulberry Drive connection is one of 11 existing connections to the ENWIN Utilities/Windsor water distribution system. This one connection accounts for approximately 43% of all annual potable water the Town receives. The trunk watermain on Mulberry Drive continues easterly on County Road 22 to Manning Road.

It also branches off and is the main feed for the Tecumseh Hamlet Secondary Plan Area.

The inability to properly isolate this trunk watermain poses a major risk to Tecumseh Water Services' control of the water distribution system, maintenance activities, and emergency response.

## Comments

The Town has requested quotes from two contractors and has retained Green Infrastructures Partners (GIP) Inc. in the amount of \$128,600 excluding HST to complete the Mulberry Drive Trunk Watermain emergency works. It should be noted that due to the size of the trunk watermain, materials may take up to 3 to 4 weeks to be delivered. The scope of the works include:

- Replacement of the failed air release valve;
- Installation of four (4) new 600mm diameter couplings; and
- Replacement of two (2) existing 600mm diameter gate valves with new butterfly valves.

Completing these works in a controlled setting with a contractor and materials on site is paramount to limit the disturbance and downtime to the residents within the area. Failure of this trunk watermain without the ability to isolate the area and without having the materials readily available would be catastrophic due to the volume of water it conveys.

## Procurement Policy

Procurement for services necessary to proceed with the watermain works were sourced per the Town's Purchasing Policy No. 17, Sections 3.9 and 3.10:

### 3.9 Non-Competitive Purchases

- a. The requirement for a competitive bid solicitation for goods, services, and construction may be waived under joint authority of the appropriate Department Director and the Purchasing Coordinator and replaced with negotiations by the Department Director under the following circumstances
  - vi. Where in the invent an "Emergency" as defined by the Policy, a requirement exists, where emergency means a situation or the threat of an impending situation, which may affect the environment, the life, safety or health

and/or welfare of the general public, or the property of the residents of the Town of Tecumseh, or to prevent serious damage, disruption of work, or to restore or to maintain essential service to a minimum level.

### 3.10 Procurement in Emergencies

Where, in the opinion of the Chief Administrative Officer, or two Department Directors, an emergency has occurred requiring the immediate procurement of goods, services or construction,

- a. The Department Director, with authorization by the Chief Administrative Officer, or two Department Directors, may initiate a purchase in excess of the preauthorized expenditure limit by the most expedient and economical means; and
- b. Any purchase under such conditions together with a source of financing shall be justified and reported to the next meeting of Town Council following the date of the purchase.

The Director of Public Works & Engineering Services (PWES), through the Manager Water Services, advised the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and Purchasing Coordinator (Director Financial Services & CFO) of the situation immediately following the identification of the required repairs. The Director of PWES, CAO and Purchasing Coordinator all agreed that immediate action was required.

## Consultations

Chief Administrative Officer  
Financial Services  
Green Infrastructure Partners (GIP) Inc.

## Financial Implications

A total project budget is estimated at \$150,000 and will be funded through the Town's Watermain Reserve Fund. Financial updates on this project will be included as part of future quarterly variance reporting to Council.

## Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	<a href="#">2023-2026 Strategic Priorities</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Service Experience: Enhance the experience of Team Tecumseh and our citizens through responsive and respectful service.

## Communications

Not applicable

Website     Social Media     News Release     Local Newspaper

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Joseph Lappalainen, E.I.T.  
Project Technician

Reviewed by:

Brad Dupuis, C. Tech.  
Manager Water Services

Reviewed by:

Tom Kitsos, CPA, CMA, BComm  
Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer

Reviewed by:

Phil Bartnik, P.Eng.  
Director Public Works & Engineering Services

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Administrative Officer

<b>Attachment Number</b>	<b>Attachment Name</b>
1	Project Location Map