

THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF WHITE ROCK
CORPORATE REPORT



DATE: April 17, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Candice Gartry, Director, Financial Services

SUBJECT: White Rock Annual Utility Rates Bylaws 2023

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive the April 17, 2023, corporate report from the Director of Financial Services, titled "White Rock Annual Utility Rates Bylaws 2023" for consideration and subsequent approval and adoption.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This corporate report introduces the following annual bylaws for approval and adoption:

- White Rock Collection Removal, Disposal and Recycling of Solid Waste Bylaw 2015, No. 2084, Amendment No. 7, 2023 No. 2462
- White Rock Drainage Utility User Fee Bylaw, 2004, No. 1739, Amendment Bylaw, 2023, No. 2463
- White Rock Sanitary Sewer Connection and Rental Charges Bylaw, 1970, No. 396, Amendment Bylaw, 2023, No. 2464
- White Rock Secondary Suite Service Fee Bylaw, 2012, No. 2009, Amendment No. 7, 2023, No. 2465

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Section 194 of the *Community Charter* authorizes Council, by bylaw, to establish fees for municipal services. The four bylaws attached set out the 2023 Secondary Suite fees as well as Solid Waste, Sanitary Sewer, and Drainage Utility user fees based on the associated revenues included in the City of White Rock Financial Plan (2023 - 2027) Bylaw, 2023, No. 2458. These fees are charged annually and included on Property Tax notices.

Drainage Utility fees are assessed based on the area of the property, so the fees charged vary from property per property. The 2023 fee incorporates an average 4.6% increase over the prior year. For the "average" single-family home the result is a \$24 increase over the prior year, to \$579. For the "average" strata-family home fees increase by \$8 to \$175.

Budget Impact to Average Single-Family Household in 2023					
	2022	2023	Change \$\$	% of Total	
Utilities					
Drainage Utility Charge	\$ 555	\$ 579	\$ 24	1.30%	
Solid Waste Utility Charge	345	355	10	0.54%	
Sanitary Sewer Utility Charge	265	278	13	0.70%	
Water Utility Charge	686	731	45	2.43%	
Total Utilities	\$ 1,851	\$ 1,943	\$ 92	4.97%	

Budget Impact to Average Strata Unit in 2023					
	2022	2023	Change \$\$	% of Total	
Utilities					
Drainage Utility Charge	\$ 167	\$ 175	\$ 8	1.18%	
Sanitary Sewer Utility Charge	265	278	13	1.91%	
Water Utility Charge	247	278	31	4.57%	
Total Utilities	\$ 679	\$ 731	\$ 52	7.66%	

The Solid Waste Utility user fee has been increased by \$10 (2.9%) to \$355 from the 2022 rate of \$345.

The Sanitary Sewer user fee has been increased by \$13 (4.9%) to \$278 over the 2022 rate.

Water Utility user fees for 2023 were adopted by Council at their January 16, 2023, meeting.

The Secondary Suite service fee have been increased to \$313 which is a \$3 increase compared to last year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Utility rates for Drainage, Solid Waste and Sanitary Sewer have increased by between 2.9% - 4.9% in 2023, over their 2022 rates. The Secondary Suite service fee has increased by \$3 to \$313.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

No specific legal implications to note. Council approval required to authorize the budget, utility charges and property taxation rates.

COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Utility rates have been included in the city's 2023 – 2027 Draft Consolidated Financial Plan, which was posted on the city's "Talk White Rock" online platform. This platform provided the community with an opportunity to comment on the 2023 – 2027 Draft Financial Plan. The Draft 2023 – 2027 Operational Financial Plan was posted on Talk White Rock on March 3, 2023. That document was replaced with the 2023 – 2027 Draft Consolidated Financial Plan on March 8, 2023. The public comment period was open until the end-of-day on March 17, 2023.

An opportunity for the public to comment on the city's 2023 – 2027 Draft Consolidated Financial Plan was also provided at the March 27, 2023, Finance and Audit Committee Meeting.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

2023-2026 Council Strategic Priorities inform the 2023 – 2027 Financial Plan to ensure that budget is allocated to fulfil the priorities. The Utility rates were derived from the 2023 – 2027 Financial Plan.

OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES

The following options are available for Council's consideration:

- Council approve and adopt the following bylaws so that the revenues as set out in the City of White Rock Financial Plan (2023 - 2027) Bylaw, 2023, No. 2458 are achieved:
 - White Rock Collection, Removal, Disposal and Recycling of Solid Waste Bylaw 2015, No. 2084, Amendment No. 7, 2023 No. 2462
 - White Rock Drainage Utility User Fee Bylaw, 2004, No. 1739, Amendment Bylaw, 2023, No. 2463
 - White Rock Sewer Connection and Rental Charges Bylaw, 1970, No. 396, Amendment Bylaw, 2023, No. 2464
 - White Rock Secondary Suite Service Fee Bylaw, 2012, No. 2009, Amendment No. 7, 2023, No. 2465
- Council does not approve one or any of the bylaws which will result in the user fees remaining the same as 2022 creating revenue shortfalls in the General, Drainage, Sanitary Sewer and/or Solid Waste funds.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council approve and adopt the following:

- White Rock Collection, Removal, Disposal and Recycling of Solid Waste Bylaw 2015, No. 2084, Amendment No. 7, 2023 No. 2462
- White Rock Drainage Utility User Fee Bylaw, 2004, No. 1739, Amendment Bylaw, 2023, No. 2463
- White Rock Sewer Connection and Rental Charges Bylaw, 1970, No. 396, Amendment Bylaw, 2023, No. 2464
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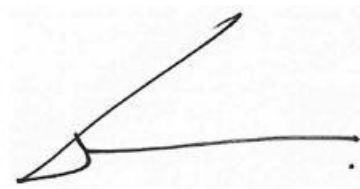
Respectfully submitted,



Candice Gartry
Director, Financial Services

Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer

This corporate report is provided for consideration and subsequent approval and adoption.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'G' followed by a horizontal line and a small dot at the end.

Guillermo Ferrero
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A: White Rock Collection, Removal, Disposal and Recycling of Solid Waste Bylaw
2015, No. 2084, Amendment No. 7, 2023 No. 2462

Appendix B: White Rock Drainage Utility User Fee Bylaw, 2004, No. 1739, Amendment
Bylaw, 2023, No. 2463

Appendix C: White Rock Sewer Connection and Rental Charges Bylaw, 1970, No. 396,
Amendment Bylaw, 2023, No. 2464

Appendix D: White Rock Secondary Suite Service Fee Bylaw, 2012, No. 2009, Amendment No.
7, 2023, No. 2465