
Report of the Commissioner of Public Works

Transfer Part of Kennedy Main Street Unionville Watermain on Carlton Road to City of Markham

1. Recommendations

1. Council authorize transfer of ownership of Kennedy Main Street Unionville Watermain on Carlton Road (63 metres of 400-millimetre polyvinyl chloride watermain and two valve chambers) to the City of Markham (as described in Appendix A).
2. The Regional Solicitor prepare any necessary bylaws.
3. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the City of Markham for information.

2. Purpose

This report seeks Council authorization to transfer ownership of a functioning local distribution watermain on Carlton Road, in Markham (see Appendix A), to Markham forming part of the local municipal water distribution system.

Key Points:

- Based on the [Water and Wastewater Infrastructure, Regional Jurisdiction Policy \(2019\)](#) the watermain aligns with the criteria for local infrastructure
- Following replacement of the existing watermain with a 400-millimetre polyvinyl chloride (PVC) watermain, discussions with Markham staff indicate they support transfer of watermain ownership

- Clear delineation of infrastructure ownership will positively impact service delivery by improving system operation and control

3. Background

The Region evaluates asset ownership in accordance with the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure, Regional Jurisdiction Policy

The Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Regional Jurisdiction Policy (2019) establishes criteria defining the extent of Regional water and wastewater infrastructure ownership and operation as defined under Section 11 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*. In [November 2012](#), Council approved entering into Asset Ownership Agreements (AOAs) with each of the local municipalities, providing a framework to review jurisdictional issues and delineate asset ownership boundaries. In 2021, the Region and Markham signed this agreement.

Properly delineated ownership boundaries established through implementation of AOAs enable staff from both the Region and local municipalities to manage, operate, and maintain their water and wastewater infrastructure more efficiently and improve management of risks in areas of non-exclusive jurisdiction.

Through the Asset Management Program, the Region evaluates, in consultation with local municipalities, where legacy ownership may exist that is not in accordance with the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure, Regional Jurisdiction Policy. Future recommendations will be brought forward to Council, as required, to transfer asset ownership from the Region to a local municipality or vice versa.

4. Analysis

This watermain aligns with the criteria for local municipal infrastructure as defined in the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure, Regional Jurisdiction Policy

The Water and Wastewater Infrastructure, Regional Jurisdiction Policy defines York Region's jurisdiction for water distribution infrastructure to specifically include:

- Watermains and pumping stations that transmit bulk water supply to local municipalities
- Metering to determine flow from York Region to local municipalities

The existing watermain is being replaced, is 63 metres long and installed along Carlton Road. It conveys water east and west from the Region's 400-millimetre trunk watermain on East Lane to the local water distribution system. The watermain does not function as a Regional watermain because it does not transmit bulk water supply. Staff recommend the watermain be transferred to Markham and

delineation between regional and local jurisdiction be established at the intersection of Carlton Road and East Lane, at the newly constructed valve chamber.

Markham staff support transfer of the watermain once replacement is complete

Markham is revitalizing Main Street Unionville. Considering the age and condition of this watermain, all parties agreed that it be replaced by Markham as part of this revitalization project and the Region pay for the replacement as it currently owns the asset. The Region would have incurred these costs regardless of the transfer given the watermain is approaching the end of its useful service life.

To facilitate the transfer, the existing watermain is being replaced with a 400-millimetre PVC watermain and two new valve chambers are being constructed. One valve chamber will be located on the Region's 400-millimetre trunk watermain and become a Regional asset. This chamber will become the ownership delineation point between the Region and Markham (see Appendix A).

Transfer of the watermain aligns with the Region's Strategic Plan

Transfer of the watermain supports and aligns with the *Region's 2023 to 2027 Strategic Plan* priority of efficiently delivering trusted services by providing clear delineation of infrastructure improving system operation and control.

5. Financial Considerations

The Region is funding an estimated \$875,000, including HST, for the replacement work through the watermain management program and budget. Markham is performing the replacement work which is included in the City's Main Street Unionville Revitalization contract and completion is anticipated in early 2024. Sufficient funding to replace the watermain has been included in the Public Works' 2023 Capital Budget. Once the replacement is complete, it is recommended the watermain be transferred to Markham and the Region's financial records be updated.

6. Local Impact

Transferring ownership of the watermain will ensure clear delineation of infrastructure jurisdiction and will facilitate system operation and control. By clearly delineating ownership at the valve chamber at the intersection of Carlton Road and East Lane, local municipal staff agree they can address any service impacts to Markham's local distribution system. Having certainty with the extent and description of ownership is vital for efficient operation and maintenance of the water distribution system.

7. Conclusion

It is recommended the Region transfer ownership of the watermain upon completion of the replacement work. Upon completion of the transfer, the watermain will become part of Markham's water distribution system.

For more information on this report, please contact Wendy Kemp, Director, Infrastructure Asset Management, Water and Wastewater, Public Works at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75141. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Recommended by:



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Commissioner of Public Works



Approved for Submission:

Bruce Macgregor

Chief Administrative Officer

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Appendix A – Map – Kennedy Main Street Unionville Watermain on Carlton Road

