

REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON
RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT
RAPPORT

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Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 21 July 1999

TO/DEST. Co-ordinator
 Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee

FROM/EXP. Environment and Transportation Commissioner

SUBJECT/OBJET **ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE PUMPING STATION
TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP**

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION

That the Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee and Council approve the transfer of the existing Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) Pumping Station, forcemain and easements to the National Museum of Science and Technology Corporation.

BACKGROUND

The Alvin Heights/Rockcliffe Air Base area is served by a combined sewer system and contains a number of pull-back sewers and overflows. The pull-back sewers, designed in the early 1960's, capture dry weather flows and re-direct them to the Ottawa Outfall Sewer for treatment at the Pickard Centre. A number of hydraulic and structural problems have been experienced in the sewer system in this area.

In 1997, the Alvin Heights/Rockcliffe Air Base Sanitary Sewer Study was initiated with the following objectives:

- improve the overall system performance and maintenance requirements;
- maximize the capture and treatment of wastewater flows based on flow allocations and overflow control objectives defined by the RMOC Wastewater Master Plan;
- prevent wastewater collection system flooding, and;
- ensure that the above objectives are met for both existing and future development conditions.

The study provided a number of options for each of the pull-back sewers and control structures. With respect to the RCAF area, it included the following:

1. The elimination of the RCAF Pumping Station, since all sanitary flows from the north-western area of the RCAF Air Base have been eliminated;
2. the redirection of the flows from the Aviation Museum to the RCAF control structure above the escarpment or to the Alvin Heights pull-back sewer.

DISCUSSION

The redirection of the flows from the Aviation Museum was reviewed in more detail as part of the detailed design work and it was determined that the most cost-effective solution regarding the flows from the Aviation Museum was to maintain the status quo but transfer ownership of the RCAF Pumping Station to the Aviation Museum since it only provides service to their facility. This will require the replacement of the section of existing forcemain from the existing pumping station to the Rockliffe Parkway. This will also require the separation of storm and sanitary flow at the pumping station.

The following are conditions of acceptance discussed with the National Museum of Science and Technology Corporation staff and they have agreed to accept the station provided that:

- The Region will provide records of service maintenance and preventative maintenance for the Pumping Station;
- The Region will leave all pumping station hardware, including the SCADA System hardware, in the Pumping Station for use by the National Museum of Science and Technology Corporation;
- The Region will replace the section of sanitary forcemain between the Pumping Station and the Rockliffe Parkway (this section has experienced seven breaks since 1992, with three of them occurring in 1998 - average repair cost is \$15,000 per break). It should be noted that this work should proceed regardless of whether the station is transferred or not;
- The Region will install cathodic protection for the remainder of the forcemain and will provide the National Museum of Science and Technology Corporation with a two year warranty;
- The Region will separate the existing overflow pipe from the pumping station;
- The Region will transfer easements associated with the pumping station and forcemain to the National Museum of Science and Technology Corporation.

EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION

A capital investment of approximately \$70,000 is required to address the hydraulic and structural concerns associated with the forcemain and separation of storm flows. Upon completion of these infrastructure improvements, the ownership and responsibility for the RCAF Pumping Station will be transferred to the National Museum of Science and Technology Corporation, resulting in a reduction in annual operating costs to the Region in the amount of \$8,000 (excluding hydro costs which were borne by DND until this year). Ottawa Hydro has taken over the grid in this area and has recently commenced charging the Region for hydro supply (estimated annual cost is \$5,000).

CONSULTATION

A Public Open House was held on 29 June 1999. A total of eight people attended the open house. Two comment sheets were received, with feedback being very supportive of the project. Additional public notification will take place prior to the commencement of construction.

*Approved by
M.J.E. Sheflin, P.Eng.*

ZAG/jw