



Report to Council

To: Mayor and Council

File No: 5210-01

Date: May 14, 2025

From: Sean Irwin, Utilities Manager

Subject: Funding Request for 42nd Avenue Hydrant Infill

Purpose:

To request Council's approval for funding to install four (4) hydrants on 42nd Avenue between 20th Street and 27th Street.

Recommendation:

THAT Council authorize the expenditure of up to \$65,000 from the Infrastructure Reserve to install four (4) fire hydrants on 42nd Avenue between 20th Street and 27th Street as part of the Regional District of North Okanagan's planned capital improvement project for this area.

Background:

a. Rationale

1. The water distribution system within the City of Vernon is owned by the Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) and operated by the City of Vernon under an operations agreement. The City also completes select Capital water main replacement projects funded and directed by RDNO.
2. Under the water agreement, the costs related to the installation of new "infill" hydrants, in areas which have insufficient hydrant coverage, are the responsibility of the City. Renewal/replacement of hydrants is the responsibility of RDNO.
3. The Fire Underwriters Survey evaluates and rates a community's water distribution system and has specific requirements for flow rates and hydrant distribution to enable effective firefighting activities. When water distribution systems do not meet the requirements, the communities fire protection rating suffers and nearby residents may pay higher rates for fire insurance.
4. The City's Operations Division is constructing an RDNO capital watermain replacement project on 42nd Avenue, between 20th Street and 27th Street. This project is scheduled for 2025. During the design phase of the project, the consulting engineer

determined that four (4) additional fire hydrants are required to meet the recommended spacing identified in applicable City and RDNO Bylaw's.

b. Relevant Policy/Bylaw/Resolutions/Legislative Authority:

- Greater Vernon Water Distribution, Operations, Maintenance & Repair Agreement: PROTOCOL NO. ENG-GVW-OP-12 Hydrants

c. Council's Strategic Plan Alignment:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governance & Organizational Excellence | <input type="checkbox"/> Livability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation, Parks & Natural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibrancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |

d. Committee Recommendations:

N/A

Financial Implications:

The estimated cost to install four (4) hydrants as part of RDNO's capital water main replacement project is \$65,000 and could be funded from the Infrastructure Reserve (which has a current remaining balance of \$78,704). Coordinating the installation of the hydrants with RDNO's capital project results in an estimated savings of \$15,000.

The hydrants would become RDNO assets and future renewal and replacement would be funded by RDNO.

Alternatives & Implications:

Should Council not approve the recommendation, the hydrant spacing on 42nd Avenue would not meet the recommended distances and could impact fire protection within this area.

Communication:

N/A

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - Greater Vernon Water Distribution, Operations, Maintenance & Repair Agreement

Reviewed by: James Rice, Operations Director

Reviewed by: David Lind, Fire Chief, Fire-Rescue Services

Reviewed by: Kevin Poole, Director, Corporate Administration

Approved by: Peter Weeber, Chief Administrative Officer