



Report Number: 2011-1

Date: January 10, 2011.

**Subject: COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW (CSO) MANAGEMENT PLAN
2010 APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

1) PURPOSE:

This report is prepared by Ron Hanson, Director of Engineering and Operations to confirm, by Resolution of Council, the Municipality's application for funding with the Region of Niagara's CSO Management Action Plan and the City's commitment of \$200,000 from the 2011 Sanitary Sewer Capital Budget allocation.

2) HISTORY, BACKGROUND, COUNCIL POLICY, PRACTICES

The Niagara Water Strategy was released in 2003, resulting in the establishment of the CSO Management Action Plan. Combined sewer overflows (CSO) are one of the highest point source contributors of contaminants to receiving water bodies from urban areas. The CSO Plan represents the first step in a 15 year program to achieve CSO reductions targets in Niagara. The City was successful in acquiring matching funds (50 %) in each year between 2007 and 2010.

In conjunction with the Region, the Port Colborne Pollution Control and Infrastructure Study was completed in 2006. The study identified existing CSO locations and sources of extraneous flow contributing to the problem. As a result of the study, recommendations for source control in key areas have been identified. As detailed in the Strategic Planning sessions and at Budget deliberations, Staff presented a proposed Pilot Program for the Arena Sewershed, with an allocation of \$400,000 for 2007/2008. Since it is anticipated that the funding program will continue in future years, the plan is to continue applying for funding for additional source control programs on a City-wide basis.

3) STAFF COMMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The results of source control measures will be lower treatment costs to the Municipality, reduced capital costs to the Region for pumping station and treatment plant upgrades and additional capacity for future development connecting to the system.

The source control program in the Arena Area is complete with a final summary report to Council pending. The work in the Omer sewershed began in 2009. The City's Sewer Use Bylaw was adopted by Council in December 2008 and the consultants are proceeding with the program of flow monitoring and house to house investigations and remediation. A report to Council on the findings and planned remediation for the Omer Area is pending.

A capital fund allocation of \$200,000 is currently built into the sewer rate structure and has been for a number of years. This allocation does not impact in an increase to the

current rate and allocation of these funds effectively doubles the available capital funds for ongoing projects in 2011. There are a number of sewer enhancement projects and storage improvement projects which may be funded through this program.

4) OPTIONS AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

a) Do nothing.

The cost of doing nothing would be the loss of 50 % funding on the program.

b) Other Options

As outlined, the CSO Management Plan guidelines require that municipalities apply on an annual basis for funding. The deadline is January 21, 2011.

5) COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES

Not applicable.

6) ATTACHMENTS

None.

7) RECOMMENDATION

that the Council of the City of Port Colborne, by Resolution, support the Application for Funding to the Region of Niagara, for the CSO Management Action Plan, and further; that Council confirm the 2011 Sanitary Sewer budget allocation of \$200,000 for the Source Reduction Program.

8) SIGNATURES

Prepared and Approved on January 10,
2011 by:

Reviewed by:

Ron Hanson, C.E.T.,

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Director of Engineering & Operations

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Reviewed and Respectfully Submitted:

Robert J. Heil
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