City of Richmond

Report to Council

To Council - Dec 8, 2008

To:	Richmond City Council	**Date:**	December 3, 2008
From:	Andrew Nazareth General Manager, Business & Financial Services	**File:**	12-8060-20-8451/ 8452/8453
	Robert Gonzalez, P. Eng., General Manager, Engineering & Public Works		
Re:	2009 Utility Rate Bylaws		

Staff Recommendation

That the following bylaws, which will bring into effect the 2009 Utility Rates be introduced and given first, second and third readings:

a) Solid Waste & Recycling Regulation Bylaw No. 6803, Amendment Bylaw No. 8451,

b) Drainage, Dyke and Sanitary Sewer System Bylaw No. 7551, Amendment Bylaw No. 8452,

c) Waterworks and Water Regulation and Rates Bylaw No. 5637, Amendment Bylaw No. 8453.

Andrew Nazareth
General Manager, Business
& Financial Services (4095)

Robert Gonzalez, P. Eng.
General Manager, Engineering
& Public Works (4150)

Att. 3

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ROUTED TO: CONCURRENCE Law...Y ☑ N ☐		
REVIEWED BY TAG YES ☑ MK NO ☐	**REVIEWED BY CAO** YES ☑ NO ☐	

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Staff Report

Origin

At their December 2, 2008 meeting, General Purposes Committee approved the 2009 utility expenditure budgets and rates as per Option 3 of the staff report dated November 24, 2008, "2009 Utility Budgets and Rates" from the General Managers of Business & Financial Services and Engineering & Public Works. Committee directed staff to report direct to Council with the necessary amendment bylaws to bring the new rates and other authorized changes into effect.

This report presents the corresponding amendment bylaws for first three readings.

Analysis

A brief summary of changes to each of the Solid Waste/Recycling, Drainage/Dyke/Sewer and Water amendment bylaws, as presented in the "2009 Utility Budgets and Rates" report dated November 24, 2008 follows:

1. *Solid Waste & Recycling Regulation Bylaw No. 6803, Amendment Bylaw No. 8451*

    - Enacts the 2009 solid waste and recycling rates as outlined in Option 3 of the above-referenced report.

    - Adds items to the list of materials the City will not collect as garbage (items which can be recycled through the blue box program or via stewardship programs) in support of Metro Vancouver disposal bans, which were introduced in 2008.

2. *Drainage, Dyke and Sanitary Sewer System Bylaw No. 7551, Amendment Bylaw No. 8452*

    - Enacts the 2009 sewer and drainage rates as outlined in Option 3 of the above-referenced report.

    - Amends the sewer and drainage connection charges assessed for private property developments to provide for adequate recovery of City costs for undertaking these works.

    - Introduces clarifying language requiring property owners to ensure that on-site surface water is contained entirely on their property and is subsequently discharged to the City's drainage system.

    - Includes administrative changes to correct references contained within the bylaw as well as introduces definitions for purposes of clarity.

3. *Waterworks and Water Regulation and Rates Bylaw No. 5637, Amendment Bylaw No. 8453*

    - Enacts the 2009 water rates as outlined in Option 3 of the above-referenced report.

- Introduces language which will provide City financial assistance of up to $3,000 to property owners in two-family dwellings to undertake necessary plumbing alterations to allow for individual metering.

- Includes administrative changes to correct references contained within the bylaw as well as introduces definitions for purposes of clarity.

Financial Impact

The rates outlined in the proposed amending bylaws represent full cost recovery for each respective area.

Conclusion

The utility rate strategy continues to represent a sustainable financial approach to managing increasing regional costs associated with ensuring water quality for residents and sound environmental practices for sewer treatment. In addition, the strategy ensures a sound long-term sustainable approach to proper management of the City's water, sewer, drainage and dyking infrastructure now and into the future.

Suzanne Bycraft
Manager, Fleet & Environmental Programs
(3338)

SJB: