



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Public Works and Transportation Committee

**Date:** October 4, 2012

**From:** Tom Stewart,  
Director, Public Works


**File:** 10-6000-01/2012-Vol  
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**Re:** Sanitary Dump Station

### Staff Recommendation

That:

1. An Expression of Interest for Sanitary Dump Station service within the City of Richmond be issued; and
2. Staff report back with recommendations based on the results of the Expression of Interest to Council for consideration.

*for*   
 Tom Stewart, AScT.  
 Director, Public Works  
 (604-233-3301)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 
REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS: 

## Staff Report

### Origin

Staff received a number of requests from recreational vehicle (RV) owners to construct a Sanitary Dump Station (Sani-Dump) within City limits. A Sani-Dump allows recreational type vehicles equipped with holding tanks the ability to discharge the wastewater into an approved wastewater disposal system.

### Background

Currently, there is no Sani-Dump in the City because the existing facilities located at the Shell gas station at Garden City/Lansdowne Road and the Richmond Tourism site at Hwy 99 just north of the tunnel were both closed around 2009. As well, the Sani-Dump located at the Delta Town and Country Inn just south of the tunnel on Hwy 99, closed around 2008. The closest active Sani-Dumps are located in North Burnaby and in Delta near the Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal.

### Analysis

The closures of Sani-Dumps over the years have been mostly due to low returns on investment, abuse, and mistreatment. From discussions with the operators we were advised the majority of the abuse comes from commercial vehicles dumping chemicals and other noncompliant liquids into the holding tanks or conveyance systems. The operators also mentioned that RV owners were not cleaning up after using the facility which required a lot of extra staff time.

The majority of Sani-Dumps in BC are privately owned and operated. Sanidump.com identifies the location of Sani-Dumps and many are located at gas service stations or businesses such as Canadian Tire. Staff investigated Sani-Dumps within a 60 km radius outside Richmond and found 8 active sites which were all privately owned and operated. With no active Sani-Dump within the City or nearby, staff reviewed options to have a Sani-Dump constructed in Richmond. The review identified the following two options as the most feasible for the providing Sani-Dump services in Richmond:

1. Private business owner owns and operates a Sani-Dump and the City contributes up to \$10,000 to assist with the installations of utility services. (Recommended)
2. Develop a City owned and operated facility.

Option 1 (recommended) provides financial incentive for private business, which has previously not realized adequate returns, to construct a Sani-Dump by contributing up to \$10,000 towards the required construction of the water and sewer infrastructure needed to support the facility. In return, the private business owner would be required to commit to providing the service for a minimum of five years.

Developing a City owned and operated Sani-Dump facility (Option 2) would be more costly for the City than Option 1. Staff recommends issuing an Expression of Interest to the public that includes the terms of Option 1 to determine if there is private sector interest in operating a Sani-Dump under those terms. Should there be inadequate interest in the Expression of Interest, Option 2 can be considered. The results of the Expression of Interest will be brought to Council for consideration in a subsequent staff report.

### **Financial Impact**

Up to \$10,000 from the 2011 Sewer and Water Minor Capital will be allocated in support of the recommended option provided the Expression of Interest generates suitable submissions.

### **Conclusion**

The City has two realistic options for providing Sani-Dump services in the City of Richmond. Staff recommends exploring the less expensive option, Option 1, through an Expression of Interest for a private business owner to own and operate a Sani-Dump with financial incentive from the City. Should the Expression of Interest not yield an appropriate result, Option 2, a City owned and operated facility, can be considered.



Romeo Bicego  
Manager, Sewerage and Drainage  
(604-244-1209)

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