

**2. PRATT MUNICIPAL DRAIN – APPOINTMENT OF ENGINEER  
DRAIN MUNICIPAL PRATT – NOMINATION D'UN INGÉNIEUR**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council appoint Mr. Andy Robinson, P. Eng of Robinson Consultants Inc. as the Engineer of record to prepare a report that addresses the implications of unassessed land being connected to the Pratt Municipal Drain, under Subsection 65(5) of the Drainage Act, as described in this report.**

**RECOMMANDATION DU COMITÉ**

**Que le Conseil nomme M. Andy Robinson, ing., de la firme Robinson Consultants Inc., comme ingénieur chargé de rédiger un rapport sur les implications du raccordement de terrains non évalués au drain municipal Pratt en vertu du paragraphe 65 (5) de la *Loi de 1990 sur le drainage* de l'Ontario, comme il est décrit dans le présent rapport.**

**DOCUMENTATION / DOCUMENTATION**

Susan Jones, Acting Deputy City Manager, report dated 24 September 2015 /  
Rapport du Directrice municipale adjointe par intérim daté du 24 septembre 2015  
(ACS2015-COS-ESD-0020).

**AGRICULTURE AND RURAL  
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
REPORT 8  
14 OCTOBER 2015**

**9**

**COMITÉ DE L'AGRICULTURE ET  
DES AFFAIRES RURALES  
RAPPORT 8  
LE 14 OCTOBRE 2015**

**Report to  
Rapport au :**

**Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee  
Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales  
1 October 2015 / 1er octobre 2015**

**and Council  
et au Conseil  
14 October 2015 / 14 octobre 2015**

**Submitted on September 24, 2015  
Soumis le 24 septembre 2015**

**Submitted by  
Soumis par :  
Susan Jones, Acting Deputy City Manager / directrice municipale adjointe par  
intérim, City Operations / Opérations municipales**

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**Ward: RIDEAU-GOULBOURN (21)**

**File Number: ACS2015-COS-ESD-0020**

**SUBJECT: Pratt Municipal Drain – Appointment of Engineer**

**OBJET: Drain municipal Pratt – Nomination d'un ingénieur**

## **REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee recommend Council appoint Mr. Andy Robinson, P. Eng of Robinson Consultants Inc. as the Engineer of record to prepare a report that addresses the implications of unassessed land being connected to the Pratt Municipal Drain, under Subsection 65(5) of the Drainage Act, as described in this report.**

## **RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT**

**Que le Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales recommande au Conseil de nommer M. Andy Robinson, ing., de la firme Robinson Consultants Inc., comme ingénieur chargé de rédiger un rapport sur les implications du raccordement de terrains non évalués au drain municipal Pratt en vertu du paragraphe 65 (5) de la *Loi de 1990 sur le drainage* de l'Ontario, comme il est décrit dans le présent rapport.**

## **BACKGROUND**

The Clerk of the City of Ottawa has received a request from a developer to connect additional land to the Pratt Municipal Drain pursuant to Section 65 of the Drainage Act. The land known as 6622 Rideau Valley Drive South (the "Unassessed Land") is currently not assessed under the original Pratt Municipal Drain engineer's report dated October 6, 1969 and By-law No.36-69. The Pratt Municipal Drain is located in Rideau-Goulbourn Ward in the village of Kars and was first constructed in 1969 by the former Township of North Gower under the engineer's report entitled Engineer's Report Pratt Municipal Drain, dated October 6, 1969.

The Pratt Municipal Drain flows into the Daly Municipal Drain. The Unassessed Land is currently not assessed under the original Daly Municipal Drain engineer's report dated November 13, 1973 and By-law No.29-73.

## **DISCUSSION**

Although Council is not required to appoint an engineer to prepare a report prior to considering a request to connect to drainage works, staff are recommending that Council appoint a qualified drainage engineer to provide Council with information on the

implications of connecting the Unassessed Land to the Pratt Municipal Drain in order that Council may exercise due diligence prior to making a decision under Subsection 65(5) of the Drainage Act, either approving or disapproving the proposed connection to the drainage works.

In order to satisfy the requirements of Section 65(3) and avoid a second site visit the engineer will be asked to include the assessment for just proportion of the drainage works for the Unassessed Land in his report in the event that Council does approve the connection under Section 65(5).

Staff are recommending the appointment of Mr. Andy Robinson P. Eng. of Robinson Consultants Inc., as the engineer of record as he has over 35 years experience with similar *Drainage Act* projects, a specialized field of engineering in Ontario.

This report has no tax or budget implications. All costs associated with the engineer's report will be initially paid by the Surface Water Branch of the City but eventually recovered from the owner of 6622 Rideau Valley Drive South. The estimated cost of the report is \$25,000. Funding is available in the approved Municipal Drainage capital program for the cost of the engineer's report.

Council's appointment of the Drainage Engineer to prepare a report does not supersede any regulatory requirements that may be associated with any natural environment issues raised in any other public consultations to date.

The developer of the Unassessed Land has provided required environmental studies, reports and regulatory requirements of relevant agencies (i.e. Conservation Authorities, Ministry of Natural Resources, and Department of Fisheries and Oceans) through the development process for the Unassessed Land.

If Council approves the connection and if the assessment is for an amount greater than \$500, the owner of the land that is assessed may appeal the engineer's assessment to the Tribunal within 40 days after the City Clerk and Solicitor sends a copy of the assessment to the owner of the assessed land (Subsection 65(11) of the Drainage Act).

The *Drainage Act* prescribes the process and timelines that must be followed for any modification or construction of a municipal drain.

### **Schedule for the proposed connection to the Pratt Municipal Drain**

Should the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee and Council approve the appointment of the Engineer, Mr. Andy Robinson P. Eng. of Robinson Consultants Inc., the anticipated schedule will be as follows:

- Council appointment of Engineer to prepare a report for Council's consideration of the proposed connection drainage works – October 2015
- Preparation of engineer's report – October 2015 to April 2016
- Submission of engineer's report and staff report containing staff's recommendation to Council on whether to approve the connection based on the implications set out in the engineer's report – May 2016
- Consideration of report and Council decision under 65(5) to approve or disapprove the connection, based on implications and evaluation in the engineer's report and staff's recommendation to Council – June 2016
- Drainage Tribunal 40 day appeal period under 65(11) – Q3 of 2016

### **RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed rural subdivision will benefit from this undertaking through improved drainage and reduced risk of flooding.

### **CONSULTATION**

Consultation with the Ward Councillor, and City staff is ongoing.

### **COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)**

The Ward Councillor is aware of this report.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Drainage Act stipulates that no person shall connect to or disconnect from drainage works without the approval of the council of the municipality (Subsection 65(5)) but the Drainage Act does not set out any process that Council must follow or documentation that Council must consider prior to making its decision. However, if Council were to approve a connection to a drainage works without first considering a drainage

engineer's report on the implications of the connection, the decision would likely be set aside if appealed.

If Council approves the connection of the land to the drainage works, the next step is that the clerk of the municipality shall instruct an engineer to inspect the land that is to be connected and assess it for a just proportion of the drainage works (Subsection 65(3) of the Drainage Act)

Rights of Appeal:

Any person may appeal to the referee under s. 106 of the Drainage Act the following:

1. Council's appointment of the engineer to prepare the engineer's report recommended by staff under this staff report, and
2. Council's decision under Subsection 65(5) approving or disapproving the connection of the Unassessed Land to the Pratt Municipal Drain.

As long as Council uses its best efforts to make an informed decision on the approval or disapproval of the connection the Unassessed Lands to the existing drainage works, there are no legal impediments to the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no risk implications associated with this report.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

This report has no tax or budget implications. The estimated costs of \$25,000 for the engineer's report will be initially paid by the City of Ottawa, Surface Water Management Branch, Environment Services Department, and recovered from the owner of 6622 Rideau Valley Drive South upon completion of the drainage works. Funds are available in the approved Municipal Drainage capital program. Once approved by Council, a separate new internal order will be created for this specific drain and all necessary funding will be transferred to it.

## **ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS**

There are no accessibility impacts associated with this report.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The subsequent connection to the Pratt Municipal Drain are associated with final approval of the subdivision. There are no provincially significant wetlands within the watershed of the Pratt Municipal Drain. Any proposed works will require compliance with City, provincial and federal policies, standards, regulations and legislation.

## **TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

The proposed works to the Pratt Municipal Drain will fulfill the City's Strategic Plan's environment and infrastructure protection priorities.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

DOCUMENT 1 – Pratt Municipal Drain, Location Plan (*Distributed separately and held on file with the City Clerk.*)

## **DISPOSITION**

The Drainage Superintendent shall notify all affected landowners and the local conservation authority of the decision of Council.