
For Immediate Release**Moffat Creek Sanitary Sewer Project Moves Ahead
Environmental Impact and Overall Costs Reduced**

Cambridge, Ontario. May 11, 2009...A recommendation for tendering of the Moffat Creek Sanitary Sewer construction goes before Cambridge City Council tonight that results in cost savings of over \$2 million for the project. The project takes a new direction which will also result in less environmental impact which is good news for the South East Galt community.

The project is the construction of 1,200 metres of sanitary sewer along the Moffat Creek valley between Franklin Boulevard and east of Dundas Street. The original quotes for the tender in 2008 came in at a range of \$8.7 to \$17 million to undertake the project. Since then, the City of Cambridge has been able to refine the alignment and include different technologies that bring the price tag down to \$6.8 million.

“What it means to the community is a less invasive process that preserves the environmental assets by utilizing primarily tunnelling techniques to dig. The trenchless technology is similar to the methods used in mining which means that rather than open cutting the area, the majority of the route can be excavated or tunnelled underground,” says Jim Kirchin, Director of Planning Operations.

The project history dates back a few years when the Environmental Assessment and community plans were undertaken in 1999. Since then, the city has enhanced the approach to provide the new services by changing the techniques to tunneling and acquiring the adjacent lands to provide for a more direct path to access the installation area. It means more of the environmental features can be preserved - a strong philosophy of the eco-friendly City.

“It’s a streamlined approach that saves more trees and natural features, reduces the number of construction access areas such as pits, and provides benefits to the existing community while planning for the growth of the neighbourhood,” adds Kirchin.

The sanitary sewer extension is needed to facilitate the planned growth of the South East Galt community which will see nearly 4,000 new homes in the coming years. Currently Cambridge City Council has approved plans for 700 units. The funding to achieve the sewer system to support this residential development is not from tax dollars rather it comes from development charges that are incurred by the builder and end up being part of the purchase price of

the home. The savings the City achieves is ultimately a savings for the end user.

There is also a significant amount of new community infrastructure for this area including a community centre, a campus style development of a community park and library, and two new schools.

Moffat Creek is a tributary to the Grand River that wraps through the Churchill Park. A beautiful and scenic area, the City has also submitted a proposal under the Infrastructure Stimulus Program to construct a walkway trail that would provide a vital link to the existing trail network and serve the new community needs. It's another eco-friendly option for the residents and builds on the more than 50 km of trails in Cambridge.

Construction of the sewer system will begin immediately following council approval and is expected to be completed by the February 2010 at which time the developer of the residential units would be able to start building.

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The City of Cambridge is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. It is strategically located astride highway 401 in Southwestern Ontario, part of Canada's Technology Triangle. In 2009, the population reached over 126,000 people. With a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services, Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement. Based on the 2007 BMA Management Consulting Inc Municipal Study, the City of Cambridge is one of only four municipalities in the province that is debt free.

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