

Sandwich Waterworks Conversion Project Update

January 2018

The Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) has been operating and managing the Sandwich Water Local Service Area (WLSA) for the past year since the system was converted to a CVRD owned and operated service.

The final steps for the conversion are the installation of water meters and to complete the system modifications for residents in both the City of Courtenay and CVRD Area B to become connected to the Comox Valley water system.

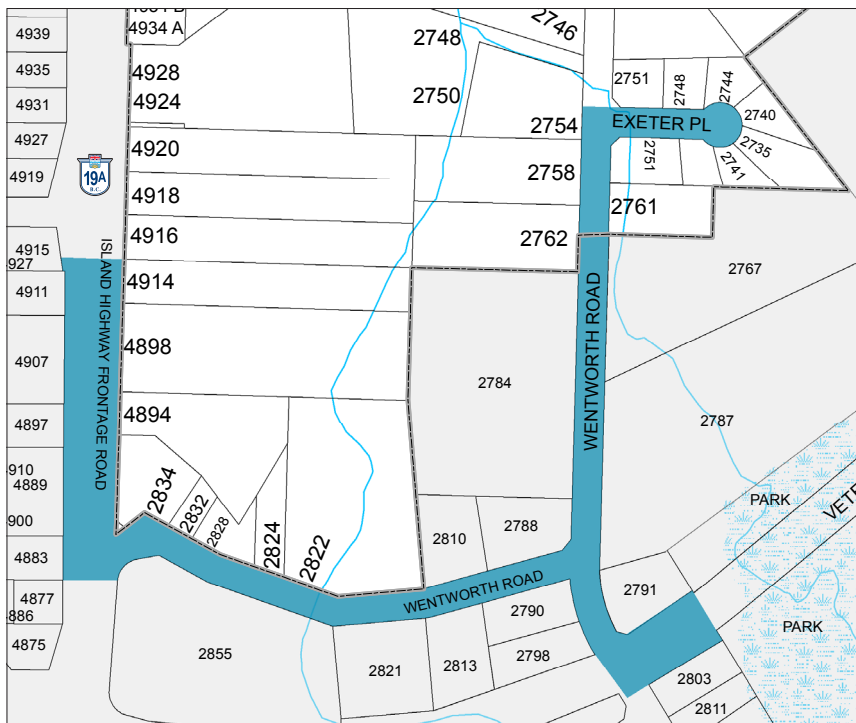
System Modifications

These modifications include the installation of a new watermain from Veterans Memorial Parkway, along Wentworth Rd., and connecting to the existing watermain on the Island Highway. Work will also include decommissioning of the river intake and wells that will no longer be in service after the connection has occurred. The contract for the project will be awarded within the coming months and construction is scheduled to begin in Spring 2018.

System modifications to connect to the Comox Valley water system will result in increased pressure and fire flow availability for Sandwich residents. Homeowners should ensure their pressure reducing valve (PRV), as required by the BC Plumbing Code, is installed and functioning correctly. The PRV will prevent damage to pipes, washing machine hoses, water heaters, etc. The CVRD will not be responsible for any property damage that may occur as a result of the increase in pressure to the system.

During the construction period homeowners may experience cloudiness in their water as construction improvements are made. Notice to homeowners that will be impacted by construction will be provided closer to the time of construction.

Map of Construction Area



Project Timing

February 2018
Contract Awarded

Spring 2018
Contract Begins

June 1, 2018

Homeowner/property owner to have verified and ensure PRV is installed and working correctly

Fall 2018

Construction complete and Sandwich residents become connected to the Comox Valley water system

 **Comox Valley**
REGIONAL DISTRICT

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Meter Installations

Installation of meters is nearing completion. CVRD waterworks staff, with help from excavation and backfill contractors, began the installation of 424 meters in November 2017. As part of the meter installation a check valve is installed to protect water from flowing backwards into the public water system. To prevent possible damages due to the installation of check valves, homeowners should ensure hot water tank relief valves and/or expansion tanks are in good working order.

A period of mock billing will take place prior to the implementation of metered water rates. More information on mock billing and rates will be provided in April 2018.

February 2018 Meter installation complete
April 2018 Mock billing period commences
April 2019 Metered water rates take effect



Project Costs

The costs to Sandwich Residents for the system modifications and water meters costs are now known. Conversion costs will be recovered through a one-time \$2,000 parcel tax in 2018. The parcel tax will be adjusted in subsequent years based on reserve contribution requirements. Capital improvement cost charges will be \$1,000 per property and will be charged through the utility bill.

Component	Project Costs
System Modifications	\$1,013,000
Meter Installations	\$382,000
Capital Improvement Cost Charges	\$424,000
Less community works funds	(\$547,660)
Total Project Costs	\$1,271,000
Cost Per Connection	\$3,000

What this means for your bill

	Timing	Cost Per Connection
Parcel Tax – charged to all properties that have a water service	Tax notice will be issued beginning of June and due first business day of July	\$2,000
Utility Bill – charged to every property located within the Sandwich WLSA	One time \$1,000 capital improvement cost charge due with utility bill in June	\$1,000
Total Cost Per Connection		\$3,000

More Information:

Call us at: 250-334-6056

Questions about billing?

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Questions about the conversion project?

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Questions about parcel tax?

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