

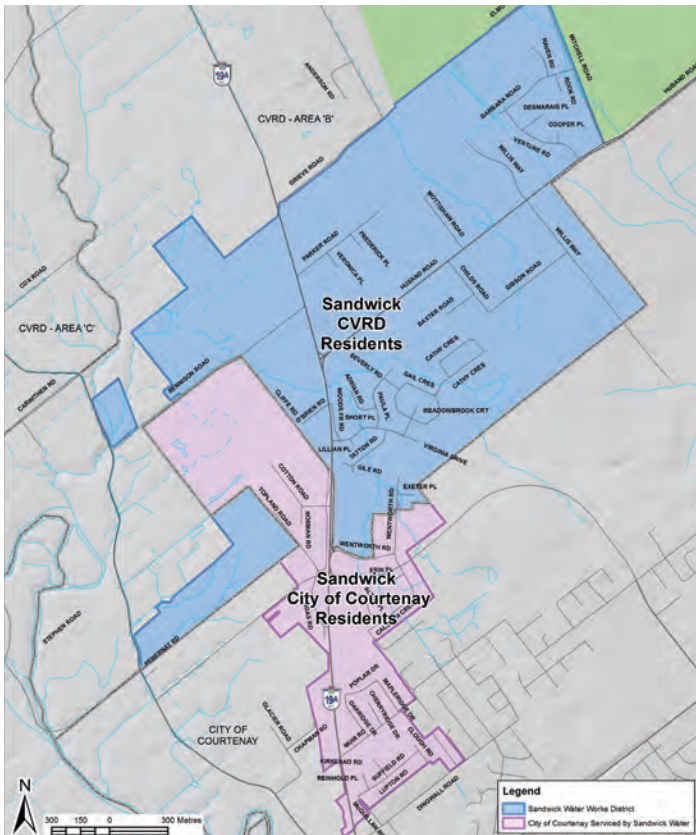
# Sandwick Waterworks Conversion Project Update

June 2017

In 2016, the Sandwick Waterworks District decided to disband and convert to a Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) service area. On January 1, 2017 the CVRD took over management of the Electoral Area B portion of the Sandwick Waterworks District (see map below). The CVRD's certified, full-time operators have begun operating and managing the water system.

The Sandwick system is currently being serviced by two groundwater wells. By the end of 2017, it will be connected to the Comox Valley water system which sources water from Comox Lake that is diverted from BC Hydro's penstock before being disinfected and distributed throughout the entire system.

**“By the end of 2017 the Sandwick system will be connected to the Comox Valley water system.”**



Map showing the boundary for Electoral Area B Sandwick residents (blue) who will be converting to the CVRD system. Sandwick residents living within the City of Courtenay boundary (pink) will move to the municipal water system.

## Next Steps

The next step for the Sandwick system is to complete system modifications required for residents in both the City of Courtenay and CVRD Area B to become connected to the Comox Valley water system. The CVRD is working with the City of Courtenay to complete the physical conversion. System modifications for Area B residents will include the following:

- Installation of new water mains to service Sandwick Area B residents from the Comox Valley water system
- Installation of water meters
- Decommissioning of the Courtenay river intake, Dingwall well, Huband pump station, Mitchell well and reservoir.

## Project Timing

**July 2017**  
Completion of engineering and design

**Fall 2017**  
Contractor awarded to complete system modifications and construction begins

**December 2017**  
Construction complete and Sandwick residents become connected to the Comox Valley water system

# Sandwich Waterworks Conversion Project Update

## Project Costs

Since the CVRD took responsibility for the Sandwich system, an improved understanding of the system and associated capital cost requirements has been developed. The project scope has changed to include a dedicated Sandwich water main that will improve water delivery and reliability for the system including fire fighting capabilities. While this means an increase in capital costs for the system modifications, the revised estimates show a decrease in overall costs.

As noted in the 2016 newsletter, the CVRD in collaboration with the City of Courtenay applied for funding through the Clean Water

and Wastewater Fund for this project. Unfortunately the grant application was not successful. However, costs per household have still decreased from previous projections due to decreases in capital improvement cost charges and the CVRD board's decision to allocate community works grant funds for metering costs.

System modification costs and water meter costs are still estimates at this time. The actual project costs will not be known until construction is complete. Home owners will be required to pay their share of any outstanding costs of the physical conversion and water meter installations, as well as the one-time capital improvement cost charge. Estimated costs are shown in the table below.

	2016 Estimate Cost per single family home	2017 Estimate Cost per single family home	2017 Estimate Total project Cost
System Modifications	\$725	\$1,887	\$800,000
Water Meters (424)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$508,000
Capital Improvement Cost Charge	\$3,702	\$1,000	\$424,000
Less: community works funds (modifications)	(\$725)	(\$725)	(\$307,000)
Less: community works funds (water meters)		(\$755)	(\$320,040)
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$4,902</b>	<b>\$2,607</b>	<b>\$1,104,960</b>

**“During the system modifications, periods of poor water quality are expected as construction improvements are made.”**

Notice to homeowners will be provided prior to major construction works and expected periods of poor water quality.

## Billing

Annual water bill payments can be made either via online banking or at the CVRD office by cash, cheque, debit or credit card. Upon completion of the installation of meters, a mock billing period will commence prior to the implementation of metered water rates. More information on metered rates will be made available later this year.

**“The CVRD recognizes that system modifications will be inconvenient at times but our goal is to improve the quality and quantity of water in the Sandwich System.”**

## More Information:

Call us at: 250-334-6056

Questions about billing?

[utilities@comoxvalleyrd.ca](mailto:utilities@comoxvalleyrd.ca)

Questions about the conversion project?

[engineeringservices@comoxvalleyrd.ca](mailto:engineeringservices@comoxvalleyrd.ca)

