



Sandwich Waterworks Conversion Project Update

DECEMBER 2016

Map showing the boundary for electoral B Sandwich residents (dark blue) who will be converting to the CVRD system. Sandwich residents living within the City of Courtenay boundary (light blue) will move to the municipal water system.

In July 2016, the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) approved the request of the Sandwich Waterworks District (SWWD) to convert its water supply and distribution services for electoral area B residents to the CVRD's regional water system. The CVRD employs certified, full-time employees to operate and manage its water systems and this team will become responsible for the Sandwich system on January 1, 2017.

On the same date, Sandwich residents living within the City of Courtenay boundary will begin paying for their water services through the City of Courtenay.

Payments for 2016 water bills can be made at the Sandwich Waterworks District office until January 26, 2017 in the form of cash or cheque.

Sandwich electoral area B residents can make payments at the CVRD office starting on January 3, 2017. Payments will be accepted by cash, cheque, debit or credit card.

Any Sandwich customers residing within the City of Courtenay boundary will make their water bill payments at the City of Courtenay municipal offices. For more information please contact the City of Courtenay at info@courtenay.ca

Read more..

Project Costs



In April 2016, the CVRD board of directors voted in favour of contributing \$307,000 of area B's gas tax funding to help cover the cost of connecting electoral area B Sandwick residents to the Comox Valley regional water system. These funds will cover most, if not all, of the system modifications that are required for physical conversion to the regional system. Home owners will be required to pay their share of any outstanding costs of the physical conversion and water meter installation, as well as a one-time connection charge. Working with the City of Courtenay, the CVRD has also recently submitted an application for funding to the federal Clean Water and Wastewater Fund to assist with these costs.

Without additional grant funding, the total cost of converting to the regional water system is estimated at \$4,902 per single family home. Residents will have the option to make a one-time payment or spread the cost over 10 years by way of an annual parcel tax that is payable on the property tax notice. Details about payment options will be made available early next year.

Conversion Costs

	Project cost	Cost per single family home
System modifications	\$ 307,000	\$ 725
Water meters (424)	508,000	1,200
Connection charge (residential)	1,565,946	3,702
Less: gas tax funding	(307,000)	(725)
Total project cost	\$ 2,073,946	\$ 4,902

Billing

Sandwick electoral area B property owners will receive their annual water bill from the CVRD in June 2017. Bills are sent to the property owner and landlords are responsible for costs on behalf of their tenants, including any outstanding amounts owed from previous years. Annual water bill payments can be made at the CVRD office by cash, cheque, debit or credit card.

CVRD 2017 annual water rates*

Residential (per single family home)	Commercial
\$ 455	\$ 469

*pending bylaw approval

Project Background

The SWWD was incorporated by letters patent in April 1960 and has delivered potable water to its residents since 1965. During their annual general meeting of 2013, the SWWD board of trustees supported a resolution requesting the CVRD initiate a study of the options and costs associated with converting to a regional district service. This request was based on challenges around water supply and sources, health authority regulations pertaining to surface water treatment and organizational capacity. Three years later, the SWWD decided to disband and convert to the CVRD service area. The CVRD approved the decision and the transfer date for the services was set at January 1, 2017.

Contact

The Sandwick Waterworks District office will remain open until January 26, 2017 at:
801 Dingwall Road
Courtenay, BC B9N 3S4
Tel: (250) 338-1092
Email: swwdist@telus.net

The Comox Valley Regional District office opens to area B Sandwick residents on January 3, 2017 at:
600 Comox Road
Courtenay, BC V9N
Monday to Friday: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Tel: 250-334-6000
Toll-free: 1-800-331-6007
Email: administration@comoxvalleyrd.ca

Water emergency reporting number: 1-877-999-2285 (starting January 1, 2017)