

## REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREAS COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2021

# <u>SUBJECT</u> Bylaw Nos. 4470 and 4471: Fees and Charges Bylaw Amendments for Utilities within the Three Electoral Areas

## **ISSUE SUMMARY**

Adjusting the utilities rates for the three electoral areas as recommended by the respective Commissions, and as included in the 2022 Financial Plan.

#### BACKGROUND

Annually, amendments to the Electoral Area utilities fees and charges bylaws are recommended to reflect the rates included in setting the service budgets and preliminary financial plan for the forthcoming year. All local service commissions have recommended their respective 2022 budgets, inclusive of the fees and charges changes.

The proposed fee and charges amendments are intended to cover the projected net cost of service delivery inclusive of reserve contributions for the upcoming year. Board approval is required in advance of the effective billing period January 1 through December 31, 2022.

With final surplus and deficits not yet completed, results will be monitored to identify any material impact and these would be incorporated into a rate adjustment and bylaw amendment after final year end results.

Appendix C contains a comparison of changes to rates contained in each of the two parent bylaws: Bylaw No. 3847 and Bylaw No. 3864.

Bylaw No. 3847 covers all Southern Gulf Islands and Juan de Fuca Electoral Areas Utilities and Street Lighting Fees and Charges, and Bylaw No. 3864 covers all Salt Spring Island Liquid Waste, Sewer, and Water Fees and Charges.

## ALTERNATIVES

## Alternative 1

The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

- 1. That Bylaw No. 4470, " Salt Spring Island Liquid Waste, Sewer, and Water Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2012, Amendment Bylaw No. 15, 2021", be introduced and read a first, second, and third time.
- 2. That Bylaw No. 4470 be adopted.
- 3. That Bylaw No. 4471, "Southern Gulf Islands and Juan de Fuca Electoral Areas Utilities and Street Lighting Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2012, Amendment Bylaw No. 10, 2021", be introduced and read a first, second, and third time.
- 4. That Bylaw No. 4471 be adopted.

#### Alternative 2

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

## Financial Implications

Changes in fees and charges are required in order for local utility services in the three Electoral Areas to maintain adequate levels of funding for annual operating costs inclusive of reserve contributions. The recommended rates are effective for January 1 through December 31, 2022 and reflect estimated 2021 surplus and deficit transfers and carryforwards.

## CONCLUSION

Several utilities within the Electoral Areas require changes to fees and charges, to reflect user fees required to fund operating and capital budgets. The Commissions have all recommended their respective 2022 service budget for Board approval; this approval is required prior to January 1, 2022, in order to attain the revenue targets specified in the 2022 service budgets.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

- 1. That Bylaw No. 4470, " Salt Spring Island Liquid Waste, Sewer, and Water Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2012, Amendment Bylaw No. 15, 2021", be introduced and read a first, second, and third time.
- 2. That Bylaw No. 4470 be adopted.
- 3. That Bylaw No. 4471, "Southern Gulf Islands and Juan de Fuca Electoral Areas Utilities and Street Lighting Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2012, Amendment Bylaw No. 10, 2021", be introduced and read a first, second, and third time.
- 4. That Bylaw No. 4471 be adopted.

Submitted by:	Rianna Lachance, BCom, CPA, CA, Senior Manager, Financial Services
Concurrence:	Nelson Chan, MBA, FCPA, FCMA, Chief Financial Officer
Concurrence:	Kristen Morley, J.D., General Manager, Corporate Services & Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

## ATTACHMENT(S)

Appendix A: Bylaw No. 4470 and Schedules Appendix B: Bylaw No. 4471 and Schedules Appendix C: Changes to Fees & Charges Summary