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all year long, rewarding them with a candy
illage scenes and the chance to ride a min-

Senanus water edges closer

Laura Lavijn

Peninsula News Review

A study done for the District of Central Saanich costing out options for water service to Senanus Drive residents has led to the a grant application.

Elizabeth Lau of Bullock Baur civil engineering gave a summary of the study to Central Saanich's Water and Waste Management Committee. Councillor Zeb King, the chair of the committee was absent for the meeting and councillors Chris Graham and Alastair Bryson both left the meeting citing conflict of interest in the matter.

The remaining three councillors and Mayor Jack Mar listened to the information keeping the deadlines for the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund grant and the General Strategic Priorities Fund [Canada - BC - UBCM Gas Tax Agreement], along with other projects that could qualify for funding under those grants, in mind.

Lau said they, "looked at the existing system and what we would need to do to upgrade." She said they had to make some "assumptions" such as a 700 to 1,000 litre domestic use rate and that only properties fronting on Mount Newton X Road [and Senanus Drive] would be serviced. They also made the assumption that the CRD trunk main would be capable of supplying the additional demand for water.

Bullock Baur looked at two options for servicing Senanus Drive. Option one would provide domestic water supply only and option two would supply domestic and agri-

cultural irrigation, plus fire flow.

They used previous studies and reports for background information, as well as domestic water requirements outlined in the district's water system report prepared in 1998. They also used the district's agricultural water study that was prepared by Bullock Baur in 1998.

Lau warned that the costs "are conceptual only," and include allowance for contingency, engineering and administration and were adjusted to 2007 dollars. The cost estimate did not include GST or internal administrative costs.

Option one, which would not require any upgrade to the current system, would cost an estimated \$1.53 million.

Option two, which would require upsizing all existing water-mains to meet the maximum domestic demand, 280 L/s agricultural flow and 80 L/s fire flow, has an estimated cost of \$3.78 million.

The consultants also looked at providing both domestic flow and fire flow only. During normal operating conditions limited flow could be provided to agricultural users, but in the event of a fire, agricultural needs could not be met. The estimated cost of this option is \$2.92 million.

Another alternative would include domestic flow and agricultural irrigation. In the event of a fire, restriction to the agricultural

flow would be necessary to maintain sufficient pressure and deliver 80 L/s fire flow.

"The risk of needing irrigation and fire flow at the same time would be low," said Lau. The estimated cost for this option would be \$3.42 million.

Lau recommended that a more detailed review of the two alternate servicing options be done.

The study reports that in order to meet the large flow demand from agricultural users an extensive upgrade to the existing system would be required. It also recommended a further study to examine the feasibility of developing a new connection to the CRD water system as an alternative to upgrading the existing pressure reducing station and water network. The study also suggested investigating the use of Upper John Dean reservoir as an alternative.

Central Saanich Fire Chief Ron French was in attendance at the meeting and was asked to provide some input on the alternatives with regard to fire flow.

"If you end up with a domestic system you might be able to tie into sprinkler systems for [homes], but that would still leave us with no fire fighting capabilities," said French. "It becomes a wild fire issue. We have to look at access and egress ... determine how big a fire was then decide where we're going to draw the line — how close we're going to get to it."

French explained that currently the fire department uses tanker trucks to reach



Chief Ron
French
Central Saanich
Fire Dept.

Senanus

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structure fires in areas that do not have access to adequate water flows. "And we have mutual aid with North Saanich to supply tankers," he added.

After a week of consideration on the matter, Central Saanich council voted to submit a grant application for Option one. The grant would fund one-third of the cost, with the residents funding the remainder.

"This provides no opportunity for subdivision," said Councillor Robert Thompson. "That issue lies with zoning and that is always under the control of council ... to me this is a question of water quality, not development.

"Let's just be clear that if the costs go up, the resident, not the municipality, will cover the difference."

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Katie is back