

Piped water on the way for bad wells

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Central Saanich councillors have voted to begin the process of piping drinking water to about 66 homes whose wells have gone brackish.

Mayor Jack Mar said municipal bureaucrats were instructed to report back in the near future on whether the piping system could also be designed to support fire hydrants.

The issue of water supply for 66 homes on Senanus Drive has been around for over a decade, ever since the wells started going bad.

Health authorities have tested the water and judged it unfit, largely due to saltwater incursion. One resident complained the water would corrode metal pipes, kill houseplants and give children eczema.

But bringing in municipal water was bogged down by fears it would lead to increased growth.

About 18 months ago, the federal and provincial governments agreed to pay \$1.1 million toward the estimated \$1.6-million cost.

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