



AMHERST TOWN COUNCIL

RFD# 2025028

Date: March 24, 2025

TO: Mayor Small and Members of Council

SUBMITTED BY: Aaron Bourgeois, Director of Operations

DATE: March 24, 2025

SUBJECT: PCAP Infrastructure Funding Application

ORIGIN: 2025/26 proposed Capital Budget and the Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY: MGA Section 65 The council shall adopt an operating budget and a capital budget for each fiscal year.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council approve the Provincial Capital Assistance Program funding application for an ultraviolet disinfection system for the Town's wastewater treatment facility and authorize the CAO to submit the application on behalf of the Town.

BACKGROUND: The proposed 2025/26 capital budget includes a \$650,000 project to install an ultraviolet disinfection system at the Town's Wastewater Treatment Facility.

The treatment plant has been in operation since October 2012. At that time, Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change (NSECC) allowed the plant to operate without an ultraviolet disinfection system as it was hoped the engineered wetlands would provide the level of treatment required. As the plant has not been able to achieve compliance with the effluent discharge requirements set out by NSECC for E.Coli Bacteria and as required by our permit to operate a wastewater treatment facility a UV disinfection system must be added to the treatment process.

DISCUSSION: This project is eligible for 50% funding under the Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP) and requires a resolution from Council be submitted with the application. Council's approval to submit a funding application does not commit council to all or any part of the project should the application be denied.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The total value of the project is \$650,000. If the application is approved PCAP would fund 50% (\$325,000) and the Town would pay 50% (\$325,000)

SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPLICATIONS: There are no social justice implications as a result of this decision.





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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS: Installing a UV treatment system at this time will ensure compliance with Provincial Legislation and also demonstrates Council's commitment to protection of the environment.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Prior to construction work taking place, a public notification program will be undertaken.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Do not include this project in the capital budget and do not submit the funding application.
2. Submit a funding application for a different project.

ATTACHMENTS: None

Report prepared by: Aaron Bourgeois, Director of Operations
Report and Financial approved by:

