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City Continuing Efforts to Secure Wastewater Treatment Funding

Lloydminster, AB/SK – The City of Lloydminster is continuing to work with federal and provincial leaders in its bid to secure essential funding for a new wastewater treatment facility.

The City requires support from higher levels of government to construct a new mechanical wastewater treatment plant at an estimated cost of \$80 million. In recent weeks, Mayor Gerald Aalbers has been in regular contact with the offices of Brian Mason, Alberta Minister of Transportation and Warren Kaeding, Saskatchewan Minister of Government Relations. Mayor Aalbers has also been in communication with the office of Amarjeet Sohi, the Federal Minister of Infrastructure and Communities.

“There has been encouraging dialogue with ministers from both provinces and the Federal Minister of Infrastructure; I am confident the urgency of Lloydminster’s wastewater funding needs is fully appreciated,” said Mayor Aalbers. “Lloydminster is simply unable to tackle this project without significant support from other levels of government and we remain hopeful a funding solution will be reached in the near future.

“As this Council is well aware, there is potential for severe legal and financial consequences for our municipality if we remain out of compliance with the new effluent regulations put forth by the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency (SWSA).”

In late 2017, the City of Lloydminster received a letter from Environment Canada’s Enforcement Branch, outlining fines and penalties of future non-compliance. The Environment Canada letter may be viewed at <http://www.lloydminster.ca/wastewater>.

Mayor Aalbers expressed Council’s appreciation to Saskatchewan MLA Collen Young and Alberta MLA Richard Starke for their ongoing work to elevate Lloydminster’s funding needs to the forefront of provincial infrastructure funding discussions.

Background

The City’s current wastewater treatment system was constructed more than 30 years ago. Following federal and provincial regulation changes in the late 2000s, the City of Lloydminster was mandated to improve effluent quality. On July 1, 2017, the City of Lloydminster became non-compliant under new discharge standards set forth by the SWSA. The City of Lloydminster has been granted a three-year extension to bring its effluent quality in line with SWSA regulations.



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MEDIA RELEASE

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