



**The Corporation of the Municipality
Staff Report**

**Office of the Deputy Treasurer
Manuela Batovanja**

Prepared For: Mayor and Council	Report No.: 2021-09
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Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council's approval to apply for funding through the MMAH Modernization Intake 3 Review Stream for the completion of a Water and Wastewater Master Plan which is to include a water and wastewater user fee study and 10-year financial plan.

Analysis

Earlier this year the Municipality of Wawa engaged the Municipal Government Wayfinders firm to provide Council with a municipal transformation study and resulting strategic plan.

Through the course of the transformation review the consultants identified concerns around strategic, master and long-range planning. As part of this engagement the consultant is to develop a strategic plan for the Municipality. Council, approved staff recommendation contained in report MB 2021-02 regarding Long-Term Financial Planning detailing the need for long-term forecasting and has since retained the services of Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. for the development of a Municipal Long-Term Financial Plan. This leaves the master planning portion of the Wayfinders recommendation to be addressed.

Master plans inform annual budgets, annual departmental work plans and long-term goals. They keep municipal priorities on track and ensure that they survive the transition from current to future councils.

The Municipal Government Wayfinders transformation review identified the need for a Water and Wastewater Master Plan in their recommendation number SP-03 Master Plan Approach. The review further identified the expected benefits of such plans as enhancing services, improving efficiencies and anticipating cost benefits as well as pointing out that master plans inform asset management plans. The review ranked the need for these master plans as critical and recommended implementation within two to four years.

**Respectfully Prepared and Submitted By:
Manuela Batovanja, Deputy Treasurer
Assistant Director of Corporate Services**

The studies recommendation, AF-08 Water Financial Plan, identifies the need for a Water Financial Plan. The review identified cost benefits, gave the recommendation a priority ranking of very important and recommended implementation within 1 year.

This plan would be almost entirely achieved within the creation of the Water and Wastewater Master Plan, the benefit would far exceed the minimal additional cost estimated to implement this recommendation.

The Water and Wastewater Master Plan will also include a Water and Wastewater rate study and a ten-year financial plan as supported by Wayfinders recommendation AF-04 Long Range Capital Forecasts and AF-11 Comprehensive User Fee Study.

It is the objective of this plan to identify long-term financial requirements, identify opportunities for efficiencies and inform and align with both the Asset Management Plan and the Long-term Financial Plan.

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of municipal staff that Council accept and implement the Municipal Wayfinders Transformation Review Recommendations as outlined in this report;

And further that Council direct staff to apply for \$150,000 through the MMAH Municipal Modernization Review Stream to retain a consultant for the development of a Water and Wastewater Master Plan which is to include a water and wastewater user fee study and 10-year financial plan.

Reference

Municipal Government Wayfinders Municipality of Wawa Transformation Review