

FAQ'S

Please send any further questions to engineers@whistler.ca

General Questions

I recently installed a holding tank/ septic system, will I have to connect to the sanitary sewer if it is built?

Yes, everyone (33 parcels) will be required to connect to the new sanitary sewer once it is completed. There will be no exceptions, except if the land is presently vacant. In some cases portions of the new infrastructure may be able to be reused as part of the connection to the sewer system.

When will there be an open house for this project?

Staff are currently evaluating dates in late July for holding an open house.

Financial Questions

How many homes would be affected by the Local Service Area?

33 parcels (lots).

What do I divide the \$900,000 by to figure out how much it will cost me?

The proposed taxes/fees are all provided in the petition. You do not need to perform any further math. The \$900,000 in borrowing has also been converted to the annual Local Area Service parcel tax of \$2,000.

\$900,000 borrowed for 20 years at 3.7% borrowing cost (the present value the RMOW is provided in order that we can generate a per lot estimate) divided by 33 lots is close to \$2,000 per year per parcel (rounded up to get a "maximum").

*In addition, each home owner will also be responsible for the cost of connecting from their home to the new sewer main, for the works and service charges (if applicable to your parcel), and annual fees as described in the petition documents. Again, **all the proposed taxes/fees are all provided in the petition document that is specific to your parcel.***

Can I pay the Local Service Area parcel tax in a lump sum?

Yes, this would just have to be done before the borrowing period commenced.

Why the cost to each parcel is more now than what was proposed in 2015?

A 50% cost share approach is the same approach as other sewer fund taxpayers have benefited from in the past. The former proposal was not based on a 50% cost share.

Why is the RMOW contributing only 50% when it will eventually hook up Rainbow Park and is hooking up The Pointe?:

- *A 50% cost share approach is the same approach as other sewer fund taxpayers have benefited from in the past.*
- *The funds for the 50% cost share will be withdrawn out of the sewer reserve funds. These reserves result from the sewer parcel taxes (not currently being paid by the 33 parcels) having been paid over time by the rest of Whistler's taxpayers;*
- *The parcel cost to connect The Pointe will be paid for by the RMOW (funded by the sewer fund reserves);*
- *The cost to connect Rainbow Park to the end of the proposed sewer is estimated at ~\$1M (this would be paid for from sewer fund reserves). The cost to continue to pump out the holding tank is more cost effective than spending \$1M on this connection, for the foreseeable future.*
- ***PLEASE NOTE, SCHEDULE C indicates that the connection to Rainbow Park will be installed, but this is just a pre-design drawing. The sanitary sewer being proposed at this time will terminate at 5754 Alta Lake Road.***

What happens if there are grant funds available?

- *At present there are no infrastructure grant opportunities available.*
- *The RMOW has made numerous applications to senior government for funding support to service this area, but none of the applications have been successful.*
- *Staff would request Council to endorse another application, should funding be available.*
- *There may be more appetite for senior government to support this project if the petition were successful.*
- *The completion of the project may be deferred, if there was grant money available to allow for those grant monies to be obtained (and the value awarded applied to offset the project cost).*

Sanitary Sewer Questions

Which direction does the sanitary sewer flow?

The sanitary sewer would flow south along Alta Lake Road.

What does "drop manhole" mean?

This is a technical term used to describe where the incoming pipe to the manhole is at a much higher elevation than the pipe leaving the manhole.

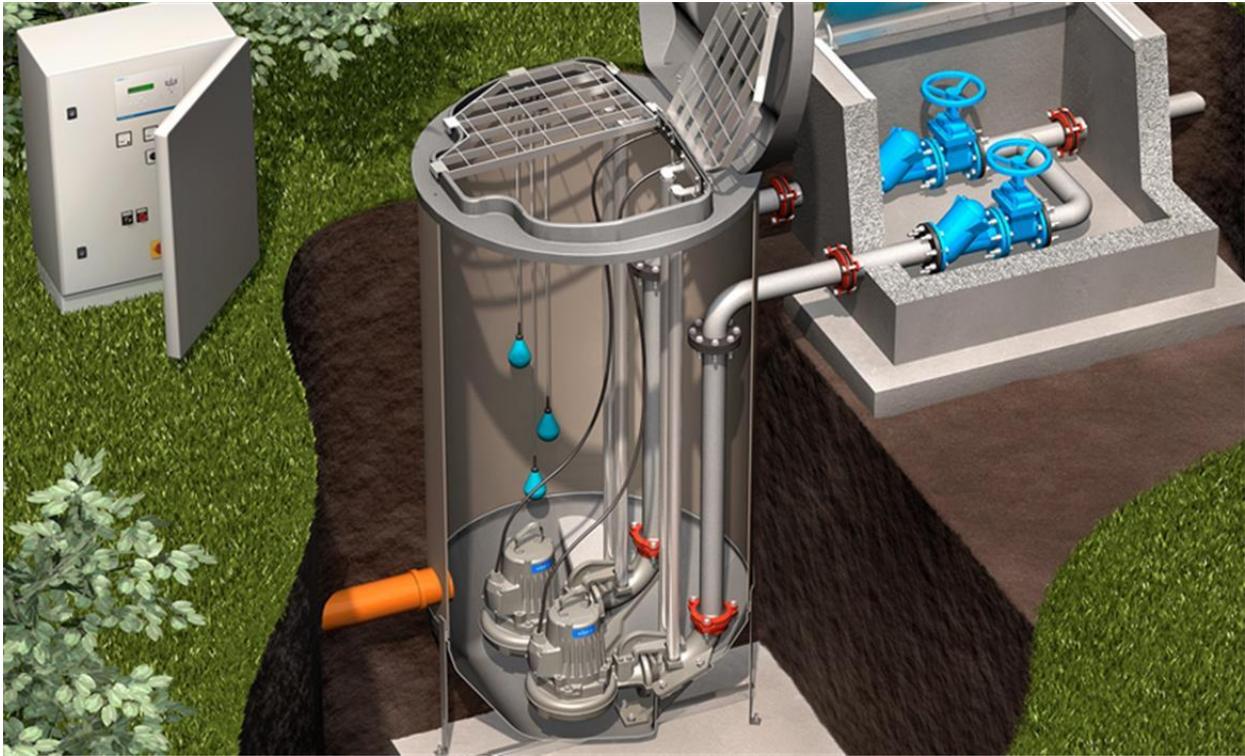
Pump Station Questions

Are there pump stations along the way, and if so where will they be located?

- *Yes, there are seven proposed residential sized pump stations to be located on private property.*
- *Your petition paperwork identifies whether your parcel will need a pump station.*
- *The need for a pump station on your property was determined by a combination of where you have built on your parcel and how that relates to the proposed sanitary sewer elevation. **If you can connect your home to the proposed sanitary sewer alignment with a pipe that will flow under gravity, you do not need a pump station.***
- *Based on the elevation information the RMOW has for each parcel, the sewer pump stations will be located on the parcels where the X (on Schedule C) sits below the sanitary sewer elevation.*

If I have a pump station what does it look like?

The RMOW has not contracted to purchase the specific pump station at this time. A typical installation is pictured below (note that the holding tank sits below the ground).



How do I get the pump station installed?

The RMOW will provide the pump station but installation, operation and maintenance would be the parcel owner's responsibility. Please refer to the RMOW standard drawing S18 – Residential PS connection for construction details in order to develop your cost estimate [standard drawing S18](#). If you would like some names of firms that can provide assistance, please send an email to engineers@whistler.ca.