



Mark Fisher, Director of Education and Secretary

---

2024 July 08

Planning and Environment Committee, City of London  
300 Dufferin Avenue  
London, ON N6A 4L9

Via email: pec@london.ca

**Re: Request for Delegation – Centennial Central Public School Sanitary Service Connection**

Dear Councillor Steve Lehman, Chair

I am writing to request delegation status at the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting on July 16, 2024.

This letter also provides background information concerning wastewater servicing at Centennial Central Public School, located at 14774 Medway Road in Arva, Ontario which is owned by the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB), and to request connection to the City of London's (City) wastewater collection system as a result of additional investigations undertaken at this site and discussions with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

**Background**

Centennial Central Public School is located within the boundary of the Municipality of Middlesex Centre; however, many students who attend the school reside within the City. Given the planned development in London, additional enrolment growth is expected at the school. As part of the overall strategy to manage this growth, TVDSB has established several holding zones in north London that designate students to other schools in the City with available space. A new school is planned for north-central London as a long-term solution and funding for this project will continue to be sought from the Ministry of Education as opportunities to do so arise.

In 2023, the TVDSB engaged Stantec to undertake an initial assessment of the existing system to address the anticipated future enrolment of the school. Review of existing information noted that wastewater servicing is provided by means of an on-site septic system, a portion of which was constructed in 1957 then expanded upon in 1967. The system currently consists of septic tanks and tile bed.

Based on review of the proposed population projections, Stantec identified the need to replace the existing septic tile bed, as the current system would not meet current code requirements and cannot handle the additional system flows. The TVDSB requested Stantec to commence design of a replacement on-site system. As the proposed system would exceed a design flow rate of 10,000 L/day, approval would fall under the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and not the Ontario Building Code.

As part of the design stage, a geotechnical and hydrogeological investigation was undertaken to collect data to support the septic system design and application to the MECP. Draft findings from the hydrogeological report were provided to Stantec in early 2024; however, additional effluent testing was required to provide a more realistic assessment of the raw sewage characteristics. Updated results were received and forwarded to the local MECP branch for review. Findings from the investigation indicated that a conventional septic system to service the projected future flows at the school could not reduce the nitrate concentrations to an acceptable level, a key requirement for acceptance. Furthermore, the addition of tertiary level treatment was not considered feasible due to the extent of nitrate reduction required, and in recognition of the complexity of operating these systems.

### **Request for Connection**

Based on follow-up discussions with the MECP, it was determined that there would be no viable on-site solution to service the school. As a result, a review was undertaken to confirm proximity of the nearest municipal wastewater collection system. The nearest possible connection would be to the City's collection system near the northwest corner of Sunningdale Road E and Adelaide Street N. The proposed daily design flows would be approximately 16 m<sup>3</sup>, which could be accommodated within the system without impact. An alternative tie-in point was considered within Arva; however, the additional distance and complexity of drain crossings was not preferred. It is also recognized that flows within Arva currently direct to the City's collection system.

The proposed servicing solution would involve the construction of a new sanitary pump station on the school site, to be owned and operated by the TVDSB. A small diameter forcemain would direct flows from this system along the west side of Adelaide Street, with a tie-in to the maintenance hole structure at the northwest corner of Adelaide Street N and Sunningdale Road E. It is anticipated that the TVDSB would maintain responsibility for this forcemain including ongoing operation and maintenance requirements through an agreement with the City. The pump station would be metered for billing purposes.

### **Closing**

To continue to address the enrolment growth at Centennial Central PS from development in London, the replacement of the on-site sanitary system at the school is required. Existing subsurface characteristics of the site indicate that a replacement system cannot achieve the level of nitrate reduction that is required to mitigate the risk of impact to groundwater sources. As such, the TVDSB is requesting permission to connect to the City's sanitary collection system. Work related to the design and construction would be the responsibility of the TVDSB, who will also be responsible for the maintenance of this infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Mark Fisher, Director of Education and Secretary

---

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Vogt", is centered on a light gray rectangular background.

Geoff Vogt  
Superintendent Facility Services and Capital Planning  
Thames Valley District School Board

CC:  
Carlos Henriquez, Manager, Capital Projects, Thames Valley District School Board