

Report to Infrastructure and Corporate Services Committee

To: Chair and Members
Infrastructure and Corporate Services Committee

From: Kelly Scherr, P.Eng., MBA, FEC
Deputy City Manager, Environment & Infrastructure

Subject: Limited Tender Award: Purchase of Rotating Drum
Thickeners for Pottersburg WWTP

Date: April 20, 2026

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Environment and Infrastructure, the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to the purchase of two (2) rotating drum thickeners for the Pottersburg Wastewater Treatment Plant:

- a) the contract for purchase of two rotating drum thickeners **BE AWARDED** to JWC Environmental Canada as a single source procurement for a total value of \$494,256.00 plus HST in accordance with Section 13.3 (iii) (e) of the City of London's Procurement of Goods and Services Policy;
- b) the financing for the project **BE APPROVED** in accordance with the "Sources of Financing Report" attached hereto as Appendix 'A';
- c) the Civic Administration **BE AUTHORIZED** to undertake all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection with this project;
- d) the approvals given herein **BE CONDITIONAL** upon the Corporation entering into a formal contract; and
- e) the Mayor and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute any contract or other documents, if required, to give effect to these recommendations.

Executive Summary

This report recommends approving the purchase of new rotating drum thickeners (RDTs) for Pottersburg Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) from JWC Environmental Canada under a limited tendering process.

Sludge thickening, the removal of a portion of the water from waste sludge, is an important process at the City's wastewater treatment plants. By removing a portion of that water through thickening, storage, energy consumption, and transportation requirements are reduced. Gravity belt thickening is the current technology used at Pottersburg WWTP for sludge thickening, but the existing thickeners are nearing their end of life.

The City has recently purchased similar models of RDT from the same manufacturer, first through a competitive process for Greenway WWTP, and now successfully operates this equipment at the Greenway, Adelaide, and Vauxhall treatment plants. RDTs have proven to be a cost-effective sludge thickening strategy, and the procurement of equipment from the same manufacturer provides further maintenance and operational benefits for the City. The approval for limited tendering procurement of new RDTs to align with current installations is requested and recommended.

Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

This project supports the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan through Climate Action and Sustainable growth:

- Infrastructure is built, maintained, and secured to support future growth and protect the environment.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

Civic Works Committee, August 23, 2022, Vauxhall Wastewater Treatment Plant Rotating Drum Thickener Equipment Single Source.

Civic Works Committee, June 1, 2021, Purchase of Rotary Drum Thickener for Greenway Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Civic Works Committee, April 17, 2018, Greenway Rotary Drum Thickener Pre-Purchase

1.2 Context

The Pottersburg WWTP is the City's second largest plant, treating 11% of the City's wastewater. In 2025 it reliably treated an average of over 23 million litres per day of wastewater. An important part of the treatment process is the disposal of waste streams, such as the waste sludge, that are generated during the treatment process prior to discharging treated water to the Thames River.

Pottersburg utilizes sludge thickening technology to remove water and thicken Waste Activated Sludge (WAS) from 0.5% to around 5% solids, effectively reducing the volume of product required to be trucked, stored and further processed at Greenway WWTP prior to final disposal. This reduces operational cost and greenhouse gas emissions related to solids disposal. By installing common sludge thickening technology at multiple City plants, maintenance and training requirements are simplified and spare part inventories are reduced, lowering operational cost and risk.

The City is currently designing a pump station which will transfer sludge from the nearby Vauxhall WWTP for thickening at Pottersburg WWTP. This will provide Operations staff further flexibility in thickening sludge generated at Vauxhall WWTP and reducing sludge hauling requirements through the neighbourhood surrounding that plant.

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

2.1 Pottersburg WWTP Sludge Thickening

The current Pottersburg sludge thickening process employs a gravity belt thickener (GBT) that is approaching its end of life. Major repairs would be required to extend its operating life, after which the prospects for reliable operation are still expected to be poor. Rotary drum thickeners generally require much smaller areas for installation and contribute to significantly improved cleanliness in the facility. Investigations by City staff have confirmed that the installation of new RDTs in the location of the current GBTs will be relatively straightforward.

2.2 Selection of JWC Environmental Canada as a Single Source Supplier

The procurement policy includes a provision to allow a project to be single sourced to a specific supplier under a predefined set of criteria. JWC Environmental Canada has been recommended as a single source supplier for the reasons noted in section Section 13.3 (iii) (e) of the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy:

- 13.3 (iii)(e): to ensure compatibility with existing goods, or to maintain specialized goods that must be maintained by the manufacturer of those goods or its representative;

Utilizing a common provider of sludge thickening products at multiple facilities ensures consistent product support, a shared inventory of spare parts, coordination of service, and consistency of staff training requirements as similar units are installed at other City treatment facilities. The rotating drum thickening system proposed for Pottersburg, the JWCE-IPEC Monster Drum Thickener, represents continued use of a technology which the City has previously evaluated and selected through a competitive bidding process (most recently, Request for Proposal 21-15), and has proven to be an effective and reliable technology in the time since then. Maintaining JWC Environmental Canada as London's rotating drum thickening equipment supplier will help maintain this system-wide consistency and efficiency.

3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

3.1 Activity Planned and Budget Available

Supply and delivery of the rotating drum thickener at Pottersburg was anticipated and accounted for under the current approved multi-year capital budget. The proposed price for the supply and delivery of the new units still aligns generally with previous estimates used to develop that budget, as well as similar units which were purchased for Greenway WWTP under competitive bidding processes.

A separate engineering assignment and construction contract will be undertaken to complete the installation and start-up of this new equipment, expected to be complete before the end of 2026.

Conclusion

Sludge thickening at Pottersburg WWTP is an essential component of the City's wastewater treatment operations. The current thickening equipment has reached its end of life and must be replaced. By purchasing a rotating drum thickener from JWC Environmental Canada, the City will maintain reliable thickening operations at the plant, improve the working environment at that plant and ensure consistency of operations across four of the City's treatment plants for reduced cost and improved maintenance. For these reasons, the procurement of these RDTs is recommended.

Prepared by: Kirby Oudekerk, MPA, P.Eng.
Division Manager, Wastewater Treatment Operations

Submitted by: Ashley Rammeloo, MMSc., P.Eng.
Director, Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater

Recommended by: Kelly Scherr, P.Eng., MBA, FEC
Deputy City Manager, Environment and Infrastructure

Attach: Appendix A – Source of Financing

cc: Vakul Arora, Senior Manager, Purchasing and Supply
Zeina Nsair, Financial Business Administrator, Finance and Corporate Services

Appendix "A"

#26055

April 20, 2026

(Limited Tender Award)

Chair and Members

Infrastructure and Corporate Services Committee

RE: Purchase of Rotating Drum Thickeners for Pottersburg WWTP

(Subledger FS26PB01)

Capital Project ES5023 - Vauxhall/Pottersburg Area WWTP Replacement

JWC Environmental Canada \$494,256.00 (excluding HST)

Finance Supports Report on the Sources of Financing:

Finance Supports confirms that the cost of this project can be accommodated within the financing available for it in the Capital Budget and that, subject to the approval of the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Environment and Infrastructure, the detailed source of financing is:

Estimated Expenditures	Approved Budget	Committed To Date	This Submission	Balance for Future Work
Engineering	367,484	25,155	0	342,329
Construction	778,828	778,828	0	0
Replace Vehicle and Equipment	502,955	0	502,955	0
Total Expenditures	\$1,649,267	\$803,983	\$502,955	\$342,329

Sources of Financing

Drawdown from Sewage Works Renewal Reserve Fund	1,649,267	803,983	502,955	342,329
Total Financing	\$1,649,267	\$803,983	\$502,955	\$342,329

Financial Note :

Contract Price	494,256
Add: HST @13%	64,253
Total Contract Including Taxes	558,509
Less: HST Rebate	-55,554
Net Contract Price	<u>\$502,955</u>

Jason Davies

Manager, Financial Planning & Policy

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