



March 1st, 2024 – Core Water Main Open House Information

What is Happening?

The Town of Niverville is exploring the possibility of installing water mains in the core of town where there currently are none. This project would take place over multiple years, in different phases, and would also include installation of new fire hydrants.

How Would I Be Affected?

As a potentially affected ratepayer, this proposed project would involve a substantial increase on your property tax bill, as well as potential other costs down the road if you decide to connect to the new water main.

What are the Town's Thoughts?

There is currently the potential for 50% of this proposed project to be funded by grants. However, this proposed project is still highly expensive and invasive, and the Town of Niverville would like to see substantial buy-in from affected ratepayers before moving forward.

What Does the Attached Map Mean?

Attached to this document is a map which lays out where current water mains are, where the proposed water mains would go, where proposed hydrants would go, and properties that would be affected by this proposed project.

On the map, the purple lines describe where proposed water mains would be placed if this project were to go through. These lines may not be the exact geographical location of these proposed water mains, they are only a representation of which specific streets that may be affected.

Light blue lines represent where current water mains exist.

Red dots represent where new fire hydrants would be placed along water mains.

The shaded areas on the map represent properties that would be potentially affected by this proposed project (you).

What if There is a Water Main Already?

As seen on the map, there are multiple properties that, while they may have water mains in front of their house, are not connected to municipal water. Should these wells fail, homeowners will not be able to drill a new well and will have to connect to municipal water at their own expense. Currently, the cost to connect is \$101.23 per foot of frontage. This does not include installation and contractor costs. This bill would have to be paid out of pocket, and in one go.

There are two cost benefits if this proposed project were to go forward: 1) 50% of cost would be covered by provincial grants and 2) Payment would be in the form of a Local Improvement District (LID) Tax, spreading payment out over 10 years.



What Makes Town Water Safe?

The Town of Niverville’s water supply is required to meet or exceed Manitoba water quality standards. These standards include, for example:

- Regular testing for bacterial levels.
- Stringent parameters for water quality.
- Operators are certified under The Environmental Act’s Water and Wastewater Facility Operators Regulations.
- A yearly publication of Public Water System Operation Report.
- Any significant alterations to water source, water treatment process, water storage facilities, or the water distribution system must be approved by the Office of Drinking Water.

Learn more via the links attached to the end of this document.

Projected Cost Breakdown

	Large Lot	Average Lot	Small Lot	Apartment (per unit)
Frontage (Feet)	141	77	38	66
Frontage Fee (10 year LID tax w/ interest)	\$1200/year	\$650/year	\$325/year	\$50/year
Water Service Installation & Connection (Not immediately Required)	\$25,000	\$16,000	\$13,000	\$3500

NOTE: Costs are estimates only and dependent on many site-specific factors, including current interest rates, and therefore are only meant to represent the approximate costs that could be incurred. Frontage fees shown are after the 50% provincial funding has been applied.

Explanation of Cost Breakdown Chart

The frontage fee is what the cost (to you) would be for installing water mains along your street. This cost is based on the size (calculated by feet) of your frontage. This frontage is set by the province, not the town.

Water Service Installation & Connection is the cost of hooking up each individual property, calculated based on the distance of your water hook-up from the water main. This could be done immediately, but is not required, and could potentially be put off until feasible for residents.

Additional Information

There is also the possibility for a potentially affected resident to pay the cost of the frontage fee upfront, as opposed to over a 10-year period. This would also mean that this payment would be interest free, which is not the case for the 10-year plan.

The Town of Niverville is also open to the possibility of adding water mains block by block where potentially affected ratepayers are in favour of installation. This would allow the Town of Niverville to still take advantage of the 50% grant available to us and provide municipal water to affected residents in favour of it.



Water Main Pros and Cons

Water Main Pros

- Hydrants for Fire Protection.
 - o Potential reduction on house insurance for proximity to a fire hydrant.
- Connection to water main would be available should your well fail.
- Should you decide to connect:
 - o Improved water quality.
 - fixtures typically last longer.
 - reduced staining.
 - o safe drinking water.
 - o soft water.
 - Reduced maintenance and cost for in-house water system - no treatment system required.
 - o Up to 50% provincial funding for frontage fees currently available.

Water Main Cons

- Increased property tax bill with Local Improvement District (LID) tax for the watermain installation.
 - o There would be potential options to pay outright.
- Disruption to residents during construction.
- Initial cost to connect to Town water (should you choose to do so) and quarterly fee thereafter.

Pros & Cons of Town Water Explained

There are many benefits to connecting to the Town water supply. Here are just a couple:

- Softer water: This would mean the water coming out of your taps would be much less likely to stain your taps, toilets, showers and baths. It also means that the water would be gentler and kinder on your water using appliances, such as your washing machine and dishwasher.
- High quality drinking water: The Town's water is well managed and meets and exceeds Canadian water standards.
- No need for a water softener.

There are a few drawbacks to town water, such as the need to pay a quarterly fee for water usage, and of course the initial hook up costs.

Important Links

2022 Public Water System Operation Report: <https://www.wheretheyoubelong.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Annual-Potable-Water-Report-2022.pdf>

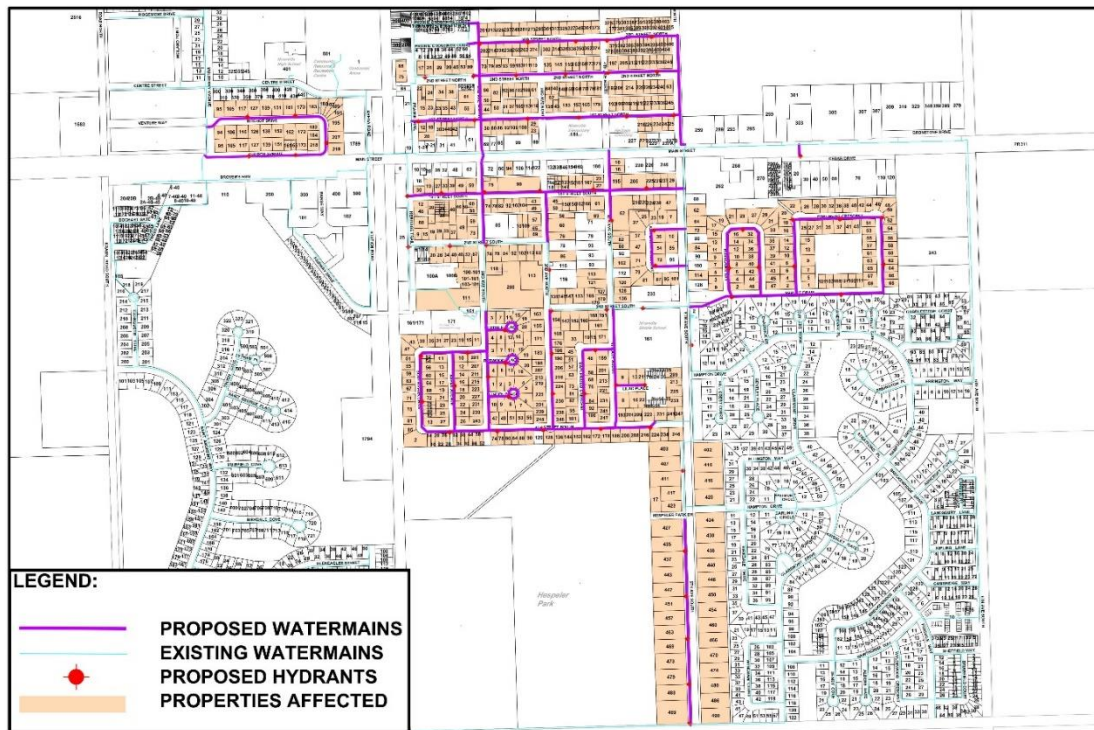


Manitoba Drinking Water Safety Regulations: https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/_pdf-regs.php?reg=40/2007

Water Main Request Policy: <https://www.whereyoubelong.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2017-D1-17-Watermain-Request-Policy.pdf>

Sewer & Water Service Connection Repair Policy: <https://www.whereyoubelong.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/O1-17SewerWaterConnectionRepairPolicy.pdf>

Proposed Project Area Map



Survey Link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/zVbEi667h7>

Town Core Water Main Installation
Survey

