

REPORT

Development Services

To: Mayor Cote and Members of Council **Date:** September 13, 2021

From: Emilie K. Adin, MCIP
Director of Development Services **File:** 05.1020.20

Item #: 2021-338

Subject: Construction Noise Bylaw Exemption Request: Metro Vancouver Sewer Inspections

RECOMMENDATION

***THAT** Council grant an exemption to AquaCoustic Remote Technologies Inc. from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 from Sunday September 26, 2021 to Sunday October 17, 2021 for three nights from 9:00 PM to 7:00 AM to conduct overnight video inspections of the sewer lines at Glenbrook Combined Trunk Sewer along Eighth Ave and East Eighth Avenue.*

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request an exemption from the Construction Noise Bylaw to permit overnight video inspections of the sewer lines at Glenbrook Combined Trunk Sewer along East Eighth Avenue.

BACKGROUND

Project Description

The Metro Vancouver Sewer Interceptors convey the City's and other municipalities' wastewater to a treatment plant before being discharged into the waterways. Maintenance of the sewerage system benefit all lower mainland residents. Video inspections of these sewer lines are needed to support ongoing maintenance programs to avoid any future failures for nearby residents and businesses.

The New Westminster Sewer Interceptor carries extremely high sewage flows during daytime hours. To capture the maximum surface area of the pipe's interior, maintenance work on the interceptor can only be carried out during dry weather and during low flow periods. Low flow periods typically occur between the hours of midnight and 6:00 AM.

AquaCoustic Remote Technologies Inc. has been contracted by Metro Vancouver to conduct video inspections of the sewer lines during overnight hours.

DISCUSSION

AquaCoustic is proposing to conduct the sewer survey work on three (preferably) consecutive nights from 9:00 PM to 7:00 AM starting on or after Sunday September 26, 2021 along Eighth Avenue and East Eighth Avenue. Due to unpredictable weather, AquaCoustic is requesting a three week window of time from Sunday September 26, 2021 to Sunday October 17, 2021 to account for inclement weather, unforeseen site conditions, and any other scheduling delays that may occur. If weather conditions are ideal, work may be completed sooner.

Video inspection of Metro Vancouver sewer lines will be conducted along East Eighth Avenue between Cumberland Street and west of McBride Boulevard. The work would involve removing the utility hole lids and inserting the inspection platform into the sewer line. The camera is operated remotely from the surface and will travel the length of the required sewer segment. Once complete, the inspection platform is retrieved, utility hole lids are replaced, and the site is cleaned as required. Work crews would work at two utility holes simultaneously. AquaCoustic will be submitting a traffic management plan to the Engineering – Transportation for approval and the plan will include but not be limited to coning the area around the work zone and placing advanced warning signs for traffic management as utility holes are located within the traffic travel lane at all three locations. A map of the work zone is attached in Appendix A.

Some noise will be generated from the operation of two small generators and two work vehicles. AquaCoustic is committed to taking the following measures to minimize the noise created during non-permitted hours:

- Sound deadeners will be used to minimize the noise from the generators.
- Generators will be placed facing away from buildings, i.e. towards the rail yard to minimize further noise impacts.
- Vehicles and equipment will be operated only as needed, avoiding unnecessary idling, revving, use of airbrakes and banging of tail gates and turning off equipment when not in use.
- Crew members will keep their conversation volume to a minimum.
- Equipment will be checked to be in working order prior to mobilizing at the work site.
- All equipment will be in good operating order.

- Equipment will be operated at minimum engine speeds consistent with effective operation.
- Construction personnel will be reminded and supervised to ensure potential noises are minimized.
- A site contact will be available to address resident and business operator questions or concerns.

Businesses and area residents potentially impacted by the noise will be notified a week prior to the work. Field crews will deliver hard-copy notices to individual properties and businesses and post a notice at the front door lobby entrance of multi-dwelling units. The notification area will include the following:

- 700 and 800 Block McBride Boulevard
- 5 Eighth Avenue
- 800 Block Sangster Place
- 30 to 100 block East Eighth Avenue
- 80 and 90 block Mott Crescent
- 700 and 800 block Cumberland Street
- 100 block East Durham Street

A map of the notification area as well as a sample of a previous resident notification is attached in Appendix B.

OPTIONS

There are two options to consider:

1. That Council grant an exemption to AquaCoustic Remote Technologies Inc. from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 from Sunday September 26, 2021 to Sunday October 17, 2021 for three nights from 9:00 PM to 7:00 AM to conduct overnight video inspections of the sewer lines at Glenbrook Combined Trunk Sewer along Eighth Avenue and East Eighth Avenue.
2. That Council provide staff with alternative direction.

Staff recommends option 1.

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: Map of the Sewer Work Zone.

Appendix B: Map of the notification area and sample of previous resident notification.

APPROVALS

This report was prepared by:
Nav Dhanoya, Construction Impacts Coordinator

This report was reviewed by:
Kim Deighton, Manager of Licensing and Integrated Services

This report was approved by:
Emilie Adin, Director of Development Services
Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer