

# REPORT

## *Development Services*

**To:** Mayor Cote and Members of Council      **Date:** September 27, 2021

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

**Item #:** 2021-368

**Subject:** Construction Noise Bylaw Exemption Request: New Westminster  
Interceptor Columbia Sewer Rehabilitation

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

***THAT** Council grant an exemption to Oscar Renda Contracting of Canada (ORCC) from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 for four nights from Tuesday, October 12, 2021 to Friday, October 29, 2021 from 8:00 PM to 7:00 AM on weekdays and 12:00 AM to 9:00 AM on Saturdays to conduct work and install new utility holes on Columbia Street at Eighth Street and at Blackwood Street.*

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### **PURPOSE**

To seek Council's approval for an exemption from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 to enable Oscar Renda Contracting of Canada (ORCC) to conduct slip lining of the existing sewer with small sections of open cut replacement, replace lateral connections, and install new utility holes both at Eighth Street and Columbia Street and at Blackwood Street and Columbia Street during overnight hours from Tuesday, October 12, 2021 to Friday, October 29, 2021.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **Project Description**

The New Westminster Interceptor Columbia Section sewer is a 1,600 metre section of the Metro Vancouver sanitary collection system that runs from McBride Boulevard at the upstream end to the junction of Columbia Street and Front Street at the downstream end. The reinforced concrete pipe has eight lateral connections ranging from 150 mm to 400 mm in diameter.

While the existing sewer has had numerous minor, localized repairs completed in the last few years, it is in poor condition. As such, the sewer's entire length, including lateral connections and utility holes, requires rehabilitation. The work consists of slip lining the majority of the existing sewer with small sections of open cut replacement, the replacement of lateral connections, and the installation of new utility holes.

## **DISCUSSION**

ORCC proposes to start the work on Tuesday October 12, 2021 immediately after the Thanksgiving long weekend. They intend to work 24 hours a day and aim to complete the work on Saturday October 16, 2021. This work plan requires a construction noise exemption from 8:00 PM to 7:00 AM for the four weekday nights and 12:00 AM to 9:00 AM on the Saturday.

The specific task that will be completed over these four days/nights is the slip-lining of the existing sewer line from Front Street to Blackwood Street on Columbia Street. Site footprints will be a launching shaft at Eighth Street and Columbia Street and a receiving shaft at Blackwood Street and Columbia Street.

The plan is to operate 24 hours a day during the slip-lining activity. ORCC wants to perform this work as quickly as possible to reduce the risk of the sewer line surcharging during slip-lining. If the sewer line surcharges during slip-lining, ORCC will need to remove the jacking frame and install the flood cap, and that work requires a crane. As the sewer line has the potential to surcharge at any time, it is important to have the work done 24/7 during the night shift as equipment and personnel would need to be present to remove and install the flood cap.

By working 24/7 the duration of the work is kept short and will mitigate potential surcharge and enable the slip-line in one continuous drive. If multiple drives are attempted, there is a risk of the pipe train settling on the invert, and it might be challenging to begin the push again. ORCC needs to keep the buoyancy consistent. They need to maintain a particular flow that will be accommodated by using Sapperton pump location to introduce additional flow. This work must be done so that the sewerage can continue to flow down to Annacis Island, where the sewage is treated.

This work is weather dependent as sewer line surcharging can occur during rain events. If the sewer line is surcharged, or has the potential to surcharge during the period of slip-lining, the work will be delayed. To account for inclement weather and unforeseen circumstances, ORCC is seeking an exemption from *Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992* for Tuesday, October 12, 2021 to Friday, October 29, 2021.

Only essential tasks for slip-lining will occur outside the permitted hours. The noises that will be created from this work will be from running equipment and/or hand tools by ORCC crews. ORCC expects this work to have less of an impact on the surrounding residences than noise created by the adjacent train activity on nearby train tracks.

Before this work starts, ORCC will review and complete the below checklist with their crew.

- Operate equipment at minimum engine speeds consistent with effective operation.
- Educate and supervise construction personnel to ensure potential noises are minimized.
- Avoid unnecessary idling, revving, and use of airbrakes.
- Turn off equipment when not in use.
- Limit the use of backup alarms.
- Staff will be required to use radios and refrain from raising their voices.
- Prohibit slamming of tailgates.
- All equipment is in good working order.
- Avoid unnecessary idling, revving, and turn off equipment when possible.
- Perform spot checks using handheld noise monitor.

Notification will be hand-delivered to potentially affected businesses and residences by the community liaison for the project and signs will be posted around the job site. A map of the work zone and notification area is attached in Appendix A. A sample of a resident notification is attached in Appendix B.

**OPTIONS**

There are two options to consider:

1. That Council grant an exemption to Oscar Renda Contracting of Canada (ORCC) from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063 for four nights from Tuesday, October 12, 2021 to Friday, October 29, 2021 from 8:00 PM to 7:00 AM on weekdays and 12:00 AM to 9:00 AM on Saturdays to conduct work and install new utility holes on Columbia Street at Eighth Street and Blackwood Street.
2. That Council provide staff with alternative direction.

Staff recommends option 1.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Appendix A: Map of the Work Zone and notification area.
- Appendix B: Sample of the 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