



## Potential Reinfeld - Schanzenfeld Sewer Project Community Update

December 2019

Dear Property Owner:

As you know, the RM of Stanley has been looking at potential sewer system options for Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld. The purpose of this update is to share recent survey results and to let you know how we are addressing the feedback we've received.

Over the past few months, we heard clearly from residents concerning cost, timing and if this project is necessary. The decision to look at upgrading how the RM of Stanley treats wastewater is driven by the future needs of our community. This is important right now given that there are increasingly strict regulations being imposed on the way municipalities manage wastewater. We also know that any wastewater project will take many years from start to completion and involve significant dollars, grant funding, engineering studies and time to construct. With potential grant funding available now to have as much as 73% of the total cost of a sewer project funded, the RM felt it would be prudent to proactively explore the possibility of a sewer system at this time. We recognize that for many residents, your septic systems are working just fine currently, while for others, your septic system is not working well. Flexibility is going to be a key factor in any sort of sewer project.

Earlier this fall, residents were asked to complete a survey about the potential project. The survey was the very first step in consulting with homeowners to gain initial feedback and information and was not intended to suggest that a decision had been made. Enclosed you will find a summary of what we heard and how we are addressing concerns. No final decisions have been made about the sewer, and no decisions will be made without continued consultation with homeowners.

For up to date project information, to sign up for email updates and to see the full survey results, please visit [www.rmofstanley.ca/sewerproject](http://www.rmofstanley.ca/sewerproject).

We are still awaiting a response from the federal and provincial governments on the funding application to cover the majority of the total cost of the project. Without the funding in place, the project will not move forward, and we will let the communities know.

We welcome your thoughts and questions at any time. If you have comments or questions about any aspect of the proposed sewer initiative, please contact the RM office at 204-325-4101, or by email at [info@rmofstanley.ca](mailto:info@rmofstanley.ca).

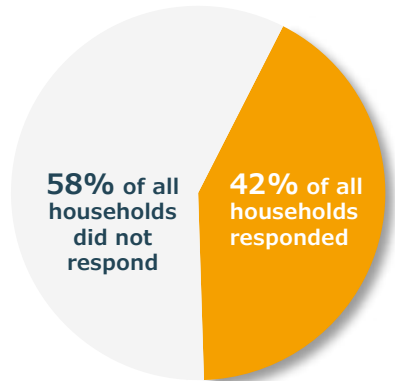
# SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 2019 SURVEY RESPONSES



## Potential Reinfeld - Schanzenfeld Sewer Project

### WHO RESPONDED:

317 out of a total 750 households in Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld responded to the survey.



### CURRENT CONDITIONS:

Of the 317 households who responded, most felt that problems with septic fields are uncommon.

**COMMON:** 80    **UNCOMMON:** 211    **UNSURE:** 25

The top three problems respondents reported were:

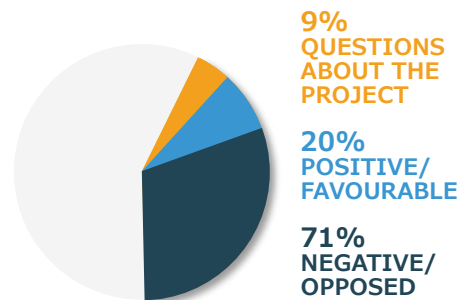


Age of septic systems reported by respondents:

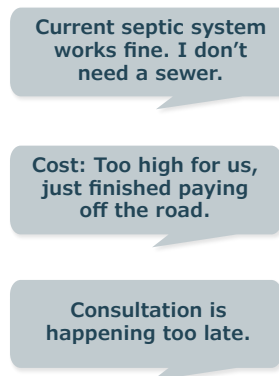


### INTEREST IN HOOKING UP TO THE SEWER SYSTEM:

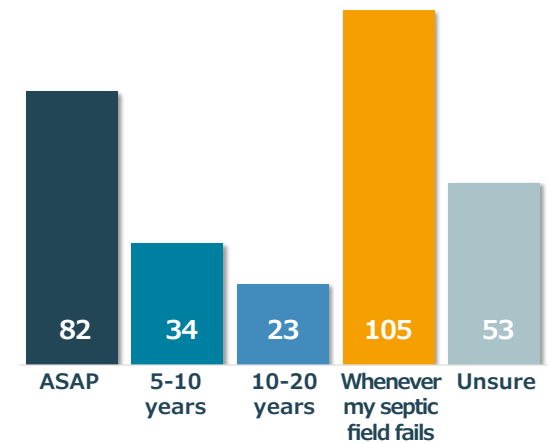
Of the comments received by the 317 respondents:



By far the top three reasons respondents said they were concerned or opposed:

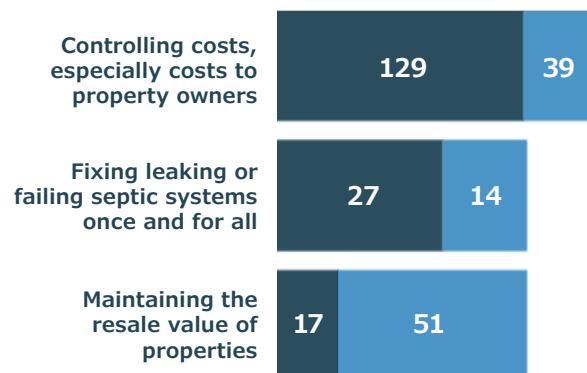


If Provincial regulations make sewer connection mandatory within five years, when do residents want to hook-up to the system? Of the 317 households who responded:



### OVERALL PRIORITIES FOR POTENTIAL SEWER PROJECT:

Respondents said controlling costs and fixing the problem once and for all are the top priorities for a potential sewer project.



■ TOP PRIORITY    ■ SECOND PRIORITY

# SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 2019 SURVEY RESPONSES

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### RM OF STANLEY RESPONSE TO SURVEY INPUT

We appreciate the feedback shared by those who completed our survey, wrote letters and emails and gave us a call. We heard your concerns regarding cost, timing and if this project is necessary. We are acting on the input received and continue to gather more information in order to find options to reduce cost and increase flexibility regarding when and if connections will be required. We will continue to work with the communities of Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld throughout this process.

### How the RM is acting on feedback received.

**Optional connection, timing that works for each homeowner.** On the issue of connection to a sewer system, we are open to and considering all options for residents – from no sewer project for the existing communities of Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld, to voluntary and/or flexible timing to make a connection, to everyone connecting. All options are being researched so we can understand how to make the best proposal to the residents.

**Bringing down costs.** We are looking at ways to bring overall costs down, in order to provide residents of Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld with the flexibility they need to pay for sewer connection, on a timeframe that works for them, ensuring they pay only their fair share of the cost.

**More information will be shared before any decision is made.** The RM is gathering more information and working hard to ensure that when a final proposal is made, residents have all the information needed to weigh in further about a sewer project. If our grant funding application is approved for a sewer project and we have more information to share, the RM will host community open houses, and community updates will continue to be mailed to you.

**Residents will have a say in the final decision.** Should our grant funding application be approved, the RM will work with residents in Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld to refine options for sewer connection, timing and cost to ensure the proposed sewer system options reflect your needs. No decisions will be made without continued consultation with homeowners.