



Policy Direction Highlights - Booklet 8

SUPPLYING WATER

Downtown is serviced by a complex system of underground infrastructure including watermains and sewers. The pace and magnitude of growth occurring Downtown is consuming the capacity of the City's water system faster than projected and, in some cases, placing unanticipated stress on the system due to the increased height and density of many of the proposed developments.

It is essential to more closely relate population growth with the ability to upgrade the water infrastructure. A water infrastructure strategy will help manage growth and allow infrastructure capacity to be shared proportionately, to ensure the City's infrastructure keeps pace with the long-term growth Downtown.

Existing Infrastructure Assessments

The completion of the following assessments is expected to identify what existing infrastructure will need upgrading in order to support the potential population growth Downtown. The upgrades will then be considered for implementation and coordination through a variety of means including: planning controls such as the use of a Holding Zoning By-law to ensure that growth is commensurate with the provision of the necessary infrastructure; identification of capital investments through the Toronto Water Capital Works Program; improvements to the infrastructure implemented by affected developers (when appropriate); or a combination of all three.

Consolidation & Update of Existing Sewer Hydraulic Models

The development of a consolidated hydraulic model for sanitary and combined sewers has been completed. The hydraulic model is currently being used to determine if the existing sanitary and combined sewers can accommodate Downtown future population growth to 2041 based on the City's sewer design criteria. Results will be available in 2017, which will inform if there is a need for upgrades to accommodate growth.

The Water Distribution Study for Pressure Districts 1, 1W & 2

A functional and calibrated hydraulic model for watermains has been completed and includes coverage of the Downtown. The model has been used to confirm the performance of the existing watermains to accommodate existing population. Results of the modelling are under review by the consultant and it is expected that recommendations to mitigate any deficiencies under existing conditions should be available in 2017.

The hydraulic model is also being used to determine if any existing watermains need to be upgraded to support Downtown's future population growth.



Water Infrastructure (Credit: City of Toronto)