



# **2026 Business Planning Departmental Presentations**

## **Operations**

PRESENTED BY:

**Walter Oleschak**

**Acting Chief Operating Officer, Director of City Operations**

# Overview

Engineering Operations Department is responsible for the management and maintenance of the City's essential infrastructure, including roads, sidewalks, signage, street and traffic lighting, municipal fleet, and underground utilities such as water distribution, stormwater management, and sewage collection systems

The department also delivers snow and ice control services. Operations prioritize public health and safety, environmental stewardship, and the long-term protection of the City's significant investment in public works infrastructure

# Staff Complement

The Department is made up of 97 inside and outside staff broken down by 5 Divisions with 4 managers

**Ops Administrative Clerical** – 5 Staff

**Roads** – Frank Gratzer – 25 Staff (plus 7 Time Duration Employees).

**Sewer-Drainage/Fleet** – Kirk McLeod – 25 (plus 4 Time Duration Employees).

**Water** – **Davin Wilson** – 19 staff (plus 4 Time Duration Employees).

**Electromechanical** – Mike Gjaltema – 10 Employees



# Achievements

## Admin/Stores Team

- The team has over 30 years combined Public Works experience
- Fielded 8032 external calls – an increase of 6.3% from 2023
- Supporting all departments with emergency supplies and daily consumables

## Roads Team

- Maintained 580 km of municipal roadways including snow/ice events
- Resurfaced 29 road segments (10.9 km)
- Downtown cleanliness and public safety

## Fleet/Sewer/Vegetation Team

- Emergency Flood Response
- Wheeled Excavator purchased
- McKenney Creek flood mitigation at Hospital – Culvert relining
- Fleet Electrification – Step Vans & Charging

## Electro Team

- LED streetlight conversion of 5,200 city owned fixtures
- Upgraded SCADA network security and redundancy
- Implemented Advanced Traffic Signal Mgmt System
- Completed upgrades for 256 St. comm tower

## Water Team

- 3035 Water Samples (35% increase)
- Cleaned 101km of watermain
- 2975 Hydrants Services
- 2365 Inspections - Reservoirs, Pump Stations & PRV's
- 33 Emergency Response Breaks
- 13,212 total Meter Reads

# Continuous Improvements

## Roads

- Strengthened winter operations readiness
- Implemented proactive risk mitigation, monitoring, and addressing flooding and landslide hazards to protect public infrastructure and maintain mobility

## Fleet / Sewer / Vegetation

- Fleet Process Improvements (technological and financial - LIFT)
- Increased Sewer and Drainage service levels – Enhanced Flushing, CCTV, and inspection
- Service Based Budgeting

## Electromechanical

- Expansion of City-wide traffic signal comms network
- Install, operation, and maintenance of EV fleet and public charging stations
- “See It, Report It” vinyl wraps applied to City-owned traffic signal cabinets
- 3 new portable emergency generators

## Water

- Provincial and Federal Compliance (EOCP Level 4 System)
- Water Meter Program (Operating, Maintenance & Customer Service)
- Water Servicing Bylaw Updates
- Water Fee Updates
- Water Meter Design Criteria Updates

# Key Challenges

- Complexities with Staff compliance training and training volume
- Staff retention and filling vacancies with staff that meet education and experience requirements
- Cottonwood landfill closure plan
- Maintenance Management System for Operations to prioritize city's significant investment in public works infrastructure
- Climate change / Weather events
- Staff Payroll – digital system to improve efficiencies and stats

