

The Sanitary Servicing Strategy Fund (SSSF) is used to construct the largest and deepest sewer pipes in Edmonton. It is funded through development fees and contributions from EPCOR. EPCOR builds the deep sewers as part of a larger sanitary system that manages wastewater from Edmonton homes and businesses. Wastewater is carried to the Gold Bar Wastewater Treatment Plant and the ARROW Utilities Wastewater Treatment Plant (formerly known as the Capital Region Wastewater Treatment Plant) to be treated before being released back into the North Saskatchewan River. The collection and treatment of wastewater is vital to ensuring public health, clean water, and environmental protection.

## 2023 Project Snapshot and 2024 Expectations

For more detailed information on each project, background to the SSSF and detailed financial information, please refer to the <u>2023 SSSF Annual Report</u>. It is important to note that, as of June 2024, the SSSF charges have been paused until the end of the SSSF Transformation project.

## **NORTH EDMONTON SANITARY TRUNK (NEST)**

#### Stage NC2/NC3

This tunnel increases wastewater capacity in north Edmonton. The project was completed in two phases, with Phase 1 completed in 2017. Phase 2 involved the construction of 2.6 km of 2.34 m diameter tunnel parallel to 153 Avenue from Castle Downs Road to 88 Street. Phase 2 was put into service in 2023. Additional works, including surface restoration work and pump station decommissioning, are ongoing and are expected to be complete in 2024.

## **SOUTH EDMONTON SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM (SESS)**

#### Stage SW4

The 1.55 km long SW4 tunnel, starting at 142 Street and extending west toward Windermere Boulevard along Ellerslie Road, is designed to convey wastewater and improve rain storage to support growth in south Edmonton. The 2.9 m diameter tunnel was completed in 2021 but a change was requested to reroute a portion of the existing force main to connect with the Ambleside pump station upstream of the tunnel. This new force main segment with drop structure was completed and finalized in 2023. Only project closeout work remains for 2024.

## Stage SA10A with Pump Station and Force Main

During heavy rainfall, SA10A is designed to provide storage capacity for the sanitary servicing needs of the industrial areas in Maple Ridge. This includes a 745 m long, 3 m diameter tunnel, located along 34 Street between 68 Avenue and 76 Avenue. It also includes a pump station and force main. The pump station and force main take stored sewage to the existing sewer by working together to "force" the flow through to the trunks when gravity alone is not sufficient. The tunnel portion was completed and put into service in 2022 and the remainder of the project was completed and placed into service in 2023. No additional work is required.

# SSSF TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

In 2022, City administration initiated a review of the SSSF program with the purpose of evaluating opportunities to align the SSSF rate structure with the City's growth objectives and EPCOR's Sanitary Integrated Resource Plan planning

approach. The project **wi**ll also address the use of the SSSF reserve balance, which was \$103.42 million at the end of 2023.

The project began in earnest in 2023, and the first meeting of a multi-stakeholder advisory committee was held in February 2024. Significant engagement with the development industry, including the Urban Development Institute - Edmonton Region and the Canadian Home Builders Association will continue in 2024. As of the second quarter of 2024, the project is in its second of three phases and is anticipated to be completed in the first half of 2025.