



Local Urban District of Richer

2023 Service Plan

Introduction

The *Municipal Act* (Section 117(1)) reads as follows :

Responsibilities of committee

117(1) The committee of a local urban district is responsible for

- (a) preparing and adopting a service plan for the local urban district;
- (b) submitting the service plan to the council before it adopts its operating and capital budgets; and
- (c) the exercise of those powers delegated to it by the council of the municipality.

Services provided by the LUD

1. General Government Services (Total budgeted = \$23,050.00)

Legislative (Indemnities):

- This category outlines the costs for committee member indemnities and benefit expenses. The indemnities have not increased since 2012 when they were authorized under the LUD of Richer Committee's Resolution #27-12 in the amount of \$500.00 per member per month totalling **\$18,000**.
- Municipal Indemnity By-law #2023-04 was enacted on February 8, 2023, and incorporates the LUD's indemnification above, as well as includes provisions for remuneration for additional meetings attended, mileage and benefits.
- The LUD has resolved not to exceed more than \$800 in compensation for any additional meetings.
- An annual amount of **\$4,250** has been budgeted for Health and Dental benefits, mileage, as well as for provincially and federally regulated source deductions, where applicable.

2. Transportation Services (Total budgeted = \$86,750)

Street Maintenance and Repairs:

- **\$26,250** has been budgeted for the regular maintenance and repairs of all roads and streets within the boundaries of the LUD. This amount also includes provisions for additional gravel to be applied, and asphalt maintenance, street sweeping, and sign maintenance. A \$5,000 provision is also included in this amount for minor improvement to the shape of Southwest Drive to improve safety.

Sidewalks and Boulevards:

- An amount of **\$1,000** is budgeted for the ongoing maintenance of sidewalks in the LUD as well as the walking path linking Therrien Drive to Dawson Road alongside the Richer School property.

Ditches and Road Drainage:

- An amount of **\$5,000** is budgeted for any drainage work that may be required during the year. This amount does not include any special projects or clean-outs, which would be considered a capital project.
- There is a drain that runs on private property and drains into the east ditch on PR 302 north of Dawson Road. The LUD of Richer Committee are proposing to have a drainage study done to then register this drain by way of easement agreements, which would allow for Municipal agents to enter onto those lands to maintain this drain. The continued maintenance would not only improve drainage, but also reduce fire hazards from the long dry grass and weeds, as well as improve the overall esthetics in the area. **\$20,000** has been allocated towards this project.

Snow and Ice Removal:

- Snow removal from streets and sidewalks is to be done as required to ensure that they are passable at all times. Sanding of all roadways shall be done as required. The Province, the RM of Ste. Anne and private contractors currently provide these services during the course of the year. A budget of **\$10,000** has been established for this service, being a greater amount than in years past due to inflationary increases in actual costs related to providing this service.

Street Lighting:

- An amount of **\$14,500** is budgeted for the annual operating cost of the existing streetlights, as well as the winter holiday ornamental lights' basic maintenance and annual mounting/dismounting costs.

Dust Control:

- An amount of **\$10,000** is budgeted for dust control to be applied on gravel roads within the LUD.

3. Environmental Health Services (Total Budgeted = \$32,500)

Garbage Collection:

- An amount of **\$32,500** is budgeted for the weekly curbside household garbage collection services contracted by R & R Pick-Up as well as the Spring & Fall Town Clean-up events. A \$100.00 levy has been applied to each of the 235 properties receiving the curbside garbage collection service as per Special Services By-Law No. 09-16, with the balance to be born by the general LUD Levy.

Recycling:

- Since 2014, the RM of Ste. Anne provides for weekly recycling pick-up from the collection site located in the Richer Husky parking lot paid through the general At Large levy. There are no additional costs to the LUD of Richer ratepayers and so no amounts have been budgeted specifically for recycling services.

4. Environmental Development Services (Total Budgeted = \$11,000)

Grass Cutting:

- An amount of **\$8,000** is budgeted for grass and brush cutting of boulevards, pathways, road-side ditches, etc. in the LUD.

West Nile Virus – Larviciding:

- An amount of **\$3,000** is being budgeted for the larviciding of the LUD of Richer and surrounding areas in order to protect against the threat of West Nile Virus in Richer. The RM of Ste. Anne will once again be covering approximately 75% of the larviciding costs for the LUD of Richer this year.

5. Recreation and Cultural Services (Total Budgeted = \$12,500)

LUD Community Meeting Hall

- An amount of **\$12,500** is for general LUD expenses including:
 - \$6,000 for the Hall building maintenance, utilities, cleaning and supplies;
 - \$6,000 for community development and other general expenses such as the annual winter yard decorating contest, flowers and flags; and
 - \$500 for other miscellaneous items including general LUD insurance.

The total **Operating Expenditures** listed above amount to **\$165,800.00**.

Transfer to Debenture

The LUD of Richer does not currently have any debentures.

Transfer to Capital (\$235,000)

This year, the LUD of Richer Committee proposes two larger scaled projects:

1. To build the next phase of sidewalks along the south side of Dawson Road, from Civic #54, to the east edge of the Burnell's Foods parking lot. This project aims to increase the accessibility and esthetic appeal of this active transportation network along this corridor serving the Richer School, the museum, park, fire hall, community hall, as well as businesses and residences. A total of **\$60,000** has been budgeted for this capital project, with up to \$18,000 of this amount to be withdrawn from the LUD general reserve fund.
2. The LUD of Richer is also needing to repave the Hwy #1E Service Road which runs to the West of PR 302. This project was scheduled for completion in 2022, however the Department of Infrastructure and Transportation issued the approval of the required permit too late in the season for the contractors to be able to complete the project before the weather turned cold. The total cost of this work has been estimated at **\$175,000**, which Municipality has committed to funding from the general Gas Tax Reserve Fund.

Transfer to/from Reserves

Through By-law 9-2012, the RM of Ste. Anne created a Reserve Fund for the LUD of Richer to use towards any emergency costs, major road or sidewalk construction or repairs, lagoon or sewer services or other purposes related to the LUD of Richer as deemed appropriate. Since its creation in 2012, the LUD of Richer has at times transferred a portion of their annual surplus into this Reserve fund. The entire surplus from last year, being **\$43,164.56 (pre-audited amount)**, is being transferred to the LUD of Richer Reserve Fund. In 2023, the LUD of Richer proposes to withdraw **\$18,000** from this Reserve in order to cover the cost of a portion of the sidewalk construction capital projects listed above.

Closing Statement

The above represents the service plan for the LUD of Richer. The total budgeted expenditures for this year are **\$400,800.00**. In order to cover these anticipated expenditures, the LUD is going to be raising **\$181,300** through taxation along with the Special Service Levy of \$100.00 applied on all non-vacant properties for garbage collection totalling **\$23,500**. Approximately **\$1,000** is projected to be received from supplemental taxes issued throughout the year, and another **\$2,000** from insurance rebates, refunds, and other miscellaneous revenues. The remaining amounts will be taken out of reserve funds with **\$18,000** to be taken from the LUD General Reserve fund for the Sidewalk Construction project, and a maximum of **\$175,000** anticipated to be provided by the Municipality from municipal reserve funds for the Highway #1E Service Road Asphaltting project.

In 2023, the LUD of Richer's portioned assessment increased by \$2,499,440 or 12.41% mainly due to a general re-assessment, but also due to some improvements to properties, such as renovations, new construction and subdivisions, which were completed between 2020 and early 2022.

The LUD of Richer Committee recommends a **mill rate of 8.009 for 2023**.



John Lenton
LUD of Richer Chair

Dated this 13th day of April, 2023
Res#LUD-2023-32

2022 mill rate was 8.037
2021 mill rate was 8.036
2020 mill rate was 9.03
2019 mill rate was 9.03
2018 mill rate was 9.04
2017 mill rate was 9.13
2016 mill rate was 9.14
2015 mill rate was 9.25



Local Urban District of Richer

2023 Service Plan Appendix 'A'

Long-Term Goals

The LUD of Richer has established the following future goals to better plan and budget for long-term projects. These are simply an expression of possible future intentions and are in no way commitments to complete the projects listed.

Near future (2-5 years) :

- Continue building and improving the LUD's network of sidewalks and pathways
- Build a "Welcome to Richer" sign with an electronic billboard

Not-so near future (5-10 years) :

- Asphalt Southeast and Southwest Drives as well as Marquee Lane

Distant future (10-15 years) :

- Establish a sewer system for the LUD of Richer