

# REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SERVICING MASTER PLAN STUDY INFORMATION SHEET

APRIL 2024 | PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

## Introduction

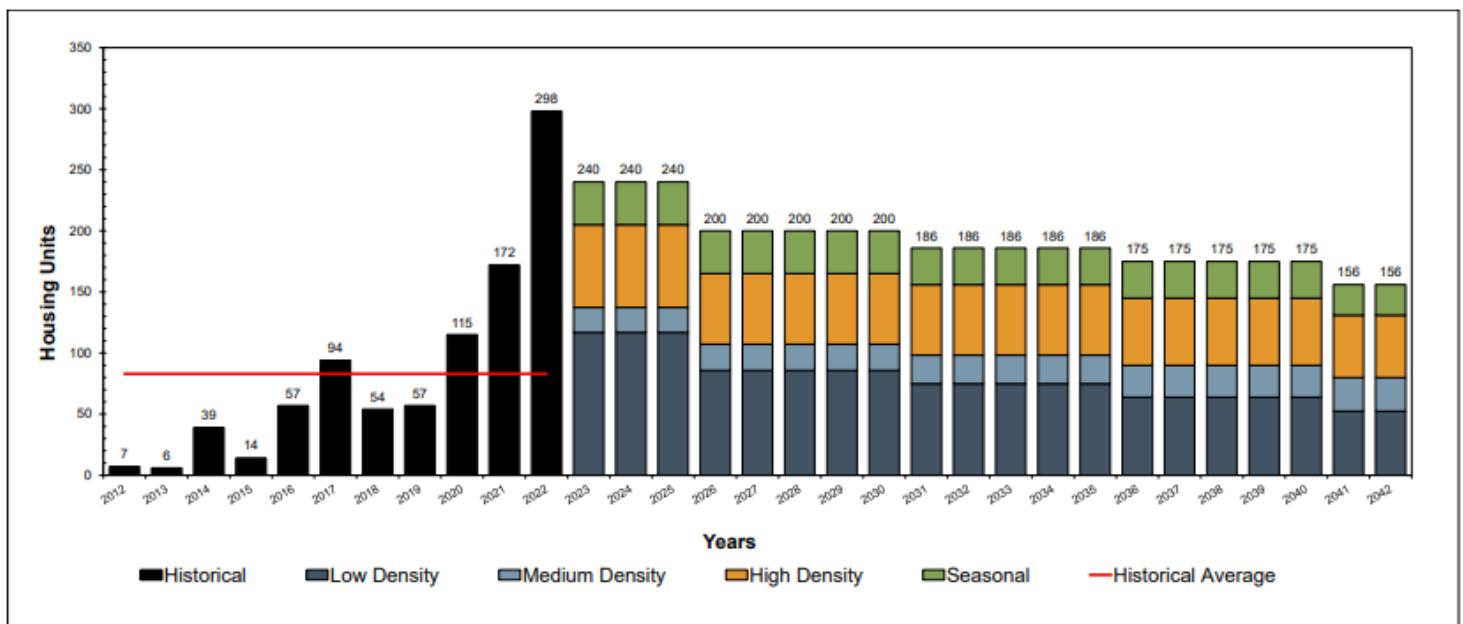
The County of Prince Edward, like many communities across Ontario, needs more supply of housing of all types to meet a range of needs for our residents and businesses. Through long-term planning and ongoing investments in infrastructure, the municipality is ensuring growth is well-managed, while delivering safe, reliable and cost-effective water and wastewater services.



### Why a regional study for supplying water to County residents and businesses?

Inherited from amalgamation, the municipality now owns and operates six different drinking water systems. Three are surface water treatment plants (Picton/Bloomfield, Wellington, and Ameliasburgh), one is a supply well (Peat's Point), and two are distribution systems only with water supplied from Belleville and Quinte West (Rossmore and Consecon/Carrying Place). The lack of a regional approach to municipal drinking water systems has major operational and financial implications for the municipality, given the small customer base in some areas.

Prince Edward County  
Annual Housing Forecast <sup>[1]</sup>



<sup>[1]</sup> Growth forecast represents calendar year.

Note: The number of Prince Edward County 2022 building permits is an estimate based on partial year data available. As of August 2022, the Municipality of Prince Edward County has issued 202 new units.

Source: Historical housing activity derived from Prince Edward County building permit data, 2012-2022.



## What is the goal of the study?

The goal of the regional study is to come up with the best plan for delivering water to existing customers and new customers in the future. Rapid and significant growth is projected over the next 20 years, particularly in Picton and Wellington.

The municipality must improve water infrastructure to meet the additional demand by both expanding capacity and replacing aging equipment. Also, through this study, the municipality is looking for possible ways to improve the overall efficiency and reduce the costs to ratepayers in delivering water across a vast geographical region.



## Will these plans and all this work increase my water bill?

Water rates are set every five years. The current rates are set until 2026, and already include the costs for the water tower, trunk lines and water and waste water plants in Wellington as proposed in 2022. The money you already pay each month helps fund the long-term plan for infrastructure.

The County is also setting up a community working group that will help set the rates for beyond 2026. Already, staff are looking at possible savings to limit future financial impacts on existing ratepayers.



## What's the big rush? Can't we just wait and see if the growth comes before moving ahead with these plans?

The County's water and wastewater infrastructure has served the community well over the decades. However, much of it is aging and will need to be replaced within the next 10 years, regardless of growth. If the County builds now, it can take advantage of the fact that 75% of the total costs can be paid for by developers of the new homes. The municipality cannot impose development charges after the houses are built.



## What other long-term planning is the municipality doing to manage growth and meet future demand?

The municipality is undertaking a Master Servicing Plan for Picton. As well, the municipality is completing a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for the Wellington water and wastewater treatment plants.

Learn more about the future of water and wastewater services in Prince Edward County by scanning the QR code on this page.



## I have more questions. Where can I find out more information?

You can learn more about the future of water services in Prince Edward County by scanning this QR code.

You can also send questions to [communications@pecounty.on.ca](mailto:communications@pecounty.on.ca).

