

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.

#### 2024 Project Snapshot and 2025 Expectations

For more detailed information on each project, background to the SSSF and detailed financial information, please refer to the <u>2024 SSSF Annual Report</u>. It is important to note that the collection of SSSF charges was paused in May 2024 until the end of the SSSF Transformation project (see further details below).

# 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 were completed in 2024.

# SOUTH EDMONTON SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM (SESS)

#### Stage SA10A with Pump Station and Force Main

SA10A is designed to provide storage capacity during heavy rainfall for 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. The decommissioning of the temporary pump station and related electrical components was completed in 2024. 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 approach. The project will also address the use of the SSSF reserve balance, which was \$103.4 million at the end of 2023 and \$115.8 million at the end of 2024.

The project began in December 2023, and the first meeting of a multi-stakeholder advisory committee was held in January 2024. Significant engagement with the development industry and analysis of options continued in 2024. The project is anticipated to be completed in the first half of 2026.