

2026 Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan Update

Public Information Center (PIC) No. 1 – Comments Received

Virtual Public Information Centre (PIC) No. 1 was held from September 24 to October 8, 2025. This included an introductory video presentation, presentation slides for review, and opportunity for interested individuals to provide comments via the project email.

PIC No. 1 materials for review included project introduction, the problem and opportunity statement, project approach, key issues and considerations, preliminary 2051 growth numbers, review of existing water and wastewater systems, and preliminary project workplan. These materials will remain posted on the 2026 Master Servicing Plan Update (2026 MSPU) project website:

- Video Presentation: <https://youtu.be/XI87JRgcwCl>
- Project Information: <https://www.niagararegion.ca/projects/water-wastewater-master-servicing-plan-update/pdf/display-boards-pic1.pdf>

During the 2-week engagement period, the video presentation received 40 views. Emails were received from interested stakeholders and comments are summarized below.

Comment / Question 1: Are there plans in place to provide water and wastewater servicing to Wainfleet?

Project Team Response 1: The 2026 MSPU focuses on review of infrastructure that supports our urban growth areas. Wainfleet is not a part of the urban growth areas at this time. This type of project would be initiated by the municipality and would be completed outside of the MSPU.

Comment / Question 2: Does the 255-liter per capita per day (Lpcd) sanitary flow rate used in the 2021 MSPU apply to all residential buildings or only high-density buildings?

Project Team Response 2: We do not distinguish per capita consumption or flow criteria at a land use level for residential buildings. This flow criteria is applied to all residential growth. The anticipated population is determined based on the type of building proposed; therefore, the overall flow would reflect the changes in density.

Comment / Question 3: Will this plan consult the following organizations?

- Niagara Agricultural Policy & Action Committee (APAC)
- Niagara Federation of Agriculture
- Ontario Federation of Agriculture
- Grape Growers
- Ontario Tender Fruit

Project Team Response 3: These organizations have not historically requested to be added to the contact list for past Niagara Region Master Servicing Plans (MSP). The 2026 MSPU focuses on review of infrastructure that supports our urban growth areas. Through the Public Information Centres (PICs), any group can request to be added to the mailing list for all project communications. Project staff will provide the notice of the project to these groups and will add them to future correspondence.

Comment / Question 4: Will an Agricultural Impact Assessment be completed?

Project Team Response 4: Agricultural Impact Assessments (AIAs) evaluate the potential impacts of non-agricultural development on agricultural operations and the Agricultural System and recommend ways to avoid or, if avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate adverse impacts. The 2026 MSPU will identify and recommend projects needed to provide water and wastewater servicing for future growth. These projects will be completed separately from the 2026 MSPU, with project-specific studies undertaken to guide their completion.

Comment / Question 5: Will stormwater be discussed as part of this project?

Project Team Response 5: The 2026 MSPU will focus only on water and wastewater servicing and will not include storm sewer infrastructure. The Regional storm sewer system will be reviewed under a different study. Removal of stormwater inflow and infiltration (I/I) from existing sanitary sewer systems is a priority and the MSPU will include these projects as part of the recommended strategies.

Comment / Question 6: 2-week review period during harvest season excludes agricultural input.

Project Team Response 6: The Region recognizes the importance of agricultural input throughout the study process. In the future, public engagement during harvesting times will be avoided when impacts on farm land are expected. Please note that the public is encouraged to submit questions or concerns at any time throughout the duration of the project.

The feedback above will be considered in the development and evaluation of water and wastewater system alternatives. The Master Servicing Plan Update (MSPU) will satisfy Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) process and will host an additional Public Information Centre (PIC) to present the preliminary preferred water and wastewater servicing alternatives and servicing solutions.

