

Town of Redvers – Water Treatment Plant Update -April 9, 2026

WHY THIS PROJECT MATTERS

The Town of Redvers is moving forward with a mandatory upgrade to our Water Treatment Plant.

This project is required by the Water Security Agency to ensure our drinking water meets provincial safety standards. Without this upgrade, the Town would not be in compliance and could not continue to operate our water system as is.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Contractor: CCR Construction Ltd. (Regina)
- Construction Start: May 2026
- Estimated Completion: Late Fall / Early Winter 2027
- Location: Existing plant site (expanding west)

WHAT IS BEING BUILT?

- A new, modern water treatment plant
- Advanced Reverse Osmosis (RO) system with greensand treatment
- Underground treated water storage
- Automated system with backup generator
- Bulk water fill station for public use
- Backup generator at the Recreation Centre (emergency use)

Note: The current water tower will be taken out of service but remain as a community landmark.

WHY THE UPGRADE IS NEEDED

- Current system does not meet provincial standards
- Issues with manganese, iron, and ammonia in raw water
- Required by the province to ensure safe drinking water

PROJECT TIMELINE -HOW WE GOT HERE

- 2020: Initial estimate – \$4.6M
- 2020–2022: Well upgrades, licensing, and planning
- 2022: Project estimate updated to \$6.1M (grant submitted)
- Feb 2024: Funding approved through ICIP
- 2024: Pilot project completed → new treatment method required
- 2025: Design finalized and tender issued
- Jan 2026: Bids received
- March 2026: Contractor selected

PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN

Construction Costs

- Lowest tender: \$7.7M

Additional Costs

- Engineering: \$622,000
- Pilot Project: \$62,000
- Provincial Sales Tax: \$465,000
- Contingency (10%): \$831,000

Total Project Cost - \$9.7 Million

WHY DID COSTS INCREASE?

Originally estimated at \$6.1M, costs increased due to:

- Inflation and rising construction costs
- More advanced treatment system required
- Updated engineering and design
- Market conditions and contractor pricing

FUNDING THE PROJECT

Secured Funding

- Federal/Provincial ICIP Grant: \$4.5M

Shortfall

- Remaining amount: up to \$4.77M

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

- Applied for additional funding (declined)
- Contacted provincial and federal officials
- Requested PST exemption (pending)
- Exploring new funding programs
- Secured financing approval for remaining costs

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR RESIDENTS

Utility Rate Changes

To cover costs, the Town must increase the Infrastructure Fee:

- Increase: \$50/month (\$150/quarter)

What You Get

- Base water usage increasing from:
 - 2,000 → 3,000 gallons/month
 - 6,000 → 9,000 gallons/quarter included

Even with this increase, Redvers will remain competitive with other communities in the region.

LOOKING AHEAD

- New plant will ensure safe, reliable water for decades
- Community will have modern infrastructure
- Recreation Centre will serve as an emergency hub during outages

QUESTIONS & FURTHER INFORMATION

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Contact the Town of Redvers Office Monday – Friday 10:00AM-4:30PM
306-452-3533, email tricia@townofredvers.ca



Water Treatment Plant Upgrade – Frequently Asked Questions

COSTS & BILLING

Why are residents responsible for the additional costs?

While the Town secured significant funding through the ICIP program, it was based on earlier cost estimates. Due to inflation, updated design requirements, and higher construction costs, the total project cost increased. Unfortunately, additional government funding is not currently available, so the remaining costs must be covered locally to complete this mandatory project.

Will my taxes increase as well?

At this time, the increase is being applied to the utility infrastructure fee only, not property taxes.

When does the \$50/month increase start and how long will it be in place?

The increase will start as of July 1, 2026 and will remain in place for the duration of the loan repayment period. If additional funding is secured or the loan is paid down faster, this could be reassessed in the future.

Can the Town pay off the loan early?

Yes. If additional funding becomes available or financial conditions improve, the Town can explore early repayment options to reduce long-term costs.

What happens if interest rates increase?

The Town has completed financial planning to ensure it can manage repayment even if rates fluctuate. We are working with our financial institution to secure the most stable and predictable terms possible.

Are businesses paying the same increase as residents?

Yes. The infrastructure fee applies to all utility users, including residential and commercial properties.

Are we still looking for funding?

Yes. The Town continues to explore all available options to reduce costs.

PROJECT DECISIONS

Why was Reverse Osmosis (RO) chosen?

A pilot study showed that other treatment methods would not adequately remove minerals such as manganese, iron, and ammonia. RO with a greensand blend was determined to be the most effective and reliable solution to meet provincial standards.

Could the project have been scaled down to reduce costs?

No. The system must meet strict regulatory requirements. Reducing the scope would risk non-compliance and could compromise water safety.

Did the Town consider other options, like partnering with another community?

Options were explored, but due to location, infrastructure, and regulatory requirements, upgrading our existing system is the most practical and cost-effective solution.

Were all funding opportunities explored?

Yes. The Town has applied for additional funding, contacted provincial and federal representatives, and continues to explore new programs as they become available.

Why weren't these higher costs known earlier?

Earlier estimates were based on preliminary designs and market conditions at the time. Final costs were only confirmed after detailed engineering, pilot testing, and the competitive tender process.

CONSTRUCTION & TIMELINE

Will there be disruptions to water service?

The goal is to maintain continuous service throughout construction. Any planned disruptions will be communicated well in advance.

Will water quality change during construction?

No. The existing system will remain in operation until the new plant is fully functional.

What happens if the project goes over budget again?

A contingency has been built into the budget, and the contract includes controls to limit cost overruns. The Town will closely monitor all expenses.

Is the contractor locked into a fixed price?

Yes. The project was awarded through a competitive tender process with defined pricing to reduce risk.

How will the Town ensure the project stays on schedule?

The project will be overseen by the Town and engineering consultants, with regular progress reviews and contractor accountability.

WATER QUALITY & OPERATIONS

Will the taste or hardness of the water change?

Residents may notice improvements in taste and overall water quality, as the new system removes more impurities.

Will this fix current water issues?

Yes. The new system is specifically designed to address existing concerns with minerals and water quality.

Is Reverse Osmosis safe?

Yes. RO is a widely used and proven technology for producing safe, high-quality drinking water.

Will water pressure change?

No. The system is designed to maintain current water pressure levels.

Will there be water restrictions?

At this time we do not anticipate water restrictions, however constant consultation with our engineer and water security officer will be ongoing throughout the project.

FAIRNESS & COMPARISONS**How do our rates compare to other communities?**

Even with the increase, Redvers will remain among the more affordable communities in the region for utility costs.

Why prioritize this project over others?

This project is not optional, it is required to meet provincial drinking water standards and protect public health.

Has the Town looked at reducing other costs first?

Yes. The Town has carefully reviewed finances and continues to manage operations responsibly while minimizing impacts to residents.

RISK & ACCOUNTABILITY**Is this project optional?**

No. It is mandated by the province.

Can the project be delayed?

No. Delays would risk non-compliance and public health concerns.

What happens if we don't proceed?

The Town would be out of compliance with provincial regulations, which could result in serious consequences, including restrictions on water use or system operation.

Who is overseeing the project?

The project is managed by Town Administration, Town Foreman and Council with oversight from engineering professionals and regulatory authorities.

Will residents receive updates?

Yes. The Town is committed to providing regular updates throughout the project.

What is the worst-case financial scenario?

The Town has planned for the full borrowing amount and confirmed it can meet repayment obligations without impacting essential services.

Will this affect other Town services?

No. Financial planning ensures that core services will continue without disruption.

FUTURE PLANNING

Will this prevent future upgrades?

This upgrade positions the Town well for the future and reduces the likelihood of major water-related upgrades in the near term.

How long will the new plant last?

The new facility is expected to serve the community for approximately 30-40 years with proper maintenance.

Does this support future growth?

Yes. The system is designed to meet current needs and accommodate future growth.

Will this improve emergency preparedness?

Yes. Backup generators and improved infrastructure will ensure water service during power outages and provide a community emergency hub.

QUESTIONS & FURTHER INFORMATION

🖥️ Visit our Website at www.redvers.ca

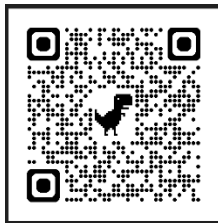
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