General

This notice is intended to inform stakeholders of the means by which the Engineering Services Department will be reviewing hydrant distribution for private developments requiring submission of fire flow calculations as part of a complete Development Permit application.

Revision

The Engineering Services Department has recently completed an internal review of the following columns added to Table 2 Standard Hydrant Distribution in the 2020 version of the Water Supply for Public Fire Protection document:

1) Maximum Recommended Spacing Between Hydrants;
2) Maximum Distance from Any Point on Street or Road Frontage to a Hydrant; and
3) Minimum Number of Hydrants.

Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) has clarified that the columns listed above have been added to Table 2 to provide simplified options to designers. They have also confirmed use of this additional criteria is not mandatory.

Upon internal review, Engineering Services will be continuing to use the Average Area Per Hydrant method for reviewing hydrant distribution based on the following rationale:

- It is best suited for consistent application to all private development across the City;
- It is the method FUS surveyors use to evaluate and credit hydrant coverage in communities, which ultimately affects the Public Fire Protection Classification for the City of Whitehorse.

Applicant’s requiring submission of fire flow calculations as part of a complete Development Permit Application are asked to demonstrate that an entrance to all spaces within the proposed building(s) fall within a hydrant coverage ‘radius’. The hydrant coverage radius is based on the values indicated in the Average Area Per Hydrant column in Table 2 of the ‘Water Supply for Public Fire Protection – 2020’ document and are to be applied in the form of a circle that is centred on the hydrant designed to provide coverage.

Should you require further information regarding these requirements please contact Engineering Services at (867) 668-8305.