Public Works Depot

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

September 2025

Q: Where is the new Public Works Depot located?

The Public Works Depot is located at 643 Highway 14 (Windsor Road).

Q: Will all Public Works staff be at the new location?

Yes.

Q: When will the Public Works Depot open?

The new Facility opens on September 22, 2025.

Q: How much did this cost?

\$2 million dollars plus \$15,000 annual operations costs.

Q: Why did Council choose to purchase an existing building instead of constructing as previously discussed?

The existing building is relatively new and in excellent condition. It met the needs of the Public Works Department, both current and future. The cost of new construction is estimated at \$5 million plus land acquisition costs.

Q: Do I have to go to the new location to pick up a sewer permit application if I'm already at the Municipal Office?

No. Permit applications can be picked up at the Municipal Office. Green carts can be ordered online at www.chester.ca/uhoh or by calling 902-275-1312.

Q: What services will the Public Works Department provide at this dedicated Facility?

- Wastewater collection and treatment management
- Capital and Operations Programing
- Water supply location work
- Roads and sidewalks maintenance, including stormwater infrastructure and snow and ice control
- Fleet management
- Parks and trails maintenance

Q: Why is it important to have so much space?

Currently, the Public Works Department stockpiles green carts, sewer pipe, sand, salt, equipment, and vehicles in six different locations. With the secure space that the new Depot and property provides, we can keep everything centralized which allows for better inventory control, safe storage, and quick access to supplies. This will reduce service disruption time.

Q: What are the future benefits?

- Supports infrastructure projects, such as wastewater treatment plant expansion and potential potable water plant.
- Provides fleet storage and maintenance space.
- Ensures the Municipality can respond to challenges tied to aging infrastructure, climate hazards, and development pressures.

Q: Why is this building and property a good location for the Public Works Facility?

- Centrally located in the Municipality and close to Exit 8, which improves efficiency in responding to our various infrastructure assets and public needs.
- Enables a lean, efficient flow of employees, vehicles, materials and equipment for service throughout the Municipality.
- An existing building that can accommodate all PW field staff, wastewater staff, and
 office staff under one roof for the first time, which will create management
 efficiencies, improve communication and work planning, improve collaboration and
 productivity of service levels by field and wastewater crews, and reduce operational
 costs as a result.
- The site has a footprint of 11 acres, with 7 acres usable for a PW lay down area, storage, fleet, and future uses.

Q: Did the Municipality acquire external funding for the Public Works Facility?

No. The acquisition of a Public Works Depot is not a candidate for external grant funding as typically grants do not fund these types of projects. The Municipality has been successful in securing significant grant funding for various capital projects, notably wastewater and sidewalk infrastructure, as well as for the current potable water study.

Q: Do I live on a road owned and maintained by the Municipality?

The Municipality only owns and maintains eight public roads at present outside of those at the Kaizer Meadow Environmental Management Centre – Captains Way, Commodores Drive, Endeavour Avenue, Foxwood Drive, Lake Road, Landing Drive West, Millenium Drive, and Parkwood Drive. All other roads are either owned and maintained by the Province or private road associations.