Evaluation Criteria	Comments (factors to consider in the evaluation process)	Additional Clarifications
Financial Category		
Capital cost	Construction cost to consider new infrastructure vs. upgrade of the existing infrastructure (e.g., new WWTP vs. existing WWTP upgrade); may require and will consider phased approach to match population projections	important for capital funding/investments related to federal and provincial funding, grants, or other funding sources for alignment with service areas and public/private financial participation/contributions - important for infrastructure planning purposes
Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Cost	Has an impact on annual O&M budgets and ongoing operations, e.g., impact of integration/amalgamation of existing WWTPs on O&M efforts/costs vs. new facilities	important for setting realistic annual O&M budgets for infrastructure maintenance, servicing, repairs, ongoing operations, etc. - important for planning ongoing infrastructure O&M operations
Technical Category		
Technical advantages and disadvantages	Options to consider (a) capacity requirements and level of service required to meet service demand, (b) collection system alignments to maximize service areas and improve the overall quality/reliability of service, (c) and level (extent) of utilization/reuse of the existing wastewater systems/infrastructure that affects the infrastructure feasibility/suitability for incremental expansion and long-term future use. (d) Integrated Resource Management opportunities including recovery of energy, water, heat, effluent and sludge conversion to compost (e) ability of system to mitigate environmental impacts (f) management complexity of system	e.g., configuration requirements (e.g., size, footprint, volume, layout - depending on the system component), reuse potential or continued use of the existing infrastructure vs. building new infrastructure, potential to increase service areas and/or population densities due to infrastructure improvements and/or layouts, etc.
Technology	Options to consider: a) Conventional systems - drawing on a combination of physical, chemical, and biological processes and operations to remove solids, organic matter, nutrients b) Nanofiltration systems - to provide filtration at the molecular level which allows filtering out hardness, iron, tannins and other contaminants that conventional filtration cannot remove c) Other technology options	
Risk consideration	Options to consider (a) safeguarding of wastewater collection, treatment, and discharge systems to security and climate risks including stormwater infiltration, flood, sea level rise, and slope failure (b) impacts and reliability of gravity (i.e., deep collection or STEG) systems vs. pumping stations and STEP systems.	Wastewater system security and reliability
Difficulties of construction	Options to consider stream and road/highway crossings, impacts on the riparian areas and existing utilities/infrastructure, impacts on private properties and commercial operations	This criterion may have impact on schedule/implementation, permitting process with various agencies/stakeholders, construction techniques, constructability, or other complexities.
Phasing suitability and expandability	Options to consider (a) staged growth and maximizing the use of the existing and planned infrastructure and (b) incremental expansions as they relate to growth or late comers from outside the electoral areas.	This criteria was slightly modified based on the feedback received from Cowichan Tribes, Malahat FN, and Pauquachin FN.
Social Category		
Impacts related to the opportunity and/or requirements for land development	Encourage growth within UCBs to support sustainable infrastructure, and maximize the opportunity for population density specifically in UCBs to enable the financial support for infrastructure	
Impact on local residents/businesses and disruptions compared to the status quo	Options to consider impacts, such as: noise, dust/air pollution, traffic disruptions during and after construction, workers parking, odour, ROWs/easements, visual aesthetics, etc.	

Community support	Consider likely community support/perception, long-term community benefits, sharing of services, and financial participation/contribution iterative process	
Impacts on archaeological and heritage resources	Requires a map of known archaeological sites	
Impacts on First Nations (FN) cultural and traditional use sites	Consider and evaluate impacts to FN cultural/traditional use sites (e.g., spiritual/sacred or subsistence/harvesting areas), or FN access to those sites/areas.	This criterion was added based on the feedback received from Cowichan Tribes.
Environmental Category		
Impact of the existing/proposed infrastructure to the environment	Impacts include the effects of effluent collection and treatment to vegetation, aquatic resources, fisheries, wildlife habitat, soil contamination	Qualitative impact from the environmental perspective
Impacts of effluent discharge to the receiving environment	Impacts include the effects of discharge to ground and surface water resources.	This criterion is specific to the CVRD South Sector due to several creeks in the study area: Shawnigan Creek, Hollings Creek, Handysen Creek, and other smaller creeks and tributaries.

CVRD - Cowichan Valley Regional District	TBD - to be discussed
UCB - Urban Containment Boundary	
ROW - Right of way	
GHG - Green house gas	
CT - Cowichan Tribes	