



Building Bulletin

519-741-2312

building@kitchener.ca

www.kitchener.ca/building

Changes to Residential Multi-Meter Water Meter Requirements (Properties With 2 to 10 Dwelling Units)

June 25, 2026
BB 2026-04

Kitchener Utilities (KU) is introducing changes to the water metering requirements for residential properties containing **2 to 10 dwelling units**. These changes apply to permits applied for on or after **July 1, 2026**.

Who's Affected

These changes apply to properties with **2 to 10 dwelling units**, including (but not limited to);

- Houses with a secondary suite or duplex,
- Houses with detached additional dwelling unit(s),
- Multi-residential buildings (e.g. triplex, fourplex, apartment, etc.),

These requirements apply to;

- new construction, and
- renovations or change of use where additional dwelling unit(s) are added to a building or property.

Note: Properties containing **only 1 dwelling unit** (including street fronting townhouses) are **NOT** affected by these changes.

Refer to the attached [Kitchener Utilities Bulletin](#) for full details.

How this Affects Your Building Permit Submissions

Where a property will contain **2 to 10 dwelling units**, building permit drawings must clearly identify the selected water metering approach (as outlined in the KU Bulletin).

In addition to the KU requirements, include the following information based on the selected option:

1) Single Meter Option

- Illustrate the proposed location of the water meter on the drawings. Where the existing water meter will remain, illustrate the location of the existing meter.

2) Multi-Meter Interior Room Option

- Identify the location of the interior multi-meter room on the drawings. Ensure the room and location comply with the KU requirements for an interior multi-meter room.

3) Multi-Meter Exterior Accessible Recessed Compartment

- Illustrate the location of the water meter compartment on the drawings. Ensure the compartment and location comply with the KU requirements for a multi-meter exterior accessible recessed compartment.
- If the compartment is being added to an existing building, include sufficient structural details demonstrating how the recessed compartment will be constructed.

KITCHENER UTILITIES BULLETIN

Regarding:	Changes to Multi-Metering Requirements (2 to 10 Dwelling Units)
Initiated By:	Parmi Takk, Kitchener Utilities
Date:	Effective July 1, 2026, at time of building permit submission
Where:	City of Kitchener

Kitchener Utilities staff attended the KDLC Committee Meeting on November 21, 2025, to discuss proposed changes to the City's multi-metering requirements. Prior to this meeting a draft of the proposed changes was circulated. A lot of feedback was received, and Kitchener Utilities staff reviewed additional alternatives and provided their findings and proposed changes on December 19, 2025. A Bulletin was circulated in January 2026 with the finalized proposed changes. These changes apply to new construction and where additional dwelling units are added to the existing buildings/properties. The following three water metering options will be permitted for properties with multiple dwelling units.

1) Single Meter Option

Kitchener Utilities (KU) will only provide one water meter per property for all dwelling units.

- Applicants must provide information on where the water meter will be located and how to access the meter (for example in which dwelling unit); or

2) Multi-Meter Interior Room Option

KU will provide multiple water meters for the property (e.g. one for each dwelling unit). A dedicated meter room may be constructed in the building closest to the right-of-way.

- The room must have an exterior access door, with a key or door code provided to the city of Kitchener.
- If exterior access is not feasible, access must be from a common corridor or area (e.g., shared laundry room), not through a tenant's unit. A key or door code must still be provided to access the meter room.

3) Multi-Meter Exterior Accessible Recessed Compartment Option

KU will provide multiple water meters for the property (e.g. one for each dwelling unit). An exterior accessible recessed meter compartment may be constructed.

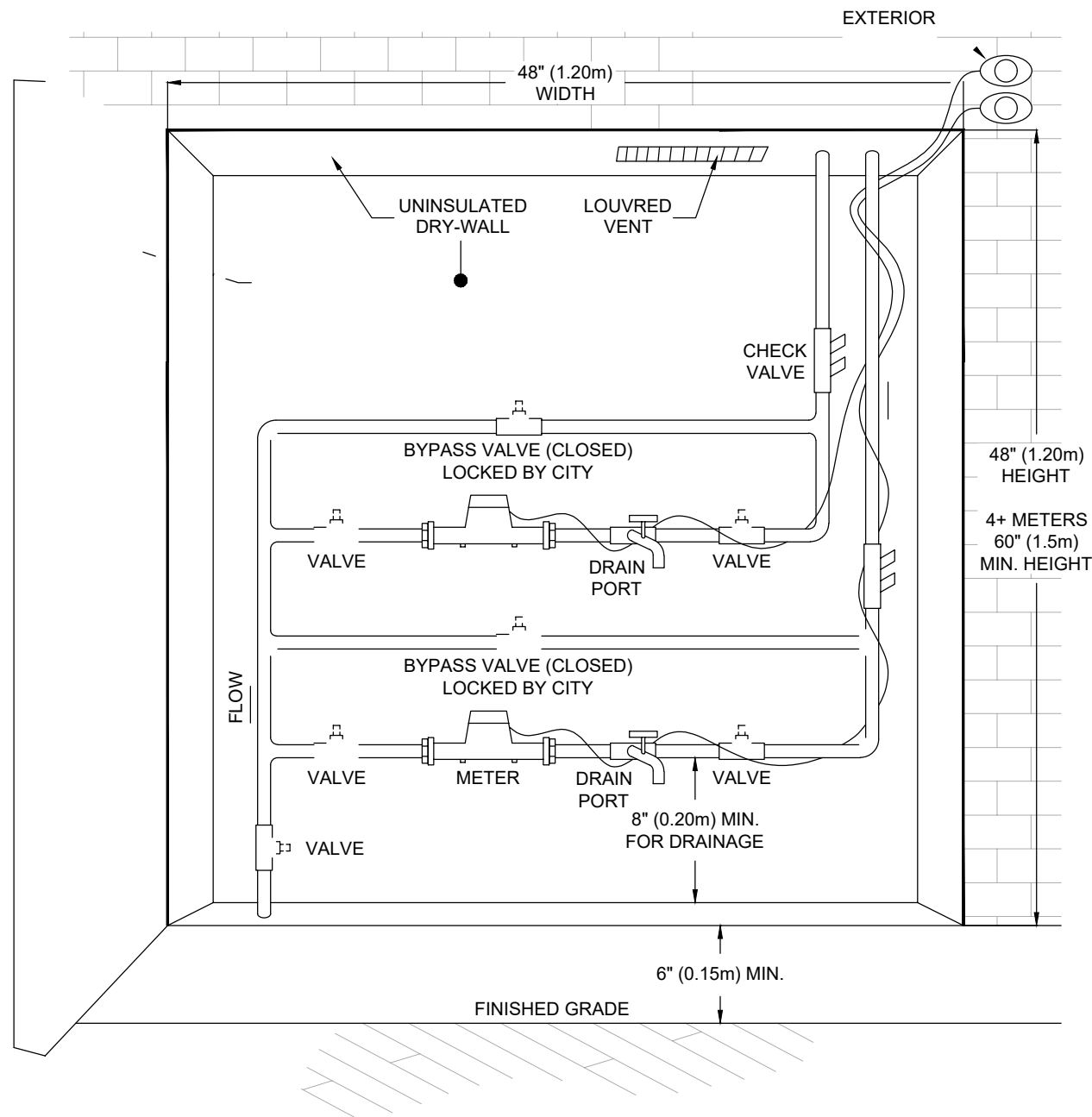
- See attached drawing for an example and minimum requirements.

KU has revised their multi-metering procedure to reflect these changes.

Parmi Takk, P.Eng./ Angela Mick P.Eng.

Kitchener Utilities

Parmi.Takk@kitchener.ca (519-783-8795) / Angela.Mick@Kitchener.ca (519-783-8778)



NOTES

- 1) Access door must be 6" (0.15m) minimum above grade and accessible (ie. not behind fenced yard). Door to include weather stripping.
- 2) Small louvred vent for heat transfer from inside.
- 3) Interior walls to be dry-walled but not insulated.
- 4) Door must be suitable for exterior use and must be insulated with minimum R-rating of R10 (can use insulation foam board).
- 5) Multi-Meter compartment must be weather tight.
- 6) Minimum compartment size is 48" x 48" (1.20m x 1.20m) by 25" (0.65m) in depth.
- 7) For 2 to 4 Meters, minimum height of compartment is 60" (1.50m).
- 8) For greater than 4 Meters, email WaterMeterShop@Kitchener.ca or call 519-783-8885 for further assistance.
- 9) Each Meter to be labelled with the unit it serves.
- 10) Exterior remote to be in close proximity to Multi-Meter compartment.
- 11) Minimize piping length between Water Service entry into the building and Multi-Meter compartment.
- 12) If compartment door is lockable, Kitchener Utilities to be provided with key for access, or code for combination lock box containing key.
- 13) No other storage permitted in the compartment.
- 14) Fire stop penetrations are required.
- 15) Pipe supports to be provided as needed.
- 16) Any structural modifications to existing structure to comply with OBC and to be included in the building permit applications.
- 17) For new construction, water service line to enter building directly below the manifold compartment. Exposed service pipe to be fully enclosed before the building control valve.
- 18) For building renovations, existing control valve to be locked in open position. Requires a 1/8" hole drilled in the handle of the valve with tamper wire in place. Exposed service pipe between existing building control valve and the valve in the compartment to be fully enclosed.
- 19) Thermal expansion tank required as a result of check valve.



EXTERIOR RECESSED MULTI-METER MANIFOLD COMPARTMENT

CITY OF KITCHENER - UTILITIES DIVISION

SCALE: NTS

WATER METER SHOP DRAWING

DWG. No.

WMSD-302

Drawn: ASK DATE: June 2026