

Priorities Committee Meeting_Feb14_2017

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE**Social Framework Renewal – What We Heard****Report Purpose**

To provide the Priorities Committee with an update on What We Heard through Community Talk, the Social Framework Renewal engagement process.

Council History

March 27, 2007 – Council adopted the Social Sustainability Framework

April 1, 2008 – Council received an update on the Social Sustainability Framework

June 14, 2011 – Council received an update on the Social Sustainability Framework

October 18, 2016 – The Priorities Committee was provided an update on the launching of Community Talk, the Social Framework Renewal engagement process.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Economy: The link between healthy social outcomes and a strong and growing economy has been well documented by evidence and research. Further evidence confirms that strategic investments in social early intervention and prevention can alleviate higher expenses in other municipal downstream costs such as policing and emergency services.

Governance: Civic engagement in the development of public policy increases awareness of community issues, and creates a sense of co-ownership in implementing the results of the policy. Public policy achieves enhanced results when it is collectively owned by community, non-profit and private organizations, as well as municipal government.

Social: Enhancing social and community outcomes requires vision and a plan that is shared by many. If done well, a social policy framework can guide planning and decision making for many community groups including; social service organizations, faith based groups, community associations, service clubs, small and large businesses and Strathcona County departments and leadership.

Culture: A broad based, collectively owned and inclusive public policy process can contribute to a strengthened and shared community identity.

Environment: n/a

Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Legislative/Legal: n/a

Interdepartmental: Family and Community Services; RCMP and Enforcement Services; Recreation, Parks and Culture; Corporate Planning and Intergovernmental Affairs; Communications; and Transit.

Summary

A renewed social framework will replace the current Social Sustainability Framework and will align with the Strathcona County strategic plan, corporate business plan and the Council approved recommendations coming out of the Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing.

Community Talk was designed to inform a renewed social framework for the County of Strathcona. During this engagement, that ran from October 18th to December 31, 2016, 7,815 citizens participated in a survey and 622 people participated in community conversations to provide insights and feedback on our county's social goals and current achievement of these goals.

The social framework renewal is a joint effort between six Strathcona County departments (Family and Community Services; RCMP and Enforcement Services; Recreation, Parks and Culture; Corporate Planning and Intergovernmental Affairs; Communications; and Transit) and community partners including: The Primary Care Network; Robin Hood Society, Sherwood Park 55+ Club; Information and Volunteer Centre; Alberta Health Services Addictions and Mental Health; Alberta Health Services Public Health Unit; Parents Empowering Parents; SAFFRON Centre; Heartland Housing Foundation; Elk Island Public School Division; Elk Island Catholic School Division; Heartland Alliance Church; Strathcona County Library; Sherwood Park Chamber of Commerce, the Community Living Advisory Committee, and Human Services. These departments and partners are represented on the steering committee and provide overall direction and recommendation for a renewed social framework for the county.

Phase one, broad public engagement through Community Talk, is complete. The results of this engagement are contained in the attached PowerPoint and "Community Talk What We Heard Report."

Communication Plan

Networks and relationships that were used to engage citizens in Community Talk will be accessed again to distribute the results through the "Community Talk What We Heard Report."

Other general communication tactics will be used, both online and in-person. In addition a separate document containing verbatim responses will be posted on the County's website and will be made available by mail if requested.

Enclosure

- 1 ppt Community Talk What We Heard
- 2 Community Talk What We Heard Report
- 3 An information graphic will be distributed to Priorities Committee the day of the presentation.