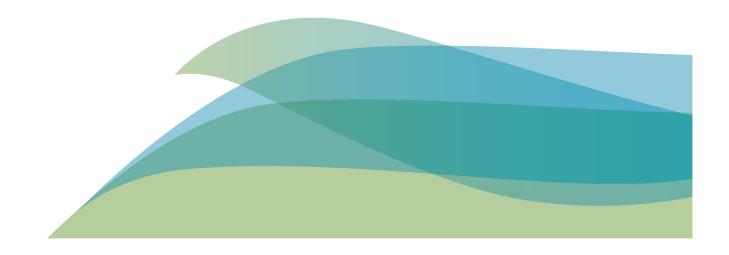


Prepared by Corporate Finance

Prepared for

Priorities Committee September 18, 2018



<u>1. Year-to-Date Operating Variance and Year-End Forecast of the Annual Operating</u> <u>Surplus for Tax Purposes</u>

1.1 Year-to-Date Operating Variance¹

The operating variance as of June 30, 2018 is a **(\$0.4) million deficit** (Q2 2017 \$9.0 million surplus). The operating variance is determined through a comparison of the year-to-date budget and actual results, and is composed of timing differences that are expected to reverse during the remainder of the year, and permanent differences that have occurred and will affect the year-end results. The second quarter 2018 operating variance is lower in comparison to previous years' results; this was anticipated and is due in part to greater strategic use of reserves, improved alignment with historic trends (budget to actuals), and sensible adjustments to support a less conservative approach to budgeting.

County Operating Segments	2018 Second Quarter YTD Timing Differences	2018 Second Quarter YTD Permanent Differences	2018 Second Quarter YTD Variance	2017 Second Quarter YTD Variance
Municipal	\$2.9M	(\$2.9M)	-	\$9.4M
Utility	(\$0.8M)	\$0.4M	(\$0.4M)	(\$0.6M)
Library	-	-	-	\$0.2M
TOTAL	\$2.1M	(\$2.5M)	(\$0.4M)	\$9.0M

1.2 Year-End Forecast of the Annual Operating Surplus for Tax Purposes¹ (Permanent Differences and Forecasted Items)

The year-end forecast is based on the information available as of June 30, 2018 and is subject to the uncertainty of unknown events or circumstances which may take place during the remainder of the year.

County Operating Segments		ear-End cast ²		ear-End cast ²
Municipal	-	-	\$3.4M	1.2%
Utility	\$0.8M	1.4%	\$0.2M	0.3%
Library	-	0.6%	\$0.2M	1.7%
TOTAL	\$0.8M	0.2%	\$3.8M	1.1%

¹The Year-to-Date Operating Variance and the Annual Operating Surplus for Tax Purposes evaluate the results using the same method used to prepare the Operating Budget, in accordance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA). This method includes debt repayment expenditures and reserve transactions, and excludes amortization expense, gains/losses on asset disposals, and capital revenues, unlike the Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) surplus used to prepare the financial statements.

²The percentages represent the proportion of surplus (deficit) compared to the respective annual operating budgets.



1.3 Analysis of the 2018 Year-End Forecast

a. Municipal Operations – Forecasted to be on budget

Municipal operations is forecasted to align with budget for the current year. Some significant items to note are:

- \$1.6 million of revenue and savings primarily attributed to continued focus on traffic enforcement (i.e. fine revenues) and savings on RCMP contract costs
- \$1.3 million of investment income due to higher rates and volumes than anticipated
- (\$1.0) million higher than anticipated P4 costs and increased costs for overtime for winter snow and spring floods
- (\$1.0) million lower than anticipated permit revenue
- (\$1.0) million of emergent 2018 North Strathcona County Fire expenses

The County's most significant expense is personnel costs and, as a whole, personnel costs are on budget.

Risks and Strategies:

The most significant risk to the County's forecasted result is the collection of two large anticipated sources of revenue: supplemental taxes of \$1.2 million and \$0.9 million of investment income included in the amount previously mentioned.

As planned during budget approval, reserve funding from the R2 Contingency Reserve is available to fund \$1.0 million of expenses incurred by Emergency Services and Fleet Services for the May 2018 North Strathcona County Fire and \$1.0 million of expenses incurred by Transportation and Agriculture Services for higher than anticipated P4 winter maintenance costs, with Council approval.

b. Utility Operations – \$0.8 million forecasted surplus

Utilities is projecting a \$0.8 million surplus at year-end due to lower debt servicing costs, savings in solid waste and wastewater contracted services, and additional revenue from external contracts.

One significant highlight is the major Alberta Capital Region Wastewater Commission (ACRWC) repair that will take place in the third quarter for (\$7.5) million which will be offset by external revenue of \$7.6 million - information on this unbudgeted expenditure and associated revenue was presented to Council on July 17, 2018.

c. Library Operations – Forecasted to be on budget

No significant impacts to report.

LIVING. REFINED.

2. Capital Activity Update

2.1 2018 Planned Capital Spending

The revised 2018 planned capital spend presented to Council on July 17, 2018, totalled \$111.7 million (2017 \$202.6 million). The 2018 planned spend comprises:

2018 Planned Capital Spend	\$111.7M
Budgeted capital expenditures planned to be incurred after 2018	(\$105.3M)
Planned spending changes resulting from capital budget amendments and funds to be released	(\$79.5M)
Unspent prior years budgeted capital expenditures	\$227.3M
The 2018 Capital Budget (approved by Council on December 4, 2017)	\$69.2M

2.2 Capital Spending To Date

The capital spending, as of June 30, 2018, totaled \$17.7 million (2017 Q2 \$18.8 million) which is 15.8% of the planned annual spending (2017 Q2 10.7%). The 2018 variance between planned and actual capital expenditures is \$94.0 million which is expected to be spent from July to December.

2.3 Update on Completed Projects

As of June 30, 2018, fifteen projects with total combined budgets of \$33.3 million were completed, resulting in the release of \$0.9 million of unused funding/financing. All funds released are allocated back to their original funding sources and are available for other emergent or future capital priorities.

2.4 2018 Capital Budget Amendments

Thirty eight capital budget amendments have been approved in 2018 resulting in a \$78.4 million net decrease to the capital budget. The decrease is composed of:

- One new project was added with minimal cost impact;
- Twenty four projects approved in 2017 and prior years were amended to decrease the budget by \$21.6 million;
- Three projects approved in 2017 and prior years were amended to increase the budget by \$1.3 million;
- Two projects approved in 2017 and prior years were amended without financial consequences, as funds were repurposed within the projects; and
- Eight projects approved in 2014 to 2016 were cancelled to decrease the budget by \$58.1 million.

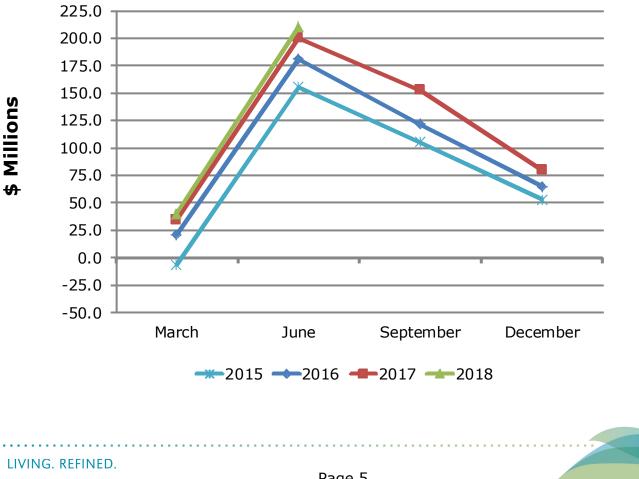
3. Assessment of the County's Financial Condition - Key Financial Indicators

The following section is prepared based on the second quarter 2018 Strathcona County Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited) provided in Appendix 1. The Consolidated Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS).

3.1 Net Financial Assets (Net Debt) Position and Trend Analysis

Net financial assets (or net debt) is the difference between financial assets and liabilities. It is a key indicator of the County's sustainability, which is the ability to maintain services and meet financial commitments. Being in a net financial assets position indicates that financial assets are on hand to provide funding for future planned or emergent needs. A net debt position reflects the need to have future revenue pay for past transactions and events.

In the current year, net financial assets are trending normally, and year over year the County is experiencing positive increases. As of June 30, 2018, the County's net financial asset position is \$210.2 million compared to a \$79.2 million net financial asset position at December 31, 2017; an increase of \$131.0 million. The significant increase in net financial assets in the second quarter is expected and mainly due to the timing of property tax revenue collection, which will be drawn down to finance operations in the second half of 2018.



Net Financial Assets (Net Debt) Trend Analysis

3.2 Long-term Debt

The County has issued new debt in the amount of \$5.6 million as of June 30, 2018 (Q2 2017 no new debt had been issued). Debt repayment of \$5.3 million (Q2 2017 \$5.0 million) has reduced the 2018 long-term debt opening balance.

June 30, 2018 Long Term Debt Balance	\$165.7M
Debt repayment to June 30, 2018	(\$5.3M)
New debt issued to June 30, 2018	\$5.6M
December 31, 2017 Long Term Debt Balance	\$165.4M

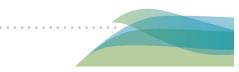
3.3 Reserve Reporting

The following table provides a summary of the County's reserve balances as of June 30, 2018:

Reserves	Committed	Designated	Total	Optimal Variance ³
Municipal Stabilization and Contingency	\$1.6M	\$13.8M	\$15.4M	\$0.9M
Projects	\$46.4M	\$28.4M	\$74.8M	\$6.8M
Infrastructure, Lifecycle, Maintenance and Replacement	\$42.0M	\$58.3M	\$100.3M	\$20.1M
Special Purpose	\$18.1M	\$23.0M	\$41.1M	\$10.3M
Total Municipal	\$108.1	\$123.5M	\$231.6M	\$38.1M
Utilities Stabilization and Contingency	(\$0.1M)	\$2.3M	\$2.2M	(\$0.4M)
Projects	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure, Lifecycle, Maintenance and Replacement Levy Debt Repayment	\$10.1M \$3.3M	\$37.5M -	\$47.6M \$3.3M	(\$36.3M) -
Total Utilities	\$13.2M	\$39.8M	\$53.1M	(\$36.7M)
Total Library	-	\$4.7M	\$4.7M	-
Total Reserves	\$121.4M	\$168.0M	\$289.4M	\$1.4M
Percentage of Total Reserves	41.9%	58.1%	100%	

The presentation of reserve groupings is in accordance with the Policy: FIN-001-024 Municipal Reserves. The optimal variance column is determined through a comparison of the reserve's optimal balance with the designated funds available within the respective reserve. A positive figure indicates a balance above the optimal amount and a negative figure indicates a balance below the optimal amount.

³The optimal reserve balances as at December 31, 2017 represent a point in time and should be considered in relation to resulting trends and circumstances.

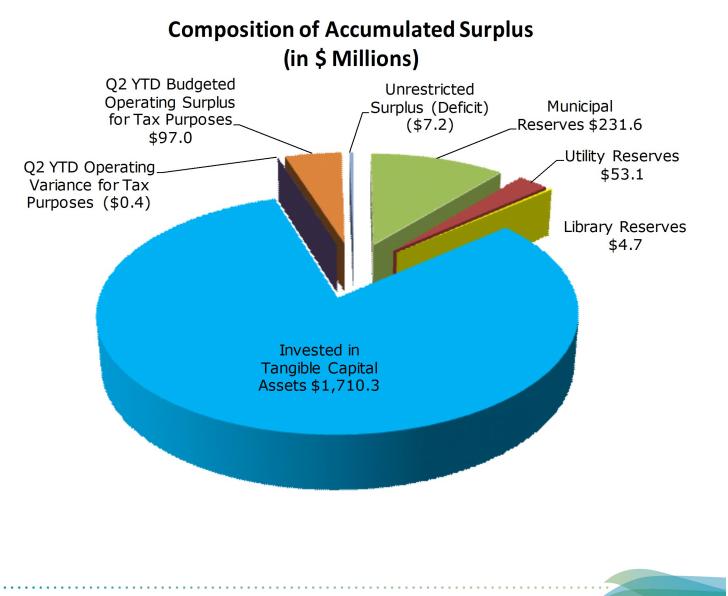


3.4 Accumulated Surplus

Accumulated surplus represents the value the County has built over time. That value is impacted by current year operating variances: it increases if the County experiences surpluses and decreases if the County experiences deficits. The value invested in tangible capital assets used to provide services now and in the future, with the exception of land, will have to be maintained and/or replaced over time.

Accumulated surplus totals \$2,089.1 million as of June 30, 2018 (\$2,036.7 million as of June 30, 2017). The composition of the second quarter 2018 accumulated surplus is as follows:

- Reserves of \$289.4 million (Q2 2017 \$245.8 million);
- Investments in tangible capital assets of \$1,710.3 million (Q2 2017 \$1,672.9 million);
- The June 30, 2018 budgeted period operating surplus of \$97.0 million (Q2 2017 \$114.2 million);
- The June 30, 2018 year-to-date unfavourable operating variance of (\$0.4) million (Q2 2017 favourable variance of \$9.0 million); and
- The unrestricted deficit of (\$7.2) million (Q2 2017 (\$5.2) million deficit).



4. 2015-2018 Corporate Business Plan Reporting (Appendix 2)

The second quarter management report includes progress reporting on the goals within the 2015-2018 Corporate Business Plan, which demonstrate linkages to the Strategic Plan. Council was previously provided with corporate business plan reporting as part of the 2017 Annual Management Report on April 17, 2018.

Appendices

- 1. Consolidated Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules for the Period Ended June 30, 2018 (unaudited)
- 2. 2015-2018 Corporate Business Plan Progress Report
- 3. Glossary of Terms

Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Period Ended June 30, 2018 (in thousands of dollars)

(unaudited)

STRATHCONA COUNTY Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at June 30, 2018 (in thousands of dollars)

	June 30, 2018	December 31, 2017			
FINANCIAL ASSETS					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 21,333	\$ 7,042			
Accounts Receivable					
Property Taxes	47,534	5,262			
Government Transfers	2,350	12,117			
Trade and Other	17,059	15,191			
Development Levies and Charges	2,749	3,190			
Investments	448,673	344,256			
Investment Interest Receivable	12,352	10,589			
	552,050	397,647			
LIABILITIES Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities Deposit Liabilities Deferred Revenue Long-Term Debt	71,026 17,569 87,580 165,682 341,857	53,023 17,325 82,712 165,423 318,483			
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	210,193	79,164			
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS					
Tangible Capital Assets	1,876,016	1,886,035			
Inventories of Materials and Supplies	780	1,028			
Prepaid Expenses	2,081	2,903			
	1,878,877	1,889,966			
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$ 2,089,070	\$ 1,969,130			

Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus For the period ended June 30, 2018 (in thousands of dollars)

	2018 Period Budget	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2017
REVENUE			
Property Taxes	\$ 221,309	\$ 220,135	\$ 220,202
Utility User Rates	29,277	27,784	26,741
User Fees and Charges	20,246	20,271	20,637
Government Transfers - Operating	4,493	4,432	4,408
Investment Income	3,047	3,537	3,289
Penalties and Fines	2,835	3,470	3,255
Other	4,406	6,411	4,379
TOTAL REVENUE	285,613	286,040	282,911
EXPENSES			
Infrastructure and Planning Services			
Economic Development and Tourism	866	862	730
Planning and Development Services	5,171	4,677	4,431
Transportation and Agriculture Services	16,060	16,108	12,398
Transportation Planning and Engineering	2,506	2,260	2,251
Utilities	26,931	26,623	24,881
	51,534	50,530	44,691
Community Services	·	,	,
Emergency Services	17,188	17,685	16,114
Family and Community Services	4,824	4,950	4,533
Strathcona Transit	9,812	8,854	8,510
RCMP and Enforcement Services	12,789	12,627	12,440
Recreation, Parks and Culture	21,135	20,618	19,688
	65,748	64,734	61,285
Corporate Services	19,399	18,242	16,993
Elected Officials	697	614	587
Financial and Strategic Management	4,507	4,034	3,733
Fiscal Services	28,650	30,183	27,665
Senior Administration	3,067	2,785	2,595
Strathcona County Library	5,318	5,591	5,446
	61,638	61,449	57,019
TOTAL EXPENSES	178,920	176,713	162,995
SURPLUS BEFORE CAPITAL REVENUE	106,693	109,327	119,916
CAPITAL REVENUE			
Government Transfers - Capital	8,325	5,656	2,376
Contributed Tangible Capital Assets	-	2,368	3,219
Other Capital Revenue	3,621	2,589	1,523
TOTAL CAPITAL REVENUE	11,946	10,613	7,118
PERIOD SURPLUS	118,639	119,940	127,034
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS,			
BEGINNING OF PERIOD	1,969,130	1,969,130	1,909,672
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS,			
END OF PERIOD	\$ 2,087,769	\$ 2,089,070	\$ 2,036,706

Consolidated Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets (Net Debt) For the period ended June 30, 2018 (in thousands of dollars)

	20)18 Period Budget		June 30, 2018	[December 31, 2017
PERIOD SURPLUS	\$	118,639	\$	119,940	\$	59,458
Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets Contributed Tangible Capital Assets Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets Loss (Gain) on Disposal of Tangible Capital Assets Proceeds from Disposal of Tangible Capital Assets		(32,394) - 245 - - 86,490		(17,679) (2,368) 28,928 755 384 129,960		(84,518) (18,167) 57,292 (1,110) 2,302 15,257
Acquisition of Inventories of Materials and Supplies Acquisition of Prepaid Expenses Use of Inventories of Materials and Supplies Use of Prepaid Expenses		- - - -	_	(820) (630) 1,067 1,452 1,069		(1,798) (3,437) 1,717 2,863 (655)
INCREASE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS		86,490		131,029		14,602
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD NET FINANCIAL ASSETS,		79,164		79,164		64,562
END OF PERIOD	\$	165,654	\$	210,193	\$	79,164

STRATHCONA COUNTY Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the period ended June 30, 2018 (in thousands of dollars)

	June 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
NET INFLOW (OUTFLOW) OF CASH RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:		
OPERATING PERIOD SURPLUS	\$ 119,940	\$ 59,458
Items Not Involving Cash: Contributed Tangible Capital Assets Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets Amortization of Discount on Investments Loss (Gain) on Disposal of Tangible Capital Assets Gain on Disposal of Investments	(2,368) 28,928 12 755 -	(18,167) 57,292 64 (1,110) (944)
Changes to Non-Cash Assets and Liabilities: Property Taxes Receivable Government Transfers Receivable Trade and Other Receivables Development Levies and Charges Receivable Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities Deposit Liabilities Deferred Revenue Inventories of Materials and Supplies Prepaid Expenses Cash Provided by Operating Activities	(42,272) 9,767 (1,868) 441 18,003 244 4,868 244 822 137,520	(1,212) (2,607) 923 (1,573) 11,976 1,243 16,965 (81) (574) 121,653
CAPITAL Proceeds from Disposal of Tangible Capital Assets Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets Cash (Applied to) Capital Activities	384 (17,679) (17,295)	2,302 (84,518) (82,216)
INVESTING Purchase of Investments Proceeds from Sale/Maturity of Investments Change to Investment Interest Receivable Cash (Applied to) Investing Activities	(219,360) 114,930 (1,763) (106,193)	(257,256) 220,378 (518) (37,396)
FINANCING Long-Term Debt Issued Long-Term Debt Repaid Cash Provided by (Applied to) Financing Activities	5,559 (5,300) 259	9,850 (10,567) (717)
INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	14,291	1,324
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	7,042	5,718
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD	\$ 21,333	\$ 7,042

Consolidated Schedule of Segmented Information

For the period ended June 30, 2018 (in thousands of dollars)

Municipal Operations												
	Infractructure and Planning Services	Community Services	Corporate Services	Financial and Strategic Management	Senior Administration	Elected Officials	Fiscal Services	Total Municipal Operations	Utility Operations	Library Operations	June 30, 2018	2018 Period Budget
OPERATING REVENUE												
Property Taxes	\$ 21,912	\$ 42,512	\$ 19,060	\$ 4,250	\$ 3,005	\$ 697	\$ 119,275	\$ 210,711	\$ 6	\$ 9,418	\$ 220,135	\$ 221,309
Utility User Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,784	-	27,784	29,277
User Fees and Charges	1,653	15,193	275	231	31	-	1,619	19,002	1,240	29	20,271	20,246
Government Transfers - Operating	45	3,757	-	-	-	-	85	3,887	14	531	4,432	2,835
Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,918	2,918	570	49	3,537	3,047
Penalties and Fines	10	2,717	-	-	-	-	661	3,388	-	82	3,470	4,493
Other	400	3,217	51	173		-	2,076	5,917	16	478	6,411	4,406
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	24,020	67,396	19,386	4,654	3,036	697	126,634	245,823	29,630	10,587	286,040	285,613
EXPENSES												
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	14,125	44,848	12,045	3,704	2,330	466	779	78,297	5,287	3,222	86,806	86,663
Contracted and General Services	6,133	10,435	4,519	566	221	121	1,081	23,076	5,474	197	28,747	30,845
Supplies, Materials and Utilities	3,479	7,918	1,525	(260)	103	27	444	13,236	10,867	662	24,765	25,226
Interest on Long-Term Debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,658	1,658	1,138	450	3,246	3,335
Grants and Requisitions	138	1,257	82	-	131	-	444	2,052	-	-	2,052	1,703
Amortization	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,401	24,401	3,820	708	28,929	30,289
Loss (Gain) on Asset Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	760	760	(4)	-	756	-
Other Expenses	32	276	71	24		-	616	1,019	41	352	1,412	859
TOTAL EXPENSES	23,907	64,734	18,242	4,034	2,785	614	30,183	144,499	26,623	5,591	176,713	178,920
SURPLUS BEFORE CAPITAL REVENUE	113	2,662	1,144	620	251	83	96,452	101,324	3,007	4,996	109,327	106,693
CAPITAL REVENUE												
Government Transfers - Capital Contributed Tangible Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,647	5,647	9	-	5,656	8,325
Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,368	2,368	-	-	2,368	-
Other Capital Revenue	-				<u> </u>	-	671	671	1,907	11	2,589	3,621
TOTAL CAPITAL REVENUE		<u> </u>				-	8,686	8,686	1,916	11	10,613	11,946
PERIOD SURPLUS	\$ 113	\$ 2,662	\$ 1,144	\$ 620	<u>\$ 251</u>	\$ 83	\$ 105,137	\$ 110,010	\$ 4,923	\$ 5,007	\$ 119,940	\$ 118,639

STRATHCONA COUNTY Consolidated Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets As at June 30, 2018 (in thousands of dollars)

Cost		Balance at January 1, 2018		Contributed Additions Additions			Disposals		Balance at June 30, 2018	
Land	\$	499,530	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	499,530
Land Improvements		115,426	-	80		260		-		115,766
Buildings		455,981		1,172		-		(78)		457,075
Engineered Structures		1,193,865		2,318		2,108		-		1,198,291
Machinery and Equipment		74,168		1,982		-		(144)		76,006
Books and Periodicals		6,132		280		-		-		6,412
Vehicles		76,063		3,885		-		(3,857)		76,091
Assets under Construction		60,377		7,962		-		-		68,339
	\$	2,481,542	\$	17,679	\$	2,368	\$	(4,079)	\$	2,497,510

	I	Balance at					E	Balance at
		January 1,			An	nortization		June 30,
Accumulated Amortization		2018		Disposals	Expense			2018
Land Improvements	\$	38,564 \$	5	-	\$	2,595	\$	41,159
Buildings		111,479		-		5,579		117,058
Engineered Structures		363,819		-		14,461		378,279
Machinery and Equipment		40,940		(140)		3,047		43,847
Books and Periodicals		2,965		-		307		3,272
Vehicles		37,740		(2,800)		2,939		37,879
	\$	595,507 \$	5	(2,940)	\$	28,928	\$	621,494

Net Book Value	-	Balance at January 1, 2018	Balance at June 30, 2018	
Land	\$	499,530	\$	499,530
Land Improvements		76,862		74,607
Buildings		344,502		340,017
Engineered Structures		830,046		820,012
Machinery and Equipment		33,228		32,159
Books and Periodicals		3,167		3,140
Vehicles		38,323		38,212
Assets under Construction		60,377		68,339
	\$	1,886,035	\$	1,876,016



2015 - 2018 Corporate Business Plan Progress Report

For the period ending June 30, 2018

GOAL 1 Strathcona County has planned for long-term financial sustainability in support of service delivery and infrastructure asset management.

Progress

- Presenting the Utilities finance policy to Priorities Committee in June 2018.
- Receiving Council approval of the Long-Term Financial Sustainability Framework in March 2018. The framework sets the basis for continuous long-term planning by establishing financial sustainability principles, consolidating financial strategies, and identifying the long-term financial planning process.
- Forming and activating the Community Hall Sustainability Committee.

GOAL 2 Strathcona County priorities, successes and challenges are known.

Progress

- Inviting residents to share what they love about the Centre in the Park area and their vision for the future of the urban centre.
- Seeking feedback from residents on the new Strathcona County public website.
- Hosting community safety education emergency preparedness events.
- Consulting the community on topics, such as social service grants and the needs of youth, seniors and those facing accessibility challenges.



GOAL 3 Economic opportunities are created through strategic partnerships.

Progress

- Facilitating retail investment to assist both small and large scale retailers locate in the County.
- Discussing the development of an auto-aide agreement with the City of Fort Saskatchewan.
- Building information and informally introducing the Industrial Engagement Program to business owners in industrial zoned areas.
- Collaborating with Trans Canada Trail and River Valley Alliance to finish construction on the Trans Canada Trail and River Valley Alliance Trail.
- Completing the transportation plans within the Industrial Heartland Area with stakeholders and the Highway 15 functional planning study.

GOAL 4 Informed decision making supports quality of life in the community.

Progress

- Partnering and participating with altView Foundation and Strathcona County Youth Council in celebrating Pride Week as part of an ongoing commitment to foster a sense of belonging for all community members.
- Distributing \$50,000 to 103 community initiatives to strengthen community connections and relationships, such as multicultural potlucks and community garden harvest parties.
- Recognizing professional planning, the Municipal Development Plan won the national 2018 award for Planning Merit.
- Receiving the 2017 to 2018 Outstanding Ski Area Operations of the Year award for the Strathcona Wilderness Centre, where skiers enjoy a consistent world-class level of maintained ski trails, a clean and inviting lodge and friendly and helpful staff.



GOAL 5 We are efficient and effective in daily operations.

Progress

- Establishing a staff working group to upgrade the internal website for administration, also known as the intranet.
- Providing project management support for interdepartmental initiatives, such as the internal preparations for cannabis legalization, the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination, and inclusive community initiatives.
- Establishing a Chief Information Officer office to provide a more proactive department-based planning process.
- Transitioning the Assessment Review Board to eSCRIBE, eliminating several hours of manual administrative work per hearing and reducing paper usage.

GOAL 6 Strathcona County is an employer of choice, attracting and retaining the best people in all aspects of municipal service delivery.

Progress

- Connecting with staff on the finalized People Plan and getting informed.
- Hosting the celebration of staff event to acknowledge staff accomplishments, while honoring retirees and employees with service milestones.
- Recognizing employees who do an exceptional job in their duties in positive performance logs.



GLOSSARY OF TERMS:

- Annual Operating Surplus for Tax Purposes The annual surplus or (deficit) resulting from the modified cash flow basis, which includes debt repayment expenditures and reserve transactions, and excludes amortization expense, gains/losses on asset disposals and capital revenues, unlike the Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) surplus or (deficit).
- Budgeted Slippage An adjustment to the budget at the corporate level to offset projected surpluses based on historical trends.
- Committed Funding approved as per FIN-001-024: Municipal Reserves policy to be applied towards specific expenditures.
- Designated Funding designated to reserves for a specific purpose, which has not yet been approved by Council to be applied towards specific expenditures.
- Forecast Variances Future variances to budget that have yet to occur, but are expected to be realized based on current information, and are projected to affect the year-end surplus or (deficit).
- Permanent Differences Variances to budget that have occurred and will affect the year-end surplus or (deficit).
- **PSAS Surplus** The surplus or (deficit) resulting from financial statements prepared in accordance with PSAS.
- **Timing Differences** Variances to budget that are expected to reverse during the remainder of the year and not affect the year-end surplus or (deficit).
- **Year-End Forecast** Permanent Differences plus the Forecast Variances make up the Year-End Forecast surplus or (deficit).
- Year-To-Date Operating Variance The favorable or (unfavorable) difference between budget and actuals at a point in time including any Timing Differences.