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STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE

Intergovernmental Affairs- Branch Business Plan Update

Report Purpose

To provide the Priorities Committee an update on the Intergovernmental Affairs (IA) Branch Business Plan.

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

Goal 1 – Build strong communities to support the diverse needs of residents

Goal 5 - Foster collaboration through regional, community and governmental partnerships

Goal 7 - Provide opportunities for public engagement and communication

Continuously improving the way we work, as one organization, in an agile and sustainable manner

Report

Department overview:

Reporting directly to the Chief Commissioner, IA advises elected officials and staff on intergovernmental issues that affect the County, and provides advice to support Strathcona County's interests, while balancing the needs of the region and sub-region. IA coordinates and facilitates information-gathering and analysis to help Council and the organization make informed decisions for the long-term prosperity of Strathcona County.

2019-2022 Progress

Intergovernmental Affairs

Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB)

- In collaboration with multiple departments, briefing materials were developed to support Council's participation in meetings of the EMRB including:
 - Integrated Regional Transportation Master Plan Task Force;
 - Metropolitan Region Servicing Plan Task Force;
 - Regional Agriculture Master Plan Task Force; and
 - Shared Investment for Shared Benefit

Intermunicipal Organizations:

- Briefings, resolutions, background information, and strategic advice were developed and provided to Council and staff to support our membership in the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and Rural Municipalities Association of Alberta.

Intermunicipal Relations Committee (IMRC)

- A negotiated annexation by Fort Saskatchewan was approved by the Municipal Government Board and is effective January 1, 2020.
- The Alliance Exploration study began in March 2019 and is anticipated to conclude in Q2 of 2020 with a final report.
- IA provides technical advice and logistical support for meetings with Fort Saskatchewan, including IMRC, which comprises elected officials and administration representatives, and serves on the Technical Committee.

Regional Transit Services Commission (RTSC)

- Throughout 2019, Strathcona County participated in the RTSC Transition Team and Engagement Task Force to support the development of a business case to analyze

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the feasibility of a regional transit services commission. The business case was completed in 2019 and will be considered by 13 municipalities in early 2020.

Intergovernmental Policy Analysis

Diversity and Inclusion Policy Development

- At Council's direction, IA and Human Resources led the development of a Diversity & Inclusion Policy and an Inclusive Hiring Policy. These policies were informed by consultation with the public, stakeholders, staff, and leadership. Both policies were presented to Priorities Committee in November 2019 for review and discussion and will return to Council in Q1 2020 for final review and approval.

Inter municipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICF)

- ICFs have been developed in collaboration with our municipal partners and departments within the County. Significant changes in legislation have been integrated into the draft ICFs for Council's consideration in Q1 2020. ICFs are on schedule to be completed by the April 1, 2020 deadline.

Research and analysis

- Interdepartmental analysis was conducted and consolidated on the following legislation and regulation including, but not limited to the following:
 - Bill 7 – Property Tax Incentives Amendment Act
 - Bill 29 – Machinery and Equipment Tax Incentives
 - Federal Cannabis Act
 - Growth Management Board Regulation
 - Local Authorities Election Act
 - Municipal Government Act
 - Police Act Review
 - Provincial Budget 2019
 - Red Tape Reduction Act
- Research and analysis were conducted on a wide variety of topics including, but not limited to the following:
 - Autonomous vehicles
 - Diversity and inclusion
 - Emergency management
 - Indigenous relations
 - Provincial and Federal Election platforms and Throne Speeches
 - Sister city agreements

Council and Committee History

October 10, 2019 Draft diversity and inclusion policies presented to Priorities Committee.

Other Impacts

Policy: Diversity and inclusion policies will be provided to the Council in Q1 2020.

Legislative/Legal: N/A

Interdepartmental: IA collaborates with all departments within the organization.

Master Plan/Framework: N/A

Enclosure

1 Intergovernmental Affairs Business Plan update to Priorities Committee