

Councillor Request Inquiry #18-2020 and 19-2020

2020

#18-2020 Key Provisions of the Strathcona County Agricultural Master Plan

Please provide any and all information relating to status of, and the actions taken, regarding the key provisions of the Strathcona County Agricultural Masterplan, including:

- Objectives (page 8);
- Preservation and compensation (page 22);
- Agriculture assessment impact: second point under implementation on page 45;
- How implementation of the masterplan is being facilitated and focused with a senior position to lead agriculture and food priority (top of page 47);
- Progress on the "Strathcona County Food and Agriculture Institute", which is indicated is to be "a leading voice for food and agriculture in Strathcona County" (page 47);
- Potential Actions (page 49);
- Importance to planning (pages 51-52);
- Land; easements and development credits (pages 53-54);
- Awareness of transportation access needs when developing (page 61);
- Land use and development planning #5, 6 on page 95.

#19-2020 Implementation of the Strathcona County Agricultural Master Plan

Please provide any and all information relating to status of and the actions taken under the Implementation Strategy of the Strathcona County Agricultural Masterplan.

Good afternoon Council,

Transportation and Agriculture Services would like to provide the following response regarding information that has been gathered on the key provisions and implementation of the Strathcona County Agricultural Master Plan. A copy of the Agriculture Master Plan and Implementation Strategy documents can be found on our [webpage](#).

Information Request

Key Provisions of the Strathcona County Agricultural Master Plan
Implementation of the Strathcona County Agricultural Master Plan

Request by: Mayor, R. Frank

Department: Transportation and Agriculture Services

Due: June 30, 2020

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Request 1: Key Provisions of the Strathcona County Agricultural Master Plan

Potential Action Information Requested	Key Implementation Strategy Area	Actions Taken	Completion Target
Objectives (p. 8)	Ag Master Plan (AMP) General	The objectives as described on p. 8 of the AMP were designed for the development of the Agriculture Master Plan and are provided in the document as background information. These objectives are described and answered throughout the plan and these were tested and explored through the development of the AMP.	Complete
Preservation and compensation (p.22)	Land Use and Development	The case studies presented on p. 22 of the AMP outline ways other jurisdictions have used land use planning to address their planning needs, and are not currently being implemented exactly in Strathcona County. Please see the Land Use and Development Strategy section of the Implementation Plan to see how we have been exploring ideas that fit within our own municipality.	2022
Agriculture impact assessment (p. 45)	Land Use and Planning	Agricultural Impact Assessments as mentioned on p.45 of the Ag Master Plan can also be found as a potential action area under Land Use and Development section. AIA's are a requirement as outlined under the EMRB Growth Plan and are used for all greenfield development within Strathcona County. You can find more information about AIA's in the EMRB growth plan Appendix D here: http://emrb.ca/Website/media/Shared/Banners/EMRB-Growth-Plan-(2020).pdf (p. 118)	Complete
Senior position (p. 47)	Governance	Administration has undergone an independent review and pursued the development of an organizational structure that has the capacity and resources to support agriculture in our community. In addition to a senior position (Sr. Advisor) and full work team dedicated to agriculture initiatives, Administration continues to develop a thread of agricultural understanding throughout the organization by encouraging relationship development and identifying agricultural stakes in County projects.	Complete
Food and Agriculture Institute (p. 47)	Food and Agriculture	The potential action regarding the development of an Agriculture and Food Institute will be explored and validated during the development of the Food and Agriculture Strategy.	~2022-2024

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Potential Actions (p. 49)	Governance (majority)	<p>Actions taken on the potential actions outlined on p. 49 are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council adopted the AMP, and so this action is considered complete 2. Recommendations regarding the importance of agriculture have been given to Council and Corporate Planning in regard to the Strategic Plan. 3. The MDP was updated in 2016 and all recommendations and more were incorporated in at that time. 4. Structure implemented to support the AMP. 5. Development of an organizational capacity to support agriculture and a thread of agricultural understanding throughout Administration. 6. Agricultural Impact Assessments have been designed as a Land Use Tool and have been implemented following EMRB direction. 7. Institute development will be explored during the development of the Food and Agriculture Strategy. 	See details by point
Importance to planning (p. 51-52)	Land Use and Development	All potential actions outlined in the Land Use and Development area of the AMP have been explored in the development of a draft strategy (pending Administrative review) or within participation in the Regional Ag Master Plan being developed by the EMRB.	2022
Land; easement and development credits (p. 53-54)	Land Use and Development	The use of land use tools within the municipal context such as conversation easements and transfer of development credits as described in land use and development potential action item 12 on p. 54 of the AMP, have been evaluated in both the development of the Strathcona County Land Use and Development Plan (draft pending administrative review) and the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board Regional Agriculture Master Plan (ongoing).	2022
Transportation access (p. 61)	Land Use and Development	The Infrastructure potential action 2 regarding agricultural land access and equipment movement have been evaluated through both the development of the Transportation Systems Bylaw (bylaw 2-2017) and the pending Land Use and Development Strategy. Further, access and movement have been outlined as required mitigation measures in all Agricultural Impact Assessments.	Complete

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Land use and development #5 and 6 (p. 95)	Land Use and Development	The use of land use tools within the municipal context such as conversation easements and transfer of development credits as described in land use and development items 5 and 6 on p. 95, have been evaluated in both the development of the Strathcona County Land Use and Development Plan (draft pending review) and the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board Regional Agriculture Master Plan (ongoing).	2022
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REQUEST 2: Implementation of Strathcona County Agricultural Masterplan

Implementation Strategy Area	Progress	Completion Target
Urban Agriculture	Complete	2017
Governance	Complete – Internal independent administrative review completed and implemented	2018
Land Use and Development	Draft strategy complete	2022
Food and Agriculture	RFP drafted	2023
Agri-tourism	Strathcona County Tourism Strategy currently under development by Administration.	2020
Review	Not complete/started	Upon completion of all strategies

Should you have any questions please contact David Churchill at 780-417-7130 or David.Churchill@strathcona.ca.

Thank you,

Kara Markine

Administrative Assistant to the Director
Transportation and Agriculture Services