

Environmental Framework



Council Meeting

June 29, 2021

Environmental Framework



❖ Executive Summary ❖ Strategic Alignment **Reflecting & Informing**

- ❖ Ecosystem model
- ❖ Global growth
- ❖ Persistent issues

Reframing Our Focus

- ❖ Air, Water, Land, Biodiversity, Waste, Energy

Renewing Our Future

- ❖ Implementation

Reflecting

Listen & Learn

- Invite internal and external stakeholders to provide input and insight to help develop a well-informed, well-supported Environmental Framework

Listen & Learn, Input, Collaborate

- Conduct a thorough internal consultation examining the current state of the County's practices, policies, plans, tools, and capacity

Empower

- Conduct a thorough external consultation to identify short- and long-term strategic initiatives that will further achieve outcomes for the organization and the community

Informing

- There are several important trends, policies and frameworks.
- These help to understand the state of our environment globally, regionally, and locally.

Plastic
Pollution

Land
Degradation
and
Conversion

Climate
Change

Global
Growth

Insect
Biomass

Bird
Populations

Carbon
Footprint

Species
Extinctions

Global Biodiversity Crisis (HIPPO)

Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation

- ✦ Long term shift in the average climatic conditions in a region over a long period of time
- ✦ Involves both changes in average conditions and changes in variability
- ✦ Caused naturally and by human activities
- ✦ **Mitigate** for climate change by conserving energy, transitioning energy, conserving and restoring natural systems
- ✦ **Adapt** to climate change by building resiliency into grey and green infrastructure
- ✦ **Those practices, tools and initiatives that relate directly and indirectly to mitigating climate change and adapting to climate change are identified**

Strategic Alignment



Goal 2

Manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure



Goal 3

Cultivate economic diversification, within the petro-chemical industry and beyond, through a business-friendly environment



Goal 4

Ensure effective stewardship of water, land, air and energy resources



Goal 5

Foster collaboration through regional, community and governmental partnerships



Goal 6

Provide facilities and services that are available and accessible to residents



Goal 7

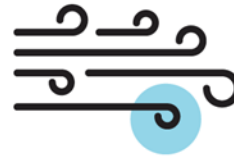
Provide opportunities for public engagement and communication

SCOOP

- October & March SCOOP Surveys
- 546 people – 76% urban, 21% rural, 3% work here, live elsewhere
- 617 people – 65% urban, 33% rural, 2% work here, live elsewhere



Land



Air



Water



Biodiversity



Energy



Waste

Telling our Story



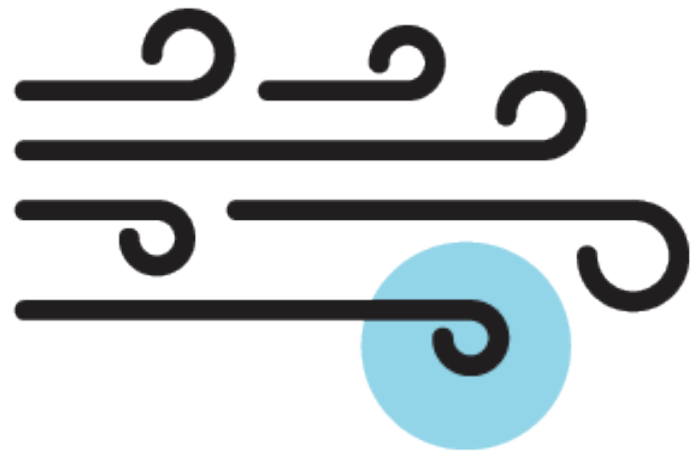
- Innovative practices in action
- Supportive tools in action
- Strategic initiatives to consider

Reframing Our Focus



- Air – monitor, manage, educate, reduce
- Water – monitor, manage, educate, ensure
- Land – plan, use, manage, remediate, prevent pollution, educate
- Biodiversity – plan, protect, manage, restore, steward
- Waste – monitor, manage, reduce, educate
- Energy – reduce use, increase efficiency, evaluate procurement, educate

Airshed sustains healthy ecosystems and healthy citizens



MONITOR air quality

MANAGE air quality

EDUCATE and **ENGAGE** with citizens to encourage stewardship behaviours

REDUCE emissions, including GHGs, by decreasing energy use, conserving energy, developing, and using energy from renewable low-carbon sources

Watershed sustains healthy ecosystems and healthy citizens

MONITOR water quality

MONITOR water quantity

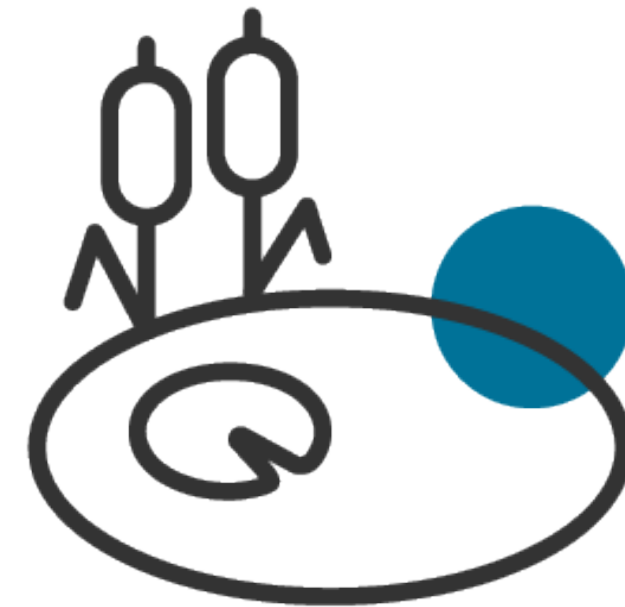
MANAGE water quality

MANAGE water quantity

EDUCATE and **ENGAGE** citizens to encourage stewardship behaviours

ENSURE water supply meets future planning needs

ENSURE the North Saskatchewan River and its tributaries are protected from pollution.



Land planning, use, and management sustains healthy ecosystems and healthy citizens

LAND USE PLANNING focuses on environmental (smart growth/complete) community design

LAND USE DEVELOPMENT focuses on wise use and development of land and buildings

LAND MANAGEMENT focuses on ecosystem resilience and includes conservation and restoration

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER valley planning, use, and management builds on ecosystem resilience and includes conservation and restoration



Cont...

Land planning, use, and management sustains healthy ecosystems and healthy citizens



AGRICULTURAL land planning, use and management builds on ecosystem resilience and conservation

REMEDiate and **RECLAIM** degraded public lands

PREVENT POLLUTION and reduce the use of harmful substances on public and private land

PREVENT LIGHT POLLUTION and reduce the use of artificial light on public and private land

EDUCATE and **ENGAGE** with citizens to encourage stewardship behaviours

Biodiversity sustains healthy ecosystems and health citizens

PLAN for a healthy connected ecological network

PROTECT a healthy connected ecological network

MANAGE a healthy connected ecological network

RESTORE degraded habitats

EDUCATE and **ENGAGE** with citizens to encourage stewardship behaviours



Waste management protects healthy ecosystems and health citizens



MONITOR waste collection

MANAGE waste collection

REDUCE waste

EDUCATE and **ENGAGE** with citizens to encourage consumption behaviours that reduce waste

Reducing energy use, committing to energy efficiency, and embracing renewable energy sources sustains healthy ecosystems and healthy citizens

REDUCE ENERGY USE within municipal **BUILDINGS** through energy efficiency

REDUCE ENERGY USE within municipal **OPERATIONS** through energy efficiency

INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY via land use and transportation planning decisions



Cont...

Reducing energy use, committing to energy efficiency, and embracing renewable energy sources sustains healthy ecosystems and healthy citizens



INCREASE RENEWABLE AND ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES (solar, wind, geothermal)

EVALUATE procurement of goods and services to increase energy efficiency and increase renewable/alternative energy sources

EDUCATE and **ENGAGE** with citizens to encourage citizen behaviours that support energy efficiency and the transition to renewable/alternative energy

Renewing Our Future



- Six outcomes and 35 objectives create a common reference for collaboration and alignment between stakeholders to work together towards a future where healthy ecosystems support a healthy community

So what? Why tell our story?

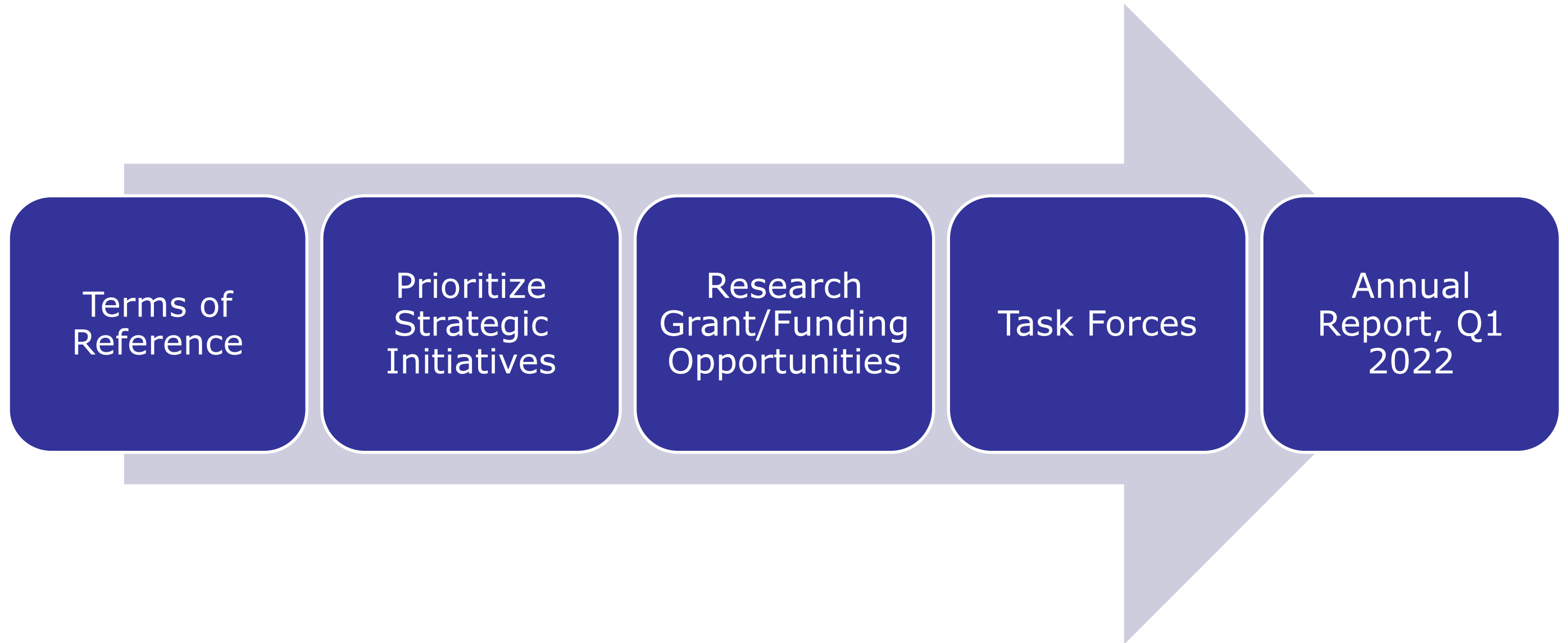
As an **elected official**...when *questioned*...this is the relevant source that speaks to the organization's commitment to a healthy community

As a **citizen**...when *concerned*...this is the relevant source that enables behavior change to support a healthy community

As an **administrator**...when *planning, managing or operating* municipal infrastructure...this is the relevant source that enables decision-making for a healthy community

To the greater **region**...when *skeptical* about our collective commitment...this is the relevant source that tells **our** story!

Environmental Framework Integration Team (EFIT)



Environmental Framework Communication Strategy (EFComms)

Outcomes

- Shape stakeholder understanding of the regional environmental considerations and improve knowledge of and collaboration in plans/policies/program and actions
- Provide a platform for identifying plans/policies/program and actions

Objectives

- Enterprise-wide environment storytelling, including integration into campaigns
- Create internal awareness among all staff
- Increase stakeholder awareness of environmental issues and their impacts

Key Messages

- We are committed to sustaining and protecting healthy ecosystems and healthy citizens
- We use sound, evidence-based decision-making tools to take environmental action
- We can all take action to address local, regional and global environmental issues



**Thank you!
Questions?**