

# Municipal Subsidies Review 2022

Strathcona County Council  
June 28, 2022

# Current program and context

- Strathcona County provides subsidies to increase affordability for residents and build strong communities to support the diverse needs of residents.
  - Everybody Rides and Everybody Gets to Play
- The program is currently administered using Low Income Cut Off (LICO) as an eligibility guideline.
- Community Safety and Well-being engagement and service data are revealing that financial barriers and financial insecurity are growing challenges in Strathcona County.

# Environmental scan

- Alberta municipalities use a variety of LICO criteria - many have adopted LICO plus 10 – 30 percent.
- Cost to the recipient varies by municipality (from free to reduced costs).
- Subsidized recreation passes vary by offering a set number of programs or providing a dollar value for programs for the year.
- Strathcona County has not examined eligibility criteria for this program since 2011.
- A household income at or below LICO represents acute poverty.
- Using LICO as an eligibility guideline excludes many households above this income level that are none the less experiencing poverty.

# The value of subsidies

- Subsidies are a component of empowering families and individuals through a strengths-based comprehensive approach to supports
- Upstream approach and prevention
- Small change with a significant impact

# Program outcomes

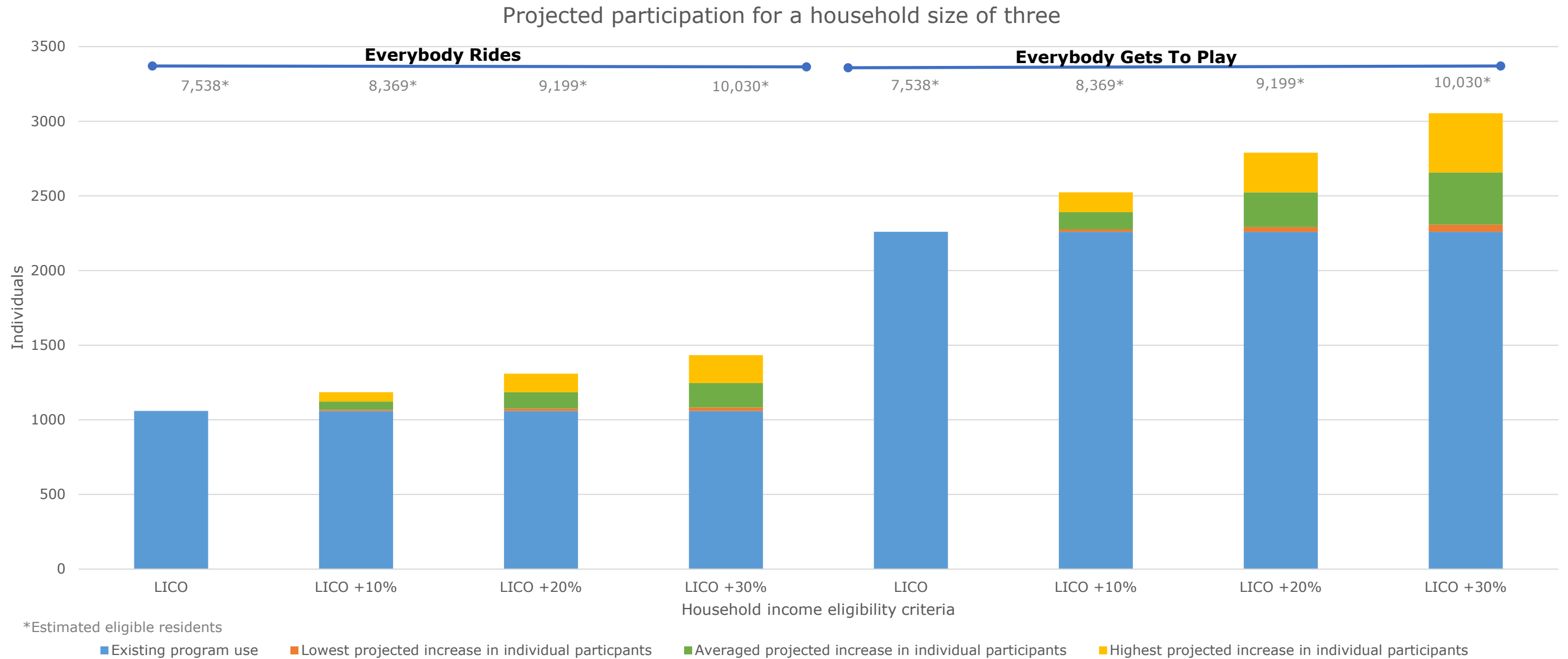
- Ability to participate in community with dignity and access more services
- Increase financial security and ability to afford basic needs
- Opportunity to connect with others and build informal networks
- Ability to get to essential locations such as work and school
- Physical and mental well-being improvements
- Increase quality of life and standard of living

# Low Income Cut Off\*

Household Size	LICO 2022	LICO +10%	LICO +20%	LICO +30%
<b>1 person</b>	\$22,801	\$25,081	\$27, 361	\$29,641
<b>2 persons</b>	\$27,750	\$30,525	\$33,300	\$36,075
<b>3 persons</b>	\$34,555	\$38,011	\$41,466	\$44,922
<b>4 persons</b>	\$43,111	\$47, 422	\$51,733	\$56,044
<b>5 persons</b>	\$49,090	\$53,999	\$58,908	\$63,817
<b>6 persons</b>	\$54,442	\$59,886	\$65,330	\$70,775
<b>7 persons or more</b>	\$59,794	\$65, 773	\$71,753	\$77,732

\* After Tax

# Modelling



# Recommendation

THAT the eligibility guideline for resident access to municipal subsidies be set at Low Income Cut Off (LICO) plus 30 percent.



**THANK YOU**