

**Priorities Committee Meeting\_Feb16\_2016**

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**REPORT FOR INFORMATION****Municipal Development Plan Update****Report Purpose**

To provide the Priorities Committee with an update on the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) Update process.

**Council History**

March 6, 2007 – Council approved Motions 175/2007 and 176/2007, amendments to Municipal Development Plan Bylaw 1-2007.

May 22, 2007 – Council approved Municipal Development Plan Bylaw 1-2007.

March 11, 2010 – Capital Region Growth Plan was adopted by Province.

April 21, 2015 – Council received an overview of the MDP Update process and public engagement.

July 14, 2015 - Priorities Committee received an update on the MDP Update process and public engagement.

November 10, 2015 - Priorities Committee received an update on the MDP Update process and public engagement.

**Strategic Plan Priority Areas**

**Economy:** The economic development section of the MDP will be reviewed to ensure policy aligns with the objectives of the Economic Sustainability Framework and Strategic Plan for a diverse economy and effective and efficient municipal infrastructure.

**Governance:** The public engagement and communications plan for the MDP Update will aim to create an inclusive process that engages residents and stakeholders.

**Social:** The MDP Update will review the social development section of the document to ensure it reflects the objectives of the Social Sustainability Framework and Strategic Plan for an active and healthy community.

**Culture:** The MDP Update will be reviewed to ensure it aligns with the Strategic Plan to create vibrant, creative communities.

**Environment:** The MDP Update will review the environmental section of the document to ensure it reflects the objectives of the Environmental Sustainability Framework and Strategic Plan to protect our environment and preserve biodiversity.

**Other Impacts**

**Policy:** Policy 17.4 of the MDP indicates a major review of the document is to be conducted every five years in order to ensure the Plan remains valid and effective.

**Legislative/Legal:** Any changes to the MDP will require passage of a bylaw to amend Bylaw 1-2007.

**Interdepartmental:** Multiple Strathcona County departments may be involved to ensure the MDP Update aligns with other departmental projects.

## **Summary**

The current MDP was adopted by Council in May 2007. In May of 2015, the County launched the MDP Update project, which was broken down into multiple phases. Phase 1 – Foundations, Phase 2 – Setting Direction, and Phase 3 – Options and Trade-offs have been completed. Currently, we are in Phase 4 – Draft Plan.

Administrative staff and the consulting team have been diligently working through the MDP Update project with emphasis on public outreach, youth engagement, and obtaining valuable input from the community and stakeholders.

Previous updates to the Priorities Committee on the MDP Update process and public engagement identified that the intent was to complete a draft plan for public consideration and prepare a final document to present to Council in spring 2016. The timeline has been updated with the intent to complete a draft plan for public consideration in late spring and prepare a final document to present to Council in early fall.

The revisions made to the timeline are essential to ensure a comprehensive review of the draft by Administration, referral agencies and stakeholders, and in order to ensure necessary changes and additions have been incorporated to produce a clear, up to date and user-friendly document.

## **Communication Plan**

A range of stakeholders such as developers, community groups, school boards as well as the general public have been and will continue to be consulted for the MDP Update. The County has utilized traditional engagement tools such as open houses, stakeholder interviews, posters, newspaper advertisements and the County website. In addition, the County has a white board video, online engagement hub, backgrounder discussion papers, e-newsletters, postcards, bus ads, portable signs and has utilized social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to engage the public.