

Priorities Committee Meeting_Jun14_2016

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE

Open Data Program Update

Report Purpose

To provide the Priorities Committee with an update on the Open Data program.

Council History

December 10, 2013 – Council approved the 2014 Consolidated Operating Budget.

February 25, 2014 – Council approved the allocation of \$100,000 from the Future Municipal Operating Reserve to fund the 2014 portion of the Open Data fund resource requirement.

December 8, 2015 – Council approved the 2016 Consolidated Operating Budget.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

The Open Data Portal supports a number of Council Strategic Goals, including:

Strategic Goal #3: Increase public involvement and communicate with the community of issues affecting the County's future.

Strategic Goal #6: Promote Strathcona County locally, nationally and internationally as a place that is open for a wide range of diverse business and investment.

Strategic Goal #7: Build strong neighbourhoods/communities to support the diverse needs of our residents.

Strategic Goal #9: Improve the efficiency of resource usage; minimize the volume of waste and its impact on the economy.

Strategic Goal #11: Facilities and activities are available, accessible and used by residents.

Economy: Internal efficiencies, innovation in service delivery, and complimentary economic benefits of local entrepreneurship.

Governance: Supports the accessibility, accountability and transparency of reporting to the public.

Social: Sharing the data that supports decision making encourages citizen engagement and improves outcomes.

Culture: Openness of reporting creates a culture of sharing and trust; both within the organization and the community at large.

Environment: Reuse of public information can reduce the environmental impact of other data collection alternatives.

Other Impacts

Policy: N/A

Legislative/Legal: Open Data must comply with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

Interdepartmental: This is a cross-department initiative involving all County departments.

Summary

The Open Data portal has grown steadily since its inception, both in the amount and variety of data in the catalog as well as the use of the data internally and by citizens. Additionally, at these initial stages of development, the foundation is being established to create a sustainable Open Data environment. The focus of the program is on maximizing value, and the progress that has been made over the last two years has been recognized nationally by receiving the Open Data for Value award at the Canadian Open Data Summit, April 27, 2016.

Communication Plan

A photo of the Council members with the national award "Open Data for Value" will be published in the newspaper.

Enclosure

1 Open Data Program Update