



14.0 INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION

Strategy Direction

Foster regional cooperation regarding shared resources and promote regional coordination of future development including economic development, infrastructure and services.

Context

Intermunicipal cooperation is an important element of planning for communities because often there are opportunities to gain efficiencies and additional benefit from coordinated regional efforts related to economic development, infrastructure, transportation, social programs, major recreation, and stewardship of the natural environment. The Province of Alberta has recently initiated a Provincial Land Use Strategy that includes a requirement for regional plans related to land use and transportation. It is expected that the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan will be completed in 2010. The City will work to collaborate during the creation of this plan, and subsequently to understand and act in accordance with the plan's framework.

At a sub-regional level, the City is currently a member of the Capital Region Board, whose mandate is to develop a regional plan that will address land supply, development densities, regional infrastructure, intermunicipal transit systems, information services and affordable housing specific to the Capital Region.

At the local level, the City currently has a boundary agreement in place with Strathcona County, but does not have such an agreement with Sturgeon County or the City of Edmonton. The City recognizes the need to coordinate efforts at all scales of the region, and the strategic direction is to promote regional cooperation in a variety of arenas.

14.1 General Policies

- 14.1.1 Work with the Capital Region Board to accomplish regional planning goals.
- 14.1.2 Establish working relationships with the agencies responsible for implementing the Provincial Land Use Framework and the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan.
- 14.1.3 Partner with neighbouring municipalities, and stakeholders to assess, monitor and plan for appropriate human impacts within the North Saskatchewan River watershed. The City should make all efforts to understand potential downstream impacts of development and city activities and take precautions to reduce or mitigate negative impacts.
- 14.1.4 Continue to promote partnerships for regional infrastructure, transportation, transit, protective and emergency services, social services, and any other service that may gain efficiency from a regional approach.
- 14.1.5 Continue to work in partnership with Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association to promote regional economic development.

14.2 Intermunicipal Planning

- 14.2.1 Participate in any joint planning exercises for Priority Growth Areas adjacent to Fort Saskatchewan, as influenced by the Capital Region Growth Plan.
- 14.2.2 Continue to adhere to the Boundary Accord that is in place with Strathcona County until such time that the Accord expires or joint planning with Strathcona County necessitates any amendments to the Accord.
- 14.2.3 Upon receiving application for the following amendments to bylaws and statutory plans the City will request official comment from affected municipalities, following the schedule below:

Type of Application	Referred to	Time
1. Land Use Bylaw Amendments		
• New LUB	All	28 days
• Single Detached Residential	None	
• Medium Density Residential	None	
• High Density Residential	None	
• Downtown Commercial	None	
• Highway Commercial	None	
• Neighbourhood Commercial	None	
• Light/Medium Commercial (within 1.6km)	Strathcona	28 days
• Heavy Industrial (within 1.6km)	Strathcona/Sturgeon	28 days
2. Area Structure Plan		
• New ASP/ARP (within 1.6km)	Affected/Adjacent	28 days
• Amendments (within 1.6km)	Any Affected	21 days
3. Municipal Development Plan		
• New MDP	All	28 days
• Amendments	All	28 days
4. Road Closures	Any Affected	14 days
5. Heavy Industrial Proposals (within 3.2km)	Strathcona/Sturgeon	28 days



- 14.2.4 Cooperate with Strathcona County in reviewing and updating the Intermunicipal Development Plan.
- 14.2.5 Through the Intermunicipal Relations Committee with Strathcona County, take measures to rationalize the west City boundary to encompass land identified in the Westpark Area Structure Plan.
- 14.2.6 Be an active participant on regional boards and committees and provide leadership in the formation of a regional economic development agency (see also policy 4.4).
- 14.2.7 Seek partnerships with neighbouring municipalities, public and private interest in providing services to ratepayers in the most cost-effective and efficient manner possible.
- 14.2.8 Seek to resolve issues and concerns to the mutual benefit of affected parties through the use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms if and as required.

14.3 Development Applications

- 14.3.1 Consult with City of Edmonton, Sturgeon County, and Strathcona County by circulating redesignation, subdivision and development applications that may result in impacts to these adjacent municipalities.
- 14.3.2 Encourage the City of Edmonton, Sturgeon County, and Strathcona County to consult with the City by circulating redesignation, subdivision and development applications that may result in impacts to the City and its residents.