

DRAFT CALGARY METROPOLITAN REGION GROWTH PLAN AND SERVICING PLAN

Issue

The Calgary Metropolitan Region Board consultant, HDR | Calthorpe, will be in attendance to provide an overview of the revised final draft of the CMRB Growth Plan and Servicing Plan.

Motion Proposed by Administration

That the Draft Calgary Metropolitan Region Growth Plan and Servicing Plan be received as information.

Report, Analysis and Financial Implications

Okotoks is a member of the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board (CMRB) which is comprised of nine other municipalities including: City of Airdrie, City of Calgary, City of Chestermere, Town of Cochrane, Foothills County, Town of High River, Rocky View County, Town of Strathmore, and a portion of Wheatland County.

Established in 2018 through Alberta Regulation 190/17, the CMRB has a mandate to support the long-term sustainability of the Calgary Metro Region by:

- Ensuring environmentally sustainable land-use planning, growth management and efficient use of land;
- Developing policies regarding the coordination of regional infrastructure investment and service delivery;
- Promoting the economic wellbeing and competitiveness of the Calgary Metropolitan Region; and
- Developing policies outlining how the Board shall engage in public consultation.

To fulfill this mandate, the Board hired internationally recognized consulting firm HDR | Calthorpe (HDRC) to lead the preparation of a Growth Plan (GP) and supporting Servicing Plan (SP) to guide long-term sustainable growth in the region. To support implementation of the GP, HDRC is also preparing a Regional Evaluation Framework which will determine which plans for growth are considered regionally significant and warrant review by the CMRB. The CMRB must submit to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the final GP, SP, and Regional Evaluation Framework no later than June 1, 2021.

At the February 8, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council, HDRC provided an overview of the draft GP. A number of concerns with the initial draft were raised by member municipalities. Over the past three months, HDRC has conducted a third round of public engagement on the draft and has facilitated numerous meetings with elected officials and administrative staff of member municipalities. A number of adjustments have been made to the plan that attempt to strike a balance between concerns raised by member municipalities and a key mandate of the Board to support the long-term

sustainability of the Calgary Region by managing how and where future growth occurs.

At the time of report writing there are a number of policy directions within the GP where consensus has not been reached by the member municipalities. As such, it is anticipated that there will be further adjustments to the GP leading up to a request for a Board decision to adopt the plan in late May.

The SP will serve to support the policy directions of the GP by establishing a strong foundation for member municipalities to collaborate in identifying opportunities for efficient, cost effective, and collaborative service delivery.

Strategic Plan Goals

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Manage Community Growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide Strong Governance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide Quality Community Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhance Organizational Excellence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Economic Vitality
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote Environmental Excellence

Governing Policies/Bylaws/Legislation or Agreements

The CMRB is a growth management board that was formed on January 1, 2018 when the CMRB Regulation came into effect. Under this Regulation the Board was required to prepare a GP and SP no later than December 31, 2020. The Minister of Municipal Affairs granted an extension of this deadline to March 1, 2021, and the Board intended to submit a request for an additional extension to June 1, 2021.

In 2018 the Board, and subsequently Municipal Affairs, approved an Interim Growth Plan (IGP) and Interim Regional Evaluation Framework (IREF) to allow growth to continue until a comprehensive GP and SP was completed. The GP and supporting Regional Evaluation Framework, once approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, will replace the IGP and IREF.

Public Participation Strategy

HDRC led three rounds of engagement in developing the GP. The first round of engagement occurred from July 24th to September 4th, 2020, where residents in the region had the opportunity to learn about the CMRB and share what matters to them about how growth is managed in the region. The second phase of engagement occurred between November 5th to November 27th, 2021 and provided residents the opportunity to learn about the proposed approach to growth and to provide feedback on implementation to contribute to policy development. A third round of public engagement occurred between March 18th to April 8th, 2021 where residents were able to review the draft GP and provide feedback on the policy directions within the document.

All three rounds of engagement were conducted via an online platform and were promoted on the Town's website, social media pages, community advertisements, and in the Western Wheel.

Alternatives for Consideration

n/a

CAO Comments

Regulations guiding the development of the Regional Growth Plan are clear; member municipalities need to declare where they are going to grow and what that growth will look like. The Plan grants authority to the CMRB to change where that growth occurs if plans change. The Town of Okotoks will need to ensure that the Growth Plan does not compromise what has been negotiated within the Intermunicipal Development Plan with Foothills County, and the Town's most important role is to ensure that the Servicing Plan identifies how this water scarce region will actually have enough water to achieve its economic goals. The supplemental water pipeline is a key component to achieving these goals.

Attachment(s)

1. CMRB Growth and Servicing Plan Update PowerPoint Presentation
2. HDRC Growth and Servicing Plan Brief
3. Draft Calgary Metropolitan Region Growth Plan
4. Draft Calgary Metropolitan Region Servicing Plan

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