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## **Summary**

The purpose of the agenda item is to provide Council with an update on the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board (CMRB) Growth and Servicing Plans to be delivered to the Minister by June 1, 2021 by mandate of the [CMRB Regulation](#) (Alberta Regulation 190/2017 of the *Municipal Government Act*). This presentation is **for information** and provides an overview of the final draft Growth and Servicing Plans in preparation for the Board meeting on May 21, 2021, where the final plans will be brought for approval.

The development of the Growth and Servicing Plans (the Plans) was managed by CMRB administration with support and active participation by elected representatives (via Board and Committee meetings and workshops) and administrations of the ten member municipalities. Input on the Plans was received from the public over three public engagement periods and from a panel of external stakeholders approved by the Board.

Through a competitive bid process, the CMRB contracted regional planning expert Peter Calthorpe of HDR|Calthorpe to prepare a Growth Plan and Servicing Plan. HDR|Calthorpe's planning process is a scenario-based process. These metrics included vehicle kilometers travelled, land consumption, water use, infrastructure costs, among others. This resulted in the development of policy focused on achieving better outcomes for the region as the CMR welcomes the next million people.

## **Background**

The Growth and Servicing Plans are a requirement of Growth Management Boards in Alberta. The CMRB was established in 2018 by the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board Regulation as a not-for-profit government corporation.

The Province's mandate for the CMRB includes; that the Board shall strive towards consensus regarding matters before the Board, promote long term sustainability of the CMR, ensure environmentally responsible land-use planning, growth management and efficient use of land, and develop policies regarding the coordination of regional infrastructure investment and service delivery, and promote the economic well-being and competitiveness of the CMR. As part of fulfilling this mandate, the Board is required to prepare a Growth Plan and a supporting Servicing Plan.

## **Update since February 2021**

Since the last version of the draft Growth Plan was released, a number of discussions and meetings have taken place between member municipality administrations (technical advisory groups, or TAGs) and

CMRB Administration and HDR|C to understand the tools and concepts of the draft Growth Plan that need to be modified in order to reflect the needs of the Region, to fit better into the Alberta planning context and to ensure growth opportunity for all municipalities considering their local planning context. Based on the results of these meetings, discussions and revisions, a number of edits have been made to the Plan as the plan transitions from conceptual proposal from the consultant, to a common regional agreement to be implemented by member municipalities and the CMRB.

The Servicing Plan was drafted as a plan to plan for the Region's municipalities to improve coordination and find collaborative ways to build on the foundation and maintain key linkages with the Growth Plan per the provincial regulation. The cornerstones of benefit to citizens and ratepayers, efficiency and service optimization are at the core of the CMR Servicing Plan.

The Regional Evaluation Framework is the process by which member municipality statutory plans and statutory plan amendments are referred to the Board for review and approval or refusal. The REF process is largely the same as the interim regional evaluation framework with slightly shorter timelines. The REF includes the definition and factors for consideration when determining regional significance and other such matters.

The CMR will, through the policies of the Growth and Servicing Plans, enjoy mutual benefits and shared efficiencies that are beyond the reach of local planning.

### **Acknowledgement**

HDR|Calthorpe and CMRB administration wish to thank the tireless work and engagement of member municipality administrations as well as the public and external stakeholder group for their valuable input to the process. Their support in unprecedented circumstances of a global pandemic have been key to developing the Plans.