



## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**Subject: JOINT BOUNDARY GROWTH STUDY**

### **Recommendation(s)**

That the City Manager be authorized to retain an external consultant to guide the Joint Boundary Growth Study work plans including development of a cost-sharing formula with Sturgeon County.

### **Purpose of Report**

The St. Albert/Sturgeon Inter-municipal Affairs Committee (IAC) met to discuss a Joint Boundary Growth Study between Sturgeon County and the City of St. Albert to facilitate the development of an urban built form in the Sturgeon County lands designated as Priority Growth Areas in the Sturgeon County Municipal Development Plan. The services of an external consultant are required to manage the work plan and St. Albert was asked by the IAC to retain the consultant on behalf of both municipalities.

### **Council Direction**

On January 26, 2016 the IAC approved the following motions:

1. That the IAC supports the initiation of a joint boundary growth study between Sturgeon County and the City of St. Albert to facilitate the development of an urban built form in the Sturgeon County lands designated as Priority Growth Areas in the Sturgeon County Municipal Development Plan.
2. That the IAC requests St. Albert Council assume primary responsibility for contracting with an external consultant to guide the joint boundary growth study work plans and directs the Inter-municipal Affairs Strategic Advisory Group (IASAG) to bring forward for approval a proposed cost-sharing formula to the February 24, 2016, IAC meeting.

### **Background and Discussion**

The City of St. Albert and Sturgeon County have been discussing the best approach for boundary adjustments. The recent Joint Infrastructure Study identified the need for the two municipalities to consider boundaries due to the

complexity, cost and efficiencies related to infrastructure servicing on the Priority Growth Areas in the Sturgeon County Municipal Development Plan.

### **Stakeholder Communications or Engagement**

This matter was reviewed by the Administration of both the City of St. Albert and Sturgeon County.

### **Implications of Recommendation(s)**

Approval of this recommendation will facilitate the development of the Joint Boundary Study to better inform future development plans.

a) **Financial:**

Council had approved a budget of \$150,000 in each of 2017, 2018 and 2019 for work with the IAC and Sturgeon County. The three-year consultant contract is forecasted to be \$250,000 and a cost sharing formula will be developed with Sturgeon County.

b) **Legal / Risk:**

The process for sourcing the consultant shall comply with applicable purchasing policy and trade agreement requirements.

c) **Program or Service:**

None at this time.

d) **Organizational:**

The external consultant is required to minimize disruption to current priority work plans.

### **Alternatives and Implications Considered**

If Council does not wish to support the recommendation, the following alternatives could be considered:

- a) Request Sturgeon County to take the lead in retaining the consultant.

### **Strategic Connections**

a) Council's Strategic Outcomes and Priorities (See Policy C-CG-02)

- CULTIVATE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY: A diversified, robust and resilient economic foundation to support growth and community service delivery.
- CULTIVATE EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNMENT: A responsive, accountable government that delivers value to the community.
- CULTIVATE SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES: A growing community that has balanced development and management of civic facilities, transportation networks and related services.

- b) Long Term Plans (e.g. MDP, Social Master Plan, Cultural Master Plan, etc.)
  - MDP, Utility Master Plan, Transportation Master Plan, Off-site Levy Bylaw.
- c) Corporate Objectives (See Corporate Business Plan)
  - n/a
- d) Council Policies
  - n/a
- e) Other Plans or Initiatives (Business Plans, Implementation Strategies, etc.)
  - n/a

**Attachment(s)**

N/A

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