

INTERMUNICIPAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK - GRANT APPLICATION

RECOMMENDATION

That Executive Committee recommend to City Council:

That the City of Edmonton partner with the City of St. Albert in applying for an Alberta Community Partnership grant, as outlined in the November 16, 2021, Urban Planning and Economy report UPE00816.

Report Purpose

Council decision required.

Council is being asked to give authorization for a grant application that will allow Administration to complete an Intermunicipal Planning Framework with the City of St. Albert, which will help generate Regional Prosperity in alignment with Connect Edmonton (Making Transformative Changes).

Executive Summary

- This report recommends a Council resolution that is required for the submission of an Alberta Community Partnership Intermunicipal Collaboration grant application.
- The City of St. Albert will be the primary grant applicant with support from the City of Edmonton.
- This grant will provide funding for a consultant to assist in the creation of the Intermunicipal Planning Framework's project deliverables.
- This is the second time the two Cities will be applying for this grant. The first application in early 2021 was unsuccessful due to the high number of applications that were submitted.
- This new application will be revised to include feedback from the grant administrators and will include an economic development focus.

REPORT

City of Edmonton/City of St. Albert Intermunicipal Planning Framework

As part of the ongoing intermunicipal collaboration and cooperation between the City of Edmonton and the City of St. Albert, the two Cities are collaborating on a new initiative to develop an Intermunicipal Planning Framework. This Framework will explore the integration of planning and infrastructure service delivery, as well as other topics of mutual interest. Specifically, the Intermunicipal Planning Framework will:

- Formalize a shared, high-level land use concept including economic development areas.
- Develop a high-level transportation and servicing concept.
- Introduce a structured communication, information-sharing and conflict-resolution protocol.
- Analyze and report on the feasibility of joint governance of shared-interest infrastructure assets.
- Analyze and report on the feasibility of intermunicipal bylaw governance and enforcement within the shared planning area.

Alberta Community Partnership Program - Intermunicipal Collaboration

The Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) grant program provides funding to two or more municipalities who are working collaboratively to improve the viability and long-term sustainability of those municipalities. Projects that support regional preparedness, planning, response, risk mitigation strategies and plans, other land use plans and regional service delivery frameworks are eligible for grants under the Intermunicipal Collaboration component of the Alberta Community Partnership grant.

The City of Edmonton and the City of St. Albert are jointly applying for \$200,000 in grant funding through the Alberta Community Partnership program so that consultant(s) can be procured to assist with establishing the scope and timeline of the Intermunicipal Planning Framework project. Without this grant, the partners will need to assess the project's scope and timeline based on what could be accomplished using existing staff resources.

The City of St. Albert Administration is taking the lead in submitting the grant application to Alberta Municipal Affairs, managing the grant funds and hiring the consultant(s). The City of Edmonton Administration will support the City of St. Albert throughout the process.

A complete ACP grant application includes confirmation that each municipality's Council has directed its Administration to proceed with the application.

This is the second time the Cities of Edmonton and St. Albert have applied for this grant. At the March 15, 2021, City Council meeting, City Council approved the recommendation in February 19, 2021, Urban Planning and Economy report UFCSD00279 to proceed with the ACP grant application. There were more applications than grant funding available and the previous application was not funded.

This new application will include feedback and guidance provided by the Government of Alberta grant administrators. It will also apply a jobs creation, economic growth and process improvement lens to the project.

COMMUNITY INSIGHT

Public engagement was not undertaken for this grant application request because citizen input would not have influenced the decision. Engagement on the Intermunicipal Planning Framework project will be determined during the project planning phase, which will occur upon the successful award of the grant. Other community insights will also be gathered and applied during this future phase of the intermunicipal planning work.

GBA+

Given that the Intermunicipal Planning Framework (IPF) project is at its initial planning phase, a thorough GBA+ process has yet to be completed. Administration would apply GBA+ throughout the delivery of this project in partnership with the City of St. Albert. This would include a GBA+ analysis, the findings from which will be integrated into the development of the grant application, project plan, and ultimately the governance framework, which is a primary output of the project.