



REF 2019-001, City of Beaumont Proposed New Municipal Development Plan

Recommendation

EMRB Administration recommends that REF application 2019-001 be approved.

Background

On January 10, 2019, the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) received an application from the City of Beaumont (the City) for approval of their new Municipal Development Plan (MDP). The City submitted the proposed plan pursuant to the following submission criteria in the Regional Evaluation Framework (REF):

4.1 *A municipality must refer to the Board any proposed new statutory plan*

EMRB Administration deemed the application complete on January 15, 2019.

Application

The purpose of the proposed MDP is to replace the City's existing MDP, which has been updated to ensure compliance with the modernized Municipal Government Act (MGA) as well as the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan (EMRGP).

Evaluation

EMRB Administration obtained the assistance of Lovatt Planning Consultants Inc. to evaluate the application with respect to the REF requirements. The Lovatt evaluation (attached) reviewed the proposed MDP in relation to the objectives of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan in Section 8 of the EMRB Regulation 189/2017, the Principles and Policies of the Growth Plan, and the remaining evaluation criteria in Section 8 in Schedule A of the REF Ministerial Order MSL 111/17. The Lovatt evaluation recommends that the City of Beaumont's proposed MDP be approved by the EMRB.

EMRB Administration Comments

The City is located in the Metropolitan Area tier of the Metropolitan Region Structure to 2044 (Schedule 2 of the Growth Plan) whereby the application is evaluated for its consistency with the principles and policies of this tier pursuant to the Policy Area in the Growth Plan.

The intent of the MDP is to replace the existing MDP (adopted 1998) and attain alignment with the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan. The MDP places emphasis on six underlying themes,



Healthy Vibrant Community, Responsible Development, Economic Strength, Effective Movement of People and Goods, Environmental Stewardship, and Safety and Emergency Management.

The MDP directs a coordinated approach to planning in alignment with the Intermunicipal Planning Framework approved by Edmonton, Leduc County and Beaumont. The three parties acknowledge their interconnected relationship and commit to collaborating on future joint planning initiatives.

The City of Beaumont emphasizes the development of a complete community for residents of all backgrounds, ages and incomes. Through policy direction, a diverse housing stock (densities and form), provision of community services and amenities, and a multi-modal transportation network with enhanced pedestrian and transit linkages will help form an integrated and complete community. The MDP ensures that new development will meet the minimum greenfield density targets outlined in EMRGP and acknowledges the importance of intensifying built-up urban areas including the Urban Centre identified in EMRGP - Centre Ville.

A key objective of the plan is the diversification of the economic tax base by attracting unique commercial and industrial uses. The MDP will promote regional prosperity and competitiveness by the effective movement of people and goods. A key goal is a resilient transportation system that connects residents, goods, and services locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

The MDP guides the conservation of natural living systems and environmental assets by protecting environmentally sensitive and natural areas enabling residents to enjoy the benefits of clean air, water and biodiversity. In addition, the MDP discourages premature conversion and fragmentation of existing agricultural operations through policies requiring agricultural impact assessments and the logical staging and phasing of development, which enable compact and contiguous growth.

Overall, the proposed MDP is consistent with the principles and policies of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan and Section 8.0 of the REF.

EMRB Administration agrees with the REF Consultant evaluation and supports approval of the proposed MDP by the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board.

Recommendation

EMRB Administration recommends that REF 2019-001 be approved.

Attachments

Evaluation	Lovatt Planning Consultants Inc.
REF Documents	1. Cover Letter – City of Beaumont New MDP
	2. Report to Council – First Reading
	3. Bylaw 894-17 MDP Amendment
	4. Bylaw 938-019 MDP