



REF 2021-005, Town of Morinville Municipal Development Plan Amendment

Recommendation

EMRB Administration recommends that REF application 2021-005 be approved.

Background

On March 15, 2021, the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) received an application from the Town of Morinville (the Town) for approval of amendments to its Municipal Development Plan (MDP). The Town submitted the statutory plan amendment pursuant to the following submission criteria in the Regional Evaluation Framework (REF):

4.3 A municipality must refer to the Board any proposed amendment to a statutory plan that meets one or more of the following conditions unless exempted in accordance with Section 4.2:

- a) The proposed amendment to a municipal development plan is pursuant to Chapter 5, Section 5.1.3 of the EMRGP for the purpose of updating the municipal development plan to conform with the EMRGP;*

EMRB Administration deemed the application complete on March 16, 2021.

Application

The proposed Municipal Development Plan amendment is being adopted for alignment with the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan.

Evaluation

EMRB Administration obtained the assistance of Lovatt Planning Consultants Inc. (Lovatt) to evaluate the application with respect to the REF requirements. The Lovatt evaluation (attached) reviewed the proposed MDP amendments in relation to: Part 3 of EMRB Regulation 189/2017; Section 8 of Schedule A of REF Ministerial Order MSL MSD:088/20; and, the Principles and Policies of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan (Growth Plan). The Lovatt evaluation recommends that the proposed amendments to the MDP be approved by the EMRB.

EMRB Administration Comments

Morinville is located wholly within the Rural Area of the Metropolitan Region Structure to 2044 (Schedule 2 of the Growth Plan). Therefore, the application is evaluated for its consistency with the principles and policies pursuant to this Policy Area in the Growth Plan.



In the Edmonton Metropolitan Regional Structure to 2044 (Schedule 2), the Growth Plan identifies Morinville as a rural and sub-regional centre providing a range of services to meet the needs of the community and surrounding rural areas.

The Municipal Development Plan, adopted shortly after the Board approved the Growth Plan in 2016, required a few amendments identified in Morinville's Regional Context Statement to be consistent with the Growth Plan.

The amendments to the MDP provide clarity and policy for how the Town fits into the regional structure and contributes to regional outcomes identified in the Growth Plan. The Plan designates Coeur de Morinville as the Town's sub-regional centre and provides policy for infill and redevelopment contributing to the Aspirational Urban and Sub-regional Centres Density Target in Schedule 6 (Greenfield Density, Centres and Intensification Targets) of the Growth Plan. Further, the amendments state that Coeur de Morinville, Mature Neighbourhoods, and Developing Neighbourhoods encompass the Town's Built-Up Urban Area and policies direct intensification and infill of these areas to support the Aspirational Intensification Target in Schedule 6 (Greenfield Density, Centres and Intensification Targets) of the Growth Plan.

Overall, the amendments to the MDP are consistent with the principles and policies of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan and Section 8.0 of the REF. In this regard, Morinville has fulfilled the requirement updating the MDP to conform to the Growth Plan, outlined in Section 5.1.3 of the Growth Plan.

Recommendation

EMRB Administration recommends that REF 2021-005 be approved.

Attachments

Evaluation	Lovatt Planning Consultants Inc.
REF Documents	1. Cover Letter
	2. Bylaw 4_2021 (MDP Amendment)
	3. MDP Amendment (Red-lined)
	4. MDP Map 10: EMRGP Metropolitan Structure
	5. Existing Municipal Development Plan (2017)
	6. Council Report
	7. Regional Context Statement (2017)
	8. Morinville REF Report