

October 23, 2018

Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board  
#1100 Bell Tower, 10104 - 103 Avenue NW  
Edmonton, AB T5J 0H8

RE: Regional Context Statement

Dear Neal Sarnecki, Interim CEO

At the Town of Morinville Council meeting on October 23, 2018 Council passed the following motion:

**Regional Context Statement - Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board**



Stephane Labonne, Chief Administrative Officer			
<b>Motion 353/2018</b> Carried	<b>Moved By:</b> Councillor S. Richardson	<b>In Favour</b> Mayor Barry Turner Deputy Mayor Rebecca Balanko Councillor Nicole Boutestein Councillor Stephen Dafoe Councillor Lawrence Giffin Councillor Sarah Hall Councillor Scott Richardson	<b>Opposed</b> None opposed.
That Council approves the Town of Morinville's Regional Context Statement to be submitted to the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board as a requirement of the implementation of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan.			

We trust this confirms to the prescribed guidelines for our recently adopted Municipal Development Plan (Bylaw 11/2012 as amended by Bylaw 9/2017).

Sincerely,

Mayor Barry Turner  
Town of Morinville

## TOWN OF MORINVILLE - REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT

### Part 1: Metropolitan Regional Structure

Metropolitan Regional Structure	Consistency Requirements	MDP Response	Action Required
Identify Relevant Policy Tier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rural tier</li></ul>		To be identified in the MDP and the application of growth directions for Town of Morinville within the rural tier.
Identify applicable structure components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Built up urban area</li><li>Sub-Regional Centre and Rural Centre</li></ul>		To be identified in the MDP and the application of growth directions for Town of Morinville relating to sub-regional and rural centre.

Morinville’s MDP addresses the Growth Plan Objectives through setting up goals, objectives, policies base of regional priorities related to land use, supportive housing, transportation, and infrastructure planning.

### Town of Morniville MDP Section 13.0 Inter-municipal Planning

#### Goal

To enable Morinville to take advantage of opportunities benefiting all municipal neighbours in order to maximize efficient use of transportation systems, infrastructure, recreational and other mutual interests; and, to enhance and support a cooperative relationship with Sturgeon County.

#### Perspective: Capital Region Board

The Capital Region Board (CRB) is an opportunity for Morinville to have a voice in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. The CRB representation is quite important when considering how market forces determine growth nodes and senior levels of government provide funding for major capital investments within the capital region, and as such the need to advocate for regional priorities related to land use, transportation, recreation, supportive housing, and infrastructure planning.

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE - REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT**

Policy Area	Growth Plan Objective	Consistency Requirements	MDP Response	Action Required
<p>1. Economic Competitiveness and Employment</p>	<p><b>1.1</b> Promote global economic competitiveness and diversification of the regional economy  <b>1.2</b> Promote job growth and the competitiveness of the region’s employment base  <b>1.3</b> Enhance competitiveness through the efficient movement of people, goods and services to, from and within the Region  <b>1.4</b> Promote the livability and prosperity of the Region and plan for the needs of a changing population</p>		<p>Section 12 Economy:</p> <p>Morinville’s MDP addresses the Growth Plan Objective of promoting global economic competitiveness and diversification of the regional economy.</p> <p>MDP’s Economic Goal: To ensure land use planning and growth management decisions support the long term financial sustainability of the Municipality and encourage whenever feasible economic development in the community. To support the diversification of all aspects of the local economy, including fostering the expansion and growth of local businesses and attracting new business investment into the community.</p> <p>MDP’s General Economic Policy:</p> <p>12.1. Morinville shall attempt to support economic vitality through land use decision-making.  12.2. Morinville shall promote its strategic geographic location in terms of major transportation access (Highway 2, Highway 28, and the Canadian National Railway) to prospective nonresidential developers and businesses.  12.4. Morinville shall support joint non-residential development initiatives with Sturgeon County within joint planning areas outside Morinville’s municipal boundaries.  12.5. Morinville shall encourage regional economic development initiatives and the continuance of regional economic development organizations and agencies, including those that support local economic</p>	<p>None</p>

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE - REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT**

Policy Area	Growth Plan Objective	Consistency Requirements	MDP Response	Action Required
			development, entrepreneurial development and training, and small business incubation.	
<p><b>2 Natural Living Systems</b></p>	<p><b>2.1</b> Conserve and restore natural living systems through an ecological network approach  <b>2.2</b> Protect regional watershed health, water quality and quantity  <b>2.3</b> Plan development to promote clean air, land and water and address climate change impacts  <b>2.4</b> Minimize and mitigate the impacts of regional growth on natural living systems</p>		<p>Morinville’s MDP addresses the Growth Plan Natural Living Systems Objectives through a wide range of goals and policies including the protection of natural areas, conserving regional ecological and wildlife corridors, protecting water and land quality, and using environmental and conservation reserves as a tool to achieve these goals.</p> <p>Section 7.0 Growth Management</p> <p>Objective 7.7. Morinville shall aim to be ecologically responsible by designing with the landscape, respecting the environment by protecting ecologically significant areas, reducing energy consumption, supporting low impact development (including use of low maintenance landscaping and building materials), and installing responsible utilities. Storm water management systems should be naturalized, combine function with open space, reduce impervious surfaces, and protect natural flows.</p> <p>Policy 8.55. Morinville shall require environmental reserve dedication as per the Municipal Government Act, as amended. Environmental reserve lands shall remain as natural areas or may be used for trails as long as a trail will not unduly impact the natural environment.</p> <p>Policy 8.56. Morinville may require conservation reserve dedication as per the Municipal Government Act, as amended, of land that has environmentally significant features of which does not qualify as environmental reserve, but should be protected and conserved.</p>	None

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE - REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT**

Policy Area	Growth Plan Objective	Consistency Requirements	MDP Response	Action Required
			<p>Conservation reserve land shall remain in its natural state.</p> <p>Policy 8.60. Morinville should encourage natural and man-made waterbodies be preserved, enhanced or altered as appropriate to meet the passive and active recreational needs of the community.</p>	
<p><b>3 Communities and Housing</b></p>	<p><b>3.1</b> Plan and develop complete communities within each policy tier to accommodate people’s daily needs for living at all ages</p> <p><b>3.2</b> Plan for and promote a range of housing options</p> <p><b>3.3</b> Plan for and promote market affordable and non-market housing to address core housing need</p>	<p>Minimum Greenfield Residential Density</p>	<p>Morinville’s MDP addresses the Communities and Housing Objectives through a wide range of goals and policies.</p> <p>Policy 7.30. Morinville shall support the efficient use of land and infrastructure through increased density targets, diverse housing options, compact urban form, mixed use developments, centralized community commercial nodes, internal walkability, and connectivity with the rest of the community via the trails system.</p> <p>Residential Land Use Policy Housing Composition: Policy 8.23. Morinville shall encourage a diversity of housing types, forms, levels of affordability, and densities in residential areas.</p> <p>Policy 8.25. In greenfield areas, Morinville shall require a minimum density of 30 dwelling units per net residential hectare, measured at the Area Structure Plan level, in accordance with the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan.</p> <p>Policy 8.30. Morinville shall support working in collaboration with the Capital Region Board, other levels of government, and non-profit housing providers for the</p>	<p>May explore strengthening policies regarding market affordable and non-market housing to address core housing need.</p>

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE - REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT**

Policy Area	Growth Plan Objective	Consistency Requirements	MDP Response	Action Required
			provision of market affordable and nonmarket housing in Morinville.	
<p><b>4: Integration of Land Use and Infrastructure</b></p>	<p><b>4.1</b> Establish a compact and contiguous development pattern to accommodate employment and population growth  <b>4.2</b> Enable growth within built-up urban areas to optimize existing infrastructure and minimize the expansion of the urban footprint  <b>4.3</b> Plan and develop greenfield areas in an orderly and phased manner to contribute to complete communities  <b>4.4</b> Plan for and accommodate rural growth in appropriate locations with sustainable levels of servicing  <b>4.5</b> Plan for and develop mixed use and higher density centers as areas to concentrate growth of people and jobs  <b>4.6</b> Prioritize investment and funding of regional</p>		<p>Morinville’s MDP addresses the Growth Plan Integration of Land Use and Infrastructure Objectives through a wide range of goals and policies</p> <p>Policy 8.3. Morinville shall encourage the Cœur de Morinville to develop as a welcoming and inclusive neighbourhood that supports the diverse needs of its residents, employees and visitors, and provides equitable access to community, education, health, safety, and social services</p> <p>Policy 8.16. Morinville shall support community commercial nodes within residential neighbourhoods that are mindful of the 400 metre (¼ mile) walking distance rule of thumb, which suggests that people are willing to walk up to quarter of a mile from their home for convenience shopping.</p> <p>Policy 8.25. In greenfield areas, Morinville shall require a minimum density of 30 dwelling units per net residential hectare, measured at the Area Structure Plan level, in accordance with the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan.</p> <p>Policy 8.32. Morinville shall encourage appropriate commercial development in the Downtown core.</p> <p>Section 11.0 Infrastructure Goal  To encourage sustainability by maximizing capacity of existing municipal infrastructure, promoting the logical</p>	None

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE - REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT**

Policy Area	Growth Plan Objective	Consistency Requirements	MDP Response	Action Required
	<p>infrastructure to support planned growth</p> <p><b>4.7</b> Ensure compatible land use patterns to minimize risks to public safety and health</p>		<p>and economical extension of municipal infrastructure to new development, promoting the wise use of land for municipal and non-municipal infrastructure both inside and proximal to Morinville’s boundary, and mitigating land use conflict with oil and gas infrastructure.</p> <p>Infrastructure Policies</p> <p>Policy 11.3. Morinville shall ensure that all developments comply with municipal utility servicing master plans and engineering and open space standards. Morinville may consider alternative servicing concepts on a case-by-case basis, which shall adhere to established engineering practices and are subject to the review and approval of Morinville.</p> <p>Policy 11.4. Morinville shall require that all residential and commercial developments be connected to municipal services, where feasible, subsequent to signing an approved development agreement.</p> <p>Policy 11.6. Morinville shall discourage non-contiguous growth and unnecessarily premature extension of municipal services.</p> <p>Policy 11.7. Morinville shall encourage energy and water conservation and solid waste management.</p> <p>Policy 11.8. Morinville shall continue to prioritize the regular updating of long-range infrastructure master plans for roads, water, sanitary sewer, and stormwater, with particular attention given to updated population and land use projections.</p> <p>Policy 11.9. Morinville shall promote growth patterns maximizing the use of existing infrastructure and services in order to avoid or delay the construction of capital expansions.</p>	

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE - REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT**

Policy Area	Growth Plan Objective	Consistency Requirements	MDP Response	Action Required
			<p>Policy 11.10. Morinville shall support in collaboration with the Capital Region Board, utility commissions and the Government of Alberta on the preparation of a Regional Infrastructure Master Plan, for the coordination, planning, and investing in future regional infrastructure, that will have an impact on growth and infrastructure capacity for Morinville.</p>	
<p><b>5: Transportation Systems</b></p>	<p><b>5.1</b> Develop a regional transportation system to support and enhance the growth of the Region and regional and global connectivity  <b>5.2</b> Encourage a mode shift to transit, high occupancy vehicles and active transportation modes as a viable and attractive alternatives to private automobile travel, appropriate to the scale of the community  <b>5.3</b> Coordinate and integrate land use and transportation facilities and services to support the efficient and safe movement of people, goods, and services in both urban and rural areas</p>		<p>Morinville’s MDP addresses the Growth Plan Transportation Systems Objectives through a wide range of goals and policies</p> <p>Section 10.0 Transportation &amp; Mobility Goal  The goal of a well-planned transportation network is to provide safe, convenient and enjoyable connections between the internal origins and destinations of the community and between the community and the surrounding region. All modes of transportation are accommodated safely and efficiently in a well-planned transportation network, and the notion of ‘complete streets’ is given priority.</p> <p>10.8. Morinville should place a high priority on a phased, sequential and logical development of a comprehensive, continuous, safe and convenient trails system to improve connectivity between neighbourhoods, all parts of the open space system, key community activity areas and Downtown, as laid out in the Recreation, Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan.</p> <p>10.10. Morinville shall require that new residential ASPs and amendments to existing residential ASPs show a proposed pedestrian circulation system. The system</p>	<p>Explore policies to enable the development of regional bus line as identified on Schedule 10b in Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan.</p>

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE - REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT**

Policy Area	Growth Plan Objective	Consistency Requirements	MDP Response	Action Required
	<p><b>5.4</b> Support the EIA as northern Alberta’s primary air gateway to the world</p> <p><b>5.5</b> Ensure effective coordination of regional transportation policies and initiatives between all jurisdictions</p>		<p>should include both internal and external linkages. Internal linkages should include sidewalks, multi-ways, walkways between blocks, trails within parks, trails around stormwater ponds, and other elements of the pedestrian circulation system. The ASPs or amendments should also show external linkages to the community pathway system and the potential routes to key community activity areas.</p> <p>Regional Transportation Network:            10.11. Morinville shall continue to participate in planning the regional transportation system through active participation in the CRB’s transportation planning exercise, through inter-municipal planning with its municipal neighbour, Sturgeon County, and through continuing discussions and negotiations with other municipal neighbours including the Alexander First Nation and Edmonton Garrison.            10.12. Morinville shall support the provision, maintenance and improvements of regionally significant transportation access and facilities for agricultural uses.</p> <p>10.13. Morinville shall work with Edmonton Garrison to explore opportunities to develop efficient and cost-effective transit solutions, and to facilitate affordable transportation between Morinville and Edmonton Garrison.</p>	
<b>6: Agriculture</b>	<b>6.1</b> Identify and conserve an adequate supply of prime agricultural lands to provide a secure local		<p>Morinville’s MDP addresses these issues under section 7, 9 and section 13.</p> <p>Policy 7.29. An agricultural impact assessment prepared by a qualified professional shall be required in accordance with the Edmonton Metropolitan Region</p>	<p>Explore policies that minimize early fragmentation</p>

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE - REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT**

Policy Area	Growth Plan Objective	Consistency Requirements	MDP Response	Action Required
	<p>source of food security for future generations</p> <p><b>6.2</b> Minimize the fragmentation and conversion of prime agricultural lands for nonagricultural uses</p> <p><b>6.3</b> Promote diversification and value-added agriculture production and plan infrastructure to support the agricultural sector and regional food system</p>		<p>Growth Plan when a new area structure plan proposes development in a Greenfield Area</p> <p>Section 9.0 sustainability goal: To integrate sustainability into all decision-making processes and implement those aspects of the Morinville’s Municipal Structure Plan (MSP) related to land use planning and growth management.</p> <p>Urban Agriculture: Policy 9.23. Morinville shall support urban agricultural practices and the development of an Urban Agricultural Strategy.</p> <p>Section 13 Agriculture: 13.13. Morinville shall support the collaborative development of a Regional Agricultural Master Plan with the Capital Region Board and in partnership with its member municipalities for the identification of prime agricultural lands. 13.14. Morinville shall support the continuation of existing agricultural uses within Morinville on lands that are designated, planned or unplanned, yet undeveloped until such time as they become developed and agricultural practices on the land are no longer feasible. 13.15. Morinville shall support the continued operation and diversification of agricultural businesses and value-added agricultural production, processing, distribution, and marketing and supportive infrastructure for the agricultural sector in the urban-rural/inter-municipal fringe area.</p>	<p>and early conversion of agriculture land.</p>