

## Briefing Note

<b>Title</b>	<b>Cardiff Room - 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. - General Municipal Servicing Standards Workshop</b>
<b>Summary</b>	In a workshop-style setting, provide an opportunity for Council to provide feedback to Administration on the current General Municipal Servicing Standards and to help refine the Proposed Vision and Guiding Principles.
<b>Previous Council Direction</b>	None.
<b>Report</b>	<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The General Municipal Servicing Standards (GMSS) are intended to provide specific guidelines to assist Sturgeon County and Developers in the design, preparation and submission of plans and specifications for construction of municipal improvements and systems that will meet the servicing requirements for commercial, industrial and residential subdivision development within Sturgeon County.</li><li>• Specific services included in the GMSS include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Water Distribution System;</li><li>○ Sanitary Sewer System;</li><li>○ Stormwater Management System;</li><li>○ Subdivision Roadways; and</li><li>○ Landscaping.</li></ul></li><li>• The current version of GMSS was created in 2009 and was intended to focus mainly on servicing for multi-lot subdivisions.</li><li>• The GMSS were last amended in December of 2012.</li><li>• Engineering Services identified the GMSS update project as a Department-level initiative in 2016.</li><li>• Given that land development in Sturgeon County entails aspects from residential to agriculture to industrial (i.e. subdivision of 2.47 acres to world-class petrochemical projects), having clear and consistent servicing standards and requirements is critical, both from a resident and industry perspective.</li><li>• On January 17, 2017, during a briefing to Council, Administration presented an update on the GMSS project. During the discussion, it was clear that members of Council wanted an opportunity to provide feedback they have received from residents, ratepayers, and even perhaps their own experience in dealing with Sturgeon County's GMSS.</li></ul>

- Ms. Beth Sanders from POPULUS Community Planning Inc. will facilitate a conversation on the GMSS during the April 11, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting:
  - Role of GMSS in Sturgeon County;
  - Scope of Sturgeon County influence on municipal servicing standards; and
  - Sturgeon County's vision and guiding principles for GMSS.
- The intent of the GMSS update is to provide Administration with well balanced tools, and solutions to meet the diverse needs of our residents and ratepayers by introducing servicing standards to support urban, rural, agricultural, commercial and industrial development.
- After the workshop, Administration will have
  1. A greater understanding of the issues/concerns Members of Council have of the current GMSS; and
  2. Will apply the Guiding Principles discussed with Council to help guide and shape the GMSS Update project.

#### External Communication

- None.

#### Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:

- The GMSS Update will reflect all Federal and Provincial Environmental legislation and other regulations including *Alberta Protection and Enhancement Act* (EPEA) and *Alberta Environment and Parks* (AEP).
- The GMSS Update will support all Federal and Provincial regulations associated with the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) and the Institute of Traffic Engineers (ITE).
- The GMSS will support Sturgeon County's Municipal Development Plan, Land Use Bylaw Re-write, as well as regulations stipulated within the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA).
- The GMSS will be congruent in supporting other essential core initiatives currently underway such as the Sustainable Roads Infrastructure Strategy (SRIS), the Local Road Reconstruction Program, Sturgeon County Competitiveness Study, and 4-Stage Capital Plan (to name a few).
- The GMSS re-write will be completed in accordance to present day standards and Guidelines published under APEGA, utilizing current Engineering Best Practices, methodologies, and technology as well as implementing modern Best Management Practices using a practical, affordable approach to servicing land without sacrificing our long-term infrastructure investments, and essential servicing. (Asset Management).
- The GMSS will be congruent and competitive with current industry standards being utilized in neighboring municipalities in the Capital Region such as Parkland County, Strathcona County, the City of Edmonton, and the City of St. Albert.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Municipal Government Act</i>, RSA 2000, c.M-26, Section 654(1)(b) prohibits the approval of a subdivision application unless the proposed subdivision conforms with the provisions of any statutory plan.</li> <li>• Sturgeon County Municipal Development Plan, Policy 1.4.9: (p. 31) Enacting Responsible Subdivision and Development Practices, “<u>Shall</u> ensure that both subdivision and development meet or exceed the standards outlined within the Sturgeon County General Municipal Servicing Standards. Standards should be reviewed and updated along with other County regulatory policies to coincide with innovations in the industry.”</li> </ul>
<b>Implication</b>	<p><u>Strategic Alignment:</u></p> <p>Consistent with most focus areas in Sturgeon County’s Strategic Plan, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership by promoting consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes.</li> <li>• Planned Growth and Prosperity by encouraging varied and integrated enterprises that enhance our strong economic base, while balancing the needs of the community and natural environment.</li> <li>• Maintain and enhance strong communities by committing to a safe, secure community through the implementation of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).</li> <li>• Respect the Environment by supporting a healthy environment and will minimize and monitor our impact on ecosystems.</li> <li>• Operational Excellence by consistent delivery of defined service levels to all stakeholders in a professional, efficient and cost effective manner.</li> </ul> <p><u>Organizational:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The GMSS Update will provide specific guidelines to assist the County and Developers in the design, preparation and submission of plans and specifications for construction of municipal improvements and systems that will meet the servicing requirements for commercial, industrial and residential subdivision development within Sturgeon County.</li> <li>• The GMSS Update will ensure effective and efficient maintenance of future municipal improvements through the implementation of modern and consistent standards and specifications.</li> <li>• Many of our current policies and procedures are linked to the GMSS. As such, the project will need to ensure alignment with other Sturgeon County policies and procedures.</li> </ul>

	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>The budget for the GMSS Update Project has been included in Engineering Services' 2016 and 2017 workplan.</p>
<b>Follow Up Action</b>	<p>1. Administration will use feedback from Council's workshop in the further development of the Vision and Guiding Principles, which will be used to help guide the GMSS Update project.</p>
<b>Attachment (s)</b>	<p>1. Sturgeon County Council GMSS Workshop Agenda</p> <p>2. Proposed GMSS Vision Statement</p> <p>3. Proposed GMSS Guiding Principles</p>
<b>Report Reviewed by:</b>	<p>             Brian Hartman, Engineering Services Manager         </p> <p>             Stephane Labonne, GM Integrated Growth         </p> <p>             Peter Tarnawsky, County Commissioner – CAO         </p>