

## Request for Decision

<b>Title</b>	<b>Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board Growth Plan - Regional Context Statement</b>
<b>Proposed Motion</b>	That Council accept Sturgeon County's Regional Context Statement provided in Attachment 1 as information, and further, authorize Administration to submit the statement to the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board.
<b>Administrative Recommendation</b>	That the attached Regional Context Statement be received and submitted to the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board, as required by the Board.
<b>Previous Council Direction</b>	September 27, 2016 - Council received a presentation on the Growth Plan which referenced the submission of a Regional Context Statement to define how Sturgeon County's Municipal Development Plan conforms or diverges from the new Growth Plan and how it will be brought into conformance if not aligned.
<b>Report</b>	<p><b><u>Background Information</u></b></p> <p>The Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) Growth Plan was revised and submitted to the Province of Alberta for approval in October 2017. One of the Growth Plan requirements is for the EMRB's 13-member municipalities to submit Regional Context Statements.</p> <p>The Regional Context Statements are intended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify where each member municipality's Municipal Development Plan conforms or diverges from the Growth Plan's objectives; and</li> <li>2. Clarify how each member municipality will bring their Municipal Development Plan into conformance, if required.</li> </ol> <p>The Growth Plan requires municipalities to conform to the following Policy Areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Economic Competitiveness and Employment</li> <li>2. Natural Living Systems</li> <li>3. Communities and Housing</li> <li>4. Integration of Land Use and Infrastructure</li> <li>5. Transportation Systems</li> <li>6. Agriculture</li> </ol>

---

Municipal Development Plans (MDPs) must support the objectives found under these Policy Areas, failure to conform to these policies would require the amendment of that Municipal Development Plan.

### **Sturgeon County's Alignment**

Sturgeon County is in general conformance with the new EMRB Growth Plan. Attachment 1 identifies this conformance as well as recommended amendments to provide better clarity or alignment.

Areas where Sturgeon County's MDP requires an amendment to better conform to the Growth Plan will be addressed by Administration during a scheduled update in 2020.

### **External Factors**

Currently, Sturgeon County is working through a variety of local and regional processes which may influence or otherwise inform the amendments required for the Sturgeon County MDP. Sturgeon County is currently subject to the following primary and secondary considerations:

Primary considerations include:

1. St. Albert Annexation
2. Sturgeon Valley Special Study Area

Secondary considerations include:

1. Regional Agricultural Master Plan
2. Integrated Transportation Master Plan
3. Metropolitan Region Servicing Plan
4. Infrastructure Master Plan
5. Local Agricultural Support Strategy
6. Intermunicipal Development Plans
7. Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks

Primary considerations will provide the greatest influence on future recommended amendments to the Sturgeon County MDP. To provide proper conformance with the EMRB Growth Plan, these processes should be completed or be near completion. If these factors are not resolved before the MDP amendment deadline, a submission extension may be requested at Council's discretion.



### **External Communication**

Administration has reviewed Regional Context Statement requirements with EMRB Administration and have consulted other regional municipalities regarding their approaches.

### **Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:**

Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan Policy 5.1.2 (see page 85 of EMR Growth Plan and Table 3)

Sturgeon County Municipal Development Plan

<b>Implication of Administrative Recommendation</b>	<p><u>Strategic Alignment:</u></p> <p><b>Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership</b> – The directions for consideration outlined within the report outline the County’s intent to be collaborative with the EMRB and conform with its Regional Policies.</p> <p><b>Planned Growth and Prosperity</b> – MDP conformance with the requirements of the EMRB Growth Plan would support Sturgeon County’s future growth potential, and its likelihood of regional approval for future primary plans.</p> <p><u>Organizational:</u></p> <p>While the preparation of the County’s Regional Context Statement was a relatively minor effort, the amendment of the County’s MDP and the resolution of the noted factors will consume a considerable amount of organizational human capacity.</p> <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>None at this time.</p>
<b>Alternatives Considered</b>	None, as submission of the Regional Context Statement is required of EMR member municipalities.
<b>Implications of Alternatives</b>	None.
<b>Follow up Action</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Administration (Community and Regional Planning / CAO’s Office) to prepare a covering letter and submit the Regional Context Statement to EMRB Administration.</li> <li>2. Administration to continue working through the noted primary and secondary processes to inform future amendments to the Sturgeon County MDP.</li> <li>3. Administration to draft required amendments to the Sturgeon County MDP (expected in 2020), for Council’s consideration.</li> </ol>
<b>Attachment(s)</b>	1. Sturgeon County Regional Context Statement
<b>Report Reviewed by:</b>	<div data-bbox="524 1503 844 1619" data-label="Text">  </div> <div data-bbox="524 1629 1242 1661" data-label="Caption"> <p>Travis Peter, Manager, Community and Regional Planning</p> </div> <div data-bbox="524 1675 841 1833" data-label="Text">  </div> <div data-bbox="524 1839 1273 1871" data-label="Caption"> <p>Collin Steffes, General Manager, Integrated Growth Division</p> </div>

## Strategic Alignment Checklist

**Vision:** *Sturgeon County: a diverse, active community that pioneers opportunities and promotes initiative while embracing rural lifestyles.*

**Mission:** *Provide quality, cost effective services and infrastructure to meet the diverse needs of the Sturgeon County community, while improving competitiveness and sustainability.*

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
<b>Planned Growth and Prosperity</b>			
<i>We encourage varied and integrated enterprises that enhance our strong economic base, while balancing the needs of the community and natural environment. (Strategic Plan and MDP pg. 36)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports a strong thriving business environment to strengthen our economic foundation</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans for responsible growth through the MDP and regional growth plan.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manages growth for current and future developments through:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>transparent bylaws, policies and processes to enable responsible land development</li> <li>targeting growth around existing and identified future growth areas</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities</b>			
<i>We are committed to a safe and viable community, where our residents are provided with access to opportunities and quality of life. (Strategic Plan and pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides access to programs and services that have a positive impact on residents' quality of life</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides access to safe and reliable infrastructure assets</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports the safety of people and property</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Strong Local and Regional Governance</b>			
<i>We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan and pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides effective leadership and management consistent with Strategic Plan, MDP, master plans, bylaws, policies, community engagement</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Considers fiscal stability and sustainability</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fosters collaborative intergovernmental partnerships</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Community Identity &amp; Spirit</b>			
<i>We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan and MDP pg. 27)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and/or collaborate with voluntary organizations in the region</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Environmental Stewardship</b>			
<i>We foster a healthy environment and minimize our impact on ecosystems. (Strategic Plan and MDP pg. 27)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans and partnerships that minimize environmental impact on natural areas</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides awareness of environmental issues impacting the County</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>