



CITY OF ST. ALBERT
ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUNDER

TITLE: Withdrawal from Metro Mayors Alliance

On March 7, 2017 Councillor Heron provided notice in accordance with Section 23 of Procedure Bylaw 35/2009 that she intended to bring forward the following motion:

“That the City of St. Albert write a letter to the Metro Mayor’s Alliance (MMA) informing them of our withdrawal from the MMA in order to fully focus on and support the new Growth Management Board (CRB).”

BACKGROUND:

Advisory Panel

In September, 2015 St. Albert, along with eight other Capital Region municipalities, named an independent panel (Advisory Panel) of community leaders to provide them with advice on how to work together to optimize the region’s attributes in the coming decades. St. Albert City Council allocated \$50,000 towards this project.

Advisory Panel Report

The Advisory Panel released their report – *Get Ready, or Be Left Behind* – publicly in June, 2016 recommending that the nine municipalities work together on regional transit, infrastructure, economic development and land use planning and that they formalize their collaboration by signing a Memorandum of Understanding.

Memorandum of Understanding and Metro Mayors Alliance

On July 11, 2016 St. Albert Council authorized the Mayor to sign a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding to signify that the City of St. Albert is willing to continue to participate in and explore the recommendations made in the Advisory Panel Report and that the Mayor and City Manager continue to represent St. Albert as part of the Metro Mayors Alliance.

In July, 2016 the Metro Mayors Alliance met and the Mayors delegated to their City Managers to work together to develop a Master Agreement based on the recommendations in the Advisory Panel Report.

Capital Region Board Regulation Changes

In December 8, 2016 the Minister of Municipal Affairs attended the Capital Region Board (CRB) meeting and announced proposed changes to the Capital Region Board mandate and membership. The Board membership is being reduced to 13 members, including the City of St. Albert and the mandate is being expanded to include regional service delivery and economic development.

In January, 2017 the City Managers from the 13 municipalities that will form the future CRB began working with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs on the details of the regulation that would establish the CRB's new mandate and membership. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs is expected to meet with the 13 Mayors sometime in March/April 2017 and release a draft regulation for public consultation. The new regulation will be passed and proclaimed by Fall 2017.

CRB Transition Task Force

On February 9, 2017 the CRB approved the formation of a Transition Task Force to oversee the transition plans of the Board to the new regulation. At their first meeting on March 8, 2017, the Transition Task Force approved the inclusion of five City Managers on the Task Force. The Transition Task Force will now include representation from:

- Cities:
 - Mayor Greg Krischke, City of Leduc
 - Robert Cotterill, CAO, City of Spruce Grove
- Towns:
 - Mayor William Choi, Town of Stony Plain (Chair)
 - Tony Kulbisky, CAO, Town of Devon
- Counties:
 - Mayor Roxane Carr, Strathcona County (Vice-Chair)
 - Mike Heck, CAO, Parkland County
- Departing Municipalities:
 - Mayor Randy Boyd, Town of Bon Accord
 - Robin Singleton, CAO, Lamont County
- City of Edmonton
 - Mayor Don Iveson
 - Linda Cochrane, CAO (or designate)

The next meeting will be April 13, 2017. St. Albert Administration (in consultation with members of Council) is drafting a submission to the Transition Task Force for consideration at their April meeting.

CRB Funding Update

On February 9, 2017 the Capital Region Board approved the 2017/18 budget, which calls for member contribution payments (totaling \$500,000) from the 13 municipalities who will make up the new CRB.

On March 21, 2017, after the release of the 2017 Provincial Budget, the CRB was notified that their grant from the Government of Alberta is being reduced an additional \$225,000 for 2017/18. CRB Administration will be working through the implications of this reduction to the approved 2017/18 Board budget and revisions to the budget will be brought forward to the Board possibly at the April 13, 2017 Board Meeting.

Report Date: March 20, 2017
Author(s): Kevin Scoble
Committee/Department: City Manager's Office
General Manager: n/a
City Manager: Kevin Scoble