



CITY OF ST. ALBERT
ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUNDER

TITLE: ESTABLISH A MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION

On April 24, 2017 Councillor Russell provided notice in accordance with Section 23 of Procedure Bylaw 22/2016 that he intended to bring forward the proposed motion below.

In order for Council to debate the motion, the motion must be formally moved.

PROPOSED MOTION(S):

That Administration bring forward a draft bylaw to establish a Municipal Planning Commission for Council's consideration.

BACKGROUND:

In 2016, POPULUS Consulting was contracted to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the role of a Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) in the governance structure of subdivision and development approvals (MPC 360° Review). The findings of the accompanying report were presented to Council at the April 24, 2017, meeting.

To facilitate the above proposed motion, several outstanding items are required. The POPULUS report did not include recommendations on the role and function of an MPC, the composition of the MPC members, and what items of governance would be addressed through the MPC. Prior to adopting a motion, it is advised that a full investigation of the options occur. During this investigation, significant discussion with Council is required to determine the level of development decision-making authority Council wished to bestow on the MPC, as well as level and type of public engagement would be best suited. It should be noted that implementation of an MPC is not included within the 2017 Planning Branch workplan, and as such is unfunded and has no resourcing allocated.

As such, it is respectfully advised that Council consider an alternative recommendation:

That Council request Administration return with a project plan outlining the process of creating a Development Authority/Planning Advisory Committee Review and Implementation Plan by the end of August 2017. In this project plan, options, costs, resource allocations/implications, and timelines would be outlined, along with the scope of the project. The project plan would provide additional information regarding roles, composition, and impacts, which would provide direction to Administration on the required scope, roles, and elements to include in the draft bylaw.

Report Date: May 23, 2017

Author(s): Kristina Peter, Manager Planning Branch

Committee/Department: Infrastructure and Development Services

General Manager: Glenn Tompolski

City Manager: Kevin Scoble