

## Resource Extraction Regulatory Review Engagement (Stage 3)

### Purpose

To gather stakeholder feedback on the recommendations of the Resource Extraction Regulatory Review Final Report.

### Public Engagement Level

Consult

### Commitment to participants

Council will use the input gathered throughout the engagement process to help determine the next steps or future of the Resource Extraction Regulatory Review.

Tactic	Audience	Description	Timing
<b>Engagement</b>			
Public Open House (in Redwater)	Sturgeon County landowners (particularly in eastern part of County)	<p>Classic Open House format, staff to greet at the entrance</p> <p><b>Weekday evening, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>Information station</b> explaining project background and priorities.</p> <p>One to two <b>information &amp; feedback boards</b> for each recommendation in the Report.</p> <p><b>Hard copies of the report</b> made available to public</p> <p><b>8 staff facilitators</b> to take notes and to clarify for attendees what County does now, and what would happen if the recommendation were supported. – Scott, Travis, Bonnie, Hayley, Arjen, Carla, Yvonne, Tyler M</p> <p><b>Light refreshments</b> provided (e.g. coffee, tea, donuts, and muffins from Tim Hortons)</p>	Wednesday, April 20
Online Information Sessions (Call a Planner)	Landowners and potentially operators throughout Sturgeon County	<p><b>Overview of report, recommendations, and current situation.</b> Brief Q&amp;A with subject matter expert (e.g. Travis, Bonnie, Hayley). Similar to the Call-a-Planner sessions held during the My Future Valley and Future Takes Flight public engagements.</p> <p>Input gathered through comments and written submissions.</p>	<p>April 27</p> <p>May 6</p> <p>May 13</p>

Written Submissions through project page web-form	Landowners and operators throughout Sturgeon County	<b>Open-ended submission form</b> for residents and operators to provide their input on the recommendations available at <b><a href="http://sturgeoncounty.ca/ResourceExtraction">sturgeoncounty.ca/ResourceExtraction</a></b>	April/May 2022
Committee Update	Calahoo-Villeneuve Sand and Gravel Advisory Committee and any other previously engaged groups	<b>Meeting with the CVSG and any other previously engaged committees/groups</b> to get their specific input into the proposed recommendations, if anything new has arisen.	March 14 and May 23
What We Heard Report Phase 3	Sturgeon County Council  Stakeholders who have provided input	<b>Summary document</b> of the public's input in this final phase, and what the public's input was in <b>all three stages of public engagement</b> .	June 2022

Communications			
Letter	Landowners and residents near aggregate deposits	Letter explaining the current situation and engagement opportunities sent to landowners and residents near aggregate deposits <b>at least two weeks before the open house</b>	Early April, 2022
Road signs	County-wide	Open house and engagement opportunities advertised <b>on all seven, regular portable signs</b>	April – May, 2022
Newspaper Ads	Morinville Free Press Readers	One larger open house advertisement on County page of <b>Morinville Free Press</b> to promote the start of the in person and online opportunities	Early April, 2022
Social Media	County social media subscribers	Engagement opportunities promoted via County's <b>Facebook</b> and <b>Twitter</b> social media channels.	April – May, 2022
Website	Website visitors	Promoted on home page of <b>sturgeoncounty.ca</b> for duration of engagement  Comprehensive project information available at <b>sturgeoncounty.ca/ResourceExtraction</b>	April – May, 2022
Email	Email subscribers	Promote the public engagement, as well as the What We Heard Report, through emails to subscribers on the Resource Extraction project-specific email list that Sturgeon County has developed over the last two years.	April – June, 2022

<b>Budget</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Open House &amp; Information Sessions</b> (hall rental, refreshments, materials, facilitation, etc.)</li> </ul>	\$7,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Advertising &amp; Promotion</b> (letter, road signs, newspaper ads, social media, design)</li> </ul>	\$11,000
<b>Estimated Total</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>
<b>Role of Council</b>	
<p>Sturgeon County Council's main role in this project is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Approve or revise the proposed Phase 3 engagement strategy.</b></li> <li>2. <b>Encourage stakeholder participation in engagement activities.</b></li> <li>3. <b>Attend open house and information sessions (optional).</b></li> <li>4. <b>Attend Calahoo-Villeneuve Sand and Gravel Advisory Committee Meetings as well as any other previously engaged group/committee meetings (optional).</b></li> <li>5. <b>Determine if enough stakeholder input has been gathered to proceed with a decision for the Resource Extraction Regulatory Review.</b></li> </ol>	

## Sample Open House Board: Recommendation

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### Proposed New Land Use Districts

The report recommends creating two separate land use districts for resource extraction called RE1 and RE2. These two districts allow for different intensities of development, with varying setback (distance from residences) and hours of operation distinguishing between the districts.

The RE1 district allows setbacks of 200m and more restricted hours of operation.

The RE2 district allows setbacks of 50m and less restricted hours of operation.

These proposed new districts and bylaw changes would not change existing resource extraction sites; **a specific public consultation will still be required to approve any new development.**

#### What We Heard

- Sturgeon County will soon run out of accessible aggregates (under the current approach), causing supply and cost issues for the County that will be passed on to residents as tax burdens
- Sturgeon County's existing setbacks are some of the highest in Alberta; such high setbacks sterilize significant amounts of resources and create risk for near-future supply issues.
- Performance standards can be an effective tool to mitigate negative impacts
- Most stakeholders are not satisfied with the existing regulatory approach
- Residents are frustrated with legacy issues and require more certainty and consistency regarding both operating standards and enforcement

#### What Is Being Recommended

1. Implement a new, dual-approach regulatory framework (described above).
2. Support this regulatory framework with enhanced performance standards for air, water quality, noise, traffic, reclamation, and community consultation. Performance standards play a critical role in maintaining lower levels of impact from the operation.
3. Maintain prescribed setbacks (vs. open-option setbacks, as seen in some municipalities) to ensure certainty and predictability.
4. Reduce resource sterilization to ensure environmental sustainability and reduce the risk of dual-extraction.

### How comfortable are you with this recommendation?

Place a dot near the appropriate number.

Not Comfortable	Somewhat Comfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very Comfortable
1	2	3	4	5

### What are your thoughts on this recommendation?

Place a sticky note below.

## Sample Open House Board: Context

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### Welcome to the Resource Extraction Regulatory Review Open House

Gravel extraction is an important part of Sturgeon County's economy and essential to our infrastructure. As current deposits become depleted and the cost of sand and gravel continues to rise, the County is now looking at what could be done to extend the lifespan of our local aggregate industry.

The existing sand and gravel regulations were written more than 20 years ago. Since this time, the County, technology and the aggregate industry have changed significantly. Because of this, the lifespan of our local aggregate industry could be extended by modernizing the current municipal bylaws on sand and gravel development.

Since 2020, we have been speaking with residents, landowners, and operators across Sturgeon County on how this process could look. Based on what was heard, the County received a report with eight recommendations: the *Resource Extraction Regulatory Review Final Report* which, along with other materials, is available at [sturgeoncounty.ca/ResourceExtraction](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/ResourceExtraction).

#### Why We Are Here

We want to know how you feel about the recommendations in the Resource Extraction Regulatory Review. Specifically, we want to hear your thoughts on the proposed environmental and compliance monitoring, minimum development setbacks, and performance standards recommended in the report.








**The results of this feedback will be brought to Sturgeon County Council to help them decide whether or not to move forward with the report's recommendations.**



[sturgeoncounty.ca/ResourceExtraction](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/ResourceExtraction)

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### Current Regulations

 ECONOMIC IMPACT	+ \$14 million in anticipated revenue for Sturgeon County over the lifetime of the resource	 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATIONS	+ Not regulated
 SETBACKS	+ 400m for extraction + 800m for processing	 LOCATION IN THE LAND USE BYLAW	+ Resource Extraction (RE) District
 DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	+ Development Officer	 RESOURCE LIFESPANS (NEW RESOURCE PROJECTS)	+ Silica Sand: ~21 years + Aggregate: New aggregate operations extremely limited, if at all + Other Sand: ~101 years
 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	+ Limited (Last comprehensive review 20+ years ago)		

[sturgeoncounty.ca/ResourceExtraction](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/ResourceExtraction)