

Administrative Backgrounder

Committee of the Whole

Title	2:30 p.m. Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board Presentation
Purpose of Report	To provide an overview of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB), supporting EMRB CEO Karen Wichuk's presentation to Committee of the Whole.
Proposed Motion	That the Committee receive the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board presentation as information.
Previous Council / Committee Direction	None.
Additional Background Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) is a regional growth management board comprised of 13-member municipalities (nine urban centres and four counties). EMRB membership is a legislative requirement under the <i>Municipal Government Act</i>. The mayors of the member municipalities serve as official board representatives on the EMRB. Councillors may participate on EMRB Task Force committees as alternates for their respective mayor. At this time, there is one exception, the Metropolitan Region Servicing Plan (MRSP) Standing Committee, where a councillor may sit as official representative. There are several major initiatives the EMRB has undertaken over the last four years: Regional Agriculture Master Plan (RAMP), Integrated Regional Transportation Master Plan (IRTMP), Shared Investment for Shared Benefit (SISB), the MRSP, Regional Broadband Situational Analysis, Environmental/Social/Governance (ESG) Opportunities, a review of the Regional Evaluation Framework (REF), and more. RAMP: Regional Agriculture Master Plan. This initiative was completed and approved by the Board in August 2021 and is now in the implementation phase, which is currently handled at a working group level by administrative officials.

- **IRTMP: Integrated Regional Transportation Master Plan.** This initiative was completed and approved by the Board in August 2021 and is now in the process of establishing a working group to support the 2022 Regional Transportation Priorities Process (a ranking of the various transportation projects across the Region and summarized into a report to be submitted to Alberta Transportation for consideration in their capital planning). Implementation is handled at the working level by administrative officials.
- **SISB: Shared Investment for Shared Benefit.** This initiative was completed and approved by the Board in June 2021. To date, no projects have been submitted under the SISB model. The SISB Task Force was stood down in August 2021, and the establishment of the Initiative Assessment Committee has yet to take place.
- **MRSP: Metropolitan Region Servicing Plan.** The MRSP was broken down into four collaboratives (Solid Waste, Stormwater, Emergency Management Services, and Fire and EMS) to better address each service area in the region. The four collaboratives have their own objectives and membership is made up of subject matter experts from across the member municipalities. The MRSP Standing Committee oversees the work of the MRSP.
 - Councillor Toms serves on the MRSP Standing Committee on behalf of Sturgeon County.
- **REF: The EMRB's Regional Evaluation Framework** is a legislated process whereby municipalities must bring forward proposals to the EMRB so the Board can evaluate how local statutory plans and statutory plan amendments reflect the directions, policies, and collective outcomes of the Board's 50-year Growth Plan.
 - Sturgeon County most recently made a REF submission to the EMRB for the new Sturgeon Valley South Area Service Plan (*approved September 2021*).
- **ESG Opportunities:** Environmental, Social and Governance Opportunities is a new EMRB initiative that was created out of the City of Edmonton's June 2021 member motion. There is a working group of administrative officials dedicated to the ESG initiative.
- **Broadband** – Widespread access to Broadband for all Edmonton Metropolitan Region (EMR) residents is a priority of the EMRB. The Board completed a "*Broadband Situational Analysis*" report in August 2020 to determine the impact lack of broadband access has had on the region. Broadband is now

a part of the MRSP and will be a standing agenda item for the MRSP Standing Committee.

Beyond the core initiatives, there are also several **EMRB Committees**:

- The **Audit and Finance Committee (AFC)** provides strategic leadership and advice to the Board regarding its financial oversight, compliance, financial risk management, external reporting and internal control policies and practices. Sturgeon County does not have a representative on the AFC.
- The **Governance and Human Resource Committee (GHRC)** is responsible for overseeing the effectiveness of the governing system including the Board's role in managing the CEO. The GHRC also advises management and the Board regarding all matters related to the governance of the organization and ensures that governance practices and processes add value to the EMRB. Sturgeon County does not have a representative on the GHRC.
- In 2022, major EMRB projects will include the Five-Year Interim Review of the Growth Plan, establishing a Monitoring and Reporting Framework for RAMP, the 2022 Regional Transportation Priorities Process, and bringing forth recommendations to the Board for the ESG motion.

Attachment(s)

1. Attachment 1: EMRB Overview
2. Attachment 2: EMRB Growth Plan Fact Sheet
3. Attachment 3: EMRB Delivering Results Info Sheet
4. Attachment 4: EMRB Presentation
5. Attachment 5: 2021 EMRB Overview (Sturgeon County Document)

Report Reviewed by:

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