

Growing Together

A Conversation on Growth in the Capital Region

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We wanted to touch base and let you know we are working hard to find the answers to your diverse questions about the annexation proposal. Since we met earlier this April, we have been able to share some of those answers in the Growing Together newsletter. Some of the questions that remain unanswered will require more time and also require outcomes from the negotiation process taking place between the City of Edmonton and Leduc County Joint Negotiating Committees.

You might know annexation is legislated by the Government of Alberta and managed by an arm's length board called the Municipal Government Board (MGB). The MGB requires that the annexation process include public consultation with the affected landowners. *It is important to the City of Edmonton that you have a voice in the annexation process and that your concerns are heard and your questions answered.*

We take the annexation process seriously. We are dedicated to the responsible development of land and are guided by the Capital Region Board's growth plan. The growth plan encourages increased density and maximization of investment in infrastructure to reduce the overall development footprint within the Region. Long term planning takes time and careful consideration of the needs of the stakeholders and citizens of the Region.

As a landowner, you have a vested interest in the outcome of the proposal. We understand that you are the most impacted should the annexation proceed. We also understand that you have questions; questions about farming, taxes, schools, and more. We are working hard to get these answers for you and will invite you to landowner meetings in the future to provide more complete answers. We understand your time is valuable.

Right now, the negotiation process is at its beginning stages. Major discussion items are still to come. Two negotiating teams (Edmonton and Leduc County) have been set up to discuss the annexation proposal. The outcomes of their discussions will help provide answers to your questions. The timing of providing answers to your questions is dependent upon the negotiation discussions. Both negotiating teams plan to meet regularly to discuss the annexation proposal.

The Joint Negotiating Committee will discuss and agree to release information as the process unfolds.

The City of Edmonton is planning to host more landowner meetings in 2015. We anticipate the negotiating process will have progressed, and that we can have more information from the Joint Negotiating Committees to help answer your questions.

Open Houses

The City of Edmonton is hosting Open Houses this November 17, 18 and 20 and we invite you to attend. The open house will encourage participants to seek out subject specific representatives to allow more one on one dialogue between participants and City representatives. We will have representatives from various City departments to talk with you about taxes, fire services, roads and more.

If you can't make it to one of the Open Houses, we would be happy to meet with you separately. Please feel free to contact us to arrange a meeting, ask questions or provide comments at any time. Also, if you would like to receive the Annexation newsletter or other project updates via email, you can sign up on our website.

City Welcomes New Team Member

Over the summer Gord Jackson, Director, Regional Planning, who you might have met, retired from his position with the City. David Hales has been hired as the new Executive Director, Regional Planning Team. David brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from his previous positions with the Cities of St. Albert, Fort Saskatchewan and Spruce



Grove and is a welcome addition to the team.

Kind Regards,

David Hales
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