

Issue #2

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

November 19, 2020

Edmonton

MOVING FORWARD WITH FOCUS

Even without the challenge of COVID-19, there are limits to what cities can afford to provide. That means setting a budget involves making choices.

When it comes to making decisions about Edmonton's future, everything flows from the City Plan. It reflects Council's vision, which in turn comes from intensive public engagement. Our budgets show how we will shape and direct our work to bring the City Plan to life. The City Plan's priorities should be clearly reflected in where we've placed our resources, from dollars and cents to the staff, programs and infrastructure they fund.

Which Pieces Fit?



That's easy to say, but prioritizing over seventy lines of business and all the work the City does is a complex task. Administration has been working on this for not just months but years, through things such as the Program and Service Review. Because all the work City employees do has real value for Edmontonians, prioritization has to be in context and with care.

Administration has come forward with 2021 budget recommendations that include cuts to staffing and services. Council will consider these recommendations and make the ultimate decision. Any decision Council makes will not just be a reaction to a difficult year. Instead, they'll be focused and thoughtful pruning intended to guide Edmonton in healthy growth.

What was discussed at Council yesterday

Administration was before Council yesterday with a proposed budget overview and financial reports. Council discussed recommended reductions including impacts on staff and the public. There will be a separate discussion on the financial impacts of COVID-19 on December 7.

What's next for budget planning

The non-statutory public hearing on budget is December 3, 2020. To share your thoughts on budget or Council priorities, register to speak by calling the City Clerk at 780-496-8178 or online at edmonton.ca/meetings. You can also join the budget conversation by asking questions at yegcitybudget.ca