

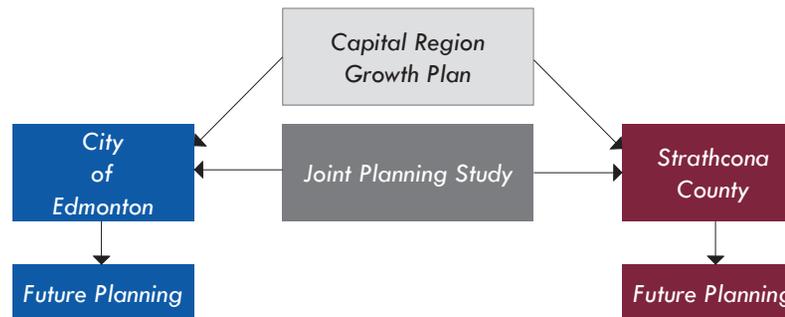
The Joint Planning Study

Purpose

- The Joint Planning Study (JPS) aims to achieve the following, along the shared municipal boundary:
 - compatibility of land use;
 - a common understanding of approaches to risk management/mitigation;
 - coordinated transportation planning; and
 - accepted practices for managing drainage.
- The Study recommends a series of policies and processes to achieve this and also represents a commitment from both municipalities to collaboratively plan and manage land use within the Study Area while developing a higher level of communication.

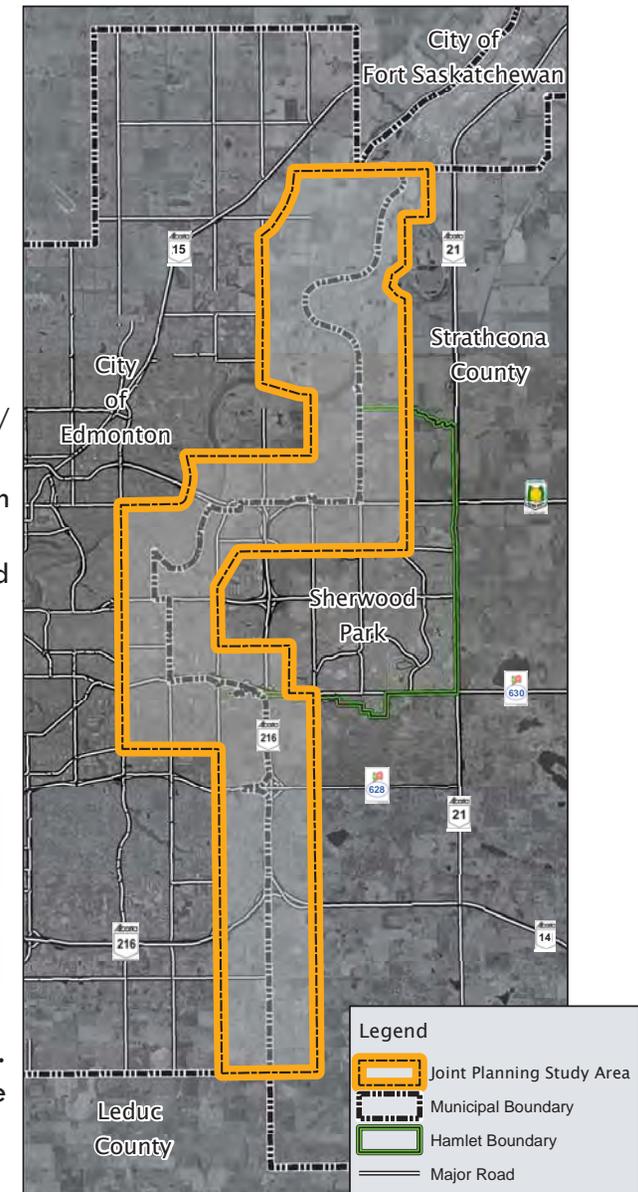
Background Context

- The City of Edmonton and Strathcona County share a 40 km boundary along their respective eastern/western edges.
- Both municipalities have been affected by significant economic, population and geographic growth over the past decade.
- Land uses in the Study Area have grown in intensity, leading to increased development pressures and a need for shared land use management strategies.
- Both municipality's Municipal Development Plans require completion of the Joint Planning Study.
- A new regional planning structure has been implemented in the Capital Region, through the Capital Region Growth Plan, which increases focus on intermunicipal cooperation.



Who's involved?

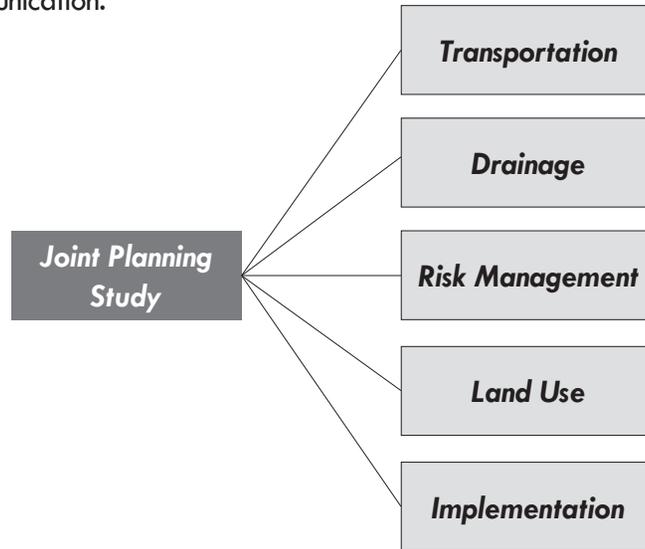
- The Study is being jointly led by the City of Edmonton and Strathcona County planning departments.
- Many other stakeholders within the Study Area are also being consulted including, industry, the development community, residents and several government agencies.



The Joint Planning Study

Document Structure

- The Joint Planning Study is organized around five different issues areas.
- Each topic is addressed by providing necessary background information followed by recommendations on how to promote increased collaboration and communication.



What is the purpose of tonight's Open House?

- The consulting team has created draft policy recommendations and actions on how the two municipalities can successfully work together in the future.
- These recommendations and actions are being presented to the public for their review.
- Please take some time to review the following panels and provide feedback on how to further improve activities within the shared border area.

Guiding Principles

The following Guiding Principles support the Vision of the JPS and provide the basis for decision-making within the Study Area:

The actions of one municipality will not hinder the activities or opportunities of the other, now or in the future.

Each municipality recognizes the right of the other to ultimately make decisions with respect to matters within its jurisdiction.

Both municipalities will strive to protect assets within the Study Area of regional significance.

Both municipalities will plan with consideration for the regional context; each brings value to the Capital Region and derives benefits from it.

The working relationship between the municipalities will be strengthened and sustained using a “common interest-based” approach.

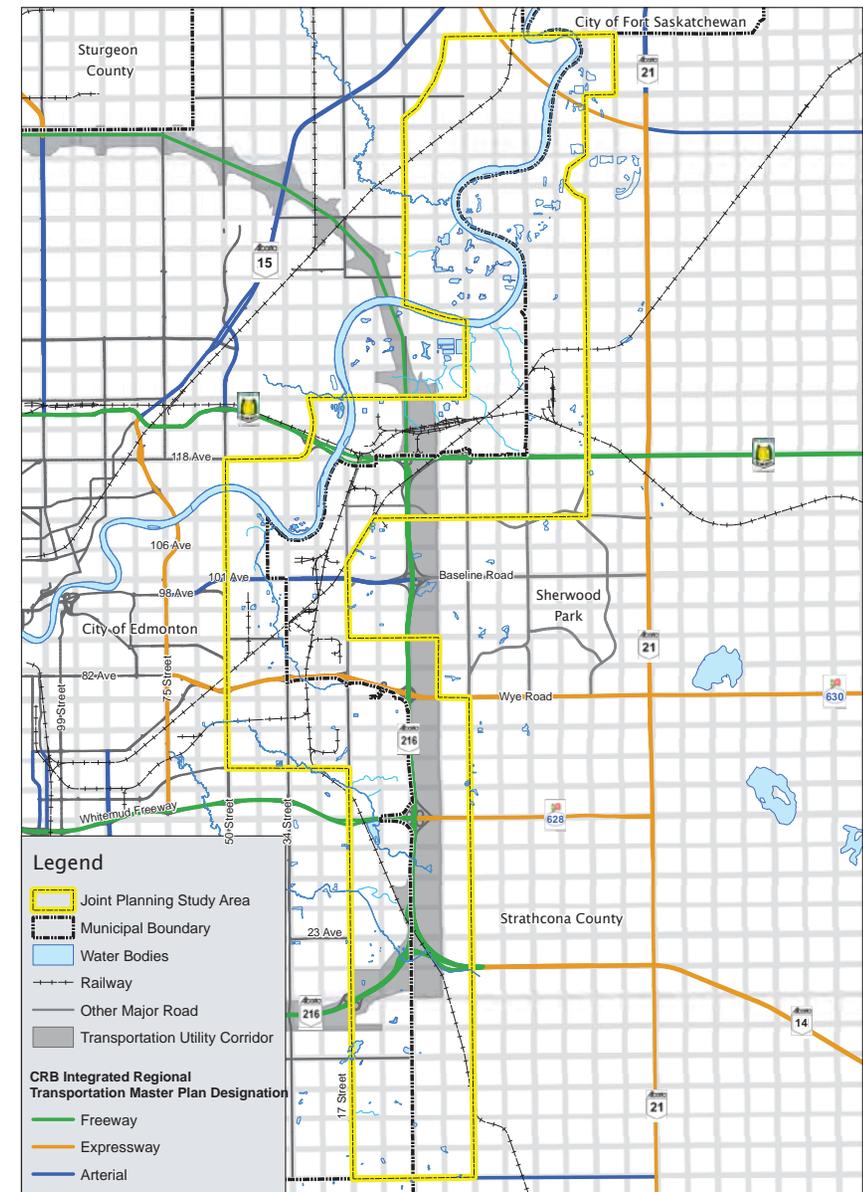
Transportation

Background

- The Study Area contains many transportation linkages and modes that connect the City and the County. The road network features a hierarchy of streets controlled by multiple jurisdictions (provincial and municipal).
- Intermunicipal transit exists in the form of intermunicipal bus routes and there are long-term plans for Light Rail Transit lines.
- Walking and cycling are also critical parts of the inter-municipal transportation system, including a number of trails and bike paths.
- It is important for the City and County to work collaboratively when addressing these connections so that efficient and appropriate land use decisions can be made.
- Part of the purpose of this Study is to determine how to move forward in discussions regarding these transportation issues to foster a more cooperative, collaborative planning environment.

Recommendations

- Increase communication through periodic meetings on transportation planning between both municipalities and Alberta Transportation to create efficient connections between municipal and provincial networks.
- Create a consistent and shared model for analysis of new and upgraded road requirements in the Study Area.
- Establish a set of mutually agreed upon principles that would inform cost-sharing agreements to address land development that occurs in one municipality but may trigger upgrades to a roadway under the jurisdiction of the other municipality.
- Following the direction provided by the Transit Committee of the Capital Region Board, plan for long term Light-Rail Transit from the City to the County.
- Create a coordinated approach to transit planning that places priority on providing the best possible service, regardless of municipal boundaries.



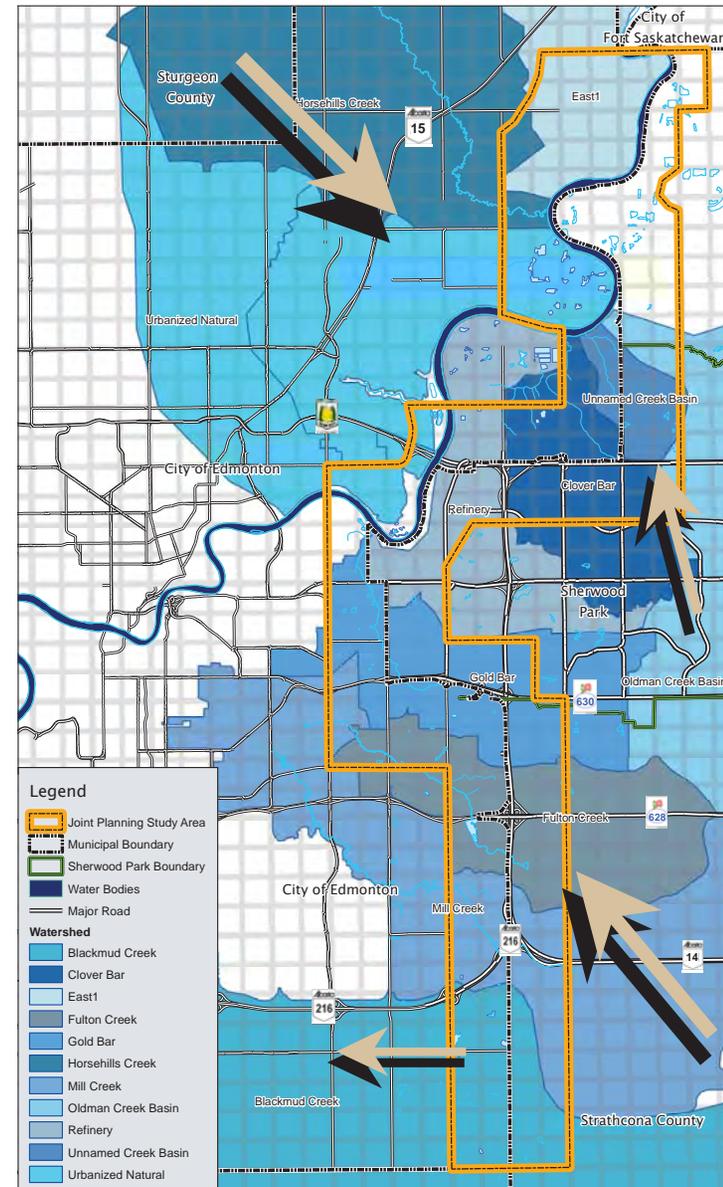
Drainage

Background

- Drainage occurs in the Study Area through a variety of sub-basins, generally running from east to west towards the North Saskatchewan River.
- There are five major creeks which begin in the County and continue through the City before reaching the North Saskatchewan River: Aurum Creek, Cloverbar Creek, Gold Bar Creek, Fulton Creek and Mill Creek. Each of these creeks flow in a northwesterly direction and have a combined drainage basin area of approximately 17,200 hectares of industrial, urban, and agricultural/undeveloped land.
- Any changes to drainage patterns in these sub-basins due to development will have impacts to downstream systems. Maintaining pre-development flow rates in all drainage areas is a requirement for any development and a goal of both municipalities.

Recommendations

- Finalize a vision and principles relating to drainage that will guide future joint initiatives and help resolve issues.
- Continuation of the Intermunicipal Watershed Management Group to address ongoing drainage issues.
- Complete the comprehensive trans-boundary drainage study, that is currently underway, to address the restoration of areas of erosion and identify the necessary funding to do so.
- Establish a system for the sharing of drainage-related data to help inform municipal planning and development decisions.
- Develop a coordinated approach for the appropriate operation of shared sanitary infrastructure servicing.



Risk Management

Background

- Risk management involves the identification and assessment of risks followed by the coordinated application of resources to minimize, monitor, and control the probability of the risks occurring.
- In the Study Area there is significant industrial development located close to the shared municipal border.
- There are implications in risk management for land use planning that need to be addressed through the JPS and subsequent detailed planning work.
- The purpose of risk management is to attempt to resolve any land use conflicts in advance. Where the risk cannot be avoided the next step is to look for ways to mitigate the risk.
- The emergency response departments in both municipalities work together on the Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Partnership and are part of a Regional Municipal Services Mutual Aid agreement. The intent of these initiatives is to ensure that if an incident occurs there is appropriate emergency response provided.
- Within the Capital Region Growth Plan, there is a requirement that the City and the County implement risk buffers.

Recommendations

- Continue to work together to operationalize how the results of completed risk assessments will affect and inform land use planning.
- Reduce the effects of nuisances on surrounding communities through the approval process and by working with industry.
- Continue to work cooperatively and promote continuous communication between emergency response departments to ensure maximum public safety.
- Build knowledge and understanding by improving communication with regulatory agencies and municipal departments.
- Implement buffers from heavy industrial development in the Study Area.



Industrial development in the Study Area

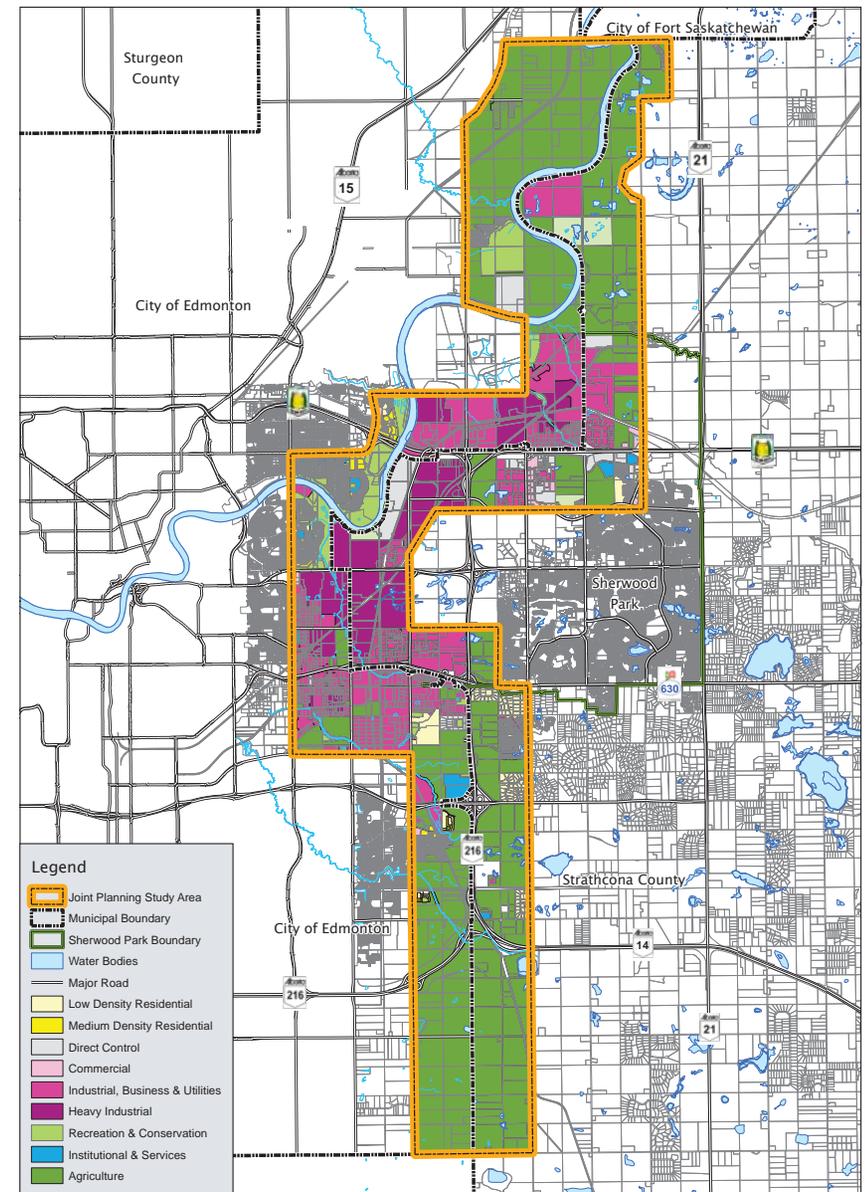
Land Use

Background

- The Study Area is comprised of urban and rural zones, undeveloped and intensely developed parcels and a wide variety of land uses and infrastructure.
- A mutually agreed upon vision has not been developed for the Area due to the minimal joint detailed planning that has occurred.
- The Capital Region Growth Plan has been adopted and the province is working on the completion of regional plans under the Land-use Framework, all of which will influence further planning work in the Study Area.
- The Capital Region Growth Plan also requires that municipalities protect existing and future land uses from incompatible uses.

Recommendations

- Jointly prepare more detailed land use plans for the shared municipal border area that:
 - describes and establishes land uses;
 - coordinates infrastructure planning;
 - coordinates development within regional Priority Growth Areas; and
 - identifies buffer areas.
- Collaborate on monitoring activities for environmental features that cross the municipal boundary and share available monitoring data.
- Seek to improve the communication structure that exists between the two municipalities through a supplemental communication protocol for the Study Area. This includes early notification on planning applications/initiatives as well as a formal dispute-resolution mechanism.



Implementation

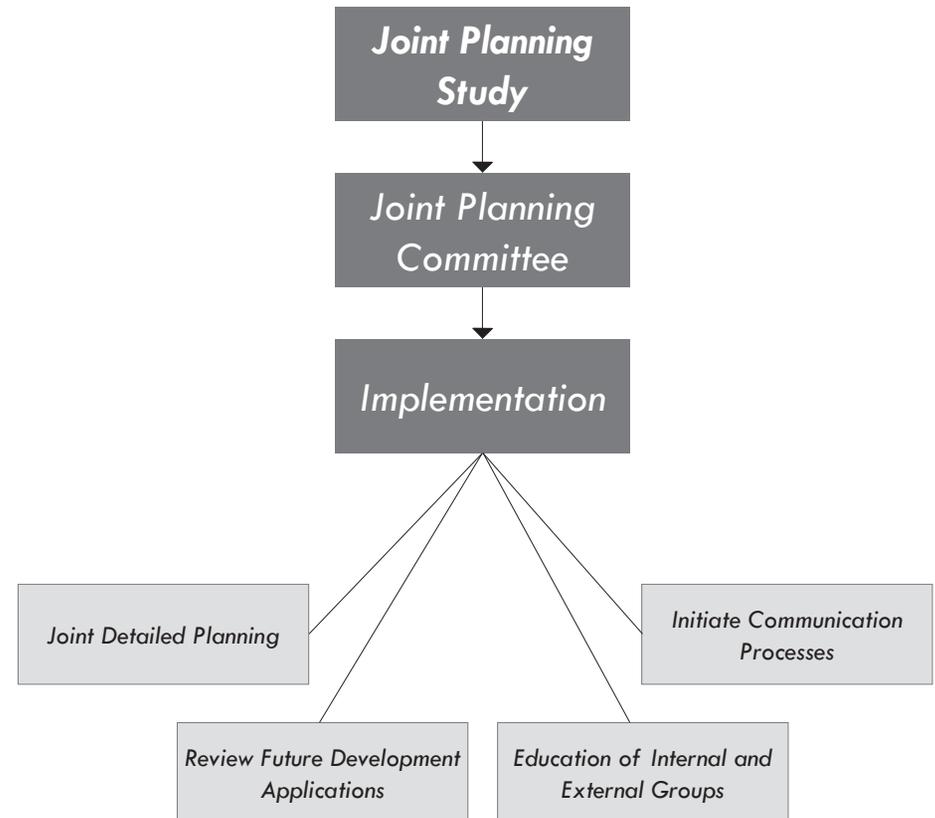
Background

- Drafting of the JPS has generated several items that will need to be implemented by each municipality in order to achieve the vision and principles outlined in the Study.
- The ongoing implementation of this Study will need specific resources to help with amendments to other documents where necessary.
- Education for internal and external agencies and stakeholders is very important as they need to be aware of how the JPS will impact future development and planning within the Study Area.

Policy Recommendations

- Establish a Joint Planning Committee to lead implementation projects and continue ongoing communication.
- Integrate implementation actions into various policy and regulatory documents.
- Build capacity and knowledge of staff, the public and stakeholders about new processes and protocols.
- Set expected timelines for the completion of recommended action items and assign responsibilities for their completion as shown in the example below:

ACTION ITEM	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY
Establish a system for the sharing of data relating to drainage.	Short Term (2 months - 1 year)	Drainage/Utilities Departments



Next Steps

Timeline



- The wide range of feedback received from the Public & Stakeholder consultation will inform the final version of the Joint Planning Study.
- The finalized Joint Planning Study is expected to be completed in the new year.

For updates on the Joint Planning Study project, see the following websites:

www.strathcona.ab.ca/JointPlanningStudy

Please fill out one of our Comment Sheets to share your perspective!

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