

Rocky View County – City of Calgary Intermunicipal Committee Terms of Reference

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee recommend that Council approve the Terms of Reference for the Rocky View County – City of Calgary Intermunicipal Committee (Attachment 1).

HIGHLIGHTS

- Following direction from the Rocky View County – City of Calgary Intermunicipal Committee (IMC), Administration is bringing forward a proposed Terms of Reference for the Committee. While the IMC has been long established, a formal Terms of Reference has not previously been adopted.
- What does this mean to Calgarians? The IMC helps to resolve issues and explore opportunities between The City and Rocky View County to improve and build on intermunicipal relations.
- Why does this matter? Establishing a Terms of Reference for the IMC will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the committee and potentially provide a framework for greater cooperation between The City of Calgary and its neighbour.
- Strategic Alignment to Council's Citizen Priorities: A well-run city

DISCUSSION

The City of Calgary has established Intermunicipal Committees (IMCs) with three neighbouring municipalities: Rocky View County, Foothills County, and The City of Chestermere. IMCs are intended to provide a forum for appointed elected officials (with Administrative support) to discuss matters of shared interests and develop collaborative solutions.

The Foothills County and The City of Chestermere IMCs have approved Terms of Reference intended to guide the operation of the committees. Terms of Reference typically address matters such as committee members, chairing and other meeting protocols, issues to be addressed, and dispute resolution.

Although the Rocky View County IMC was established in the 1990s, a formal Terms of Reference for the Committee has never been established by either municipality. Attachment 1 provides a proposed Terms of Reference for the IMC. The proposed Terms of Reference addresses topics such as:

- The purpose, objective and scope of the Committee;
- Meeting frequency, location, and protocols;
- Decision making as an advisory body to Councils; and
- Composition of the Committee and roles of guests and Administration.

Under Rocky View County policies and procedures, the Terms of Reference would not require Council approval but, following approval by The City of Calgary, would be brought to their Council for acknowledgement.

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STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION (EXTERNAL)

- Public Engagement was undertaken
- Public Communication or Engagement was not required
- Public/Stakeholders were informed
- Stakeholder dialogue/relations were undertaken

IMPLICATIONS

Social

Terms of Reference defines and reflects aspects of engagement and procedure to ensure a productive forum for discussing issues and exploring opportunities to further improve relations between The City and Rocky View County.

Environmental

The Terms of Reference provides the ability for the municipalities to consider environmental matters of shared interest. As environmental issues are often cross-jurisdictional, the IMC provides and opportunity to develop collaborative solutions to environmental challenges.

Economic

Disputes between municipalities may lead to delays in development projects resulting in greater risk and costs. The Terms of Reference facilitates the platform for better collaboration between municipalities. This can provide greater certainty for investors and projects resulting in less risk and has the potential to attracting investment at a regional level when collaborating towards regional economic goals.

Service and Financial Implications

No anticipated financial impact

The work outlined in this report does not require any additional financial or other resources for execution.

RISK

A small risk exists that adoption of a formal Terms of Reference may reduce the flexibility that the committee has currently. This risk is however offset by the greater certainty provided by formalizing the committee and the way the committee operates.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1 - Proposed Terms of Reference