

February 11, 2021



**RE: Request for Comment on Draft Municipal Development Plan**

Dear Dominic and Amy,

Thank you for the Intermunicipal Committee meeting (IMC) of February 4 to discuss the draft Municipal Development Plan (MDP) circulated by Rocky View County.

As stated before and during the IMC meeting, we respect the right and opportunity for Rocky View County to direct growth to strategic locations within its boundaries. We support the desire to encourage development to the region as a whole – and to specific, strategic locations within the County in particular through its Municipal Development Plan. To this end, the City of Airdrie has consistently supported the concepts of regional planning, regional servicing, and other means to achieve efficiencies, equities and successes as a region. We see substantial opportunities for our municipalities to achieve such objectives through intermunicipal collaboration.

Per the discussion at the IMC meeting, we appreciate the recognition from the County of the need to come together as municipalities to address such opportunities for shared service optimization as well as the potential the impacts and inequities associated with growth in the north end of the Calgary Region. The development proposed by the County in the MDP for East Balzac and West Balzac brings these potential impacts and opportunities into specific relief. As such, we appreciate the suggestions from the County at the IMC meeting to move forward with the following progressive steps to address the impacts and inequities associated with the proposed development:

- a) Policy language in the MDP to recognize the potential impacts and opportunities associated with growth in this corridor and work collaboratively to resolve them;
- b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the development of an Intermunicipal Collaborative Framework (ICF);
- c) A signed ICF detailing the municipal service categories for potential sharing and optimization;
- d) Signed cost-sharing agreements for the servicing identified in the ICF; and,
- e) A Joint Council meeting schedule and approach to review impacts and opportunities in common growth corridors, as well as to retain and amend the particulars of the ICF, where required.

The City of Airdrie looks forward to supporting the proposed County Plan at a regional level with the formalization of all of these mechanisms, but not before. We appreciate the efforts put forward by the County to capture some of the essence of the discussion at the IMC meeting through proposed motions that would add the following policies to the proposed County Plan:

**New Policy [4.1.2 (f)]**

Prior to approval of local plan and land use applications adjacent to another municipality, the County should consider the use of appropriate mechanisms, such as joint studies and infrastructure cost sharing agreements, to address cross boundary impacts identified by the County.



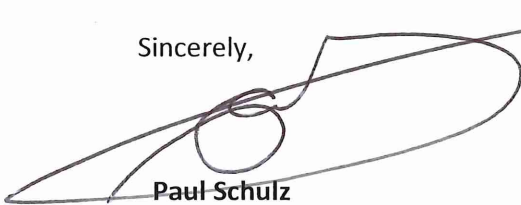
**New policy [4.1.2 (h)]:**

In preparing area structure plans and/or local plans, the County shall consider Intermunicipal Development Plans, Accords and any other statutory plans, which provide direction with respect to intermunicipal gateways, transition and interface; the County should address issues and opportunities through collaboration with the adjacent municipality.

Unfortunately, these do not address all of the efficiency, equity and success objectives described in our earlier correspondence and our statement at the IMC meeting. In the interest of the County's objectives in this proposed MDP, the City of Airdrie will prepare draft language for consideration in the MDP on or before February 16, 2021. However, preparation of that language alone should not be construed as support for the plan in its current form in the absence of the progressive steps noted above.

We look forward to supporting the proposed County Plan on completing the work and collaboration for the steps identified during the IMC meeting and confirmed in this letter.

Sincerely,



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