# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE NEWSLETTER #2





#### **Share Your Ideas in Phase 2**

Join us in Phase 2 as we build off the community input to date and explore some early ideas for updating the Municipal Development Plan.

Please attend **one** of three interactive workshops (taking place June 22, 24, **or** 25) to learn about and discuss key topics for the MDP update. These small group discussion-based workshops are designed to help you and your neighbours hear from and learn from each other, as well as from planning staff and consultants. Share your ideas!

Each event will have the same format and cover the same topics so just come to the one that is most convenient for you.

- June 22 (5 8 p.m.) Ardrossan Recreation Centre
- June 24 (5 8 p.m.) South Cooking Lake Community Hall
- June 25 (5 8 p.m.) Sherwood Park Community Centre Agora

**IMPORTANT:** Doors open at 5 p.m., workshops begin at 5:30 p.m. Join us at 5 p.m. to review background information. Or read the backgrounders (at <a href="https://www.strathcona.ca/MDP">www.strathcona.ca/MDP</a>) before you attend the workshop. This important information will help to guide topic-based discussions and ensure everyone is on the same page.

Discussion topics will include:

- 1. Industrial Land
- 2. Sustainable Development
- 3. Affordable Housing
- 4. Rural Residential
- 5. Agriculture
- 6. Environmental Management
- 7. Nature-Based & Agri-Tourism
- 8. Other topics of interest / How to make the new MDP more accessible and user-friendly

Please spread the word to anyone you think would be interested in attending - we want to hear from a broad range of residents and stakeholders from across the County. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **Shaping Our Future**

Strathcona County is updating its Municipal Development Plan (MDP) which is the County's plan for the future. It sets out a clear vision for how Strathcona will grow and develop over the next 20 years or more, and guides decisions on key issues like conservation of the natural environment and investment in infrastructure and services.

Over a 10 month period, we are asking residents, business owners, and community stakeholder groups to share what they value most about Strathcona County and to weigh in on how the County can build on our strengths while planning for the future.

### Stay Up to Date

Stay up to date on the project by signing up to our project mailing list at www.strathcona.ca/MDP.

You can also visit this website and the online engagement hub to learn more about the MDP update, check out our whiteboard video, find out about upcoming engagement activities, and view input as it is gathered.



#### What We Heard in Phase 1

We engaged participants on their core values as well as a range of topics including housing, agriculture, industry, environment, affordable housing, nature-based and agri-tourism, and urban design. Key priorities for participants included transit, walkability, urban and rural balance, protection of natural areas and agricultural lands, parks/trails and recreation (especially for youth), affordable housing, and greater accessibility, services and housing for seniors.

Participants emphasized the need for more local shops and green spaces throughout rural neighbourhoods and more shops, offices, parks, pathways and walkable amenities in Sherwood Park. Providing a mix of housing types without sprawling into farmlands or natural spaces was a critical theme and participants stressed the need to avoid over-development and preserve the rural areas and lifestyles that residents love.

To read the complete Phase 1 Engagement Summary, please visit <a href="https://www.strathcona.ca/MDP">www.strathcona.ca/MDP</a>.



## **Project Launch**

In May of 2015, the County officially launched the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) Update project. The launch began with the release of the project webpage and online engagement hub including a whiteboard video, community mapping exercise and questionnaire along with other key communications. This was followed by an interactive Public Launch Event on May 7 at Millennium Place in Sherwood Park as well as a number of "stakeholder coffee chats" with key representatives from local organizations and interest groups.

The purpose of engagement initiatives in Phase 1 is to raise awareness about the project and opportunities to get involved, provide background information, and gather feedback from a wide range of people. The input we received will help us as part of our development of the updated MDP.

