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**Strategic  
Multi-Year  
Planning and  
Budget  
Process**

June 4, 2019

# Multi-Year Strategic Outcome Planning Report – Rationale for Change

- Best practice
  - Provision of official budget document for public consumption
  - Increases transparency
  - Links strategic goals with outcomes and KPI's; articulates the plan, progress towards the plan and results
  - Provides continuity over term and successive Regional Council's
- Increased efficiency/effectiveness
  - Reduces duplication of effort for business units
  - Creates staff capacity to undertake community outreach
  - Provides for time in schedule to incorporate meaningful feedback from the Public and Regional Council in the business planning and budget process
- Satisfies all 4 strategic outcomes associated with the Governance and Engagement Council Priority Area

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# What can be gained from this approach?

- Official public document from which the business planning and budget process cascades;
- Transparency and accountability related to progress towards outcomes;
- Continuity of information over Regional Council's mandate;
- Consolidated document that supports enhanced decision-making;
- Efficient use of time for Regional Council
- Enhanced public engagement

# Impact of Change

- Report has been advanced by one month; delivered in October and will include citizen engagement from community outreach
- Instead of individual Council/Admin Priority presentations, one consolidated presentation will be delivered to the COW
- Business Unit Directors will present their business plan as part of the Budget process
- As it the practice today;
  - The Council/Admin Priority leads will be present to answer questions;
  - Items may be added to parking lot for future budget deliberations;
  - Public invited to attend the sessions.

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# Citizen Engagement in Budgetary Process - Rationale

- No comprehensive public engagement strategy for the budget and business planning process;
- Public engagement in the budgetary process has been relatively low;
- Concern and desire on the part of Regional Council to hear from our diverse communities;
- Aligns with all 4 strategic outcomes related to the Governance and Engagement Council Priority Area

# What can be gained from this approach?

- Increased public engagement in business planning and budget process;
- Community driven information that can be used to inform decision making by both Regional Council and Administration;
- Better community relations and increased public awareness of Regional Council's strategic mandate and business planning and budget process;
- Public engagement strategy for the business planning and budget process.

# How will this be accomplished?

- Traditional Method
  - Use of budget allocator
  - Use of Shape Your City portal
  - Public participation at COW's and Budget Committee
- Recommended New Approach:
- Based on jurisdictional scan, conduct 6-8 Community Pop-up's
- Locations will be determined:
  - In consultation with Diversity and Inclusion department and community stakeholders
  - Internal stakeholders (what has worked well before)
  - Representative samples
    - Geography - urban, suburban, rural
    - Age
    - Culture/ethnicity
  - Municipal property or coinciding with event

# How will this be accomplished?

- Information to be gathered through:
  - Short survey provided through kiosk and paper
  - Whiteboard exercises
  - Budget Allocator
- How will citizens be notified to events?
  - Social media/Website
  - Media
  - Posters
- Public engagement strategy along with locations and rationale will be distributed to Regional Council in July for approval
- Councillors are invited to attend pop-up events

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# Recommendations

1. Approve replacement of the annual Outcome Planning Presentations with a consolidated Annual Strategic Plan Report and direct staff to prepare the 2020/21 business plan based on the report;
2. Approve a citizen engagement plan including the use of pop-up's to inform the 2020/21 business planning and budget process as outlined in this report; and,
3. Approve the 2020/21 Committee of the Whole Business Planning and Budget Meeting Schedule (Attachment F).

Questions?

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