

Wheatland County

Request for Decision

Regular Council Meeting

June 16, 2020

Report prepared by: Matt Boscarol



Fire Master Plan - Update

Recommendation from Administration

THAT Council receive the Fire Master Plan draft as presented, for information.

Chief Administrative Officer's Comments

N/A

Report

Wheatland County commissioned TSI to undertake extensive work and review of the County's Fire Services division, and all associated policies and documentation to both streamline and find efficiencies within its' business operating unit. In conjunction with Administration's guidance, both parties identified that a major component of this work was to develop a Fire Master Plan; a guiding document that will provide an overarching roadmap for staff to pursue.

There are still some minor adjustments to be made, and staff are working with TSI to implement the identified changes; however, the document provides the roadmap with steps that are ready to commence immediately. The overall master plan is a strategic document that provides staged recommendations for the County over the next 10 years in themes of:

1. Risk management.
2. Incident / response management.
3. Governance.
4. Levels of service.
5. Human resources.
6. Policy.

The minor adjustments that administration will make, and for Council's consideration are:

-Page 14: Chart will have adjustments made to the headings to reflect "Hot zone" map reflects locations of values at risk and the hazards are the events which could impact values.

-Page 19: paragraphs about Regional Fire Chief responsibility is actually an accountability that has oversight from the County Manager and Council. The Regional Deputy Chief and District Chiefs are responsible for providing information to the Fire Chief to support that accountability.

-Page 22: Health and Wellness committee will not be included. Intent will be for WCFS to support County OHS efforts in a collaborative approach

-Page 25: focus on the success of WADEMSA effort to supply CPR devices for County departments as an example of for future collaborative projects

- Page 29: alter last two paragraphs to reflect risk/benefit management in the context of response and strategic decision making to establish clear expectations of what an officer faces on the incident scene
- Page 34: changing “Colonies” to “Hutterite Colonies”
- Page 55: add content for agreement between Strathmore and Wheatland County
- Page 63: Remove maps from page 63 and 64
- Page 66: remove “Without Fire Sprinklers” on diagram

The County has now successfully filled the complement of Fire and Emergency Service staff. Administration has worked with the new staff to develop some initial priority items. These are:

- Working consistently with all fire districts to understand opportunities and challenges in the development of future actions based on this plan.
- Developing strong working relationships with all fire districts; becoming an effective resource for the districts, and learning from all of Wheatland County fire staff / volunteers on the opportunities and challenges moving forward.
- Establishing Fire Services Advisory Board and supporting groups to effectively gather information for the explicit purpose of improving decision making for the benefit of providing safety and security for residents and visitors of Wheatland County.
- Clarifying accountabilities and responsibilities at all levels of the roles in the departments.
- Reviewing and clarifying bylaws and agreements.

Relevant Policies, Practices, and Legislation

Fire Master Plan

Alignment with the Strategic Plan

Deliver effective community services to County residents.

Response Options

Option 1: THAT the proposed recommendation is accepted/approved.

Option 2: THAT the proposed recommendation is not accepted/approved.

Option 3: THAT an alternate recommendation is accepted/approved.

Implications of Recommendation

General

N/A

Organizational

New Fire and Emergency Services staff will begin implementing the plan.

Financial

N/A

Environmental, Staff, and Public Safety

N/A

Follow-up Action / Communications

Communicate with staff and Council; provide ongoing updates.