

Fall 2017 Strategic Directions Survey

Research Results

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I. Purpose of the Study

In November 2017, Strathcona County citizens were invited to complete an online survey to help Strathcona County Council determine which strategic goals should be the focus for the 2019 – 2022 business planning cycle.

Overall, 312 people took part in the online survey which was open from November 3 – November 26. An additional 9 people took part in an open house that was also scheduled during the time of the online survey, providing a total sample of 321 participants. While the data in this report analyzes the results regardless of where citizens lived, the survey did ask where they resided, as well as whether or not they were business owners. This information will allow for comparisons among the sample for these attributes, if desired.

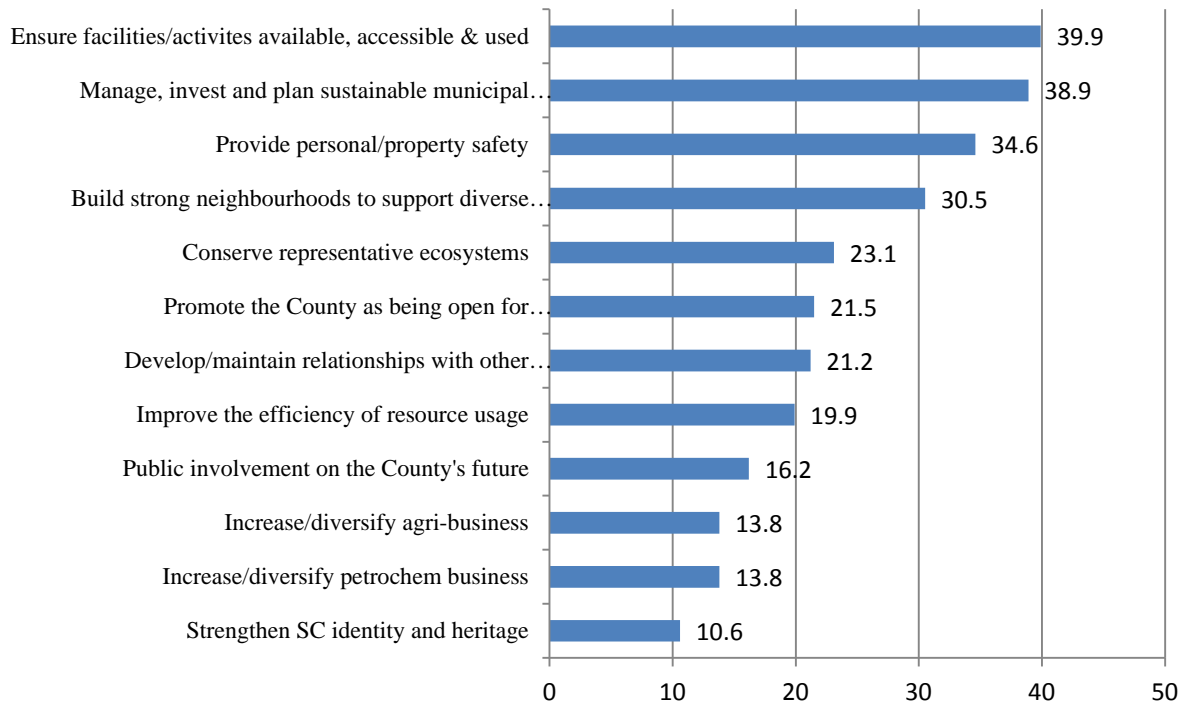
It should also be noted that no demographic information was collected from those who attended the open houses.

II. Results – Strategic Goals

Residents were given the opportunity to pick up to 3 different strategic goals out of the current 12 strategic goals to help guide the County Council in determining the strategic direction for the 2019 – 2022 business planning cycle. Respondents were also offered the option to provide comment on each goal, regardless of whether the goal was picked as one of their three preferred choices.

Figure 1 represents the 12 strategic goals selected by respondents, ordered from most to least prominent by the percentage of the option selected. Percentages add up to more than 100% as each respondent could select up to 3 options. A more detailed explanation associated with each option is listed below the graph.

Figure 1 - Goals preferred by respondents



A. Explanations behind the selection of each strategic option

Each of the bullets listed on the following 3 pages provides some explanation behind the respondents' pick of each of the strategic options. These points were derived from the open-ended comments that respondents had for each strategic option. Please note that there were comments about strategic options that did not make the "top 3" choices put forward by respondents, as people who took part in the survey could provide an interpretation for each option, regardless of whether or not it was selected.

- **Ensure facilities and activities are available, accessible and used by residents**

This was the item that emerged 1st overall from the survey. Aspects that respondents described within this priority included making sure that facilities were accessible, addressing parking issues, aspects with seniors, youth and other future needs. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix A.

- **Strategically manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure**

This was the item that emerged as a close 2nd overall from the survey. Aspects that respondents described within this priority included making sure that upgrading was always considered, try to account for increased traffic volume, road maintenance and transit issues along with other considerations. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix B.

- **Provide a climate of safety for individuals in homes, neighbourhoods and public places**

This was the item that emerged 3rd overall from the survey. In addition to reiterating what the theme of the priority was, other aspects that respondents addressed here included concentrating on police/RCMP efforts, taking steps to improve safety in the community as well as other safety considerations. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix C.

- **Build strong neighbourhoods/communities to support the diverse needs of our residents**

This was the item that landed 4th overall from the survey. Aspects that respondents described within this priority included the consideration of affordable housing, looking at issues (both pro and con) with building and development. There were also specific considerations of other aspects of the community, including diversity, the aging population and effects associated with transit, among others. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix D.

- **Conserve representative ecosystems**

This was the item that emerged 5th overall from the survey. Aspects that respondents addressed here included water related issues, farmland, wetland, nature conservation and doing away with unnecessary development. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix E.

- **Promote Strathcona County locally, nationally and internationally as a place that is open for business and investment**

This was the item that emerged 6th overall from the survey. Respondents were somewhat divided on this, with some feeling that continued efforts should be maintained, while others thought this was done too much already. Other aspects that were mentioned included tourism considerations as well as different types of businesses. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix F.

- **Advance the community's interests by developing and maintaining strong relationships with our neighbouring municipalities and civic organizations to ensure long-term prosperity**

Ranking 7th overall from the survey, this priority resonated with respondents particularly with respect to relationships with Fort Saskatchewan and Edmonton. Respondents also commented about other municipal relationships, annexation and amalgamation issues, transit and transportation concerns and other municipal related issues. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix G.

- **Improve the efficiency of resource usage; minimize the volume of waste and its impact on the community**

Ranking 8th overall, comments from respondents on this priority included keeping the *Green Routine*, other comments pertaining to recycling, waste reduction and putting the enviro-service into operation. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix H.

- **Increase public involvement and communicate with the community on issues affecting the County's future**

This was the item that emerged 9th overall from the survey. Issues that were noted by respondents here included the use of social media and making use of surveys to obtain feedback. A couple of respondents had concerns that perhaps this catered to special interest groups, and many suggested other improvements that could be considered to increase public involvement. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix I.

- **Increase and diversify the petrochemical business**

This was the item that emerged as 10th overall from the survey. There was a mixed reaction to this priority, as some respondents felt this should be pursued, while others thought that it should not. There were also a number of residents who saw both pros and cons to focusing on the petrochemical business in Strathcona County. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix J.

- **Define and strengthen the community's identity and heritage**

Matching with the previous goal at 10th overall, residents were divided as to its importance in all of the priorities faced in Strathcona County. Many respondents took time to identify issues associated with community identity, including considerations about history and various community events and programs. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix K.

- **Increase and diversify agricultural business**

This was the item was the lowest priority by many respondents (ranking 12th overall). Nevertheless, many comments were put forward, including the business aspect of marijuana grow-ops in the County, the future use of farmland, continued investment in the agriculture business, and other aspects associated with agriculture. A summary of what respondents said about this priority can be found in Appendix L.

Respondents were also given the option to provide any other comments that they had about what they thought Strathcona County Council should keep in mind when setting priorities for the next four years. A variety of topics were proposed, some stemming from the 12 goals previously presented to them. A list of the ideas raised is summarized in Appendix M.

B. Demographics

There were some demographic questions that respondents were asked to answer. With respect to residency and business ownership, it was determined that:

- The majority of respondents (90.1%) were residents of the County who did not own a business;
- 6.7% lived in Strathcona County and owned a business here; and
- 3.2% of respondents owned a business in Strathcona County but did not live here.

In terms of where people lived within the County, 19.3% lived in rural Strathcona, while the remaining 80.7% lived in Sherwood Park

With respect to the location of businesses that were owned by respondents to the survey, 75.9% were located in Sherwood Park, while 24.1% were located elsewhere in the County.¹

¹ Please note that these percentages are based on a very small number of business owners (n=29). Two business owners did not disclose the location of their business.

**Appendices pertaining to open ended comments about the
12 Strategic Goals**

Appendix A: Ensure facilities and activities are available, accessible and used by residents

Facility accessibility

- Absolutely. And lets continue to build facilities that are accessible to all residents.
- All facilities need to be accessible for everyone.
- I believe that the facilities and activities are already available and accessible. The concern is to get the residents to use them.
- Strong community programs accessible to residents creates stronger communities
- Wheelchair accessible sidewalks.
- Access to recreation is very important. The facilities are fantastic! It would be great to see more children programming for younger children outside of weekdays (i.e. in early evenings and weekends) to support working parents who have young toddlers (ages 1-5) But it would also be great to see some animation at the neighbourhood level. Maybe some outdoor programming at the neighbourhood parks.
- All facilities should be available for all age levels and abilities. I don't see enough activities in the recreation guide for seniors.
- Allowing all residents access to diverse programs makes a community pleasant to live in.
- Ardrossan requires designated indoor pickle-ball courts year round. 3 courts in the Hall are not sufficient. New SP outdoor courts are wonderful.

Parking

- With all these new developments, try to maintain ample, accessible parking. I.E. County Hall has reduced the above ground parking, and signage for the second level of the parkade is hard to find.
- As a rural resident, I have to drive into Sherwood Park for events and activities. I do not have the option of taking park and ride. Thus, attending events becomes an issue due to the lack of parking.
- I would like the county to focus on increasing parking availability at both transit terminals.

Seniors

- budget appropriately to maintain what is existing- enhance facilities for youth involvement and for seniors

- Make fees affordable for all residents this to include seniors, families etc to use facilities at Millennium Place. This will promote a healthy lifestyle for all. This also means that the facilities would be well used by residents.
- Providing options for all ages and abilities and getting the word out. Coming to seniors facilities and homes where it's difficult to leave and they may be isolated.
- right now i see that we have great facilities well maintained and plentiful with many diverse activities...so concentrate on something we need like affordable unites for us seniors...we need more with emphasis on affordability.

Youth

- More activities for youth and families to participate in. A roller rink/ indoor skate park would be well utilized.
- It's getting REALLY expensive to use the County run workout gyms. And where are gymnasiums to rent for teens and clubs to play basketball? We are WAY over capacity and need a tournament center like Saville!
- open green spaces around Strathcona County, where people could drop in for recreational sports
- Yes! Regular exercise and activity is excellent for mental and physical health, as well as reduces crime rates I suspect. Providing a drop in, AFFORDABLE space for teens would be helpful in this. It doesn't all need to be at Millennium Place either. What about having 'sports days' in
- We need a full sized indoor soccer field for our kids to use all year. Football, lacrosse, baseball also would be able to benefit.

Future needs

- Bremner house should be developed into a public facility. Better houses needed at Kinsmen pool for hot tub and steam room access, poor evening hours for general drop in. Also renovate Kinsmen pool thoroughly.
- County is doing a great job. Residents, by all means, but let's not forget visitors bring new money in. A regional perspective is beneficial and mutual promotion as every county doesn't need every form of facility and activity.
- Equestrian multi-purpose facility needs to get built sooner than not. We are losing long term contracts to other cities
- Expand in Ardrossan
- Facilities are costly and you cannot force use. Priority should be given to ensuring existing facilities are well maintained modernized as needed and more promoting of nature based activities through the Beaver Hills Biosphere and support for development if rural tourism, including Agriculture, Cultural and nature based.
- Facility in south please

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- I think that Sherwood Park has done an extremely good job in this area & we are reminded of that whenever we travel. Continued financial support and needs assessment should be ensured for optimum facility maintenance and improvements. If the County grows, then so should our facilities grow.
 - need to meet more lower class family needs for sports/activities
 - Safe, friendly and inclusive facilities and programs are critical to community level. More attention and focus needs to be considered at a neighbourhood rural community level e.g. how can people be active in their neighbourhood without having to travel to a rec center or park. how can active design be encourage to influence active living
 - Seems like a good idea. I do find the facilities to be a bit expensive, trying to rent a meeting room in Ardrossan is ridiculously expensive and we can't bring food into events in the agora without using a county approved caterer, why is there a monopoly on catering in the community center???? This needs to end so the community can actually afford to use the community center.
 - Sherwood Park needs an indoor turf field facility (non-boarded) for soccer and other activities. We are a winter city and our indoor sport options are severely limited. The fields at millennium place are not sufficient for our growing community.
 - So appreciative of Millennium Place, another similar facility would be wonderful to decrease volume and encourage activity in community.
 - The right activities and facilities are in place based on community need. ex. Emerald Hills Pool
 - Transit services need to improve to allow residents to get to events. Having park and ride services only from Bethel station does not offer any service to most of Sherwood Park as many of us would need to drive past the event get to park and ride e.g. fireworks at festival place for anyone in village on lake, Woodbridge, Westbro, Maplewood, etc. Going to bethel station to park and ride is not practical. Reinstate full service from Ordze station.
 - We have great facilities and we need to continue to attract more.
 - We need a soccer dome!!!!
 - We need to ensure that our children and grandchildren have a place to play, play sports and stay fit at a reasonable cost if not free.
 - We need to have facilities that all citizens can enjoy creates a well rounded
 - We need to make them affordable to everyone.
 - Continue to develop recreation facilities for all residents of Strathcona County
 - We need to set cost recovery goals for facilities and activities that are fair to both taxpayers as well as users.

Other comments

- Basics only - county employees have to work more efficiently (not just riding around in their trucks or just sitting in an office).
- Better to have less well maintained facilities than more facilities that are falling apart.
- Change Millennium from facility pass to option of facility pass or activity specific i.e. swimming only.
- Continue to support existing programs, services and facilities for recreation and cultural events.
- Continue what has been done to promote local facilities. Long shutdowns (i.e. Emerald Hills pool just after opening) discourage local usage.
- County is a leader in this area now.
- Current services are being well handled. Could stand for improvement for handicapped.
- Currently we have pushed female hockey players out of town, and many out of the sport entirely as our in-town GARC facility is used almost exclusively by men's beer league hockey. Our minor children are being forced to play at out of town rinks starting at 10 o'clock at night and later on weeknights. Local children should be accommodated at in town facilities in peak times over adult recreational teams.
- Doing a great job of this already.
- Ensure facilities are easily available for residents. Would love to see more community celebrations and not have to go into the city for them
- Fees for recreational facilities cannot be allowed to grow to such an extent that they reduce use
- Having the facilities available (and activities) provides great opportunities for residents.
- I agree 100% with this goal. Participation is important for healthy people and healthy communities.
- I don't see any issues existing here.
- I remember when we were thinking of building the rec center. Its cost at the time was 27 million dollars. It was a question that was important enough to rate payers that it was put on the ballot. I miss those days of steady stewardship. Now council is willing to spend three quarters of a billion dollars on their preferred new twin city without even so much as asking us if we want it. They feel as though they are empowered to ignore us on this issue.
- In a place this big it is hard to keep things together. The bookmobile is wonderful. Transit is improving; recreational resources are amazing

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- Is this an issue?
 - Keeping an active community is important.
 - Look to the Joint Use agreement that the city uses that ensures effective use of gyms and arenas and pools
 - Make sure that use of facilities is affordable. Fees seem to be increasing all the time.
 - More Community garden's and walking trails would be greatly appreciated
 - More hockey rinks - the number of children playing the sport makes it hard to find ice locally for practice and development
 - more promotion around activities and facilities to areas outside of Sherwood Park (rural Strathcona County) would be helpful.
 - More trails would be appreciated.
 - non-residents should pay extra to use Sh. Park facilities
 - Not everyone uses facilities and takes part in activities Walking trails are heavily used Fireworks heavily attended/ great community spirit building events
 - Our facilities are very expensive!
 - Our rec facilities and programs are amazing.
 - Preventative maintenance before assets deteriorate, invest more time/resources into the outlying communities, eg. South Cooking Lake, Josephburg, etc
 - Price and hours. Also what activities are included in the prices
 - promote NEW programs and make it more available to ALL peoples in the county
 - Rather than new all the time let's retrofit existing. GARC. Great example.
 - Realize that many who live in the county do not have access to the facilities as those in Sherwood Park do.
 - Recreation centers doing a good job.
 - Research shows that physical activity and mental health are linked. By ensuring access and engagement it will help with overall health of residents. These areas also provide a gathering place for community.
 - Support local community groups. Cut charges to residents.
 - The cost of facilities and the fact they are not able to support the amount of residents is a major issue.
 - The county does a good job of this already.
 - The current packaging is great, however, not flexible enough in options when it comes to how much residents pay for usage.

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- The facilities we have seem adequate should all be user pay not taxpayer subsidized.
 - They should be already?
 - This goal ensures that we have a strong community where citizens stay in the community and recreate here rather than out of the area.
 - This is something that comes up often, although maybe less often with a new swimming facility that it is so difficult to get your children registered in programming. Looking at the times when activities are offered may also help those who work full time.
 - This is sufficient.
 - We have a wide variety of programs and facilities. Making sure they are available to those whose income is limited is important.
 - We have great recreational facilities, programs and parks in the county and I can tell that great care and effort is made to ensure they're used by everyone. I live in Summerwood and I was a bit surprised when I saw how limited the hours were for public swimming at the new pool in Emerald Hills, but when it was explained to me that the pool was built to relieve pressure on Millennium, it obviously makes sense.
 - We have spent a lot of money on new recreational facilities but then we forgot the older facilities. EX: the Beautiful Deermound Dog Park which 1000's use every week and which was fixed up beautifully a few years ago, but now the county will do nothing or almost nothing. There are sections of the main gravel walkway that are mud holes or under water that a couple loads of gravel would fix. There are minor drainage issues that flood out sections of the gravel walkway every rain but some extra gravel and a culvert would fix. It seems that we don't do very well at minor upkeep on our recreational facilities until we have to spend a lot, when if we would do some minor repairs we could keep the place a better place longer.
 - yes - continue to stay ahead of the cure and not be in a deficit of facilities
 - Yes - important for the physical, mental wellbeing of all community members. Spending money here reduces costs in other areas (e.g. policing, social welfare...)
 - Yes, but residents need to be held more accountable and responsible for their actions. I have seen on many occasions the abuse of patrons towards lifeguards at Millennium Place, who are simply ensuring a safe environment for all. Patrons - NOT Lifeguards - who are abusive or disrespectful, should be disciplined.
 - You've done a great job in this area continue to focus on it.

Appendix B: Strategically manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure

Infrastructure maintenance

- A given for elected officials decision making to ensure.
- Have a plan to upgrade various roadways on a regular basis. Not a big fan of calming measures such as jutting out curbs or raised intersections. In our winter climate they cause problems for drivers and road maintenance equipment. Drivers just need to drive responsibly.
- As Sherwood Park ages, there must be a good portion of the budget dedicated to infrastructure upgrades and maintenance for the next 20 -30 years.
- agree planning is important but practical implementation is focus
- Agree - funding should be in place for this. I expect the older neighbourhoods are reaching 60+ years old and planning should be underway on how water and wastewater underground infrastructure will be replaced and funded.
- Agreed!
- Always a great idea. We're a growing community and we need to keep up.
- Careful planning and investment to maintain infrastructure. Eliminate waste and redundancy in County and Counsel.
- Costs can quickly get out of hand if they are not managed properly. Proper management includes looking not just at today's needs and requirements but also future needs and requirements.
- Critical long term goal, we need to ensure our infrastructure does not deteriorate, or become obsolete.
- Critical to ensure we can take care of what we have. Growth should only occur if there is a benefit to existing residents (too) over the long term.
- Critical. Have a look at service levels embedded here.
- Currently being well managed.
- ESSENTIAL!!!
- Forward thinking
- Ensure efficient county operations.
- Infrastructure is what communities are built on - both literally and metaphorically.
- Long term planning is essential!
- Maintenance is a requirement on grand scale. Plan for the future do not wait for the future.

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- Manage, invest and plan relates to affordability. We need to be far more prudent with building new facilities, as they increase on-going operating costs
 - most importantly by proceeding with decisions already made by previous councils
 - Of course this is important. I would hope this was already being done?
 - this is a very undefined goal
 - This is important to maintain to avoid future huge expenses
 - This is on the Strathcona management and governance body-
 - This seems like a no-brainer, and barely needs to be included on the strategic plan. If we're not already doing this at all times for all infrastructure, then we have a much bigger problem on our hands.
 - Use our resources and current infrastructure to their full potential.
 - We have done well. Need to assure planning carries us well into the future. We have grand children who will likely remain in the community.
 - Yes. We need to keep an up-to-date municipal infrastructure that is sustainable.
 - Yes. Good job with that now, keep it up.
 - Yes
 - Yes staying on top of our infrastructures condition promotes improved connectivity for not only our businesses, but our residents with our neighbors and regional partners.
 - Yes, long term infrastructure planning is important.
 - We need to plan and ensure infrastructure is maintained in order to get the return on investment that was made into it.
 - We should be way further ahead than we are.

Traffic volume/road maintenance/transit

- Additional work needs to be done on roads in terms of adequate planning for traffic volumes. Traffic calming methods needs to be seriously looked at, as some of the things that the County has undertaken for calming traffic has been appalling in terms of the approach taken AND the associated costs compared to the benefit of the approach. Also need to look at traffic light timing/coordination and no-left-on-red (e.g. some no-left-on-red locations are useless such as left from Sherwood Drive onto southbound Brentwood Blvd, especially when no oncoming traffic 90% of the time).
- Again, I emphasize optimizing public transit schedules on commuter and local routes, e.g. align commuter buses with post-secondary school schedules. Have the buses leave 5-10 min AFTER classes end, instead of 5-10 min BEFORE

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- Can we look at the terrible traffic lights? I feel like I'm at red lights for an unreasonable amount of time.
 - I think you are doing a good job already...just get the work done in good time not like the roadwork on Wye road intersection and Brentwood that is take way too long and holding up traffic We need the work done efficiently and in a shorter period of time...
 - This is important but needs to add value and be affordable. I like some others see traffic calming as expensive for the value it brings.
 - We need to keep up with roads and infrastructure, there is a lot of traffic in the county and people, goods and services need to move as smoothly as possible from point a to point b
 - Although not as glamorous as some of the other issues, this is of critical importance. I work in Edmonton and my drive there and back showcases what happens when infrastructure is allowed to fall into disrepair.
 - Don't let our roads, etc. get run down in the first place and we could save money by not having to do a great amount of replacing.'
 - Ensure roads make sense.
 - In future an LRT line to the city. Although that would be pricey.
 - It is important to keep up with aging infrastructure (roads, water, sewer, sidewalks, trails).
 - Our roads, utilities and residential footprint is taking a heavy toll on our community. Addressing this would improve the lives of residents here.
 - Road maintenance in Rural areas! We pay plenty of taxes yet our needs are second to Sherwood Park, which generally has fantastic roads already.
 - Rural roads are not being maintained in a manner consistent to use. The present surface is not strong enough to withstand the heavy equipment which use them, resulting in frequent (up to twice-a-year) resurfacing. This frequent resurfacing does not seem fiscally prudent and should be reviewed.
 - Sustainable municipal infrastructure is vitally important to retaining and attracting people and business to the county. If the roads are poor, public transportation is lacking, quality water and wastewater is sporadic, and there is no strategy for maintenance and growth, people will move to where these services are readily available.
 - Very important, as well. A fully serviced hospital!!!! Ambulance service to match population; Replace outdated storm sewer systems. Replace poor quality roadways; improve sequencing of lights; more marked crosswalks; replace diseased trees;

Other comments

- Basics only.
- Consult with school boards and Alberta infrastructure for synergies
- Do not proceed with unsustainable expansion of housing areas in the County.
- Don't get ahead of ourselves. Past growth is not a sign of future growth.
- Energy efficiency innovative pilots based on best practice case studies should be highlighted and actively promoted with incentives for non -municipal properties. Green rooves anyone? Waste energy recapture/use? % purchase of renewable energy?
- Ensure that the decisions are made based on the region and not just Strathcona County. Doing something to block another community is not the right approach.
- Important to address water and wastewater underground infrastructure. - look into options for a greater back-up reserve OR a duplication of water access from Edmonton to limit the potential risk of being unable to access the water (too many times we have been restricted because the single pipe in has been disrupted)
- Keep pushing for a new court house and a full use hospital. Never give up!
- More bike accessibility would be excellent, but I believe the county is already doing a good job.
- Not sexy but important for the growth of our community in the future. Please include the library in this planning, as well as the hospital.
- Only those deemed to be of interest to the majority & can be paid for without going into debt or raising taxes.
- Stop changing the character of communities by redevelopment. Stop rewarding those who have allowed weeds to grow through their sidewalks and thus have them crumble by replacing their sidewalks with easy low driveways while you penalize those who have keep weeds down and therefore eliminated sidewalk cracks and now charge them \$1000 for the same driveway access.
- The County already generally does a really, really good job of this; more rapid extension of sewer lines to rural areas would be a big boon to homeowners and the environment
- Too many nail and jewelry stores. Listen to community for what is lacking and what they want for business. Walkable community downtown area with adequate parking.
- We need to be more fiscally responsible and maintain what we have during these difficult economic times. People are struggling more than most people realize and this is not the time for big projects and increased taxes.
- What about climate change resiliency planning for our infrastructure? Can our storm ponds handle the predicted weather changes? What about our other infrastructure?

- Yes this sounds rational, until it is decided to construct a 100 000 seat covered stadium to attract an NFL team (Bremner).
- Yes. I think the use of eco-friendly heating systems (as in the county hall) is something that should be encouraged in all municipal infrastructures, as well as setting up other sustainable approaches to consuming resources (e.g. wind and solar power). While the upfront costs are greater, over time the savings can be significant as utilization costs only go up).
- Yup. Where is our climate change plan for our infrastructure?

Appendix C: Provide a climate of safety for individuals in homes, neighbourhoods and public places

Safety

- A given through decision making of the elected officials to ensure.
- Again it is felt a great job is already been done.
- Agree
- Agree, funding for police, fire, rescue and EMS should be a priority. The services that residents expect is 'excellent service'.
- Yes ensuring good policing and victim support service is available but we also need better support for mental health services in the county.
- Yes, and strengthen & enforce laws for those who commit crimes.
- Yes, let's have community policing, not stop-sign revenue goals.
- Yes, this is a necessary item. With all the coming of legalization of different items, the climate of safety will be of prime importance.
- Yes, women's and men's shelters for abuse, mental health and substance abuse and drugs.
- Yes. The county should become an active promoter of responsible energy use. I would suggest that we develop a strategy around solar energy for county buildings and by providing further incentives to residents who wish to move towards solar. Let's become a leader in this area.
- Yes. These are reasons I choose to remain living in Sherwood park.
- Already done.
- being done
- Yes, but how will this be done? (2)
- I do feel safe in Sherwood Park and I feel what is done now is sufficient.
- We do an excellent job of this already
- Of course (2)
- Of course. This should be taken into account in all decisions. Has it not been??
- ESSENTIAL!!!
- always important
- Currently the areas feel safe, I would like that to continue, where I'm not worried that my children are playing outside.

- I still feel safe in my neighbourhood, but prevention is key. This ties in with too much development too soon. Other little things can help. Maybe solar powered lighting on pathways for example.
- I do not feel unsafe.
- Residents should feel safe in their communities. If you cannot be safe at home, you are not in a liveable community.
- Safety is key for a community and its members. If people do not feel safe why would they live here.
- Safe communities draw sustainable growth into an area. How many people actually decide to move to an area of high crime rates? None. Safe homes, neighbourhoods and public places are enticements that bring families, friends and business to a community.
- Safety is SO important
- Seems pretty safe here already.
- this is a basic and primary need in our community that can not be taken for granted and must be supported
- This a must

Policing

- Enhanced supports for our police services would be beneficial to providing a safer community for our residents to reside in.
- More police visibility and activities - beyond traffic control. If there is a rash of car break-ins (one example) - what is being done to combat that?
- more police patrols in the day and evenings. i want to see them out there daily going around my block...it has to be more visual
- More police/RCMP coverage
- Very important. Drugs are a very serious issue. Police presence, incarceration, an efficient & long overdue new courthouse; quick response to complaints, more police patrolling on bikes, etc. enforcement of helmet regulations; enforcement of bylaws.
- What are you looking for? Are you asking about Terrorism or more police or making our playgrounds safer. This questions is too general!
- With a strong RCMP force we should be a safer community.
- Increase presence of police/peace officers throughout the County
- Expand support for the RCMP. Expand public information sessions beyond schools on how to assess safety risks in neighbourhoods and deal with same.
- I think the RCMP and Fire Dept. provide an excellent service.

- I am not sure what the recent change to the RCMP process for responding to alarms (need the permit number) is all about. That needs to be explained more to residents. I would not want someone to be put in peril if an alarm permit is not available.
- I love the policing level, and quality. Sherwood Park's safety is excellent and possibly the traffic doesn't understand that the calmest way to get traffic, is to quickly have it moving on it's way. I don't mean through neighbourhoods, I mean on the main roads. Have them move swiftly out, so that no one gets frustrated and act out.

Community safety

- In today's climate there is a fear around safety. Finding a way to ensure people feel safe is important
- Lately I feel our community isn't as safe as it used to be.

Other safety concerns

- AIR QUALITY is a problem in Strathcona County for all residents
- Ban fire pits in Sherwood Park -sand/clear roads in a timely manner to ensure safety -work to ensure safer driving conditions between neighbouring municipalities (i.e., clear/sand roads quicker) -
- Better street and trail lighting (use low height solar in the Heritage trail system). And 40 km/hr in ALL residential neighbourhoods.
- Bring back Photo Radar to enhance safety of our streets.
- Build community!
- Crime rates unfortunately are increasing as part of growth and a percent of population. Therefore there is a need for increased security through policing and other methods (lighting, access, egress, etc.) to ensure children and all individuals feel save and can enjoy evening walks without risk as well as security in one's home.
- Encourage 'block parties' etc. so neighbours can get to know each other and create a climate of safety between people looking out for one another.
- Encouraging people to get out will help.
- Enforcing the new dog bylaw would be helpful in this (eg. enforcing that dogs remain on-leash, not just putting up a new signing saying they should be) More peace officer patrols between 1am and 5am and on weekdays mid-morning would be great. Based on anecdotal evidence, that's when the most cars get broken into, vandalized, property stolen out of back yards, etc.

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- Ensure safe protection of our children and continue to provide adequate support for healthcare and first responders
 - Have public areas monitored by law enforcement ie: people who think they can let their dogs off leash wherever it pleases them. Emerald Hills Park is terrible for this. People should not be parking vehicles on corners of residential streets as well as the traffic calming spots. The calming areas are a safety hazard without vehicles parked on them. Enforcement should be ticketing these vehicles without a complaint being filed. Vehicles parked on corners limit people with disabilities and children in strollers from safely crossing the street. I see this in numerous areas
 - I have been a resident of Sherwood Park for decades and am raising my young family here. Safety of our homes, neighbourhoods, and public places is paramount. If it isn't safe, I leave.
 - If this means increasing or improving programming and services around Emergency Services, fair enough. Go for it. But I'm not under the impression that we're under-served on this.
 - Increased monitoring for petty crimes and property crimes.
 - Increasing the walk-ability would help promote safety, especially on the walking trails. Also, maintaining a high property value will eliminate potentially unsavoury persons from finding Sherwood Park a convenient place to live. One issue here is the flooded 18+ condo market which is forcing prices of condos down. We don't need more adult-only condos, we need more affordable single-family homes if we are going to promote families living here rather than moving to Fort Saskatchewan.
 - Is anybody questioning local safety? I don't think that's an issue.
 - Is there a crisis needing addressing that is not ?
 - Local crime is on the rise. Cars routinely broken into. Home cameras are not a strong deterrent anymore as people cannot act on it or post the videos. Community members have been to court over same. Community members do not feel the issue is a priority as 'nothing is done'. This is found on several FB pages
 - Maintain and continue to improve - highest priority - public safety is the foundation of the community.
 - more focus on the SAFETY of the vulnerable sectors- children, seniors, New residents; MORE PATROL and policing on the residential areas NOT patrolling and ISSUING SPEED TICKETS rather than vigilant on the DRUG TRAFFICKERS and SEXUAL OFFENDERS AND Break and Entry criminals
 - More policing for the increase in break ins.
 - Need programs to encourage residents to lock up etc.
 - Neighbourhood watch, block parent, citizens on patrol. Getting to know neighbors through community initiatives to keep watch and help.

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- No additional work is needed at this time.
 - Not sure what the answer is here, but as we grow, so does crime. There is so much neighbourhood crime such as graffiti and cars on driveways being checked and broken into daily. Focus on this prevention rather than stop sign tickets, or a vehicle parked on a residential street with their tires slightly on the curb and being ticketed. Vehicle clearly had a disability tag on the mirror. This is disgusting.
 - Not sure what this is getting at... what is a 'climate' of safety?
 - One of the reasons we built our house here was so that we would have a home in a safe environment to raise a family. Overall I think this has been maintained for the most part.
 - Opportunities for youth after school and weekends does wonders to reduce crime
 - Pretty sure we are already quite safe but keep up the good work.
 - Publish Crime stats by neighbourhood
 - Something needs to be done to address vandalism (graffiti) and the break & enters that happen (particularly on cars)
 - Stop the property crimes currently occurring like theft from vehicles, yards, etc.
 - Sure. Can we actually start enforcing the curfew here?
 - The county existed on its own but with the birth of Sherwood Park the county became a major Alberta community. It has grown the way the residents want it to be..a friendly, welcoming, safe community where families feel at ease. We need to continually work at keeping it this way.
 - Traffic safety is a huge concern for my family. Community traffic calming needs to continue because people are not driving safely in neighbourhoods.
 - Very important. Also, restrict noise. And loud vehicles.
 - We are good here. Any more in service level creep and we run the risk of the law of diminishing returns.
 - We had one of the best ambulance systems in Canada. Why was it changed?
 - We have some good projects going on, but should be better advertised.

Appendix D: Build strong neighbourhoods/communities to support the diverse needs of our residents

General support

- agree
- Already doing a great job of this
- Already doing this well I believe. Perhaps a way to run a local business in more zones.
- Keep doing what we've been doing.
- Be curious how you plan to do this.
- My opinion is we have this already and to keep doing what we are doing.

Affordable housing

- Affordable housing for seniors. More community activities, programs and resources for seniors
- I believe the county should support affordable housing for seniors as the aging demographic grows
- I would like to see some more work done to integrate lower income residents into our community. I hear about protests when high density housing is built too close to wealthy neighbourhoods, but little else.
- Increase access for residents who require it for supports and programs, affordable housing and programs
- More high needs housing
- Our community areas should include all types of housing. Quit with the Estates and large residential areas. Affordable housing should be available in all communities.
- Specifically affordable housing for seniors. That does NOT mean 3000 per month nor does it mean they need welfare. There has to be an inbetween for the average senior.
- Strathcona County is not seen as being diverse in population, housing options or employment. We need all levels of employment and housing for people to be to live and work and pay taxes in our community.
- Support the building of rent-controlled, affordable housing.
- There is a growing need for senior housing and options in Sherwood Park. Senior housing does not necessarily mean assisted living in a nursing home although we need that too. A senior who owns a home shouldn't have to pay more than the value of their home to move into a senior condo unit.

Safety initiatives

- Bring back block parents. Kids need to feel safe in their community.
- A stronger more engaged community is a safer community.
- Develop community gardens. Work with youth to keep them safe and healthy... skate parks, recreational activities
- Economic challenges faced in our province require communities to focus on how to enhance social safety network for our families.
- I think this is really important to build community. Creating communities where people know each other, means safer communities.
- Expand & allow the development of assisted living situations to encompass those with disabilities of any age, & of any kind, not just limited to senior living situations, for their safety & wellbeing and to allow for inclusion into general society.
- Strong neighbourhoods help make safe neighbourhoods and promote mental health.

Issues (Pro and Con) with building and development

- A little late for this with such huge developments already in place. Try to capture the original goal of Sherwood Park being a place to walk with ease to stores, clinics, etc. Stop building huge freeways where there are no sidewalks. Control which businesses are allowed to establish themselves here. Need Government control so we don't have overabundance of one kind of business. Don't allow developers to take control. Otherwise, what is the point of having a municipal government? Limit the number of foreign big chains (especially US). Encourage small local business with unique products. Have more car-free areas for walking to shops (as in Europe and Australia). Have better lighting and house numbering. In new areas it is hard to see numbers on houses at night.
- Allowing infill and redevelopment will improve aging neighbourhoods and revitalize the community
- Community development is the most important cornerstone of any municipality
- develop strong masterplan that ensures proactive measures in place to have compatible development
- Have strict uses on in-fill and development in both existing and new neighbourhoods. Domestic violence is a huge but often hidden problem, and needs support from the community. We need a new and larger women's/children shelter in Sherwood Park.
- Plan or future growth areas, do more international economic development.
- It would be great if there was funding available for neighbourhood level events (maybe there already is but I just don't know about it) i.e. outdoor movies, block

- parties etc. Having events at the neighbourhood level connects neighbours creating safer neighbourhoods and stronger communities.
- A motherhood statement, it is the communities responsibility to build their neighbourhoods, not the politicians
 - As our populations grows and changes, Strathcona County must be ready to respond. We must create a space for new neighbours as they seek to build their own places of worship and schools. We must be seen as an inclusive, inviting community for all people who choose to call this home.
 - Building strong community decreases crime, increases individual, group, and community support for the vulnerable, keeps kids in school, and makes our social fabric tight and clean. By staying and working together we can make sure that services are targeted and we are supportive.
 - Careful with old neighbours make constructive rules for building new structures not to overcrowd or hurt the beautiful caring old neighbourhoods we live in
 - Mom and pop businesses are being bulldozed over by way too many franchises in Sherwood Park. We are being flooded over by multi home buildings. The infrastructure is horribly planned. The planning department does not address the needs of the residents, only the executive members of the county. They all have their own political agendas that does not reflect the needs of residents currently residing in the county.
 - Strathcona County has a strong identity and I feel it is very important to continue to build on this and to continue to foster a sense of community among the residents as well as a pride of community
 - No infills in mature neighbourhoods.
 - Stop reducing lot size in all neighbourhoods in Strathcona County. All residents should be encouraged to spend more time outdoors in their own yards and neighbourhoods.
 - Strong neighbourhoods/communities make this a great place to live Neighbours already help neighbours Not a priority for spending
 - Strong sensible neighbourhoods. Not new mega cities forced on the tax payer by a small group of councilors.
 - Yes to diverse neighbourhoods. Let's not have them all look the same.

Sense/aspects of community

- Community Halls/ Community Leagues!
- Continue to develop communities for long term growth within Strathcona County
- Continue to make neighbourhoods walkable, family friendly. I.e. multi use paths, playgrounds, spray parks, community gardens

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- Continue with community events and engagement like this survey
 - Ensure adequate care of elderly, and that a local hospital could take care of the sick in our community
 - I believe that this is important as there are many communities where people don't know each other, possibly creating 'community leagues' such as Edmonton has would assist.
 - I have seen little activity by community to help people come together in a community spirit .
 - Increasing social capital is extremely important to a healthy community.
 - Ministik School was a community hub for people living on acreages in Strathcona county and it's a shame it was closed despite the community's desire for it to remain open.
 - offer community activities that focus on a wide variety of age groups, not just young families, offer more recreation options for residents
 - Our community is changing and so do we.
 - Promote community/neighbourhood events to support variety of needs of residents
 - SP has a great small town feel where neighbors say hello. That's easy to lose in a growing community
 - Strong neighbourhoods are key to a strong community. The Country has been doing a great job of bringing in services and business that allow residents to access locally rather than driving to other communities such as Edmonton.
 - Support community groups with hand up but not hand out. Transit throughout the County.
 - Support community wide events such as the Canada Day celebrations and New Year fireworks.
 - The needs of each community are different. Ardrossan's needs are not the same as South Cooking Lake etc. I don't believe this is properly addressed.
 - This should be an obvious one - as we get bigger, more and more people with different needs and expectations will live here. We need to ensure their needs are met and that our community is inclusive.
 - Yes, but at what cost to taxpayers? The focus should be on the collective well-being of the community, and not give privilege to a certain group. All residents can adapt - no matter how diverse.

Diversity

- I would like to retain the 'feel' of Strathcona today. Increasing diversity is not a priority for me.
- Please define diverse needs of our residents. My experience is that the majority of at least Sherwood Park are from a certain cohort.
- Strathcona County is built on welcoming our diversities and differences. I.E. Special needs and Seniors. I believe we need to strengthen the infrastructure to support.
- This depends on your definition of 'diverse needs'
- By encouraging all to come to Strathcona County, we must also be able to support diverse needs.
- This will be a challenge as each resident has different needs. Do we want neighbourhoods with residents of the same diverse needs?
- We've got lots of diverse living options for residents. I don't see a pressing need for more.

Aging population

- The County is growing in so many ways. We have a population that is aging, so it would be great to enhance the County living for seniors. One area that is of concern to me is the availability of DATS to those that need want it during weekends / holidays. I think that this area needs to be addressed so those that use this service can have it no matter what day it is.
- With an aging population, there should be an increase in providing accommodations for seniors.
- We need to encourage community through various volunteer efforts. Food bank, shoveling snow for seniors, community watch programs for children and youth. Encourage the Chamber of Commerce to get involved in the community that they profit from.

Transit

- Make Sherwood Park accessible by improving transit within Sherwood Park. It's not used much today because service stinks. It takes an hour to get anywhere within Sherwood Park and services offered only during peak hours. Consider offering express services between major sites within Sherwood Park e.g. Bethel terminal to Ordze direct instead of a 30 minute ride or direct service from terminals to shopping centers.
- My strongest recommendation here would be to improve public transit. Cars require a lot of \$,

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- and if public transit was more useful and a viable alternative, people could save themselves the expense of a vehicle. Eg. align commuter buses with post-secondary school schedules. Have the buses leave 5-10 min AFTER classes end, instead of 5-10 min BEFORE. No, 'more walkable communities' is not what I mean by this comment (crammed together stores, little parking, slow speed limits)

Other comments

- Councilors should reach out to residents in each area of their ward and determine specific needs, or wants, for those respective areas. This cannot be a 'one size fits all' approach.
- How? I think this is a lofty goal but unachievable.
- I don't understand how a government can achieve this. It has to be driven by the residents to be effective.
- Include tiny houses/small houses into legislation rather than only trailer parks.
- Increase communication of social support services, let people who need them know they are available
- less is more
- more sensitive and adaptable to changing environments and inclusive of other cultures and open to work together for Strathcona County.
- Move forward with Bremner
- Need more opportunities for teens - will reduce problems! Get them working and volunteering.
- Support Ardrossan's connection to Sherwood Park. Increase accessibility to the park from rural areas
- Another common sense given in the priorities if land use decision making by Council.
- Avoid at all costs the one-size-fits-all mindset that comes with pressure for ever-increasing densification

Appendix E: Conserve representative ecosystems

Water

- collect rain water
- If we do not have clean air and water, we can't live. The long term impacts are so important.
- In new housing and commercial development areas don't disturb the natural wet lands. Have sufficient setbacks from water courses and ponding areas to allow for natural features (trees, birds, animals habitat)
- Properly functioning ecosystems provide many services that would otherwise cost us money to perform (i.e. wetlands cleaning water so we don't have to). Natural ecosystems also function better than expensive man-made systems.
- Save Bremner from development. Encourage our community to invest in energy saving through energy efficiency and renewable energy. Reduce water consumption in the way we landscape and water our yards.
- This in my mind is the main attraction of residing in the park. Having nature in your backyard enhances the well-being of the residents both mentally and physically. When people ask me why I reside in the park the trail systems and storm water ponds along with the proximity to numerous natural areas is the main reason I answer with.
- With extra emphasis on our creeks, the north sask river and the beaver hills biosphere!

Farmland

- We need to protect our food growing areas and leave room for wildlife to survive.
- Don't forget about conserving farmland too - the County has some of the BEST soil.
- encourage farming, self-sufficiency, agro farms, encourage small businesses, small farmers, private/personal food sustainability
- planning for expansion should not extend into fertile farming areas. The long term impacts far outweigh the short term gain.
- The health of our environment depends on our keeping ecosystems intact and not paving over farmland, and draining wet lands.
- This includes farmland, and Bremner doesn't help. Speak with actual professionals on ecosystem and wildlife conservation, such as wildlife biologists, rather than relying on bureaucrats.
- Choose development areas wisely. Don't use good farm land to build neighbourhoods. Instead, develop in other areas.

- Be mindful of the environment. Don't allow mass building on farm land that is sold. Make sure there is always green space. Take some lessons from UK and create permanent green belts.

Wetland

- Green spaces and the retention of wetlands are in my opinion an essential component that will ensure healthy communities and lifestyles as population growth continues. This requires a blend of open spaces being part of responsible development.
- more trails and pathways. wetlands and conservation areas.
- Parks, wetlands, & development of future protected areas etc., should be of paramount focus for the community's health & wellbeing. The natural ecosystem should be protected and enhanced and also be included with more promotion & opportunities to observe & participate in its development and sustainability.
- Wetlands cannot be replaced no matter how you try to remodel them. Natural state means no human input.
- Esp. the wetlands in Sherwood Park.

Nature conservation

- BHI - yeah!
- I will include in here, the BHI initiative as the broad undertaking that would encompass this goal. It also supports goal 4 and relies on 'goal ' 1. The momentum of this initiative should be maintained as it can assist in bringing long term sustainable prosperity and diversity through tourism as the Capital region's environmental 'playground.' Similarly proactive support for the capital region river valley trail connectivity and ribbon of green parkland will position the county for the expanding leisure industry.
- An important part of Strathcona County is an appreciation for nature and its impact on our mental, physical, and spiritual health.
- Conservation of nature and our lands is the up and coming item to be concerned about.
- Designation as a UNESCO biosphere is a BIG deal. More can be done to educate residents of the nature at our back door.
- I think the county could play a part to develop/maintain public walking trails in rural ecosystems such as Collingwood Cove, Antler Lake so residents can more actively enjoy these special nature areas.
- Stop building hotels and things on all our fields and open areas. There are so few fields left now, the park is beginning to look like Edmonton and that was what i was trying to get away from moving here. Stop ruining nature to build hotels!!!

- The county has a lot of great parks and ecosystems, both inside Sherwood Park and outside. We need to make sure they're preserved and protected ... and also promoted. I love living in Sherwood Park because there are so many great natural areas close at hand. Development must be mindful of that.
- There is such value in the way Sherwood Park/Strathcona County have built their communities. I.E. Green spaces, natural parks and ponds. Continue to build our community with the ecosystem and residents sharing sensibly.
- This is vital. Once something is gone it can't really be replaced. When there are efforts to restore 'natural areas' it typically costs far more than if the area had been left alone to begin with, and all too often the cost of restoration is primarily born by tax payers or donors, rather than the developers or businesses who altered the ecosystem in the first place.
- This should be a foundation land management decision on behalf of Strathcona residents underpinning any land development. Also, more community programs connected to the stewardship of the environment promoting healthy communities by connecting with nature should be given more profile.
- Very important for our future generations to have nature to learn from.
- Walking trails in these areas so residents can enjoy nature.
- We live in a gorgeous, ecologically diverse environment. Our proximity to Elk Island and the Beaver Hills should be celebrated, and every effort taken to preserve our natural environment. Get more people out of their SUVs and off their noisy snowmobiles, and actually into the ecosystem!
- By conserving ecosystems, we can also prevent future issues of flooding, etc. Maintain what we have now to protect our future.
- Adequate reserves and parkland need to be set aside for future generations
- I agree with conserving ecosystems. What does representative mean? Is there such a thing as unrepresentative ecosystems?
- If you want to maintain the uniqueness of Strathcona County then preservation of the ecosystems is very important.
- This is very important but what about wildlife corridors and ecological connectivity? This is only one piece of the puzzle.
- Conservation should be considered when making decisions to choose least disruptive effects

Development

- Definitely need to stop cutting down trees! Would be nice if developers were able to fit them into their community vision.
- I think we're too extreme in this area and our conservation of ecosystems is impeding development. Need a responsible balance.

- Leave native tree stands alone when developing-they're already mostly destroyed by agriculture so there's lots of other space. Make sure that there are large setbacks from creeks as wildlife corridors.
- Manage Urban Sprawl.

Other comments

- A pretty narrow goal for a county business plan considering the broad environmental issues.
- Adequate plans but also bylaw enforcement measures to get compliance. Too many wetlands have been filled in as owners do not understand or value negative consequences.
- Believe we are.
- Doing a good job, adding more biking incentives and paths, etc, would help.
- Goes without saying in my opinion
- I am a believer in taking care of the earth and being good stewards of the land and all that it is.
- I don't even know what this is. The sustainable green advocates become crazier every day. I think the direction the county has been taking for the past 25 years is exceptional.
- It's a world issue. We need to be part of the solution. I am very proud of our garbage collection program.
- Keep green spaces for animals so they have somewhere to go. Don't build too much and keep some spaces open so it's not congested.
- Keep up practicing recycling. Try to make reducing CO2 levels from the abstract provincial level to the personal level....give a tax break for cyclists.
- links in with the regional conversation and annexation and other uses of agricultural land
- Make more trails in rural areas
- Make the public more aware
- More trees along trails and a multiuse trail along all of Wye road to Hwy 21, and one along the Whitemud extension!!
- Not starting new 'growth nodes' would be very helpful in this. Eg. Bremner
- Our environmental resources must outlive us.
- Please clean up the man-made lakes around which subdivisions have been built. Weed growth is rampant. Algae growth is evident. And stop penalizing individual homeowners who may try to keep the lake in front of their property

clean by threatening fines. Also the County needs to do a better job of weed control---dandelions are rampant on playgrounds, sports fields, etc.

- Please start by controlling weeds and other invasive species.
- Preserve parkland and ensure green spaces are developed and maintained .
- Preserve the Bremner area as arable agricultural lands and do not expand the housing districts in the County.
- Preserve the green spaces throughout the county. Stop building more and more neighbourhoods.
- Protecting the environment should be seen as a high priority. I fully endorse the Beaver Hills area as a unique UNESCO biosphere. Let's ensure that in our future development plans we continue to protect this area. That is why I support Bremer Development provided that we also protect the environmental features in this zone.
- Reverse Bremner decision
- Stop allowing developments (all types) on or near these areas.
- Stop tearing up green spaces like you have done on Wye Road...conserve what we have left with respect to the wildlife.
- The ecosystems in the county make the areas desirable to live in. Removing ecosystems to provide land for development is extremely low on my priority list.
- There is no turning back once they are gone !
- This needs to be balance with growth
- This one can't wait, reversal would be very difficult if ecosystems are damaged.
- very important because once they are gone, you cannot bring them back. I would like to see focus on larger ecosystems not just small urban ones.
- Very important to continue to keep the green space that we have available to us in Sherwood Park and area.
- Walking trails, parks, etc. are a wonderful way to encourage people to be active as well as for neighbours to meet one another.
- We are blessed with a variety of ecosystems we need to conserve, Urban sprawl needs to be contained and urban density increased.
- We have a responsibility to leave our land in better shape than we found it.
- We need to do all we can for the environment and the health of the planet. It affects us all.
- While this is desirable, there is emphasis on this goal, when our infrastructure deteriorates.
- Yes but not at the expense of the taxpayer.

- Yes, very important. Greenfield subdivisions should be vetted intensively to prevent loss of ecosystems

Appendix F: Promote Strathcona County locally, nationally and internationally as a place that is open for business and investment

Tourism

- Absolutely! Highlight places that are attractive to tourism as well and make these more visible. Perhaps a 'free day' like city of Edmonton does with attractions like the wilderness center and Ukrainian village.
- How about as a place that is open for tourism?
- Not just open for business but as a Biosphere, a County with history, culture, social giving. And promote for a certain type of business we want here, like nature based tourism alternative energy and diversified agriculture. Not good to just fling open the doors to anything.

Existing resources

- open for business, but no desire for 100'000 new residents.
- No need for this, if the County is doing the right stuff, then this will take care of itself.
- No thank you. Resources would be better spent on other initiatives.
- No we have enough outside business we need more opportunity for small local business...quite bringing in big companies that make the small mom and dad business close...like we once had nice local coffee shops and now we don't..
- no. We have enough growth and should not wreck the community by making it bigger.
- No. This sounds like county council and staff get to run around the world on taxpayer dime. Not sure if the cost outweighs the benefit.
- Nope, no more expensive road trips for council and county staff. Work on promoting local businesses.
- Curtail any further promotion and take better care of what we have already.
- Don't understand this goal nor its potential execution.
- I don't believe this is as high priority. Continue as is. We have been in many places in Canada and it surprising how well Sherwood Park, in particular, is known.
- Nothing wrong either, but no sense of balance in this priority. And, how much promotion internationally should we be doing?? maybe that is something done better w within the envelope of the region.
- Why...so we build more land with tar and cement?

Economic growth

- A long term view would be good.
- Internationally is a stretch. Nationally through regional efforts - yes.
- Isn't this done already?
- Promote our brand. Yes.
- Yes (2)
- Yes, consider expanding the economic development department a bit while working with region.
- Yes, love seeing all the new business that have come to the county recently
- Yes; because of all of the factors, that do not include tax payers cash incentives.
- Absolutely. We are situated in a great location. We must support Edmonton Global in its goals of further diversifying the region.
- continue on what has been done, the County has grown significantly in the last decade.
- Currently being well handled.
- Good at this already
- Grows our economy
- I would rather see us promoted as a great place to live
- I think this is being done well now.
- Our region has a lot to offer so we should work hard to get that message out.
- This must be done
- Very important to ensure needs of Strathcona County are met by provincial and federal governments. Acknowledgement and respect federally of AB's contribution to economy and listening to our needs.
- Very important.
- We seem to have an influx of commercial development coming into the county. I don't believe we're behind in this area in any way. Chamber of Commerce could do more than simply try to attract new members (whom they then don't do much for).
- We need to grow in order to be a community of choice and one that offers the variety of services at the low cost we have.

Business types

- And again, where the \$\$ are, we have to promote the county to be a place where business wants to be, for all types of business. I don't want to always shop at Walmart.
- Any business should receive a fair and open business management . The county should be asking what can we do for you not this what you have to do for us.
- Are there certain businesses in mind?
- Bring bigger business in. While still maintaining a small community feel
- By creating more office space here, we will limit commuter traffic into Edmonton, limit carbon emissions, and promote a more self-sufficient and diverse economy here. Why not MAKE money where you spend it, rather than always promoting the other way around?
- As opportunities present themselves
- By renaming the 'Capital Region' by including the word 'Edmonton' we have a much bigger presence on the world stage and this only helps to promote the entire area including Sherwood Park.
- continue on being a venue to local and international commerce and business and sports events, etc.
- Diversity needed. More programs to help small businesses succeed. Non chain businesses seem to fail a lot here
- Do we have enough spare land for more businesses? I see more building of malls. I think all of them, new & old, have space for lease or purchase. Hopefully the businesses that are already here will be able to exist. What is the payback for going internationally?
- Encourage local residents to open businesses in Strathcona County. In addition to promoting SC nationally and internationally, promote investment in SC by residents.
- encourage more restaurants, shopping in Sherwood Park to set up business
- ensure business leaders know Strathcona is the place to do business Successful local businesses are often approached by other municipalities, even American ones who are aware that entrepreneurs are the drivers of the economy and provide employment. The government does not create real jobs that build an economy - trading services does not bring prosperity on its own. Manufacturing has big influence on economy.
- Helps our County with growth and a positive image. We have much to offer and attract new business/industry.
- I do not like the open for business concept because it implies that any business would be accepted. Local businesses should not be run out of homes. Too many commercial vehicles parked on roadways on a regular basis.

- I think the County of Strathcona needs to do much more in promotion for business and development. The benefits of living and working in the county are overshadowed by the City of Edmonton Economic Development Committee and many people or business aren't aware of the thriving, viable and economic benefits in the County in which we live in.
- I understand that there are benefits to a strong economy, however too many decisions are being made where the public is ignored and big business leads the way. I would encourage a diversity of small scale, local businesses so there is greater economic benefit to members of the community.
- I'm not sure that more needs to be done. I think our area is well-known for what it does. I wouldn't want to cut back what we're doing but given the county's growth and its burgeoning industrial and retail sectors, I think we already have a pretty good reputation. There's a lot of money here. Businesses and investors know it.
- It seems like Edmonton and Alberta are signaling they are closed for business, Strathcona County needs to ensure that local, national and international communities know we are open for, and eager to have their, business
- Local business is the backbone to communities. This will encourage more local jobs, and more local dollars being spent.
- Not to the detriment of residents living here. Business's should be encouraged but only those that are a good fit for our neighbourhoods.
- Several stores I frequented and loved have gone out of business in Sherwood Park - and I am left looking for the same service in Edmonton. I think there needs to be a review of affordability for small business owners in Sherwood Park.... beyond the box stores.
- Strathcona County is a great place to live, work and do business. I believe that promotion can attract more investment and opportunities.
- This probably begins by making it easier for new businesses to start. I personally am starting a brewery with locally made beer, right here in the park. Making the first year easier to survive will make it easier to take the plunge. We're currently preparing everything to start, and if there was a way to get more support, it would help.
- We continue to see more of the same businesses popping up...pizza restaurants, nail salons...let's get some different businesses in here. Simons, Lulu-lemon, unique restaurants like la patrona, etc.

Other comments

- A paper that is a real newspaper not full of advertising.
- Do this in the LEAST costly means. Council should not be flying around the world at our expense. Use the internet to promote.
- Get on board with Edmonton and company to do this.

- Good plan, but can get costly.
- I am disappointed that Strathcona County is not #1 in any listing of a great place to live. What areas does the County need to address?
- I would be careful not to overdevelop the region. A booming economy causes many problems and ruins communities. Makes them frustrating and stressful to live in while booming, and leaves behind a more painful downturn when it's over.
- Lack of signage on A.H. says we don't know how to brag about ourselves. Since when should you need to take the Lloydminster turnoff to get to Sherwood Park via Hwy. 16 when coming from the North on A.H.
- Lower business taxes
- Public engagement or a citizen panel to understand modestly what our assets are and creating lasting legacies outside of just infrastructure..... the dying role of volunteerism
- Sadly, we have a reputation for being one of the most difficult municipalities in Canada for doing business. Previous Council was inaccessible, and County administration is painfully slow and bureaucratic. There is a huge opportunity for improvement in this area. Perhaps new Council can change this.
- This makes sense, but it does not need to be a major focus. Growth is not always the best option over long-term sustainability and quality of living.
- We are only minutes from downtown Edmonton yet I never hear that advertised anywhere.

Appendix G: Advance the community's interests by developing and maintaining strong relationships with our neighbouring municipalities and civic organizations to ensure long-term prosperity

Fort Saskatchewan

- Active membership in AAMDC, AUMA, AIHA, Edmonton Global, AAMDC Zone 5 Amalgamate with Fort Saskatchewan
- All municipalities need to work together to get the most for dollars spent and have a well-coordinated region.
- Consider a bus route that is to-from Fort Sask. or St Albert or Beaumont or Leduc. I think they just go to Edmonton right now.
- Do a BETTER job planning with the City of Edmonton and Fort Sask.
- Do not stop the process of building Bremner. It's the right decision and if we don't do it, Fort Saskatchewan will.
- I think Strathcona County needs to put itself first. I don't like the 'noise' coming from Fort Saskatchewan to take over County land.
- Ensure we work effectively with Edmonton and Ft. Saskatchewan to the benefit of Sherwood Park eg. LRT line
- Stick with the Bremner decision; it's a good one. I don't see how it would hurt the county that much if we let Ft. Sask annex some land along Hwy21. The Ft. and Bremner will eventually grow together.
- Strong relationships = ability to work through issues. Can be strong, firm but good to deal with ie: Fort Sask annexation
- We seem to already have strong relationships that need to be maintained. New mayor rod Frank will be key in doing so, including reaching out to mayors such as Don Iveson. Once annexation talks are figured out with Fort Sask., that relationship will need to be rebuilt.

Amalgamation

- Amalgamation is likely in the future for Strathcona County. The GTA is a good example of this occurring. It is important for Strathcona County to have a strong position when this happens and this will only happen with fostering good relations with the City of Edmonton.
- Necessary to reduce overlap and duplication and avoid the possibility of future amalgamation.

Annexation

- Annexation of County land worries me.
- Avoid annexation, build economy, save on resources.

-
- Prevent annexation with Fort Saskatchewan and the City of Edmonton.
 - I like to think we already have this. Of course I don't want to see SP annexed by Edmonton
 - I think we will be gobbled up by Edmonton if we get too cozy with them
 - I'm not sure what this could be expressed as. Not annexing land from other municipalities? Coordinating public transit? Inviting them over for tea and baby kissing (with live tweets)?
 - Not interested in being annexed by Edmonton
 - Resist any further annexation.
 - The capital region is a very integrated economic and social region. Consequently we need to look to common goals for transportation, policing and infrastructures without having Edmonton drive the process or use annexation as a means to promote individual cities agendas.
 - While I appreciate this goal, especially in the era of annexation, I think that the county needs to focus on their needs.
 - Yes, but why all the talk on annexation? Who stands to benefit most?

City of Edmonton

- Better connections to city of Edmonton facilities and transit. Consider light rail transit between the communities
- Collaborate with Edmonton to consolidate services such as Police, Fire, Public transportation to increase efficiency, decrease cost.
- Don't give away the farm. If I wanted the poor level of services provided in Edmonton I would live there. Leave our ambulance/fire, snow removal and garbage programs alone.
- Edmonton is obviously our largest neighbour and we did to work with them concerning waste management and transportation into the City of Edmonton (LRT)
- Everyone working together to benefit the people of the greater Edmonton area is a win-win.
- Fast transit railway system between Edmonton and Strathcona County (Sherwood park)
- Focus on developing better efficient transit system linking all neighbouring communities. Get rapid transit here fast. Run bus service evenings to and from Edmonton. Include bus services into County. Encourage safe transit use for youth and seniors. Free service for seniors as happens in many other communities across Canada (and in other countries) Promote bus service in advertising. Reward not using private vehicles. Work together. Cooperate. Not compete!

-
- Hoping the years past attitude of us vs them is gone. So much for residents to gain by partnering with Edmonton, specifically Transit.
 - important to not be encompassed within Edmonton as Strathcona County does a better/more responsible management of its finances
 - Instead of being fearful of Edmonton and other areas, and fearmongering, stand up and show the ways that the County can help support other municipalities while being independent.
 - the county should be teaming up with other municipalities and co-sharing things that are duplicated in the Metro Edmonton Region, Things like Transit, Fire, Ambulances, and maybe even Policing.
 - We need a strong voice at the Metro Edmonton table. Edmonton is the brand name; we need to be part of it.
 - We need better public transportation between Sherwood Park and Edmonton as employees get to and from work.
 - Work with Edmonton Global and the Metropolitan Board closely.

Transit/Transportation

- LRT will allow for easier access to and from for local and non-residents. Increasing the value of moving to and working in Sherwood Park
- Yes, LRT would be an insanely good asset.
- I would like to see an extension of the rapid transit to downtown and connections to other areas. Improve traffic flows by reviewing lights.
- Inter-municipal bussing?
- Coordination of transportation options to avoid duplication of routes & services; fare options to cover a broader area; con't preferred rates for low income, AISH , seniors, students and any disabled. Better transportation options on long weekends for aforementioned & generally to special events. Ensure equal services (of any kind) if shared with other communities. essentially eliminate any duplication in any service.
- Develop relationships with neighboring municipalities - potential for shared resources such as transportation and recreational facilities.
- We do not live in a bubble. Instead of creating mini empires, it would be good to see cooperation and collaboration with our neighbours...using tax dollars wisely in health, education, transportation etc.
- We need to have strong connections to our neighbors so we can have better transportation, and economic relationship.

Municipal relationships

- I think working together with surrounding communities ultimately means more resources are expended on the betterment of all community members, as opposed to spending resources on undermining, fighting with, or isolating communities. By planning together overall costs can be reduced and greater service integration is possible (e.g. no point building a road somewhere if the municipality on the other end doesn't build out a matching road to you).
- I think is important but not really a goal
- Be resilient enough to work with ANY provincial government. Leverage community groups and orgs to support service delivery where it makes sense.
- By cooperating with our neighbors, we can work together to more effectively attract business investment. There is far too much vacant commercial property in the county at this time.
- Collaboration with neighboring municipalities is essential in maintain a unified front by understanding the emphasis of others. We are not an island to ourselves. In unity there is strength.
- collaboration as it positively affects our community but also preserve our boundaries and resources that keep taxes reasonable
- I believe a community is one that includes those municipalities in the area surrounding our own community. We need to meet and discuss ways to cooperate and encourage one another.. it is not just about looking after ourselves
- I believe it is important to maintain good relationships as our borders and services seem to be more intertwined then in the past.
- I don't think it is necessarily advancing our interests that is the most important outcome of creating relationships, it is for increasing efficiencies and covering off gaps in service.
- I feel these relationships are important; however, it is more important for Strathcona County to build and maintain our identity as a strong and prosperous individual community who supports and works alongside our neighbors.
- I found that all of the suggested goals were very good and it seemed to me that each one depended a lot on all the others. By getting along with our neighbors and those in the community the others would all fall into place!
- More collaboration with neighboring municipalities and less competition with them.
- Be strong for the community. Do not get 'bowled over' by neighboring municipalities.
- Regional partnerships will improve efficiency and effectiveness and will improve the safety of all communities
- Regional planning is important.

- Relationships don't create prosperity. Realistic strategic plans that are well executed will create that prosperity. I'm concerned that our County administration is weak in this area.
- This is important in that we do not want ongoing contentious relationships with neighbouring municipalities.
- try and get along with the municipalities that surround us...negotiate and compromise DO Not Argue or Threaten...
- We are a partner in the Capital Region and, as such, we need to ensure that we're meeting our responsibilities and that our partners are as well. And we need to find ways to fix problems in our relationships. For example, it's my understanding that Strathcona's garbage and recycling isn't sent to the closest place (Cloverbar dump just off the Yellowhead), but rather to some sort of waste facility near Vermilion (??). If so, that must be costing us money and I hope it's not happening because the City of Edmonton and Strathcona County couldn't agree on the details of a waste management agreement.
- We are all in this together...no isolationism....Trumphism. Avoid 'specialism'.
- We have to be good neighbors and get along with other communities. Cooperation makes the pie bigger for all of us.
- We have to maintain a Strong relationship with the communities around, but we can't let them bully us into doing things that they want and don't do anything for us
- Working with neighboring municipalities should be cost effective for all involved.

Other comments

- Build affordable assisted living/ long-term care housing for seniors where couples can stay together or under the same room, receiving the care they need.
- Consider Sherwood park as a city.
- Cooperating with the region on infrastructure and growth is fine, but don't allow any other to govern our community. Example, no 2 tier governance structure.
- Creating a cultural center for all artisans & non-profit organizations to attract involvement from a wider area
- Definitely a worthy goal. I feel this is already being done.
- Good balance between us first and the best decision for the region.
- I know that we already do this and we should keep on doing it.
- Important - but important to remain a strong stand along municipality
- Is this not your obligation and object anyways ?
- less is more

-
- look at joint applications for hosting large events or attracting large businesses (i.e. amazon)
 - more socially, economically and culturally open and in support of other communities
 - Need to keep up the partnerships and not come in like a bull in a china-shop!
 - Need to think of the very broad interests here so this is everything from environment, economy on through societal interests.
 - Please build a trail or bike lane along baseline road into Edmonton so that we can cycle commute into downtown
 - Please guard us as a municipality---not a suburb
 - Public engagement is first required to fully understand the whole communities/ County's interests and needs before going to the regional level.
 - Regional MUNI collaboration is necessary for a bigger picture systems view and co-financing potential. It is way more important than advancing community interests which is the wrong attitude to bring to the table. The view should be how do we work together for mutual benefits and cost savings. This is a very important tactic that supports and will help to accomplish the more targeted strategic goals (6,7,8,11, and 12) listed above. In addition goal 3,4, and 5 could also be helped. see below. I would separate out civic org communication from this goal and connect to civic engagement.
 - Respectfully stand up for Sherwood Park and Strathcona County Represent our long-term interests
 - secondary education center
 - Strathcona County must be seen as a leader across the greater metropolitan region. We have much to offer our neighbours and must be seen as good partners; however, we must also stand firmly to protect our interests in regional discussions, ensuring that the unique characteristics of the county are preserved going forward.
 - Team work enhances everyone's own civic organizations
 - This is good business and should be a given strategy by elected officials representing all Strathcona County Residents, not an isolated goal.
 - We need far more cooperation and shared services with neighboring municipalities to reduce costs as well as energy usage.
 - We need to keep our own identity, but work with others and be good neighbors. Collaborate and work on joint projects as needed to promote good will and save costs
 - We need to spend time and money effectively and efficiently, need to reduce duplication of costs, ie. administration

- While this is important, there is currently both process and communications links in place. I feel this is a maintenance goal.
- Work with economic development for the region, advance business economy both locally and region wide.

Appendix H: Improve the efficiency of resource usage; minimize the volume of waste and its impact on the community

Green Routine

- Continue Green Routine. Regularly update residents of where and how their recycling efforts have made a difference.
- Expand the green routine, and hours at the eco-center to continue increasing this service.
- I have heard that our compostable garbage is now just going to the landfill but we are still paying for the extra pick up! Let's be honest and let us participants in the program know and reduce the green cart pick up with a price reduction on our bill. I have also heard that we are paying exorbitant prices to store the plastic, paper waste! We need to be more efficient in these areas.
- I would like to continue the support of the green routine, etc to minimize volume of waste going to the dump.
- Keep up the good work with the Green Routine, and recycling center.
- Promote the light efficient community policy again, activate a climate change strategy, strengthen development policy even more to be green and energy efficient, support alternative energy business opportunities, provide tax incentives for conservation of land ecological or agriculture, and incentives for businesses to be green as well as certification for operations in the Biosphere. Promote and allow smaller house foot prints.
- The green routine has been a great success and the new Envirostation helps even more. There are still some materials, though, that are not easy to dispose of, like used lawn equipment for example
- There are many initiatives that could be undertaken - let's try to pilot a green routine for non- residential waste.
- Yes - this has both immediate and long term benefits. I think the county has done a very good job with the green bin program and making it as easy as they do to be in compliance. I would like to see the green pickup remain longer in the fall as most years the program goes to alternating weeks right around the time the green bins go to once every two weeks - and the bin usage is high with fall leaf pickup (this year the leaves came down earlier, but in the past I have been left with many, many bags of leafs I had to slowly empty into the green bin to be taken away every 2 weeks as the recycling people would not pick up my clear bags of leaves).
- I love our compost and waste collection program!
- I love the sorted garbage. It is wonderful to see how little goes into the black bin.
- Again, this is well done now.

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- I agree 100% with this goal too. It also contributes to the well-being of our environment.
 - Good system now. Assure it is used properly.
 - Once again I think Sherwood Park does an exceptional job at this. I think we should promote our abilities more in this dept., across Canada and maybe even further. We should never grow complacent & if there is ever is a potential to reduce our carbon footprint, we should embrace it. Also, I believe that although it maybe challenging to include apartments, condos, seniors facilities, businesses and industry should be included in this very important aspect of our community's health and future wellbeing.
 - we have already invested a lot in this area
 - This supports ecosystems.
 - Totally happy with current processes
 - Also an honourable goal. I think Strathcona County is already ahead of the crowd in this respect (Erin Wildeboer and her team are fantastic!). Let's stay ahead :)

Recycling

- A lot of people are not recycling!!
- A lot of what is going into the recycle bins, shouldn't. Find a way to repurpose items that are still usable to other people. Hodge Podge was a good start. 2) are our plastics really being recycled? if not, research how this can be done. 3) look into recycling material (fabrics, etc.). 4) reduce printed materials, etc.
- Continue to build on the recycling and energy conservation.
- Continued education for residents regarding what goes in compost, garbage, and recycling to reduce waste that ends up in the landfill. More access to recycling/compost in public spaces as there is in the library and recreational facilities.
- I like the 'minimize the volume of waste' -- we need to do better on reduction of overall waste -- we are doing well on recycling but we need to do much more on reduction and some more on re-use.
- I support this idea Wholeheartedly and would encourage our government to encourage residents to continue caring about recycling etc.
- I think Strathcona does a good job with this already. Its waste collection and recycling collection programs seem pretty good and there are lots of places around Sherwood Park I can drop off recyclables.
- I think that we should have garbage inspections and if you are throwing away stuff that can be recycling you should be fined.

- I would like to see the blue boxes back. they were easy to use, didn't cost us money for special blue bags, and encouraged recycling much more than the bags do.
- Improved education on use of green/black bins/ blue bag recycling program, better communication of specialty days, eg. large item pickup, extra yard waste collection, etc. Keep recycling stations open and accessible
- Paper bins and plastic bins should be implemented instead of a mixed bag of recycle. Similar to the system used in Ottawa area.
- Promote recycling, make families more accountable for their garbage/waste
- Provide opportunities for clothing recycling. Enact stricter bylaws on property maintenance by home owners who use their yards, not their bins, to store garbage.
- Recycle
- Recycling is a huge area to continue growing, as well as composting. I'm so proud of our county waste management system.
- Residences have great recycle, compost and waste management but businesses do not a line.
- Reward those who use organics/recycle. Come up with solution to address those that still only use garbage and never recycle.
- SP already has a great recycling program, but like most places, apartments and condos are usually left out. Maybe a program in collaboration with building owners allowing a central place that residents can leave blue bags?
- The county has done an excellent job with recycling and the facilities provided to support the waste management. It would be wise to keep residents informed on where the recycled material goes and if the effort is worthwhile. Then maybe the participation will increase.
- Yes, it is very important to cut down on waste and to recycle. The recycling area in Sherwood Park is very accessible and easy to use.

Waste reduction

- A smaller roadside bin for both waste and organics with reduced fees to encourage household waste reduction.
- Basics only.
- Burn garbage
- Continue to provide blue bag and compost services - the extra collection facilities at the Broadview Enviroservice could have additional hours.
- Continuing to work toward less waste that is cost effective makes sense.
- Efficiency is good for finances.

-
- Continue to work on the waste reduction strategies.

Enviroservice

- I really am impressed with our new eco-center, simple and accessible.
- Love the new eco-station. We make use of it to get rid of large items that we might have just thrown into the garbage.
- The eco-center in Sherwood Park is excellent.

Other comments

- Don't go overboard
- I know this probably means garbage waste, but the biggest waste that impacts us more is the wastage of money by executives, managers, directors. Gimmicks, promo crap, (that eventually ends up in our landfills). Why does every meeting require the county to pay for food and beverages for the attendees?
- I like the textile disposal strategy pitched by the last council.
- I strongly believe in reducing waste and the county should take a leading role in this.
- I think lots of the residents are attempting to do this, while others do not give a care.
- If this reduces waste and saves the municipality tax dollars then this is a good action.
- Incentives for conservation of resources for agencies, organizations or individuals.
- It is tie for the County to look **HARD** at ts own operations to become more efficient. Smaller and fewer county vehicles, eliminate county vehicle idling, less water usage at County facilities, etc.
- Keep up the good work now we need to go after the big businesses like Costco and Walmart...there is a lot of waste of food products in these stores...seen with my own eyes.
- Landfills are a bandage to a bigger issue and in some ways bigger than Strathcona County but efficient resource usage that can still be effective at the Municipal level.
- let's make more of a concerted effort to minimize waste
- Love the waste program, love the hodge lodge lodge!!
- monitor responsible use and even those People in power in the County to be fair and conscientious.
- Not a big priority for me. I think our current waste system is effective.

-
- Perhaps the county should stop putting so much salt on the roads?
 - Prioritize waste diversion and ensure that the county only conducts public works that are appropriate and necessary.
 - Reduce the planning department to find efficiency and improve processes at the same time. Resource review of other areas like family community services (appears to be too many staff) for a community our size.
 - Remember that increasing taxes drives away potential business. expense of increasing number of government jobs drives away business as they are forced to compete and must find less expensive location to operate
 - Renew license online as an option. In today's environment it seems wasteful to have someone take my money. The cost of envelopes and stamps is less than paying a staff member
 - Reward those who recycle; who compost, who have a container of garbage at the curb only once a month instead of once a week.
 - Sherwood Park is already doing a good job, perhaps switching county buildings to solar would help though.
 - The County could do way more...
 - The county does need to improve the efficiency of the use of its resources and at what point do we sub contract out instead of buying expensive equipment for specialized use. EX: Road paving, why is the County in the Road Paving and sidewalk business? There are lots of companies that can do it better than we can with our mostly student type staffing for these projects. I have seen a few County Equipment vehicles that are so specialized and must be so expensive for such a use, that it must be cheaper to bring in a contractor to do these types of jobs.
 - There should be incentives to reduce waste and conserve water. Businesses and households who use too much water should pay a premium.
 - This is an investment and sees good returns if we think long term.
 - This should always be done in this day and age, it should be a core principle of how the county operates not part of a four year goal.
 - This should be a no-brainer, something we are working towards at all times. Efficiency helps EVERYONE.
 - Transit always seems wasteful, so many empty buses driving around. Maybe smaller buses for non-peak schedules.
 - Waist is a huge problem for society today and for the future.
 - We see. Lot of waste of funds when it comes to rural roads , weed control , etc. There seems to be NO supervision and the staff is severely under qualified. Example - a transportation supervisor asked if it was my driveway - it was my Range Road !!! We live on the Far East of the county and there was 2 Graters working out here for months! There is not that many roads to justify that. It was a.

' make work project' and the operators were on their phones every time I drove by!

- Would like to see more reuse. I only recently found out that a program was available for reuse on the last week of operation.
- Yes very important. Having our own composting facility would be beneficial to local food production by our agri-business sector.

Appendix I: Increase public involvement and communicate with the community on issues affecting the County's future

Media/newsletters/internet

- Using as many forms of media to communicate to residents and provide opportunities for engagement.
- Better newspapers / news letters on the typical resident on goings.
- no complaints about opportunities to be involved. More regular column space in Sherwood park news from county departments not just elected officials would be an enhancement
- newsletters and email are great source - more events and participation raise awareness
- Reduce \$ spent on public consultations (i.e., advertising, renting space, equipment, staff time, etc.). Consultations can be conducted over the internet (as in surveys), or personally in a municipally-owned space.
- Now that's broad! I've heard a few stories about the County bringing together focus groups, only to more or less disregard the work they put in. Eg. the Colchester open house that clearly indicated they did not want to be zoned small agriculture. I think public involvement in traffic calming measure should include ALL of Strathcona County. Ie. All residents receive handouts and email notices about proposed traffic calming, not just the immediate neighbourhood.
- email surveys are good - better hours for public forums to accommodate residents who work

Surveys/focus groups

- A good suggestion but more challenging nowadays. I like the ability to answer surveys online because of the flexibility of time to complete it.
- Appreciate surveys and community involvement meetings.
- Continue with surveys such as this, and use this info in planning. Keep your promises to particular groups regarding land use.
- Do statistically accurate surveys, not like this one
- I have lived in the county for almost 50 years and so much of the decisions are made over the reeves/mayors kitchen table and with no consultation with the people that are involved. This survey if actually followed is a great start, but the final decisions always seem to go to what benefits the mayor the most
- I like to be able to offer input on surveys such as this. Keep it up!
- Isn't this being down now? I get a lot of information and requests to do surveys and attend open houses.

- Keep up with communications and surveys such as this
- More easy access surveys like this.
- offer and advertise more opportunities for residents to provide input such as this online survey
- This has been an ongoing issue for years. Just keep the public engaged and try to increase engagement along the way. Have more opportunities for residents to comment on specific issues, through surveys such as this.
- you are doing that with this survey.
- With the busy lives of some residents, it can be hard to get the public involved. Perhaps more surveys like this one would assist.
- Yes but careful not to do so many surveys to public, too many already.

Other comments

- being done
- Currently being well handled but would like to see more to the community.
- Your already doing great in this field
- The county does a good job with this.
- It's good.
- Communication tools are already there for residents to use.
- Continue current processes and methods of public engagement.
- Continue to reach out to residents and business to help shape the future of our community
- Currently satisfied with this area.
- Engagement and outreach to the public.
- Good at this already
- Asking citizens is a democratic function and a person's right.
- I feel the county does a good job in this regard.
- I have been happy with the amount of public involvement. Don't feel that time should be wasted on assessing this.
- It is important for the public to understand that they need to be involved in their community, not take the attitude of ' I pay taxes so what do you do for me. '
- Of course

-
- The county has done a good job of this in the past couple of years. This should absolutely continue, and frankly should grow! This helps get the community engaged in all aspects of Sherwood Park/County life.
 - Yes

Special interest groups

- As long as it benefits everyone - not just a select group or ethnic culture.
- In this era of easy communication, not involving the general public in decisions that impact their lives seems inexcusable. It is important to offer opportunities for input by all, rather than the historical approach of primarily listening to major donors or special interest groups. Wider communication increases the chances of making decisions that are beneficial to the most people, while still considering the needs of more specialized groups.

Other comments

- As of late, it seems that the council and community have had different agendas. How can our community's voice be heard and not overshadowed by personal goals of council?
- Be totally transparent to the tax payer as to what is happening in the county. Have one place where residents can view all current issues that may affect them instead of having to search for information the county does themselves no favours when residents feel there are hidden agendas.
- Engagement is great for direction, but not decisions; that's what council is for
- Get creative.
- How can you increase public involvement if the public doesn't want to be involved. Create new community activities of interest, cultural events, rural fairs, activities, and integrate sessions and information on getting input for the County's future while people are part of something they are already attending.
- Critical. Do all residents understand what The County's positions are when going to the regional level. I don't. how can we get a better awareness of what are the priorities and issues?
- I don't feel I have been heard by the county, not always aware of public forums, and they are not accessible to me.
- I have been involved in a rezoning meeting and traffic calming meeting and both of these meetings seemed to be just going through the motions in other words minds had already been made up. It would be nice if the public was really listened to
- I think you need to improve your website. It's hard to find stuff. Plus, if I'm not mistaken, you really only have one Strathcona-related app and it only handles

recreational stuff. Why not create one that allows you to more easily access information and answer questions about county programs, bylaws, etc., as well as engage?

- Important to listen to the people. With
- More awareness of public engagement opportunities for residents. Not just those willing to seek it. Set up in the mall. Canvas to homes. Phone people etc.
- It's only involvement if it informs decisions.
- More open houses. They need to be better advertised.
- more open communication/ comments from individuals
- Most public engagement and communications by a municipality are viewed as telling the public what the municipality is going to do anyway, but make it look like the residents may have a say in the matter. Every public engagement meeting I have participated in the agenda has been set and the municipality is looking for ways to mitigate conflict from the residents.
- Need to do a much better job of community engagement. Bremner consultation was mostly ignored. Need to figure out a way to engage the public.
- No kidding. What could possibly have been the down side to having the Bremner question included in the last ballot? Yes I know members of council are quick to point out how they were elected to make decisions for us and plebiscites aren't they way to go. This of course is not true for issues that affect generations of tax payers with major tax implications for decades for us all.
- Online voting and online public engagement
- Opportunities exist already - the question is more how to encourage residents to take more advantage of them
- People should be involved or at least have the option.
- Probably not much hope in this area, not until we can convince Councillors to pull back the amount of time spent in camera.
- Publish bylaws. Stop changing them willy-nilly. It is most annoying when we buy a house in a specific location with one set of rules in place and find, upon selling, that the rules have changed and we now have to alter our property to suit 'readjusted rules' we had no idea had come into place.
- Similar to adjoining municipalities, the public are the in-house component within the County, who have motivations. An organization, which does not pay attention to the community residents will not be long in office.
- Sounds expensive and unproductive
- Sure, keep it realistic though, just because the community wants something doesn't mean it's for the best long term.
- this should be done strategically where input is value added

-
- Torn on this one. The County already does a very good job with community engagement. The old phrase too many cooks in the kitchen comes to mind. Too much discussion can lead initiatives astray.
 - We do not have a good means to communicate to our residents.. what is wrong with a radio station or a ne
 - Yes, perhaps a voting app for phones where you can listen or watch both sides of a debate and then vote. Nice and quick.
 - While good in theory...only ask my opinion if you are going to consider it! I believe this also creates false expectations. People will say the County did not listen, if the County goes a different direction than what the people said. Do not make this a waste of time for everyone.
 - Invite and engage residents prior to big decisions being made that affect us as a county
 - Online services such as sDab hearings broadcasted. Online voting for plebiscites for major issues such as annexation and long term growth
 - Public involvement is important. How to we help residents sort through all of the engagement strategies and not become apathetic because of too much engagement?
 - Public involvement isn't as important as public education. Just because the public wants something doesn't mean it's what we actually need.
 - Such as asking people in the trailer parks regarding all the building that has happened around there. We were not consulted on anything done in that area. It all went up, it has increased our traffic, raises our property taxes but lowered the value of our homes and we were not once asked our views on what happened around us. What used to be fields and quiet area is not metropolitan, noisy and crime infested with nothing being done when crimes are reported. people can make noise, burn fires all they want, and when we call bylaw are told nothing can be done.

Appendix J: Increase and diversify the petrochemical business

Support

- alternative energy resource companies should be encouraged
- always important
- Bringing jobs to our county will strengthen all aspects
- continue what has been done
- Agree
- It's where the \$\$ are, has to be kept on the radar.
- Let's focus on this in a meaningful way leading to a greener way of still using oil and gas.
- Need to maintain and assure a continuing strong partnership with the industry.
- no brainer here as value-add processing of the resource is critical
- Provide a strong, science backed approach to the development and maintenance of buffer zones to ensure industry can thrive while keeping county residents safe and healthy
- The diversity of the petrochemical business should be on the county's agenda as nationally we are moving away from carbon based fuels. Petrochemical industry funds a large portion of the county's revenue base so if we aren't diverse or proactive, tax rates in the county will skyrocket.
- The petrochemical chem industry is critical to our long term prosperity.
- The petrochemical industry gave us the Alberta advantage. Sure in time, many of us will be driving hydrogen fueled vehicles for zero emissions and climate saving initiatives. This is an initiative that the Chinese have already engaged. Hydrogen can be obtained by the breakdown of natural gas, and we certainly have plenty of natural gas. Diversification of the petrochemical industry is the way of the future. For example, hydrogen powered buses have in the order of twice the range of battery powered buses. There are many other ideas.
- this area has been very important - the refineries show the importance of their success to the county
- This is a great initiative to ensure the standard of living for the residents.
- This is where we need to focus
- Use our strength to maximize growth and jobs in our area.
- Very critical to grow this business, it supports a large service industry as well.

-
- We are currently very dependent on the oil and gas industry. We would be better off looking at other industries so we are not as dependent on the oil and gas boom and bust cycle.
 - We remain an all-eggs-in-one-basket economy, requiring greater diversification in order to better weather the economic cycles of the oil industry.
 - Work to attract companies and investors, so we keep the resources and employment opportunities in our region.
 - Yes.
 - Yes. The Industrial Heartland is a major driver in our economy and its growth must also be assured. At the same time we should be looking to create renewable energy sources and to work with our industrial partners to ensure that we are protecting the environment.
 - Yes. Continue.

Opposition

- Absolutely not. I am sick of 'diversification' meaning 'find other uses for oil'. UGH. How about ACTUAL DIVERSIFICATION that can see us prosper when oil prices get low, such as green energy alternatives, tourism, innovative small business.
- I'm not so sure about this - the world is really moving away from petrochemicals. Do we need to look at something else and focus on just generally diversifying the economy?
- Let business take care of business. This should not be a main focus.
- Not a priority at all. Promote and diversify alternative energy business.
- Nope.
- No, focus on other businesses.
- no
- Not against this but why is this a municipal priority? Why not 'increase and diversify the energy business' in order to include renewables? This stated one is a really narrow priority ... not appropriate for our plan.
- The heartland is already zoned industrial and is serviced by utilities and roadways. It is also in close proximity to co-benefiting industries. I don't think the County should invest any tax dollars into the business, we should benefit from them, not a pay for them.
- Already have lots of petrochemical business. Need to diversify away from this industry due to the cyclic nature of the business

-
- I think the focus on agriculture and petrochemicals is too narrow. We are looking at vertical integration in only two industries, both of which are extremely volatile. I think we should look at horizontal diversification.
 - I think the future is moving away from petrochemicals. We need to diversify our economy and invest in more renewable energy solutions.
 - Meh. More like reduce the petrochemical business through county buildings switching to solar.
 - Only if environmental assessments are done before hand.
 - ONLY if emissions are better controlled. Asthma rates are far too high in the County.
 - Stop allowing further developments of these kinds and better control the vast number we have already.
 - There is enough of that already...keep what we have and keep it clean and green as much as possible.
 - We have enough pollution already with all the heavy industry so close by
 - We shouldn't be putting an emphasis on more petrochemical business even if it's where the money is.
 - While I recognize the importance of the petrochemical industry to Strathcona County, it is important to support it but at the same time we need to diversify the county's industrial/service base so we do not rely on the petroleum industry.

Other comments

- A good idea, but I have no interest in living in a 'Chemical Alley'.
- Again the planning department refuses to work cohesively with small businesses and actually discourages and makes things difficult for their growth through ridiculous stalling tactics. They only play nice with the big guns
- Again we should be of assistance to business as it makes sense. We should not bank roll their businesses for them.
- AIHA
- AIHA has literally never been the reason that a company has been attracted to the Heartland (they've admitted so, themselves). New strategies are needed
- All for increased business sin every aspect, but the air has started to smell so bad the last few years here, something needs to be done about that first. many days of summer we now smell like a cesspit.
- Definitely a good thing, but how involved is Strathcona County in making this happen? By aiming to attract new businesses to the industrial heartland?

-
- Does diversification have to be linked to the petrochemical business? We need broader thinking.
 - Doesn't seem to be a whole lot of room left to be increasing petrochemical operations in Strathcona with how much there already is. Be sure to only allow development where it makes the most sense and keep away from homes.
 - Economic development can best be managed in a framework of cooperation with other capital region municipalities
 - How would this be done? Encouraging the building of more refineries so that we are selling final product rather than raw oil? I think selling more finished product and preserving the refining work to the province/community is a good idea.
 - I guess there is still some land available on the west side of the County where they can increase (use) for diversify of the petrochemical business. As long as it isn't going to increase the cost the residents or businesses to live and/or work in the County.
 - I think this is a provincial matter. The ongoing concern for me is the resultant health & wellbeing of residents is only my focus. I would safety/pollution standards set to the highest standards in the world.
 - I understand that there are benefits to a strong economy, however too many decisions are being made where the public is ignored and big business leads the way. I would encourage a diversity of small scale, local businesses so there is greater economic benefit to members of the community.
 - If the County can make itself more attractive to any business sector then this should be undertaken. I'm not sure we should narrow our focus to only one.
 - I'm also OK with this, but I think this is best done by allowing it to increase organically. So much of this industry is driven by dynamics outside of our county, province and country.
 - Keep growing our core business
 - Like it or not, that is the core of our economy and more needs to be done to continue that employment opportunity and tax base.
 - must include safety measures to ensure the health and wellbeing of residents
 - Should only be done in industrial areas & without tax payers money.
 - Tax breaks
 - The world still requires oil and Strathcona County collects a large amount of tax revenue from this industry, they need our support to continue to contribute
 - This is good but I also think we should be trying to diversify our business tax base by encouraging new agri business including production facilities for processing.
 - This needs to be considered carefully to preserve agricultural land. Also safety needs of the community needs to be considered in new expansion.

- When we talk diversifying business, it should be more than petrochemicals. Alternative energy is coming but we don't seem to be embracing it.

Appendix K: Define and strengthen the community's identity and heritage

Identity

- a lot of good work has been done on heritage...focus on inner area of Sherwood Park like around the Mall building a strong people oriented walking area for family and seniors...stop all the building spreading the community thin...it loses its identity from Sherwood Park to Sherwood Mall
- Canada as a whole is losing its identity. Strengthening the Canadian identity without losing who we were is important.
- Does this mean that Strathcona County doesn't have a defined identity and heritage? Does defining and strengthening this heritage improve the quality of life of the residents - how is this measured?
- Fully agree with this. Define and strengthen our current community identity.
- Get rid of 'Living. Refined.' It's arrogant and condescending, and does nothing to advance the county's 'identity' or position in the province and region. Also, get rid of the intangible goal of being 'Canada's most livable community,' which cannot be measured. If this must be addressed (I don't think it needs to be), develop an identity that actually speaks to the county for once.
- I actually don't know if this is necessarily a high priority for me. It seems like Strathcona County has carved out a nice niche for itself and, as such, its identity and heritage has been growing 'organically' for quite some time. But I wouldn't discourage opportunities, if they arise.
- Identity as a county is important. Family involvement
- Identity through natural and cultural heritage is stronger with a capital region perspective as we share many related stories. A coordinated approach would be not only efficient and effective but encourage mutual visitation and interaction.
- It's my perception that Strathcona County as a whole needs work on identity.
- Livable and community minded. As for Heritage and finding an 'identity', no. We started in the 50's as a community for workers for the industrial heartland. No more, no less. Let's embrace that and keep it going.
- Our identity is an upper middle class, predominately white community.... this isn't something we should celebrate.
- Strong community identity and heritage are key in fostering a sense of pride in residents. Bringing back medieval days could help rebuild this.
- The community's identity is 'sherwhite park' and the county can't change that. As for our heritage, the only people who actually care about it is the farmers.
- if we have strong communities (i.e. people being proud of their community and neighbours looking after neighbours), a lot of issues will take care of themselves.

- What heritage, what identity?

Community events and programs

- Again, I believe more support for neighbourhood level events and activities would be great! But also as a County.
- Hold events in Sherwood Park that would attract outside communities
- events and heritage are important, must understand who is the external audience and the hosting of events has a human capital legacy to the community
- Continue with community events at special times of the year ie. New Years, Farmers Markets, etc.
- do not ignore the silent majority- lately a big rush to be politically correct with minority groups imposing views on ignoring popular cultural events like Christmas celebrations in schools are
- Continue Arts & culture programs- library, diversify -open to New Immigrants and other cultures
- Continue to support the County Museum, Festival Place programs, and sport and recreational facilities.
- continue to offer programs in the local community
- More effort should be made for meet your neighbor programs.
- Last spring there was a grant available to residents to host a community event (eg. block parties). Do this again!! It was great for our neighbourhood!
- Not only where we come from, but what kind of diverse community we want to be.
- Our cooperation with the communities that surround us is necessary. However we need to maintain our standards of service and independence.
- Similar to building strong communities. I think teaching people about the community and where it comes from helps new comers see it as a community, not just a place to stay while they make money.
- Support for the cultural community is important for citizen well-being and creating a beautiful community.

History

- Yes, as a resident off 10 years, I don't have a great sense of our community history and would like to know more.
- To develop a master plan, design & build a new museum to house and display Strathcona County's history, in a centrally located and accessible location, free to the public.

- Should have signs throughout the county that provide information on the area's history
- I would like to see more emphasis on First Nations history in our area. Council's blindness to and ignorance of the first people on our land is completely embarrassing. Was very pleased to see acknowledgement of First Nations at the new Beaver Hills Biodiversity Trail, but this is the ONLY place I have seen this in the County.
- Build an awesome museum to preserve what has taken place since Campbell town first originated. There was a chemical plant named Celanese that employed 1100 employees (many who lived in Sherwood Park) and don't believe that any effort has been made to capture part of our history!
- And conserve should be added to this statement and include Indigenous communities.
- Don't invest a lot of resources on this. We are mostly a bedroom community for Edmonton, not a cultural or historic mecca.
- Help with the County's image to attract business and residents.
- Heritage and culture can really bring depth and colour to a community. There's lots of ways to bring these to life that make for a very vibrant community
- Heritage mile is part of that along with the local museum. We seem to be doing that fairly well at the present time.
- I like the heritage vignettes, very useful for those of us who moved here.
- It is important to remember where we came from.
- It takes only one generation for information about people, places and things to be lost; ensure this is not the case by sponsoring essay competitions on this subject
- By strengthening these elements, residents will have something to gather around - creating more feeling of community and common purpose.

Other comments

- Basics only.
- Build Ag multiuse site at Bremerton House
- Continue to do this as opportunities present themselves but not highest priority for spending
- diminished
- I do not think this is a priority.
- Industry, Agriculture and diversity defines our heritage. A good example is the Robin Hood Association which is a leader in our province in providing valuable support to individuals with disabilities.

-
- Interesting.
 - Let's decide who we are and be proud of it.
 - More community halls and leagues
 - More signs saying 'this way to Sherwood Park need on access roads. Dump the RR signs that seem to be more evident o roads leading to the Park. We no longer are a Rural Community.
 - Need a downtown, plan to build a new one. Bremner house should be developed into a cultural asset open to tourists and locals.
 - Nice but not a strong goal.
 - not important to me
 - The county is doing enough in this area. What exists is done well.
 - The local museum and archives does so much for us, but needs our help financially. If we could increase the facility (or... build them a new one??) we would create jobs, and create a facility which we could be proud of, and one which would draw in the community, thus becoming more self-sufficient.
 - This is very important and the heritage of Strathcona County is a very important part of our community.
 - This should be that we make quality products from ingredients locally. So support new business.
 - Treaty 6 helped with this. Open to different ethnicities in community. Bringing in a T&T Market would be great.
 - Use low cost methods ---eg internet.
 - We are already strong in this area
 - We are dirty oil country.... Build us up as an engaging community...not digitally .face to face
 - We need to speak to what makes Strathcona county unique other than the cost of living here.

Appendix L: Increase and diversify agricultural business

Marijuana

- Allow medical marijuana production facilities, as they'll provide significant tax dollars to the county. Stop hamstringing agriculture with development. Recognize that agriculture isn't the primary industry in our rural area anymore, and that many 'farmers' are actually construction workers or teachers now. Are we actually still pretending that agriculture is a massive industry in the county?
- Be transparent about marijuana plants do not call them an agi business, do not put them in the same category as agriculture.
- Can't speak to this, other than encouraging new and innovative uses of land such as medical marijuana facilities and diversification of crops.
- Does this include more marijuana and hemp facilities? I personally am indifferent, but it sounds like the rules are not well defined for 'other' agricultural businesses. 'NIMBY' mentality of residents could be a problem too, depending on the business
- Giving a green light to the Cannabis market is part of Agricultural business and it will be a boom for our county make it easier to the youth in business such as this to get the green light to build. and quite mowing down the farm land for more housing...that is just sick. also we could start encouraging Greenhouses again to grow our own local vegetables etc for sale in the big and small market in our community.
- I see this as mostly an identity and cultural opportunity. Unless of course we can get on board with niche crops like marijuana. I am supportive of that.
- take advantage of the window of opportunity with new legalization of marijuana in 2018 to grow the ag business
- The recent application for the marijuana growing operation has revealed gaps in the licensing process. It would appear that for a business to be entitled to prime farmland/soil, that the business should actually require that soil, otherwise it would be more appropriate for the business to be based in an industrial area, and our licensing should be written to encourage that.

Farmland

- I understand the county has some top quality farmland. Utilizing this land for agriculture only makes sense.
- Including agri tourism and more market garden events and fairs. Promote diversification, provide support for farm plan transitions.
- Keep farm land for agriculture.

- keep farmland protected - respect the farmland.
- MORE of this- individual, personal, private food cultivation ie. chicken, bees; patronize local farmers; local businesses rather than giant franchise and warehouses.
- Preserving family farms, helping them discover unique niches, programs to reduce costs, helping new farmers, etc.
- reduce tax demands on business so they can compete more successfully talk to other levels of government and get rid of dairy board that has artificially inflated price of dairy which creates a form of tax on all Canadians. Its not good for farmers either as they lose out to American markets. The cheese police will not allow sale of dairy products here - its all regulated. Free up the market so farmers can sell where they choose and manufacturing companies can compete on a national scale - and be able to sell to Americans
- Stop building on all the farm land!!
- Support in the form of lower property taxes including a dwelling should be a priority to encourage younger farmers and help them get started.
- We need to protect our farmland. Bremner is a bad idea pushed on us by some in council.
- We cannot keep taking all the good farmland for housing
- don't use good farm land for houses
- Do not build houses on good agricultural land.
- Do we still have agricultural land for agricultural business? Bremner is a sight for residential development, so where are we going increase & diversify agricultural business?
- The backbone of the county is agriculture. We should be promoting this to attract agricultural businesses to the county.
- Stop developing over prime agricultural land (eg. Bremner). There are lots of clay/peat areas where agricultural use would not be compromised.
- Stop development of Bremner.

Agriculture

- Speed up the implementation of the ag master plan strategies especially the value-add processing sector potential and food production (green house) feasibility. Multi use AG facility seems focused on equine only. Awareness and benefits promotion of local food needs addressing. Investigate a local food (growing, cooking, preserving) educational facility add-on to a rec center or library. Preserving ag land -how does choice of Bremner land use fit ?

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- We need to preserve our soil. It is a natural resource.
 - We need Bremner's agricultural land for future food security.
 - There can be more diverse product produced in Alberta . Investment is required not only fiscal but willingness by government.
 - Agree, we have a large rural / agriculture region. It deserves attention and investment.
 - Agreed. We can't just depend on oil and gas. That gravy train will end one day and then we'll be in trouble. Diversifying is very important but it takes a long time. Start now!
 - Agriculture is important. We have land that needs to be preserved for agricultural use. Again we need to address urban sprawl.
 - Agri-Food and agriculture good. Look to make it easier to open these sorts of businesses.
 - Already have lots of agribusiness. It will look after itself.
 - Always a good idea. Supporting residents to eat local is very important and will reduce carbon footprints, promote small business, and promote healthy choices for us all
 - always important
 - And preserve high quality agricultural land so we can source our food locally now and we'll into the future
 - Be mindful of the long-term 'agri-value' of lands being considered for residential development.
 - Business gives us takes
 - Council has made intensive horticulture and processing a discretionary use, so we are kind of going the wrong way.
 - Develop more intense use of land and the demand for products locally required.
 - Get out of the way and let market forces do the direction driving.
 - Get serious about protecting our prime agricultural land. Decisions being made recently are not supporting this.
 - Hard to argue with this. We need to be something more than a petrochemical hub (although there's nothing wrong with that).
 - have the idea of pulse crops been explored in this area
 - I agree but there are other business besides agricultural that should be diversified.
 - I am not sure this should be a goal of the County, as the amount of usable agricultural land is so small

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- I understand that there are benefits to a strong economy, however too many decisions are being made where the public is ignored and big business leads the way. I would encourage a diversity of small scale, local businesses so there is greater economic benefit to members of the community.
 - I would like to see one central farmer's market, along the Prairie Walk adjacent to the main public library. St. Albert has a thriving single market to which I attend as well as the downtown Edmonton market. It could be moved indoors to an expanded agora area(down the halls). It should feature locally sourced foods, crafts, arts, etc. I would like to see an exclusive Strathcona County, 'Meet the Farmer's' tour.
 - I'm not sure a municipal government belongs in this sector.
 - Important to recognize and keep safe those areas that are producing local food. It is scary to see the areas that are being developed when they have been proven to be such fertile areas for agriculture.
 - Incentives for local producers of raw ingredients as well as incentives for local-finished product made with those local ingredients.
 - Increase greenhouse development in Strathcona County by providing tax incentives.
 - Living in Sherwood Park, one doesn't realize the extent of agriculture until you get away from the hamlets and acreages. I would support this goal if it is of value to the farmers. They are really the ones to weigh in on this one.
 - Local community gardens to help offset costs of nutritious food - grow coops

Other comments

- Not necessary (3)
- Preserve Bremner as agricultural land. Promote more market gardens in the County.
- Remove red tape barriers when it makes sense. However stay out of the business of business. Let the market take care of itself.
- Strathcona County is a specialized municipality. I believe it is not only important to support agricultural business but to build awareness of our agricultural economy and heritage in the urban areas of Strathcona County. Creating local access to food and food systems will become more important in future years.
- Tax breaks
- The world needs food
- This should be a priority for Council as they represent the county not just Sherwood Park.

- With Northlands Coliseum no longer available for agriculture events ie. rodeos, etc. A facility in Strathcona County to attract business
- Yes! Where are all the veggie and fruit greenhouses where they grow and sell year-round???
- YES! We need to diversify all the business in Strathcona County away from Oil and Gas, that gravy train is going to end one day and then we'll be in trouble.

Appendix M: Other ideas or comments put forward by respondents

Affordability

- Affordability has been consistently identified as a growing problem, but the County administration seems to feel that this only relates to housing costs and groceries. PLEASE understand that this also relates to taxes, and utility costs under the County's control.
- Affordability, be mindful of the business trend that is shifting due to global warming.
- Affordable assisted living/long-term care under one roof, so couples can stay together.
- Affordable housing for lower income families to enable them to purchase a home instead of renting forever.
- Affordable housing for seniors and young people. Frequent Snow clearing for suburban streets (not twice a winter) More affordable community access to pools, gyms, etc Community events that aren't just geared towards young families.
- Affordable housing. Communicating of resources and programs to residents to know they exist to access. Community engagement through re-establishment of Youth, Senior and Accessible groups. Traffic group to shoulder responsibility of community engagement and working with administration. Community engagement, neighbourhood engagement.
- Affordable housing. Not only for seniors but for all of our residents or potential residents . We are fearful that Bremner will be developed to be another swanky 'estates' or million dollar homes by a certain Sherwood Park developer.
- Council should continue to increase communication with residents, and affordable housing/seniors housing options. Maintain regional relationships. Keep taxes low.
- Less building of malls and homes in green spaces 2. more affordable units for seniors that are downsizing and moving to a small place. 3. Timely and more efficient road work. 4. less disagreements between our community council and other municipal leaders and more cooperation.5. support for the small businesses over the large corporations that are taking over our community
- Remember the \$ are taxpayers and not to be wasted. I would like to see the recreational and transportation facilities expanded and the user fees reduced to as close to 0 as possible. Affordable Senior housing is a top priority as we all get older.
- Seniors affordable housing.
- That we need to look at being a community that offers a variety of options from affordable housing, services and one that is accepting of all.

- The county is home to people who are not at the income of \$100,000+. Affordability is an issue. Access to cheaper recreational services would be a bonus. Our roadways and traffic calming techniques are not safe in the winter. Also getting around Sherwood Park takes a long time due to light timing.
- We need more, affordable, and inclusive, housing for seniors. Programs for residents who are older and have disabilities should not be held in utilitarian spaces without windows. They should be welcoming, home like, and filled with natural light. They should also include outings, rather than be static. Please continue with the small neighbourhood grant program that encourages neighbours to plan celebrations and connect with one another. Liaise with local police and the provincial government in a meaningful way to make sure the principles behind the #ibelieveyou campaign are being implemented. Find ways to continue to address and mitigate family violence, suicide prevention, and other social issues. Find a way to highlight them in our community. Traffic calming has been a godsend in my community. Please continue these measures. Livability and accessibility is often hampered by bad curb design. In some older neighbourhoods it is impossible to go from the road to the sidewalk in a wheelchair or while pushing a stroller.

Comments about the strategic goals

- All of these goal suggestions are excellent. I could have picked more than 3.
- Any of the twelve priorities identified above are honorable intentions. Just do not let time slip away. The public and surrounding municipalities have already had some involvement in the recent election. A strong mandate has been given to proceed. The hardest part is planning and engaging the County for the future. Certainly, industry and public involvement will be of invaluable assistance.
- I would have been happier to have seen less specific priorities -- some of these are so narrow. I would like to see us have at least one strong environmental priority, one strong economic priority and one strong social priority. None of them as narrow as 'conserve ecosystems' or 'promote petrochemical business.' Then, we can have a couple more specific priorities for each of them -- reflecting key county issues.
- Keep in mind priorities. If our attention and focus is spread too thin on everything we run the risk of not nailing the truly most important things well.
- Priorities should include protecting the environment, environmental sustainability, accessibility for all residents, promoting growth in the county, encouraging businesses to relocate here. Planning for sustainable development.
- Public involvement is key to the successful execution of the identified priorities.
- The top three priorities all relate to the Social Framework. I think that implementing the Social Framework will really close gaps in our social safety net.
- Your chosen topics are redundant. All of these topics are already being addressed.

Community identity

- Be fiscally responsible and support smaller community projects like park enhancements, walking trails and other things that encourage people to enjoy our county without having a cost associated to it.
- It's time to make Sherwood Park a city and plan it appropriately
- Maybe it's time to make Sherwood Park a city and not a hamlet
- I love that this county operates differently than the cities and towns around us. I hope we stay unique and aren't forced to 'standardize' with Edmonton
- Be a bit louder in the Metro environment. We seem to be a yes man for Edmonton. Pretty soon EPS and ETS will be on our streets if we don't develop a stronger identity. And don't tell me they don't have annexation dreams.
- Continue to develop transit going to the University of Alberta and the downtown core. Stop with the condos near city hall. It is enough in that small area. How will parking be addressed for the businesses and services there? I am not confident that one underground parkade will be enough for County Hall, the library, and the Agora. Consider a second library in the Emerald Hills area. Don't clear out anymore green spaces and treed areas. Protect what we have left. Continue with the Arbour Day event for grade one students. Support outdoor gardens from r schools and develop community gardens.
- Continue to work towards becoming Canada's most livable community. People choose to move here and stay here for a reason; we need to explore that more.
- Council needs to keep in mind why many people moved to Sherwood Park in the first place. The sense of community and quiet living.
- Don't forget to govern. We elect you to make some of the decisions for us. You can't get consensus on everything by involving the public. These days, people are very sensitive to government officials and governing in general. Yes, we have to change but don't forget to govern. The average person knows nothing about what is actually like to be a Councillor or mayor. We need people on council who know how to manage a business and community, not establish a feel good campaign.
- Focus on local business development, build and strengthen the community, the provincial and federal governments are de-incentivizing people from owning small businesses and preventing them from scaling them. We need supports and to be an example
- Focus on making this community the best and most attractive one. The best roads, snow removal, buildings, programs, events, infrastructure etc. I am OK with taxes going up with inflation. Neglecting our community in order to have a 0% tax increase will not get my vote.
- Growth of the community and managing appropriate amounts of recreation space.

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- Having family friendly events and places to go (ie spray park). Keeping mature neighbourhoods but updating/improving sidewalks, sewer, water, etc. Being a community that welcomes new business but at a cost that will not force them out due to high costs.
 - Holding residential taxes at a reasonable level, maintaining services, keeping an urban/rural atmosphere, pursuing the provincial government for more schools and upgrading the community hospital.
 - I understand that the county needs dollars to operate, however, I want to live in a place that is treated like a community, not a business.
 - If you want to start building stronger community ties then get the schools to open their doors! The schools are publicly paid for facilities where people could be gathering but can't because the doors are always locked. It's complete BS. Contact the MLAs and get them involved too.
 - Keep taxes down, be more transparent with the public. Sherwood park has lost its small town, community appeal, it is becoming a sprawling metropolis.
 - Long term sustainability of infrastructure to accommodate expected growth (business and residential), and ability to attract and retain highly skilled employees with a commitment to building a better community.
 - Maintaining the sense of family and community that makes us special. It is priceless and leads to gains in all other areas of development
 - Perpetual growth is not realistic. There are land area constraints, and strains on resources. I believe that quality of life decreases as Sherwood Park gets bigger. More people, more traffic, more pollution, more concrete strip malls, less green space, less connection to your community. More stores and restaurants do not equal a better life. On the same topic, Bremner is a bad idea. Why are we trying to fill every available land space we have? Farmland, parks, and green spaces are valuable. 5 years ago we were driving past farmland on Sherwood Drive going south from the Yellowhead. It was peaceful. Now, it's all hotels and stores and restaurants. More of the same; strip malls as far as the eye can see. What's more important in our lives?
 - The role of the county seems to get lost. Keep taxes Low, deliver the services we need, ensure this is a safe community and stop building so much administration.
 - We are a safe, well maintained community. Pride of ownership.
 - We want our tax dollars used responsibly in ways that benefit the community as a whole.
 - Wise use of money, efficiency, careful and diligent oversight of tax dollars. To act professionally. Represent our community as a reflection of it.

- Your survey says a lot about business growth, what about residential growth?
Lately, we as a community have been falling behind the other communities that surround us
- You represent the people and thus the people need to be approached for what is best for the community.
- An awareness of the standing of Sherwood Park is it a hamlet is it a town City. Annexation - what this could mean for the county increasing community development through strategy and resourcing at a neighbourhood level to activate and meaningful engage citizens. Should have to be forced. But in the suburbia of Sherwood park do neighbors of blocks really connect?
- We want to be the #1 place in Canada to raise a family.
- We need to do more than just promote and be cheerleaders, we need business minded people and thinking to attract and retain businesses.
- we are a strong municipality that is a desired location to work, live and play... we have a positive image and reputation and we need to preserve and uphold that
- Try to preserve that which makes Sherwood Park such a great place to live.
- To keep Strathcona County/Sherwood Park a place where you want to raise your children and where they will want to raise theirs.
- Keep doing the thoughtful and inclusive things that you now do, which help our residents feel supported in our communities.

Recreation

- I think priorities should be things like all day school zones, building strong communities, maintaining and upgrading current recreation facilities and building new ones where needed
- Please consider... Do not increase taxes. Start a savings fund using a portion of industrial (petrochemical) tax revenues. Continue to invest and maintain our recreation centres. Expand and protect what remains of intact forests and wetlands. Increase the scope/area of where off-road vehicles cannot be used.
- Recreational facilities in south, developed/promote south Cooking lake, go to us to work towards lowering our waste/carbon footprint
- Senior services-housing, transportation specifically both urban and rural allow seniors to stay and survive in their communities Encourage agricultural growth and support so we can be self-sufficient Increase recreational and business opportunities for rural Strathcona-swimming pool at Ardrossan and grocery store in Ardrossan Consider creating walking trail that is continuous going around outside Sherwood Park ie along highway 21 highway and Henday wye road
- The quality of life in Strathcona County is enhanced greatly by the recreational and cultural facilities in the County. Increased traffic, more violent crime, and

plans to expand into the Bremner area are definite negative factors for this tax payer.

- Skate park in Ardrossan
- Multi-purpose equestrian facility. Needs horse/cattle people to assist in design if we want to encourage and invite show clubs to rent it. Road maintenance in rural areas as to be a higher priority
- water for non-motorized watercraft (canoes, paddle boards, kayaks) would be greatly appreciated and show the diversity in outdoor activities that our county has to offer.

Transit/transportation

- Transportation that is responsive to the needs of ALL residents. Post-secondary students and folks with disabilities find our bus service to be difficult to navigate. To travel within Sherwood Park should not take an hour or more between destinations. Use smaller busses at less busy times of day to conserve resources.
- Better traffic planning, the light timing is horrendous and the no left turns on green are not necessary except during peak periods. There were no studies done prior to adding these arrows and there are no traffic accidents/fatalities to back up the need for this. The county want a no idle bylaw for environmental reasons yet the traffic flow causes more senseless idling. On an average commute each day I spent 11 minutes idling at poorly timed or unnecessary light cycles. My commute is 13 mins each way. That means HALF my commute is sitting at lights.
- As a commuter, the busing system is not as user-friendly as it could be. Last full-service local bus at 6:45?? Could there be another half hour of full service to better serve residents. Plus, no service to the University of Alberta Campus on weekends is unacceptable. Also, evening bus schedules for the U of A often forces students to either leave class early, missing valuable material or waiting around for up to 55 minutes.
- I am a Student that goes to NAIT and am super frustrated with our busing system to and from NAIT I think it's terrible that I have to rely on Edmonton transit to help bring me home because we do not have enough bus times to NAIT and home. Makes my commute to get home way longer than it should be!
- I would have liked to see something regarding services (transit, railroad crossings in rural areas and snow removal in rural neighbourhoods). These are also areas that can be improved.
- Improve transit service both in Sherwood Park and commuting to Edmonton from all areas within Sherwood Park
- Need more collaboration with surrounding municipalities rather than competition. Focus on better transit service for commuters (from Ordze to University). Improve access to facilities (e.g. better hours at the library, especially on weekends).

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- Please make plans for Light Rail Transit to Sherwood Park.
 - Rapid transit. Disallowing more big chains into the County Keeping green spaces; creating permanent green belt Discourage more business
 - As mentioned previously, a full time DATS service for those that need it and available when requested (holiday or not) should be made a priority. The Bremner / Cholchester development issue needs to be put to rest - too much time and money has been spent on it already - time to move on. I am also leery of Fort Saskatchewan wanting to expand onto County land. An agreement is in place, but somehow that doesn't seem to matter. I am expecting Strathcona County council to be vigorous in their opposition to the Fort Saskatchewan annexation attempt.
 - Transit to Ardrossan. Supports and accessibility for rural residents.
 - visionary ideas Consider service roads to eliminate the need for so many traffic lights
 - Communicate with county residents the possibility of LRT expansion into the county
 - Need to look at economic diversification beyond agriculture and petrochemical industries. What about transportation, logistics, post-secondary education, healthcare, etc.
 - Public Transportation, guidelines for infills, improving communication with the public.
 - Fix fix fix the traffic light timing! This is the most irritating thing about living in Sherwood Park by far. I love basically everything else about it. There is an incentive along Baseline Rd to speed. If you speed at 85kmph, you hit every light green. What is that saying to the citizens!? Also, if you're trying to say that you do 'wave collection' of traffic waves; why do they smash on each light instead of gently collecting together? Thank you.
 - Less traffic lights and less traffic calming circles. Who's running that department?
 - No more 'traffic calming' roundabouts! These are a huge waste of taxpayer funds where 4 ways stops would work just fine if deemed necessary.
 - Parking! 30km all day all schools zones Theft from vehicles!!!
 - Transparency is important in Strathcona County, especially when decisions are made where some may disagree; it is important for residents to understand why. Please put the main traffic circle back to normal.
 - road maintenance, specifically snow removal has not been up to the standard that Sherwood Park should be at for the last few years.

Rural living

- As a Rural resident, I feel neglected at times. Many Councillors do not take our needs into consideration, yet we pay premium \$\$ for property taxes, in many cases without receiving the same service levels as those in urban areas.
- Keep the rural communities in mind, it's easy to only think of what benefits Sherwood Park, but there's a lot of need in the rural areas as well
- Living in rural Strathcona County, more reliable internet services would be ideal.
- Rural road maintenance and upgrades for Ardrossan, antler lake, cooking lake, etc is important and should be kept as a high priority.
- To not forget about the rural residents. We make up just as much of the population as urban. More focus on actually fixing and maintaining the roads not just doing short term fixes. You shouldn't have to worry about taking out the undercarriage on your vehicle going over train tracks
- Please consider your rural residents and plan for some much needed maintenance to our roads.

Budget/economic considerations

- Please spend our hard earned tax dollars as if they were your own. The economy is number 1, services to all residents both rural and urban are also very important. Council needs to strike a good balance for all residents and pass on special interest projects that only benefit a few.
- A lot of things are going very well in the county. We are very lucky and I'd like to see the economy diversify while things are still really good.
- Please look outside gas and oil. I am sick of the oil price rollercoaster. We no longer have a resilient and diverse population or economy in this province. It's time to truly diversify and innovate, into areas that don't destroy our environment and personal health. I spend every day outside in the wild parts of our county, and I think it's time to take some pride in those areas, protect them, and promote them.
- If we focus on the economy, then everything else (safety, infrastructure, social needs, etc.) have a better chance of succeeding. Jobs = income = less stress = happier couples and families = less crime and more active, engaged people
- The biggest thing you need to remember is that the principle economic 'engine' of the county - the petrochemical industry and Refinery Row - may soon undergo huge changes. It may not be the cash cow you think it will be. Plus, with a provincial election less than two years away, there's a strong chance that a new right-leaning party will take over - one that's more conservative than the NDP (obviously) but also more conservative than the Tories were before them. They may well have different ideas on the roles of municipalities and the relationships they have with the province vis-a-vis funding for hospitals, roads, schools and all kinds of things we need. Winter is coming.

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- Attempt to control your costs. Hire the essential positions where needed. Don't have a manager for 2 or 3 employees. Review all the departments regarding pay and cost, and see if it can be more efficient.
 - Attempt to minimize future debt. The county owes over \$200 million dollars. Although some things need to be financed many can be covered through higher taxes.
 - Being more fiscally responsible. Hearing that budget is not a factor in decision making from MANY county staff is disheartening to a tax payer.
 - Do not increase residential taxes. Perfect the way they are, keep people here. Maintain the tax split like it is today.
 - Growth. We all know there is the Capital Region Board and the Provincial direction Council has obligations and direction to follow, but it is up to council to balance and to protect the interest of the existing Strathcona County population and not sacrifice the quality of life of those already here with building, developing, sacrificing the environment, agriculture and continuing to add people, traffic, crowding, line ups etc.. I am not opposed to diverse cultures, colors, religions, wage brackets, ages but Council must ensure all people living here are thriving not just surviving before developing new shiny growth nodes. Take a look at your existing hamlets the struggles the housing and the lesser of services for those tucked away in the hidden away areas. I will use this cold snap as an example of neglected road sanding and clearing and winter is just starting. Limited mowing trails parks...Until all already living here are taken care of with existing tax dollars Council has to turn their attention away from shiny new development back to taking care of the people that voted them in. Not new people not here. I am not saying growth in a managed was does not have its place. But consider those already living here.
 - Keep up the excellent work started by the prior council - tax reduction and efficiencies through new way of budgeting.
 - Stop the ever increasing tax burden on homeowners. Supervise County employees---watching summer workers sleep on lawns, seeing 3 supervisors for one worker on sidewalk/road repair. Set an internal example!
 - While oil and gas is very important to our local economy and tax base we need to diversify our local economy to better handle the ups and downs of oil and gas.
 - Budget smartly, and stay on budget.
 - I would like to see more consideration given to rural areas of the county. At present, we are the forgotten population when budget is spent on improvements and road clearing.
 - In addition to the above, just keep in mind cost reduction in whatever you do (even the little things). We, as a society, have too much that we don't really value and just throw away. If we restrict how we spend, the dollars can be used where it

really matters. Every public servant should think of their budget dollars as their personal dollars.

- Support and follow priorities set out in PBB/budgets.
- The county council needs to communicate its ideas with the people of the county and ask for their thoughts in surveys like this. But we also need to look at where are people of the county going and doing in county facilities. Like the Deermound Dog park -- 1000's use it weekly and yet it is like some discarded park. The county does no maintenance other than mow the grass twice a year, no gravel path filling in of washed out sections, and instead of new gravel, the bring in a cultivator to rake up old gravel and make ruts for people to trip over, twist ankles or removal of the huge mud holes that the county won't do anything about. Some simple gravel and fix a couple for drainage issues. But the county claims victory by building a New Dog Park, in an isolated area of Sherwood Park, parking for no more than 12 cars, basically a fenced yard of half a football field with no trees or places for people to sit. What a Typical waste of money but they claim we have another dog park Yeah!! Typical County mess up. Like the sewage line by the Sherwood Park Mall what an engineering screw up again but the County. Wow it is a wonder we have any money in the budget left as we waste it everywhere but where it is needed
- Do not overspend.
- Concrete decisions, we wasted enough time dancing around important issues.
- Don't spread yourselves too thin; pick some key initiatives and do them quickly and well.
- Economic times are difficult so no increase in taxes, utilities, etc. -council members' salaries do not increase during their term (as the majority of Albertans have not received any increases for the past several years)
- Fiscal responsibility (2)
- Fiscal responsibility and sustainability of services and facilities are essential when planning to ensure long range financial resourcing to maintain programs and services. Avoid one time 'flash in the pan' type expenditures.
- Keeping spending in line while not reducing services.
- Maintain and improve services while at the same time watching the spending.
- Improving the facilities available to those who do not live in Sherwood Park, or lower our taxes to reflect the services we receive.
- Maintain the services we have now and continue rehabilitating the existing neighbourhoods. Look for inefficiencies with existing services and do not maintain the status quo.
- Money does not grow on trees . fiscal management is a high priority. If the tree is found do not chop it down.

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- More efficient government operations
 - Taxes, Taxes, Taxes
 - The cost to us taxpayers

Future planning

- Continue to leverage census data to provide the required age demographic for near and long term development plans. (Ensure proper consideration for an aging population now and in the future)
- Council must keep in mind the residents of Strathcona County fifty years in the future as they plan both land use and infrastructure. Focus on the future needs is a priority.
- Creating more jobs within Sherwood Park and Strathcona County will help prevent annexation from Edmonton, promote economic stability and local safety, and create a more livable town. Promoting heritage is one of many ways this can be accomplished, but is also one of the most effective.
- Do not keep growing. We are fine the way we are.
- Don't develop Bremner, if we are truly concerned about the environment why would we do that?
- I think a better recycling program would greatly benefit the community (plastic/metal bins and a paper products bin) if more time is spent sorting at home the costs for sorting at the landfill can be saved and reinvested into energy production. I believe we should put a stop to any new rental style apartment buildings from being constructed, so more people can buy homes and condos and truly care about our community. Lastly more green spaces, parks, outdoor rinks, hiking/walking trails could be added to keep our community outdoors and active.
A body of
- Enhance the retention, expansion and attraction of small, medium, large and huge business and industry
- Families can choose to live anywhere. Strathcona County by its' growth, has shown that it is an attractive place to live. Seniors don't leave and the children as they grow older choose to remain or return to the County.
- Focus resources on the priorities and projects that are actually part of the responsibility of local government.
- For each priority always protect the environment, try not to use good agricultural land for developments, and promote small and medium size businesses that will diversify our economy.
- Good fiscal balance and do not throw out existing programs that are moving forward just because you are a new council

- Health needs of families and children, substance use
- I feel that there are so many new business strip malls cropping up, which is great if they can be filled but it seems there are a lot of vacant spaces. Perhaps a staggered construction plan, or instituting residential and strip mall 'mixed' areas such as Centre in the Park to encourage more foot traffic. Buildings integrating businesses on the main floor and condos above make great use of an area and can allow more room for natural areas surrounding condo buildings.

Bremner

- I support the Bremner Growth Node. Do not waste resources by trying to revisit the Growth Node decision.
- Please consider using the money that's about to be spent on re-examining Bremner and put it to better use. Let's move forward with what the previous council decided rather than spinning our wheels.
- Making what we already have great before looking to expand & draw in more people. Helping small businesses to survive & stay here as opposed to opening & then closing down a year or two later. Reverse the Bremner decision for building!
- Preserve the future of our children by not paving over prime agricultural land. People in other nations would be astounded how cavalier we have become about wasting our land. REVERSE BREMNER AS MAYOR PROMISED IN CAMPAIGN
- Reversing the Bremner decision would be wasteful and degrade the level of trust of the municipality.
- Revisiting the Bremner decision, as promised in the mayor's campaigning speeches.
- Stick with Bremner.
- That Bremner has already been approved, no matter what our new mayor thinks, move forward with the planning for it.
- We should limit growth and ameliorate and appreciate what is already in place. Bremner should be reversed, as it is a joke.

Safety

- Infrastructure Public safety Enhanced social support network
- Keeping people active. Keeping our children safe.
- Safety for all, aging population will require additional living space or programs to keep elders in their home longer. I love living in Sherwood park because i feel that family is kept at the forefront.
- Safety for our children. The environment needs protecting.

- SAFETY of residents 2) EFFICIENT SYSTEMS, INFRASTRUCTURE, public services 3) MORE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT 4) FOOD SUSTAINABILITY, AGRI BUSINESS AND BETTER FUTURE ECONOMIC PLANNING
- The residents interests and safety
- We want to make Strathcona County a place our young people can be safe in and thrive in so they do not need to move away.
- Making our communities safer and watching and reporting suspicious activity.

Other Comments

- I would like to see our county attract a large scale technology company to headquarter here and create jobs.
- I would like to see something for our youth of today
<http://www.thehiveyouthzone.org>
- Keep in mind that not all resident complaints require you to jump when they say jump. Let the system in place work for itself. Council should only concern itself with the political mapping of Strathcona County, and not with every blade of grass not cut, or every street light timing, or every pothole. Do the real work, and let the departments deal with the small stuff. How can they get real work done when they want to concern themselves with the small stuff
- Listen to the residents. This survey good start. Talk to each other. Keep fiscal responsibility and sustainability in mind at all times.
- Maintain regional cooperation improve financial responsibility continue the dialogue with provincial authorities for an improved courthouse and full hospital
- Make certain if you plan to re look at the urban farm animal bylaw again. You do research on the number of animals in rescue. If you allow farm animals what happens to all the ones that will be tossed aside after a few months like happens the dogs and cats (the influx of the strays is sad).
- Manage costs effectively as you make decisions with the long term bigger picture in mind. Only planning for the short term will ultimately hurt us. There are so many advantages to living in Strathcona County over other areas in the capital region - we don't want to lose that.
- Move forward not backwards
- Only build more housing if there is a local school to absorb the children. Schools are bursting at the seams.
- People and their needs
- Please consider the long term implications of all decisions.
- Please consult us on the really big stuff. The day to days are yours to manage.

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- Please keep a 'people first' perspective
 - Regional cooperation with communities like Fort Saskatchewan
 - Spend smarter on infrastructure and provide real transparency.
 - Stay the course! Good work by the previous council should not be 'undone'.
 - Stop with the mindless 'responsible growth' on unaffordable new growth nodes. Infill and optimizing what exists already
 - Support and promotion of local businesses and entrepreneurs.
 - Support small businesses as a lot tend to fail here (non chain) Use other 3rd party firms that have been used in past to do reports/research to help counsel make decisions.
 - sustain and improve municipal infrastructure 2. Sherwood Park desperately needs the equivalent of a downtown core. I fear the Centre in the Park has missed this opportunity. 3. Make more use of the beautiful Broadmoor Lake area so that it attracts people.
 - The councillors need to respond to the residents when they are contacted.
 - The county has been run pretty well, though there is always room for improvement it is important not to waste \$ by starting from scratch with everything but to instead look at what has worked and what hasn't and to go from there.
 - The environment. Please choose sustainable and clean options.
 - The lack of jobs available and the impact to household income (due to this and oil).
 - The opportunity to provide input at this early stage of Council's development is much appreciated.
 - There has to be a balance of development and environmental conservation.
 - Too often projects are implemented based on the opinion of the few. Surveys like this are great, but I only happened upon it on Facebook and would not have know about it otherwise. Why isn't there some targeted advertising to get more opinions... the strategic directions of our county should be important enough to justify the ad expense.
 - With the provincial and federal governments on spending sprees, it is important that the County respects our hardworking taxpayers dollars.
 - Younger parents do not have the income for sports programs. Better communities come from happy homes
 - Accountability from all Departments.