



STAFF REPORT

Title: Regional Emergency Management Plan Exploration

Meeting Date: September 17, 2019

Executive Summary:

Alberta has seen in the past decade an increase in the intensity of wild land fires and flooding. A Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP) serves as an operational guideline for managing an appropriate response to any emergency impacting two or more municipalities.

The City of Cold Lake is always welcoming to opportunities to integrated response structures which safeguard life, property, environment and the economy for the City and the region. In the second quarter of 2019 the Municipal District of Bonnyville (MD) reached out to the City to explore a regional emergency management plan with the DM, Town of Bonnyville, Village of Glendon, Summer Village of Bonnyville Beach and the Summer Village of Pelican Narrows.

The purpose of this report is for administration to hear Council's appetite to have administration bring back a draft regional emergency management plan to an upcoming corporate priorities committee meeting.

Background:

The City of Cold Lake has a reputation for its ability to plan, train for and manage emergent situations. In July 2019 administration participated in a conversation with representatives from Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority, Town of Bonnyville, Village of Glendon and Regional Field Officer from Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) respecting the City's initial response a regional emergency management plan.

The threat of flooding, fires, severe weather, and industrial accidents remains constant. The fact that limitations exist within municipalities presents significant risks to life, property, environment and the economy. Defense of this statement includes:

- very few municipalities have the resources and personnel to properly respond and coordinate a response to a major event,
- municipalities regardless of size have a limit to what they can handle with regards to and preparing or responding to an incident, and
- many municipalities reach their resources limit very early in an incident.

Examples of city's supporting regionalized emergency management plans are increasing in the province. Administration has found REMPs that describe procedures



for declaring a State of Regional Emergency and defines the emergency assistance structures which may be employed during a planned event. A REMP are not designed to replace existing procedures for dealing with routine emergencies which may occur within a city.

Currently the City of Cold Lake has an MOU with 4Wing for Emergency Management.

Administration sees value in pursuing the conversation with representatives from Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority, Town of Bonnyville, Village of Glendon and Regional Field Officer from Alberta Emergency Management Agency respecting a REMP. The intent of this report is to solicit feedback and field questions required the potential initiative.

Alternatives:

No specific alternative are being articulated at this time.

Recommended Action:

The intent of this report is to solicit feedback and field questions regarding the potential initiative of creating a Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP).

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

No

Submitted by:

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