



Village of Rosalind

Municipal Sustainability Plan

Introduction

The Rosalind Sustainability Plan exhibits Rosalind’s commitment toward building a sustainable future. It provides long-term visions, goals, and strategies that will guide Rosalind into the future. It is an overarching document that will provide direction for all other plans within the Village.

The Municipal Sustainability planning process was an exceptional way for the Village of Rosalind to look long-term at the community they desire and to now take proactive steps to build the ideal community residents desire. It is a comprehensive approach that examines the five pillars of sustainability.

Environment

Economy

Social

Culture

Governance

Sustainability planning is a holistic approach that examines each of the individual pillars and makes the connections to the health and well-being of the entire community. This plan reflects the hopes and dreams of the community and is a depiction derived from the community that reveals what is truly important to them. Hence this plan is intended to be a guiding document for Village staff and Council as they prepare current and future capital and operating budgets.

Background

In 2005, the Federal Government introduced a new funding source for municipalities to address their individual needs as they look into the future. Known as the New Deal for Cities and Communities or Gas Tax this funding requires each community to create their own sustainability plan. Once each plan is created the funding dollars can be used for the following projects:

Public transit

Water

Wastewater

Solid waste

Community energy systems

Active transportation infrastructure

Capacity building



The Process

To ensure this plan was an accurate representation of what residents desired for their community they were invited to bring their thoughts and ideas to multiple community engagement sessions and to fill out questionnaires. The first community engagement session provided the foundation for the plan. The community members present were asked the following questions:

- 1. What are the most important things to you about life in Rosalind?*
- 2. What changes would you most like to see?*
- 3. What are your hopes and dreams for Rosalind 50 years from now?*
- 4. What can you personally contribute so we can reach this dream?*

From the responses a draft plan filled with the community's visions and goals was created. To ensure the plan was headed in the right direction a second meeting was held to examine this draft plan. This meeting had residents answer three main questions with regards to this plan:

- 1. Do you agree with everything stated here?*
- 2. What are appropriate actions we can take to reach each of these goals?*
- 3. What are ways that we, as individuals, can reach these goals today?*



Visions for the Future

1. We strive for sustainable population growth
2. We manage all our natural resources wisely
3. We have a growing local economy
4. We value life long learning
5. We are a safe, caring, and inclusive community
6. We have dynamic leaders who lead us into the future

Vision #1

We strive for sustainable population growth

Goals:

1. Potential residents are aware of the amazing opportunity to live in Rosalind

Action Steps

- Develop a comprehensive communication strategy for promotion of the Village and its attributes
- Residents, community groups, and Council act as ambassadors to promote population and economic growth within Rosalind

2. We have the space available to grow

Action Steps

- Develop new lots for sale to the public
- Investigate ways to promote infill development within the Village

3. Complete the necessary infrastructure upgrades to support growth

Action Steps

- Complete a long-term capital asset replacement plan
- Implement the Multi-year Capital Infrastructure Plan

4. Create an attractive atmosphere for young families to raise their children

Action Steps

- Promote how affordable it is for young families to live here
- Create more events/ activities that are catered specifically to the youth
- Build/ maintain appropriate infrastructure to draw in families (i.e. parks, playgrounds, recreation facilities, etc)

5. Maintain affordable and accessible housing for residents

Action Steps

- Monitor and assess residents ability to live locally (including tax rates)
- Investigate the need for Seniors housing (assisted living or Senior friendly housing)

Vision #2

We manage all our natural resources wisely

Goals:

1. Enhance the existing recycling program

Action Steps

- Continue to work with other municipalities on solutions to secure long-term recycling programs in the area
- Education and promotion of the 3's (reduce, reuse, recycle) through the Village web-site

2. We view water as a precious resource

Action Steps

- Continue to maintain a safe and secure water source for residents into the future
- Educate residents on the value of water conservation and promote simple ways to reduce water consumption

3. To decrease the amount of energy used from non-renewable sources

Action Steps

- Educate residents on ways to reduce their current power bills
- Encourage car pooling whenever possible

4. Conserve/ restore the natural environment around the Village

Action Steps

- Revise the Municipal Development plan to reflect the desire for community green spaces, parks, use of trees and other native plants

Vision #3

We have a growing local economy

Goals:

1. Attract an entrepreneur to establish a store

Action Steps

- Investigate the most feasible way to attract an entrepreneur
 - a) Construct a building for new commercial development and lease out
 - b) Have the appropriate (size and location) land available and zoned for commercial development
 - c) Transform an existing building into an appropriate location
- Talk with community members to determine if any local residents would be interested in this opportunity
- Advertise and network outside the community to bring in a suitable entrepreneur

2. Investigate all opportunities for additional commercial development

Action Steps

- Research possibility of contracting an economic development officer to help establish a variety of home based businesses
- Define and promote a competitive advantage for new or existing businesses to establish themselves in Rosalind
- Discover and build on the strengths, skills and abilities of local residents for possible economic ventures

Vision #4

We value lifelong learning

Goals:

1. School enrollment maintains acceptable numbers to operate exceptional programs

Action Steps

- Maintain close communication with Rosalind school and the Battle River School Division to develop clear strategies
- Promotion of Village based around family values to attract potential students

2. Local school provides innovative and a relevant learning experience for its students

Action Steps

- Collaborate with the school to educate students about the benefits of community involvement and local government issues
- Ensure students are aware of the opportunity to participate/ volunteer at local Village events
- Have open dialogue with the school to continually share and discover new ideas

3. Adults have the opportunity to access a range of formal and informal quality learning experiences

Action Steps

- Send out questionnaire to discover what type of classes that people would be most interested in taking
- Find out which residents have the skills/ abilities or desire to teach a local class
- Establish joint-use agreement with school for classroom space for various courses

Vision #5

We are a safe, caring and inclusive community

Goals:

1. To maintain viable and cooperative service groups in the community

Action Steps

- Host an annual meeting with all community groups to foster cooperation and open communication
- Continually thank and recognize individual volunteers and the community groups for the amazing work they do

2. All residents feel a strong sense of belonging

Action Steps

- Advertising/ promotion of “Everyone Welcome” at all community events- not just Village residents but all those in the surrounding area
- Information brochures are produced and given out to new and existing residents that inform them of all local businesses, community groups, volunteer opportunities, and community events
- Make personal invites to community events whenever possible
- Discover/ promote activities that bring the entire community together- young and old
- Ensure all residents are aware of the events that go on in the community through community bulletin board, regular updates of Village web-site, school newsletter, word of mouth, and any form of communication

Vision #6

We have dynamic leaders who lead us into the future

Goals:

1. To provide leadership opportunities for youth and venues to share their ideas

Action Steps

- Make a commitment to engage youth in their environment
- Encourage youth to take an active leadership role in community organizations
- Research grants available for youth-led initiatives

2. Optimize municipal operations

Action Step

- Complete a needs assessment for Village staff and Council with regards to training/ development, recruitment/ retention, and succession planning

3. Strengthen existing Regional partnerships

Action Step

- Continue the dialogue with other municipalities within Camrose County to find mutually beneficial projects/ initiatives to work together on

4. Council and other community organizations implement sustainable principles in decision making and reporting

Action Steps

- Promotion of local decision making based on all five dimensions of sustainability as outlined by the AUMA
- Council will review and revise the MSP annually