

## **CAPITAL PLANNING REGION SERVICING STRATEGY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **1. What is the purpose of the Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy?**

The Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy is intended to assist the Capital Planning Region in identify opportunities for regional approaches to infrastructure investment to promote economic growth and ensure Manitoba remains competitive and attractive for business.

A Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy also is critical to helping the region and its 18 member municipalities deliver cost-efficient and reliable services and reduce the unnecessary or untimely expansion of costly infrastructure through lack of coordination between land use planning and development and infrastructure investment.

### **2. Why is the Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy being started now?**

The creation of a Servicing Strategy is a lengthy and iterative process requiring extensive public engagement. Given the time required to create a multi phase Servicing Strategy, the province is initiating this process. The Capital Planning Region Board, once it is established and operational, will have direct input in finalizing it, improving upon it and helping to guide future phases of the work.

### **3. Why is the Province of Manitoba paying for a Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy?**

The Province has a provincial interest in infrastructure - Provincial Land Use Policies identify the need to maximize existing and proposed infrastructure investment as a provincial priority. Also, getting a head start on a Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy will provide a Capital Planning Region board with clear principles and opportunities for regional cooperation.

### **4. How will municipalities, planning districts and development industry have an opportunity to participate in the development of the Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy?**

The Province expects the consultant to inform the Servicing Strategy through meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities and a broad range of stakeholders and informants including, but not limited to, municipalities, planning districts and the private sector. As noted earlier, an external working group composed of key stakeholder representatives will be established to provide direct opportunities to influence the Servicing Strategy's scope and content.

The project requires the successful consultant to undertake significant consultation with key stakeholders, including the Capital Planning Region member municipalities. This will provide member municipalities opportunities to provide feedback on the scope and content of the Servicing Strategy.

**5. How will Indigenous communities be engaged for this project?**

The Province acknowledges the importance and value of engaging Indigenous communities in the creation of a Servicing Strategy for the Capital Region. As such, the successful consultant will be required as part of their contract to consult with Indigenous communities and ensure consultations are led by an Indigenous consultant. Additionally, the consultant will be required to re-engage with Indigenous communities and other key informants at critical milestones of the project to confirm that their feedback has been adequately reflected in the Servicing Strategy.

**6. What role will regional member municipalities have in the creation of the Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy?**

In addition, member municipalities will play an important role of providing key data necessary for the consultant's work to be conducted such as:

- existing wastewater and drinking water management plans;
- current state of local infrastructure (e.g. existing capacity, constraints);
- current or proposed infrastructure investment; and
- existing or proposed service sharing agreements.

**7. Will the Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy be supported by a Stakeholder Working Group? If so, who will participate?**

In January 2021 the department established a stakeholder working group to advise on implementation of key initiatives to ensure a modern and effective planning process in Manitoba, including regional approaches. It includes key stakeholders, such as The Association of Manitoba Municipalities, Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, The Urban Development Institute, Manitoba Professional Planners Institute, and the City of Winnipeg.

**8. How will the Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy impact municipal decision-making on local infrastructure?**

Capital Planning Region member municipalities will maintain their local autonomy for making decisions on local matters. However, the Regional Growth Plan and the Servicing Strategy will provide broad guidance regarding land use and development and the provision of infrastructure and services in the region. For example, the Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy will provide municipalities with the necessary information to deliver on more cost-efficient and reliable services to meet current and expected population change and capitalize on opportunities for regional solutions.

**9. How does this model compare to regions in other jurisdictions?**

Every jurisdiction is unique. That being said, a cross-jurisdictional review of how other jurisdictions approach regional infrastructure investment indicates that all reviewed regions have a regional servicing strategy, or similar document, intended to ensure coordination among members on infrastructure investment and the provision of services. The review also indicated essential infrastructure (e.g. sewer and water) is often a key component of most regional servicing strategies.

**10. How will the Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy ensure that serviced land is readily available to accommodate existing and planned development?**

The Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy is expected to align with the long-term vision for regional growth as supported by existing planning by-laws and regional plans adopted by the Capital Planning Region, once established. Additionally, the Capital Region Servicing Strategy will be informed by the latest information available regarding population, development patterns, infrastructure investment and regional priorities. The content of the Servicing Strategy, including findings and recommendations, will be corroborated with municipal representatives and key stakeholders to ensure a sufficient supply of appropriately serviced land is readily available where it is regionally needed.

**11. How will the Capital Planning Region Servicing Strategy affect existing or proposed servicing agreements (e.g., municipality to municipality, municipality to First Nations)?**

The Servicing Strategy is expected to identify opportunities for regional collaboration through the establishment of mutually beneficial partnerships to develop infrastructure and shared services on a regional basis. The Servicing Strategy will support the expansion or continuation of existing service sharing agreements and the establishment of new ones, where appropriate. That being said, any potential partnership identified by the Servicing Strategy will be subject to the review and approval of all involved parties.