

Bulletin #2021-54

MUNICIPAL RELATIONS

Important Notice to All Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers

CONSULTATION ON MODERNIZATION OF THE MUNICIPAL BOARD PLANNING APPEALS PROCESS

Manitoba is modernizing planning appeals by establishing a single consistent province-wide appeal process to be used only when existing municipal processes are unable to meet the needs of citizens, landowners, and development applicants.

Planning appeals are fundamental to open and fair planning systems and are necessary for upholding transparent and accountable planning decisions. The new changes to Manitoba's planning framework give landowners and applicants the right to appeal Council or planning board decisions on development proposals and missed timelines to the Municipal Board where they are unable to work out a mutually agreeable path forward. In the case of appeals that do reach the Municipal Board, modernized planning appeals processes will be in place to ensure smooth and timely resolutions. Municipalities and planning districts will continue to exercise their authority in establishing local by-laws, standards and requirements. All planning appeals will be evidence based, which benefits all parties, including municipalities.

In January 2021, the Department of Municipal Relations established a multi-stakeholder Working Group to get advice on implementing new changes to the Manitoba planning framework. The Association of Manitoba Municipalities is a key member of this working group, and their informed contributions have been appreciated. The Department is committed to continuing this dialogue with stakeholders as new processes are implemented, including input on clear rules and procedures for planning appeals to ensure an efficient appeals system that delivers timely results and contributes to growth in our province and our communities.

EngageMB Consultation

Manitoba will be running an online consultation from October 20, 2021 until November 10, 2021 on the EngageMB website: <https://engagemb.ca/municipal-appeal-process>

We want to hear about your experience with the Manitoba Municipal Board and the Board's current appeals process. Your feedback will help inform our approach as we modernize the planning appeals process to create an efficient appeals system that provides all parties with clear, transparent and accountable processes, and timely results.

There are two steps to participate in this consultation:

- Read the Modernizing the Appeals Process Discussion Paper.
- Complete the survey to provide your feedback on the upcoming modernization of the Municipal Board planning appeals process.

If you have questions or require further information, please contact your regional Community Planning office, or call the Winnipeg Office at (204) 945-2150.