

## Strengthening Edmonton's financial sustainability

April 1, 2016

The City of Edmonton has published two new discussion papers aimed to help it develop a financial sustainability plan for the City. The papers address the topics of user fees and property assessment and taxation and are the final in a series of papers on the City's financial management.

Theses papers are part of the development of the City's sixth major policy plan, *Edmonton's Financial Sustainability Plan: The Way We Finance.* When completed, the 10-year plan will join with other directional plans — *The Way We Move, The Way We Grow, The Way We Green, The Way We Live and The Way We Prosper* — to guide decisions and policies of the City.

"Edmonton's Financial Sustainability Plan will enable the City to continue its responsible fiscal management," says Todd Burge, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and General Manager of Financial and Corporate Services. "The plan will clarify the City of Edmonton's financial strategy, provide direction on the development of financial policies and provide a financial lens through which to view all of the City's goals and strategies."

Development of *Edmonton's Financial Sustainability Plan* involves an assessment of leading practice research on several financial policy and strategy topics. Discussion papers have been developed to discuss those topics.

Residents, businesses and organizations are invited to review and provide feedback on the policy and strategy issues raised within these final two papers. Three other papers had been published previously. People can respond by answering the questions posed in the discussion papers and emailing their responses to the project office - <u>waywefinance@edmonton.ca</u>. People can also fill out an online survey after reading the papers.

In addition, the Executive Committee of City Council will conduct two non-statutory public hearings on the two papers, **User Fees** on **April 12, 2016** and **Property Assessment and Taxation** on **May 10, 2016**. The hearings will provide an opportunity for Edmontonians to provide feedback directly to Council.

Feedback from the public will be reviewed and considered for inclusion in the final plan, which is scheduled to be approved by City Council later this spring/summer.

Edmonton's Financial Sustainability Plan: The Way We Finance papers and survey tool can be viewed at www.edmonton.ca/TheWayWeFinance.

For more information:

TheWayWeFinance

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