



WHAT'S NEW

In Mountain View

September 27, 2007

www.mountainviewcounty.com

Mountain View
COUNTY

Straight From The Table

Reeve at Large? It's your call.

Mountain View County residents will be asked to take a trip to the mail box instead of the ballot box in order to share their thoughts with Council on the Reeve at Large question. Council voted Wednesday not hold a plebiscite during the October 15, 2007 general election on the question of whether the Chief Elected Official (Reeve) should be elected at large.

Instead, Council has requested that the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) undertake a survey of residents during the period of the 2007 general election, requesting support or opposition to the question:

"Should Mountain View County proceed with a bylaw to elect a Reeve by a vote of the electors of the entire County?"

With four of seven County candidates being elected by acclamation, CAO Doug Plamping says the probability of reduced voting at polling station where there is no candidate to elect, like has been experienced in other jurisdictions such as Red Deer County in the past, suggests that a plebiscite will not provide a meaningful answer in this situation. Plamping adds that Council believes a survey will ensure that everyone in the County gets an opportunity to have a say on the Reeve at Large question.

"If we're going to get a true representation of how the County feels about the Reeve at Large, we're not going to get that by going to the polls, so we're going to have to go by a survey," says Plamping.

Starting the week of October 8, 2007, County residents will receive a survey in the mail asking for their thoughts on the Reeve at Large question. Included in the survey will be background information on the Reeve at Large; and a pre-paid self-addressed envelope, which will allow residents to return their completed surveys to the County free of charge. The deadline for survey submissions will be Friday, October 19, 2007.

Input received by County council will play a big part in Council's final decision whether to move to an elected Reeve; or stay with the current appointed Reeve system.

For more information on the Reeve at Large question, please visit www.mountainviewcounty.com.

MDP Public Hearings wrap up

Two days worth of discussion on the County's draft Municipal Development Plan (MDP) wrapped up on Sept. 19, with a number of alterations to the document coming forward as a result of public input.

After hearing submissions from a number of Mountain View County residents again on Wednesday, County administration and planning consultants brought forward to Council a number of recommended changes to the document.

The most notable of the alterations made by Administration during the public hearing was the removal of Reed Ranch as a designated Growth Centre in the document. Instead Administration pledged to undertake an Area Structure Plan (ASP) for the Reed Ranch area to provide guidance for development in the future.

Some of the other changes included:

- Clarifying the title "County Road Network" to "County Collector Road Network."
- Changing setbacks for any new Confined Feeding Operations from identified residential growth centre to one mile; and eliminating setbacks for Confined Feeding operations from non-residential or business park settings.
- Clarifying the role of ASPs in reference to the MDP and other documents.

The Public Hearing process for the MDP is now closed. Council deliberations on the MDP document will commence on September 26 at 9 a.m. in County Council Chambers. Members of the public are invited to attend.

A complete list of staff changes to the MDP document, and a copy of all letters presented to Council during the Sept. 19 Public Hearing, are available at www.mountainviewcounty.com.

Attention Bergen-area residents

Please check the latest correspondence sent to you by the County regarding the Bergen Area Structure Plan. A minor mix-up in a small number of mail outs means you may have received information regarding the Bearberry ASP information by mistake. If you have received the wrong information, please contact Planning and Development at 335-3311 and we will send you the appropriate information. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

And they're off!

Nomination Day has come and gone, with candidates in four of the seven Mountain View County in the upcoming 2007 Municipal Election being elected by acclamation-meaning only one candidate came forward in each Division. Election contests will still take place in Division 3 (Didsbury East); Division 4 (Bergen- Elkton); and Division 6 (Harmattan- Eagle Hill). Here is a list of your official candidates (including all acclaimed candidates) for the upcoming 2007 Mountain View County Municipal Election:

Division 1 Gwen Day- Acclaimed	Division 2 Lana Yakimchuk- Acclaimed
Division 3 Everett John Page Jim Turner	Division 4 Kathy Blain Eric Rose
Division 5 Gerald Ingeveld- Acclaimed	Division 6 Liz Negropontes Ron Richardson
Division 7 Al Kemmere- Acclaimed	

Polls will be open in Divisions 3, 4 and 6 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on October 15, 2007 for County residents to cast their ballot for a divisional representative on Mountain View County Council. A full list of polling stations, and information regarding the 2007 Municipal Election is available at www.mountainviewcounty.com. A full list of polling stations will be published in next week's What's New In Mountain View.

Advanced Poll Information

Can't make it to the polls on October 15? An advanced vote will be held on October 4, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the following locations:

Division 3	Mountain View County Office	1408- Twp. Rd. 320
Division 4	Westcott Community Centre	3142- Twp. Rd 310
Division 6	Foothills Curling Club (Eagle Hill)	3574- Twp. Rd 340

County makes changes to reduce wait times

Reorganization designed to speed up the development and approval process

Mountain View County is changing to accommodate the demand for development across the municipality. In an effort to speed up the development and planning approval process, the former Development and Community Services Department has been split into two departments- Planning and Development; and Legislative and Community Services. The move comes after Council requested County Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Doug Plamping to review what measures could be taken to reduce development wait times.

Currently, Redesignation and Subdivision Applications received by the Planning Department are taking between 4 - 6 months to complete; Development Permits are taking around 75 days on average to approve; and Location and Building Permits are taking up to a month to issue. Plamping says the new restructuring will allow senior management to apply greater efforts to managing and supervising the planning and development processes.

Following a review, Diana Hawryluk, the County's former Manager of Planning and Development, has been appointed as the Director of Planning and Development Services effective Sept. 17. Tony Martens, the County's former Manager of Legislative Services, will take on the role of Director of Legislative and Community Services. As Director, Martens will also oversee FCSS, recreation, culture and protective services.

According to Plamping, the County has difficulty recruiting planners due to a shortage of skilled planners across Canada. The County, at the recommendation of CAO Doug Plamping, will also be adding three technical positions to the Planning and Development Department to help reduce processing times on applications. These changes will cost the County a total of \$185,000 per year, can be absorbed within the 2007 Budget, but will be an additional cost to the 2008 Budget.

Road Watch - Week of Sept 24 to 28

Grass Mowing (All Roads)	East of Highway # 2
Regravel (watch for traffic control)	Water Valley area
MVC Rechipping (watch for traffic control)	East of Cremona
Contract Rechipping (watch for traffic control)	Bergen Road - weather permitting
Pot Hole Patching	Eagle Hill - Didsbury area
Road Construction (watch for traffic control)	Dyck Pit Road - TWP 32.0, East of RR 28.3
Gravel Crushing	No Activity

