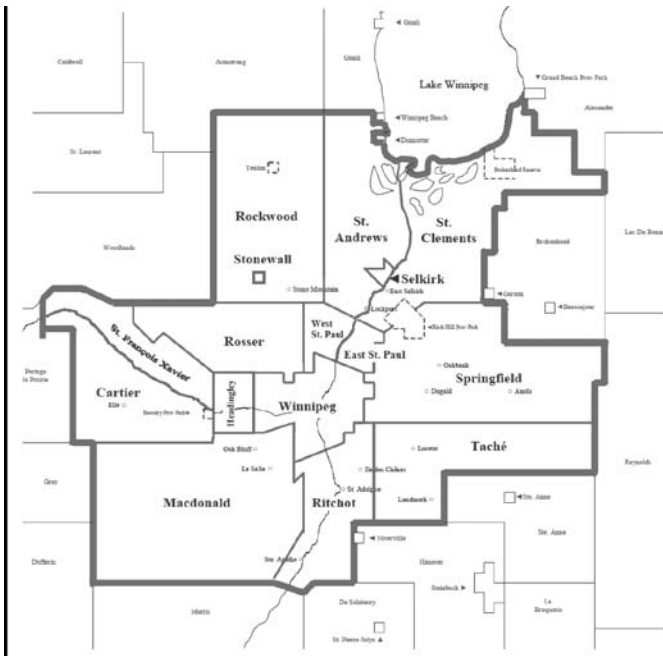


Acting on the Environment

- Facilitate continuing inter-municipal discussions on shared sewer and water services.
- Develop models for inter-municipal servicing agreements including process, form, management and dispute resolution.
- Research benchmarks for environmental issues like surface water quality, air quality, recycling, water use, waste management and others that may form the basis for future development management targets.
- Provide a sustainable rationale for development policies that permit new residential development that is not fully serviced.
- Critically review current local environmental policy and develop models for basic municipal environmental management.
- Map the natural areas of the region and define their value.



LAND USE

The use of land and the urban form that develops to accommodate population growth will directly impact the efficiency of services, the ecological footprint and the quality of life of residents in the Capital Region.

Use existing community nodes

The Capital Region's existing serviced communities and neighbourhoods can accommodate all anticipated new growth. Capital Region communities should expect a full range of services, such as high quality municipal water, municipally managed waste treatment and recycling, which support a healthy and sustainable urban environment.



Increase density

More compact development, including infill and increased densities, will preserve agricultural land, create more efficient use of municipal services, reduce travel time, make alternative methods of transportation more viable and reduce greenhouse gas production.

Mix land use

Greater integration of where people live, where they work and where they shop will reduce travel time, energy use and greenhouse gas production and can encourage alternative and more active means of transportation (bus, bike, walking, etc.)

Measuring Success

- There is a reduction in the ratio of land per population.
- High quality municipal water and sewer services are available for all new development.
- There are fewer households without a full range of municipal services.
- More people are served per mile of infrastructure (greater efficiency).
- Average travel times and distances are decreasing.
- There is increasing use of alternative transportation methods like walking, cycling and public transit



Acting on Land Use

Develop . . .

Begin to define . . .

Explore . . .

Engage . . .

- Develop a fundamental understanding of settlement and land use in the Capital Region in order to establish an understanding of the region in areas such as: population density, intensity/efficiency of infrastructure use, mixed land uses, travel distances, amount and quality of agricultural land, services in existing population nodes and other issues related to land use and urban form.
- Begin to define long range regional targets for the issue of land use and urban form.
- Explore best practices for sustainable development in other urban centres.
- All municipalities should engage their regional partners in the review and update of local development plans in a spirit of mutual accountability and respect.



CONNECTING THE REGION

“Slow the growth of traffic congestion and increase mobility.”

How people move around the region directly impacts congestion, land consumption, commute time and greenhouse gas production. Shifting the balance of mobility toward more public transit and transportation alternatives can slow the growth of traffic congestion and increase mobility.



“Connecting nodes of population”

Shift the Balance of Mobility

Public transit can provide an essential, efficient and effective connection within and between communities and neighbourhoods of the Capital Region. Alternative transportation options like public transit, car pooling, cycling and walking can benefit the region through healthier lifestyle choices, reducing traffic congestion and improved air quality. Alternative transportation options should be part of the long term cost/benefit analysis for any new development or neighbourhood redevelopment.

Measuring Success

- There is an expanding public transit system throughout the region connecting nodes of population.
- More people are choosing alternative options.
- There is less use of single occupant private vehicles.



Acting on Connecting the Region

- Research current transportation modes and travel distances as a background for land development and transportation policies aimed at reducing time and distance for personal travel.



- Assess and promote the feasibility of public transit services connecting Capital Region population nodes.

- Research potential regional transportation targets such as: expanding public transit availability and ridership; reduction of individual travel time/distance; miles of dedicated bicycle commute routes; car pooling; park and ride services.



- Develop models for more comprehensive cost/benefit analysis for sustainable transportation in new development.



“Will require a willingness and opportunity to engage in dialogue about alternative futures.”



“Information about the region is shared and public discussion is supported.”

REGIONAL COOPERATION

Developing a regional perspective will require that decision makers and the public have reliable information about Capital Region issues and a willingness and opportunity to engage in dialogue about alternative futures. It will also require exploring opportunities (e.g. park maintenance, libraries, public transit, sewer and water, roads and emergency services) and developing tools (e.g. inter-municipal servicing agreements) that support coordinated action on regional services and concerns.



Understand the Region

Inter-municipal and Provincial cooperation to build and maintain a base of regional information, keep it current and make it accessible to decisions makers and the public, will encourage a broader and more realistic understanding of the region and the government and individual decisions that will impact its sustainability.

Support Communication and Consultation

A public that is informed on issues and engaged in imagining a more sustainable future is essential to defining and acting upon a more liveable and sustainable Capital Region.



Encourage Inter-municipal Agreements

Develop models and processes for inter-municipal cooperation and agreement of infrastructure and service sharing.



“A long range vision that will evolve.”

Apply a Regional and Sustainable Perspective

As municipalities update development plans and budget to renew, replace or expand infrastructure and services, all should look beyond municipal boundaries to incorporate a regional perspective.

Work with Provincial and Federal Governments

The government’s of Manitoba and Canada have responsibilities and resources with respect to the environment, transportation and other issues impacted by local decision-making. They are partners in the efficient and effective delivery of initiatives to support sustainability.

Measuring Success

- The Internet is being used as an effective tool to inform the public on regional issues and opportunities.
- New methods of engaging the public in discussions about regional sustainability, such as CapitalRegionQuest, have been developed.
- Negotiation processes for inter-municipal agreements have been developed and adopted.
- Model agreements have been prepared and local examples are recognized.
- Dispute resolution processes have been agreed upon.



Acting on Regional Cooperation

- Invest in an effective, engaging, accessible Capital Region internet site where information about the region is shared and public discussion is supported.
- Develop a relationship with the Universities of Winnipeg and Manitoba to support innovative research to expand understanding of Capital Region issues.



- Develop “best practices” resources on sustainable municipal policy, programs, infrastructure, regulation, and other issues by which local government guides the future.
- Develop resources to facilitate inter-municipal negotiation on infrastructure and service sharing, prepare models for such agreements and offer dispute resolution support.



IMPLEMENTING THE REGIONAL VISION FRAMEWORK

This Framework for regional cooperation begins with a belief that the Manitoba's capital region will be more successful and it will offer a better future for its residents if we think and act like a region rather than as a collection of individual communities that happen to share a common geography.



It is a long range vision. It dreams of a desirable and sustainable Capital Region and offers broad goals and actions to support this dream. But it relies on the policies and development decisions of each municipality and planning district to move the vision forward.

It is a vision that will evolve. It establishes basic directions that will gain clarity and context as Capital Region communities respond to this framework in their own planning processes. It will move toward a clearer description of how individual municipalities can make local development decision that support regional cooperation and sustainability.



Municipal Endorsement

This Framework is not intended to be comprehensive or authoritative. It establishes development goals to help local authorities think and act from a more regional and sustainable perspective. It requires the acknowledgement of local councils that these goals will be part of their decision making process.

Regular Review

These goals are intended to evolve as the municipalities of the Capital Region become more aware of their common interests and of the implications of their decision making on the long term sustainability of the Region.

Monitor and Evaluate

As well as continually reviewing and refining the goals of this framework, member municipalities must also refine and monitor the measures by which success will be evaluated.

Regional Strategy

Capital Region municipalities will move toward the adoption of a strategy that will define clear areas of common interest for achieving a liveable and sustainable region. In this plan they will agree to the policies they will pursue to further these common interests.

“Promote

Review

Report”



SHORT TERM ACTION FOR A LONG TERM FUTURE

This is a long term vision for a more sustainable Capital Region. Ultimately any long term vision must lead to action by those with a stake in the future. Next-step actions by the Mayors and Reeves of the Capital Region and by the municipalities and planning districts, with support from the Province, might take the following form:



THE 2 YEAR HORIZON . . .

Build Relationships

In collaboration with the Capital Region municipalities and the Province, clearly define roles and build relationships and trust toward addressing Capital Region issues.

Prepare a Strategic Plan

Prepare a strategic plan confirming regional relationships and clearly describing areas of priority action over the next 5 to 10 years.

Facilitate Collaboration/Cooperation:

Support inter-municipal cooperation on infrastructure and services by developing models for agreements including the negotiation process, the form of such agreements, management and dispute resolution.



Promote Informed Debate

Identify and undertake research to support inter-municipal and public discourse on Capital Region issues (e.g. baseline data on infrastructure services and quality, urban density, surface water quality, mobility, natural areas, etc.). Develop collaborative partnerships with organizations like universities, chambers of



commerce, environmental and community interest groups and professional organizations that will foster effective information gathering and distribution and informed discussion.

Review this Vision Framework

As regional relationships are clarified and support resources are developed, revisit and renew the goals, measures and actions of this Vision Framework.

Report to the Community

Regularly provide a "report card" on progress in regional cooperation toward a more sustainable future.



THE 5 YEAR HORIZON . . .

“Regional Targets

Sustainable

Tools

Review”

Define Long Range Regional Targets

Define long range targets for a desirable and sustainable future such as targets related to efficient use of land and services, quality of surface water, public transit and alternative/active transportation and frame these targets to support local decision making.

Adopt a Sustainable Development Plan

Adopt a Capital Region Sustainable Development Plan dealing with land use, servicing and transportation issues that have a regional or inter-municipal focus and support sustainable development principles and guidelines.

Develop Planning Tools

Facilitate the development of local government planning tools (e.g. methods for municipalities to expand the cost/benefit analysis of new development proposals to include a broader range of environmental and sustainability issues) that support sustainable development decision-making.

Support Local Plan Review

Develop mechanisms and resources for active, constructive regional participation in local development plan review. (i.e. Plan Winnipeg; and capital region development plans)



“Developing a long range vision that will evolve.”



PARTNERSHIP OF THE
Manitoba Capital Region

Teaming with Opportunity

revised April 2011