

Lamont County



2024 Year in Review

For year ending: December 31, 2024



Table of contents

Message from the Reeve	3
Message from the CAO	5
Council Governance & Administration	6
Public Engagement	11
2030 Strategic Planning	12
2024 Service Levels as approved by Council (by Department) Lamont County Working for You - Achieving County Goals and Council Direction	14
Meetings and Helpful Information	22
Contact	24

Message from Reeve David Diduck

Reflecting Back on 2024 and Looking Forward to 2025

2024 was a very productive and successful year for Lamont County with 96 per cent of assigned initiatives completed on time and, in numerous instances, under budget. A key initiative in 2024 was Lamont County's continued advocacy/consultation with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas regarding securing a process water license in support of industrial growth. Once the license is approved, the real work starts, with engineering studies, design and public consultation taking place prior to the start of construction.

This is an exciting time for Lamont County, and it does not proceed without community involvement and engagement. It is important to recognize the vital role industry and industrial development play in enhancing service levels and improved resident quality of life. Without investment and proposed projects, taxes at the current rates cannot fund all the existing and proposed services levels residents expect to maintain and improve their quality of life. Many of the potential investments for Lamont County rely on the approval of a process water license. Once approved, there will be partnerships with industry that will see significant development in Lamont County—greater than the opportunities we've seen in the past 25 years. Lamont County is very appreciative of all our partners in industry and agriculture throughout the County, and looks forward to a continued and prosperous future for economic development.



One of the concerns Council has heard from you, our residents, is that Council is not transparent in its operations. Lamont County Council is committed to continuously increasing transparency and providing meaningful, accurate information to Lamont County residents. We have initiated a number of processes in 2023 & 2024 that include more opportunities for the public to be involved and engaged. Some of these initiatives include social media, website updates, highlights after each Council Meeting and summarized highlights of both monthly Council meetings appearing in the local newspapers monthly.

Additional public engagement initiatives to improve transparency include: Council Coffee Talks, the public newsletter, public hearings/meetings, recorded Council meetings Council Meeting Agendas that include regular departmental service reporting, and tri-annual reports designed to provide the public with information and process updates. Council's continued focus will be on public awareness, transparency and accountability.

Continued downloading of costs by the Province continues to impact Lamont County's budgeting. Costs imposed on the County through downloading by the province in the past year include: police funding model (excess of \$300,000), non-payment of oil and gas taxes (\$2 million), grant reductions, increased administrative reporting and lack of provincial support for critical infrastructure such as bridges and improved road networks.



Council seeks to represent the public in its decision-making process and it is important for residents to provide feedback. We use your input to assist in our decision-making at each Council Meeting. If you have any questions, contact any Councillor or Administration for assistance and clarification.

I also encourage you to complete the annual service level and engagement survey when it

[Continued...]

comes out later in 2025. We are asking what is important to you & appreciate your feedback.

You may also receive a request for a telephone survey. This survey will be spread evenly over all five Divisions to ensure we hear from all parts of Lamont County for any ratepayer concerns and service evaluation. If called, please take a moment to provide your input.

As many of you are aware, there was a petition submitted to Alberta Municipal Affairs for an inspection of Lamont County. The Minister conducted a preliminary review which included reviewing correspondence, the County's website, audited financial statements and interviews with petition representatives, council members and administration. While the review identified minor areas of improvement, including a governance training course for Council, the minister felt a full inspection of Lamont County, which is an extraordinary measure with significant costs, was not warranted.

While Council was not provided the reasons for the requested inspection, I want to assure Lamont County residents, on behalf of Council, that the operation and administration of Lamont County is conducted in a diligent and fiduciary manner as per the guidelines set out in the *Municipal Government Act*. Financial Statements are completed by an external auditor and submitted to Municipal Affairs for their analysis and review annually. No material issues have been identified by the auditors or municipal affairs

Operational highlights from the past year include:

- The graveling of 256 miles of roads as planned;
- Stockpiling almost 25,000 tonnes of gravel;
- Completing 70 culvert installations by internal crews;
- Over 6,330 km of roadside mowing;
- 28 culvert installations by external crews;
- 104 fields inspections for clubroot and other numerous other weed inspections; and
- Amended the Land Use and Municipal Development Plan Bylaws to be current and impactful for Lamont County, to both protect residents and allow for economic growth.

Lamont County continues to recognize the valuable contributions made by community organizations and volunteer groups. Lamont County continues to provide up to a maximum grant of \$2,000 to community halls and for senior transportation upon application, Sponsorship grants are also made available to not for profit volunteer based community groups upon application, Lamont County made a donation of \$35,000 to the County of Lamont Food Bank from the Reeve's annual Charity Golf Tournament in 2024 and have designated the proceeds from 2025 to go to the Lamont County Foodbank.

Administration and Council remain aligned around Council's priorities, with the approval of a three-year business plan. 2025 will be another strong year for Lamont County.

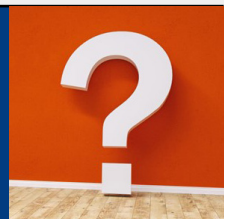
As we enter the 2025 Municipal election year, I encourage you to share your voice and make sure to exercise your right to be involved and engaged, including getting out to vote. Learn more about the election scheduled for October 20: lamontcounty.ca/governance/2025-municipal-election.

To our County residents, on behalf of Lamont County Council: thank you for your continued support in our efforts toward a prosperous 2025!

~ Lamont County Reeve, David Diduck

Did you know?

Lamont County is well positioned within Alberta's Industrial Heartland and Designated Industrial Zone. Our Reeve, holds the role of Chair of the Alberta Industrial Heartland Association's Board. This helps Lamont County and the region be well positioned for economic & industrial opportunities. We have #RoomtoGrow. Visit our economic development website at lamontcountynow.ca to learn more.



Development of Lamont County's Industrial Heartland area is a key driver, with potential to create both short- and long-term jobs, and revenue growth in Lamont County and in our area's urban municipalities.

Message from the Chief Administrative Officer



In 2024, we continued efforts to ensure accountability and transparency of Lamont County Administration through regular reporting to Council and the Community. Whether daily and weekly social media and website updates on things like road closures, drainage projects or other programs; to monthly reporting on department activities or tri-annual reporting on progress and financial performance—including this year-end report, we seek to inform and engage stakeholders. Administration has also supported & participated in engagement processes such as Coffee with a Councillor.

From an operational perspective, our strategic plan includes partnering with new business in our growing community, and development in our designated industrial zone, maximizing the useful life of County assets, continued sustainable growth through holistic decision making, and developing and maintaining genuine relationships. As a result, we are committed to sustainable service level delivery while maintaining a fiscally responsible budget. We have seen significant progress in dialogue with new industry partners and investment opportunities in our

community. Administration has continued to focus on staff and community safety in its operations, achieving a score of 95 per cent on a recent external Alberta Municipal Health and Safety Audit. In spite of economic barriers such as provincial downloading of costs to municipalities, increased costs of goods and services, Council has directed Administration to continue its focus on running an increasingly sustainable budget with a modest four per cent increases to taxes. Residents can find the approved 2025 Budget on our website.

As noted by Reeve Diduck, County Administration is guided annually by a business plan approved by Council. Staff achieved 96 per cent of initiatives in the 2024 Plan as either complete or on-time and on-budget. Aside from those mentioned by Reeve Diduck, staff delivered on initiatives such as completing the process water line application, updating Off Site Levy Bylaw; establishing a Heartland Tax Incentive Bylaw, and implementing improved day-to-day operations.

Staff also delivered some 25 unplanned activities of significance. We are in the final stages of achieving a preliminary process water license. Currently staff are addressing Statements of Concern, related to the water line in anticipation of a decision from the Province. Even with additional projects completed in 2024, Lamont County spending was well within budget, including a costly municipal inspection petition process.

We continue to encourage residents to access our Service Request platform to report areas of concern within the County – like road conditions, potholes and drainage matters. Staff endeavour to respond and action service needs as soon as possible to these requests and follow through with responses on actions taken (email servicerequests@lamontcounty.ca or lamontcounty.ca/servicerequests).

Administration works with Council to be fiscally responsible, as shown in our annual audit reporting. Our audit shows discipline and accuracy, and we continue to follow procedures and legislated processes as directed by Council and Public Sector Accounting Board requirements.

In addition to our annual business plan, Council has approved a service level-based budget which guides our annual work plan.

[Continued...]

Staff have done a lot of great things in 2024 to strengthen service delivery and projects:

- Supporting Council through Legislative Services and Planning and Development on the Municipal Development Plan & Land Use Bylaw;
- Our Public Works programs continue to be effective, including the completion of our drainage and culvert programs in 2024 (with approx. 100 completions annually towards our drainage master plan);
- Planning and Development continues to transact subdivisions, development permits and focus on Economic Development and studies in support of major industrial development, and further work towards our water license application/approval;
- Emergency Services (LCES) continues to deliver strong response times regionally through a regional fire service response model (LCES responded to 376 calls in 2024);
- Agriculture Services completed 6,330 kms of roadside mowing to ensure water flows smoothly through our ditches, reduce fire risk and weather-related damage to County Infrastructure; and
- Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) & Community Adult Learning (CALC) provide exceptional programming & participation rates as these programs continue its 20+ years' of providing services across the Lamont County region;

Going forward into 2025 Administration continues to deliver on levels of service designated by Council. For more information on these service levels, see the Service Level and Budget reporting at lamontcounty.ca/communications.

I look forward to continued work with Council and staff towards a successful 2025.

~ Peter Tarnawsky, Lamont County Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)



From Left to Right: Deputy Reeve Daniel Warawa, Councillor Roy Anaka, Reeve David Diduck, Chief Administrative Officer Peter Tarnawsky, Councillors Aaron Wick & Neil Woitas.

Council Governance

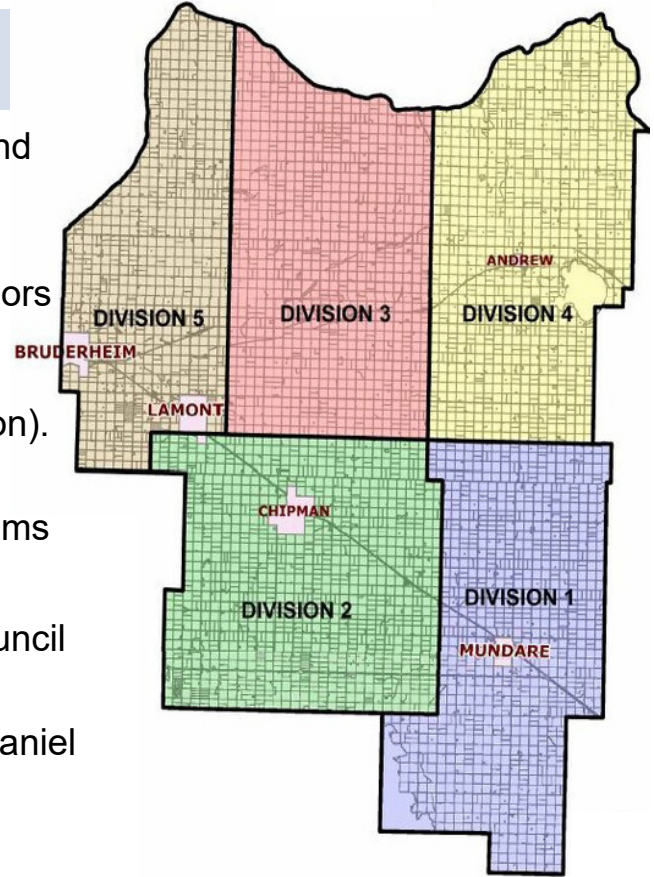
We are entering year four of Council's four-year term and the Municipal Election is planned for October 20.

Lamont County is divided into five divisions, each represented by an elected councillor, and while councillors are elected by Division, the *Municipal Government Act* designates that all councillors represent every resident and the municipality as a whole (and not just the Division).

Councillors engage in discussion & dialogue at regular Council meetings. Each Councillor gets a vote on all items presented. The Reeve is only one of the five votes.

Council is represented by the Reeve, as chosen by Council during its Organizational Meeting in October.

In 2024, Council elected David Diduck as Reeve and Daniel Warawa as Deputy Reeve.



Service Request System - Public Works



When you have a concern or service need, contact us:

Complete a Service Request for Public Works programs such as snow clearing, graveling, grading, repairs, patching, tree removal, sign replacement and ditch (garbage) clean-up.

- Online at: Lamontcounty.ca/service-requests. (Include a photo and/or location with your request.)
- By email: servicerequests@lamontcounty.ca. (Include a photo and/or location with your request.)
- By phone: 780-895-2892 or (Toll Free) 866-895-2547.
- In person: At Lamont County's Public Works/ASB Building (553004A Hwy 831, Lamont AB).

Service Request Process - Lamont County



Contact Administration for Other Requests such as copies of policies or bylaws, events and activities, planning and development, questions and council inquiries, information related to other Lamont County departments or initiatives.

- Online at: Lamontcounty.ca/departments/contact.
- By email: info@lamontcounty.ca, or for Communications-related to comunications@lamontcounty.ca.
- By phone: 780-895-2233 or (Toll Free) 866-895-2233.
- In person: At Lamont County's Administration Building (5303 50 Ave, Lamont AB).

Service Request Process - Lamont County

Please note: a majority of our content is published digitally and accessible through www.lamontcounty.ca and social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn & YouTube). Content is also advertised in local media and radio when relevant (including inFocus in the Lamont Leader and updates in the Vegreville News-Advertiser). See above for submitting service requests & other inquiries.

We are aware some residents may have limited Internet access or comfort online, so efforts are made to ensure the public can still obtain information they need. If you are unable to access what you are looking for, please make requests through our Legislative Services Officer and/or Reception at 1-877-895-2233 or in person at the Lamont County offices.

lamontcounty.ca | lamontcountynow.ca

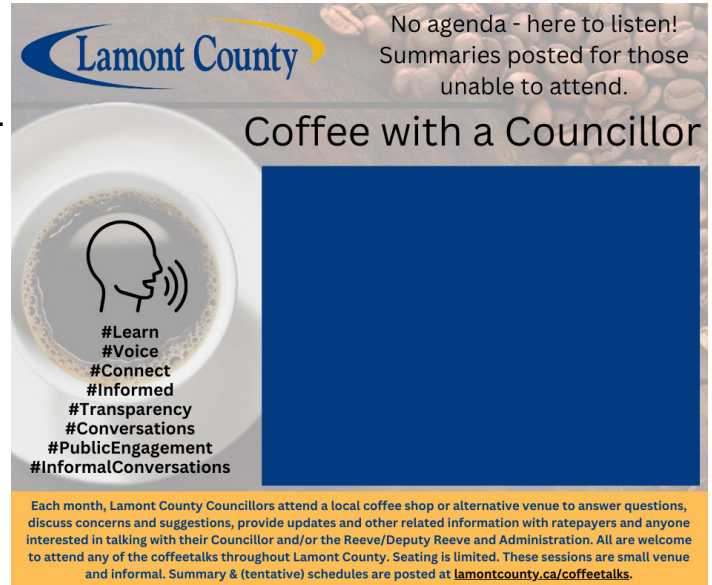
[Page Intentionally Blank]

COFFEE TALKS / COFFEE WITH A COUNCILLOR

In 2024, Council kicked off Coffee with a Councillor, informal opportunities for residents to talk with Councillors and address any challenges or concerns. These are small venue (one-on-one) opportunities for engagement instead of public forums. The intention is for each Division to have two coffee talks annually, (alternating between a.m. and evening).

Year One saw four sessions completed. There are five sessions planned for Year Two (mixed between a.m. and evening)—only five sessions before the Municipal Election period commences, with more sessions likely added after the election period concludes.

See lamontcounty.ca/coffeetalks for updates, topic summaries and the next planned sessions.



No agenda - here to listen!
Summaries posted for those unable to attend.

Coffee with a Councillor

#Learn
#Voice
#Connect
#Informed
#Transparency
#Conversations
#PublicEngagement
#InformalConversations

Each month, Lamont County Councillors attend a local coffee shop or alternative venue to answer questions, discuss concerns and suggestions, provide updates and other related information with ratepayers and anyone interested in talking with their Councillor and/or the Reeve/Deputy Reeve and Administration. All are welcome to attend any of the coffeetalks throughout Lamont County. Seating is limited. These sessions are small venue and informal. Summary & (tentative) schedules are posted at lamontcounty.ca/coffeetalks.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION - October 20

Municipal elections are held every four years as per the *Municipal Government Act*. On October 20, make sure to exercise your right to vote. Your vote is your voice.

If you have any concerns or questions related to service levels, polices, procedures, etc. that you would like addressed before the election, contact your Councillors for clarification.


Confirm you are registered on the voter list at voterlink.ca & lamontcounty.ca/governance/2025-municipal-election.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING, TAX and BUDGET

Council completes its annual strategic planning as part of budget (in Q4 of the previous year). Public engagement and input is completed through opportunities such as the annual engagement survey, as well as direct feedback from the public throughout the year. The tax rate is approved in Q2 after budget finalization. NOTE: Lamont County does not receive the School or Seniors Foundation, Municipal Waste Expense or Designated Industrial Properties taxes. These rates are externally set & not determined by the County.

Property taxes are determined by multiplying individual property assessment values by the mill rate. Individual assessments and taxes are set each year (in April) based on the requirements of the annual budget and year-to-year changes to property values.

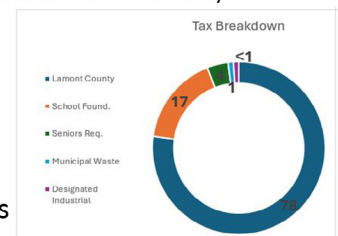
2024 Tax Rates

	<i>Residential:</i> 0.0044821 (change from 2023 taxes - 0.005084)		<i>Farms:</i> 0.0180411 (change from 2023 taxes - 0.01643488)
	<i>Non-Residential:</i> 0.195173 (no change from 2023 taxes)		

Your Tax Dollar Breakdown for a typical residential ratepayer: 78% goes to the Municipality, 17% to Alberta School Foundation, and 4% Seniors' Foundation Requisition, 1% Municipal Waste Expense, and <1% for assessment of Designated Industrial Properties (i.e., Lamont County only receives about 3/4 of the taxes collected each year, and the rates for these other amounts are not determined by the County.

For example (for illustrative purposes only):

A resident assessment of \$250,000 x 0.0044821 = \$93.38 per month. Lamont County receives approximately \$72.83 to complete all services, including road maintenance, administration, Council meetings, equipment and maintenance, etc. (which is ~\$9.38* per month as compared to 2023).



lamontcounty.ca | lamontcountynow.ca

[Page Intentionally Blank]

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS & CLARIFICATION

Have you ever wondered about the accuracy of information online or from the rumour mill?

If there's something you've overheard in informal discussions related to Lamont County municipal government, planning, services provided & other initiatives, and you want to know more or to dispel misinformation or content that may be incorrect, misleading or is missing context, check out **Commonly Asked Questions and Clarification:** lamontcounty.ca/faqs.

Many of the common questions residents have related to a variety of topics including Council duties, rumours around any hidden agendas or collusion across government and other world initiatives, procedures and legislation including the *Municipal Government Act* as it applies to Council and Lamont County are addressed in our FAQs. We want to help provide accurate information and increased transparency. Lamont County has added this page so you can make informed decisions on the information available to you online, in print, and from others.

Your Council prides itself on providing correct information to the public through our communications channels. We continue to invite you to help shape the direction of Lamont County and contributes to the decision-making process through participating in engagement opportunities and feedback through the service requests system at: servicerequests@lamontcounty.ca and [Lamontcounty.ca/servicerequests](http://lamontcounty.ca/servicerequests).



CONSUMER SAFETY and SCAM PREVENTION

In today's world, rural crime and scammers are present everyday. It's not going to end soon. Lamont County has provided some tips and tricks (including strategies promoted by the RCMP, to help you be aware of some of the fraud, scams and ways to protect yourself from being a victim. See lamontcounty.ca/fraud-prevention for tips and ways to report online crimes (it is important to report, as then it is followed upon by enforcement for investigation, planning and other means). Reporting can be done to the Detachment the crime occurred (lamontcounty.ca/departments/emergency-services/rcmp) - use the non-emergency line unless an incident is in progress or you are in danger.

WHAT ARE LAMONT COUNTY SERVICE LEVELS

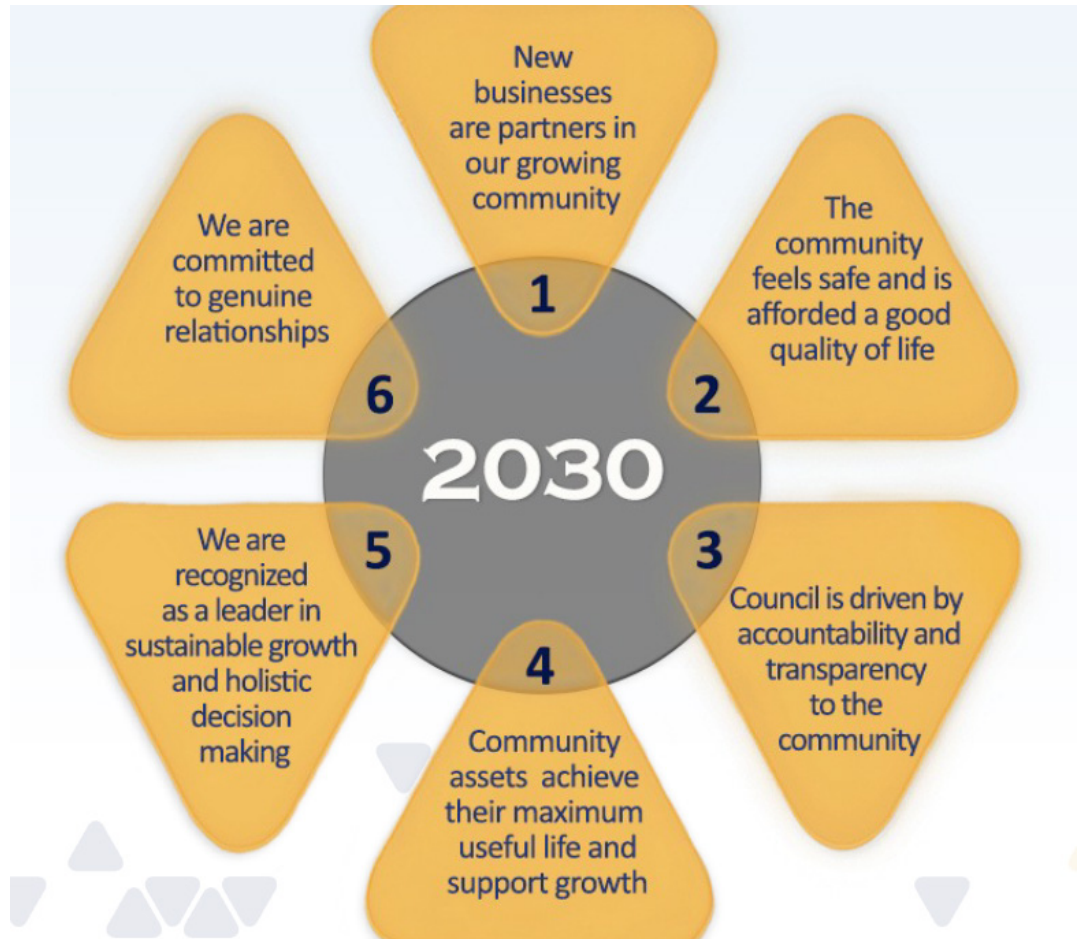
Each year Council reviews and adjusts the services Lamont County is able to provide. This is based on current need, budget, resources, equipment and if relevant, other constraints such as reserve funding, ability of external resources (when applicable) and resident need. It includes important services such as road clearing, gravelling, culvert maintenance and replacement, road repair, emergency response and prevention, community services, as well as all administration and corporate services required to execute these.

The following pages outline the services as approved in Council, as well as operational highlights as directed by Council to Administration. Appropriate service levels and execution well positions Lamont County to plan and address its resident and community needs, as well as planning for the future with appropriate reserves, funding and delivery.

2021-2030 Strategic Plan

Lamont County continues progress on its 10 year strategic plan.

This is year five of the plan.



Our Promise for a Sustainable Future

Lamont County recognizes the responsibilities required to contribute to the reduction of local, regional and global environmental and social impacts. The County is committed to incorporating environmental awareness into the planning, budgeting and operations of municipal services in partnership with like-minded and motivated stakeholders. Conservation of the County’s natural resources will enrich quality of life and balance growth with stewardship of the region’s watershed, habitats and biodiversity to promote social and economic vitality.

Vision

We are a resilient community where citizens, agriculture and industry grow together for each others’ mutual benefit.

The future of Lamont County will be shaped by the voices of its partners—its citizens, community groups, businesses and neighbours. The Strategic Plan illustrates the power of those relationships and the County’s intention to face challenges and celebrate our successes together.

We will be bold about this vision and move forward as open and active listeners. Remaining transparent about our actions and accountable for our results will be the clearest path to a strategic transformation—a new approach, a fresh start to yield big results for our community.

Shaping our Future

The prioritized strategic goals outlined in this plan will drive the work of Lamont County Council and Administration over the next ten years. It is our commitment to keep these goals at the forefront of everything we do.



Goal 1

New businesses are partners in growing our community.

- We have a large petrochemical business located in Lamont County.
- We have several tertiary (industry support) businesses located in Lamont County.
- We have seen growth and diversification in our agricultural business sector.
- Development in acreage and country residential supports new workers for new business.



Goal 2

The community feels safe and is afforded a good quality of life.

- Transportation master plans have safe/efficient/effective movement of people/goods as a priority.
- A strong partnership exists with law enforcement and emergency services agencies.
- The FCSS program in Lamont County is seen as a valuable resource for citizens and businesses alike.
- There are many sustainable festivals and societies in the community.
- There exists active and visible support for health and safety community-wide.



Goal 3

Council is driven by accountability and transparency to the community.

- Community is aware of the strategic plan.
- Community is aware of the prioritized goals.
- Community feels it is getting good value for their taxes.
- Community feels they are informed and have had an opportunity to express themselves.
- Community feels their Council has represented their best interests.



Goal 4

Community assets achieve their maximum useful life and support growth.

- We have an asset management master plan that informs infrastructure decisions.
- We invest in community assets that make our community more attractive to new citizens, businesses, and industry.
- Our budgets support the achievement of maximum useful life for our assets.
- Opportunities to use our community assets as a revenue generator have been explored.



Goal 5

We are recognized as a leader for sustainable growth & holistic decision making.

- We are influential members of many outside agencies in support of our community.
- Conversations with Towns and Villages include excellence in governance.
- We are active contributors to the success of Alberta's Industrial Heartland.
- We have an ongoing dialogue with strategic government agencies and ministries (Provincial or Federal).



Goal 6

We are committed to genuine relationships.

- We are influential members of many outside agencies in support of our community.
- Conversations with Towns and Villages include excellence in governance.
- We are active contributors to the success of Alberta's Industrial Heartland.
- We have an ongoing dialogue with strategic government agencies and ministries (Provincial or Federal).



Service Level and Operational Highlights

Lamont County Council

NEW AND UPDATED SERVICE LEVELS AS DIRECTED BY COUNCIL (for 2024)

1. *Corporate Services/Council*: Coffee Talks with a Councillor to start in 2024 (public engagement).
2. *Corporate Services/Council*: External Public Newsletter to start in 2024 (public engagement).
3. *Corporate Services/Council*: Highlights of Council meetings into Lamont Leader (public engagement).
4. *Corporate Services/Council*: Summary of Council meetings onto social media and lamontcounty.ca (public engagement).
5. *Council*: Tax rates for 2024 – Residential 0.0044821 | Farm 0.0180411 | Non-Residential 0.0195173.
 - a. **Note**: Council set a responsible tax rate for 2024 including a four per cent increase for residential/farmland to cover service level needs as set by Council.
 - b. Additional rates within your tax notice (that are not set by Lamont County) include Alberta School Foundation, Seniors' Foundation Requisition and Municipal Waste Expense - these rate increases contribute to a higher tax bill as compared to 2023. If you have concern with increases to the school portion, please contact your MLA.
6. *Council*: Initial Investigation of Participation in a Municipally Controlled Corporation (MCC) with the Alberta Industrial Heartland Association (AIHA).
7. *Council*: Adjustment to the Farm and Residential Tax Rate by four per cent.
8. *Lamont County Emergency Services*: Expansion of the Fire Duty Crew into March.
9. *Public Works*: Adjustment of Gravel Spread rates to increase KMs affected and reduce product applied.
10. *Public Works*: Engineering of approvals for Select gravel mining operations.
11. *Public Works - Water*: Increasing Water Utility Rates by 10 per cent.
12. *CALC*: Expanding the administration and public service for the Community Adult Learning Committee (CALC) and related programs.
13. *Council*: Other one-time funding for both Revenues and Expenditures were addressed including:
 - a. Utilization of forecasted surplus from 2023 to fund shortfalls in 2024.
 - b. Inclusion of additional provincial grants even though amounts are yet unconfirmed from the province.
 - c. Adjustment of the forecasted interest income.
14. *Planning and Development*: Transitional support for Planning and Development as well as an additional embargo of seasonal sprayer position in lieu of contracted service.
15. *Council*: The budget presented requires an additional contribution from reserves for operating of \$565,000.
16. *Council*: 2024 Capital Project expenditures of \$782,500 and Capital Asset purchases of \$4,183,179 are funded through contribution from reserves (\$4,033,179), trade-in values (\$488,000) and Capital grants (\$953,000). Note: Total Capital Asset acquisitions in Vehicles and Equipment for 2024 exceeds the current balance of \$1.744M in the Equipment Replacement Reserve. Staff recommends the amount be funded in 2024 through a transfer from General Capital, funded through 2023 surplus.



CORPORATE SERVICES (Finance, Human Resources, Communications, Health and Safety)

Council APPROVED Initiatives in 2024:

- Coffee Talks;
- Public Newsletter; and
- Council Highlights and Ads.

Services Provided:

- Promotions
- Communications planning (events/initiatives)
- Admin Support
- Snow Flags - Receive Payment
- Agreement & Maintain Spreadsheet
- Fire Permitting - enter in permits on online system
- Employee Recruitment
- Employee Relations (Retention & Performance Management)
- Seasonal Staff Recruitment and Termination
- Council Communications
- Public Engagement
- Website
- Media engagement and monitoring
- Communications support for organization
- Social media engagement
- Admin Building Maintenance Inside Issues - heating, safety, etc. & Outside Issues - sprinklers, safety
- Admin Services for Other Departments
- County Insurance Policies
- County IT Services
- Tax Rate Calculation
- Well Drilling Tax
- Assessment
- Payroll
- Utilities – Water
- Water Billing - Industrial Users
- Water Billing - Truck Fills
- Water Billing - Hamlet of St. Michael
- Prepaid Water Billing - Truck Fills
- Accounts Receivable – General
- AR Collection
- AR Collection - Aggregate Levy
- Finance – General
- Accounts Payable - entering of invoices & payment
- Gravel Haul Cards - Inventory Spreadsheets
- Compile Budget Information
- Priority Based Budgeting
- Financial Reporting to Council
- Compile Year End Working Papers for Audit
- Grant Applications - apply & SFE
- Health & Safety Program & Risk Management
- Occupational Health & Safety

Key achievements in 2024:

- Internal Newsletter;
- Council Highlights and Ads;
- Public Engagement Survey and Analysis;
- Service Level and Budget Report;
- Infrastructure Master Plan Documents to Business/Strategic Plan;
- Reserves Management Policy;
- GIS Strategy and deployment planning;
- Key position recruitment;
- Review and update of Health and Safety program and procedures (including WorkHub);
- Updated website for readability and content; and
- Media updates of Council Meetings (to media directly).

Services provided to Lamont County (including partnerships with other municipalities):

Lamont County 2024 Service Levels

ADMINISTRATION (Office of the CAO, Legislative Services and Council)

Council APPROVED Initiatives in 2024:

- Investigation into Municipally Controlled Corporation (removed);
- Coffee Talks/Coffee with a Councillor (10 sessions planned for 2024);
- External Public Newsletter (one issue planned in 2024);
- Highlights of Council Meetings into the Lamont Leader (planned every two meetings and into other publications such as the Vegreville News-Advertiser); and
- Council Meeting Summaries to website and social media.

Services Provided:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Council Agendas <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaw Development <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Development <input type="checkbox"/> Elections <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Operational Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Intermunicipal Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Operational Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Tri-Annual Reporting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Subdivision Development Appeal Board <input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up Action List <input type="checkbox"/> Councillor Requests <input type="checkbox"/> Resident Requests <input type="checkbox"/> Delegation Requests <input type="checkbox"/> Information Requests <input type="checkbox"/> Council Code of Conduct Investigations <input type="checkbox"/> Promotions <input type="checkbox"/> AIHA Heartland Support <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Administration Team Meeting |
|---|--|

Key achievements in 2024:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee Talks; • External Public Newsletter; • Highlights of Council Meetings; • Council Meeting Summaries to website and social media; • Progress on water license application; • Records Retention Practices (LSO); • Joint Use Agreements; • Tri-annual Reporting; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Council Road Tour; • Strategic planning review; • ICF agreements; • Municipal Inspection Petition Follow-up. • Recall Petition Follow-up; • Public Advertising Notification Bylaw; • Completion of FOIP Requests; and • Reeve’s Year in Review publication. |
|---|---|

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

Council APPROVED Initiatives in 2024:

- Contracted Sprayer.

Services Provided:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Extension Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Local, Regional, and Provincial Tours <input type="checkbox"/> Applied Research & Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> Mapping and Analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Addressing <input type="checkbox"/> Predator Management <input type="checkbox"/> Beaver Control <input type="checkbox"/> Predator/Pest Management <input type="checkbox"/> Mowing Program <input type="checkbox"/> Roadside Brushing <input type="checkbox"/> Roadside Seeding <input type="checkbox"/> Roadside Spraying <input type="checkbox"/> Corner Brushing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Age Verification <input type="checkbox"/> ASB Rental Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Weed Management <input type="checkbox"/> Weed & Pest Control on Municipal Lands <input type="checkbox"/> Weed Inspection & Enforcement on Private & Public Lands <input type="checkbox"/> Roadside Weed Control <input type="checkbox"/> Applied Research & Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> Soil & Water Conservation Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Shelterbelt Program |
|---|--|

Key achievements in 2024:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lease agreements & agriculture land use; • Spraying program and annual mowing; • Weed awareness and inspection; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial work on Agriculture Master Plan; • Drought Resiliency Planning; and • AgKnow and Ag for Life partnerships. |
|---|--|

COMMUNITY SERVICES (Family and Community Support Services & Community Adult Learning Council)

Council APPROVED Initiatives in 2024:

- Expanded Programming; and
- Increased CALC customer service;

Services Provided:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> CALC Learner Focused Programming <input type="checkbox"/> FCSS Early Childhood Education Programming <input type="checkbox"/> FCSS Seniors Programming <input type="checkbox"/> FCSS Youth Programming <input type="checkbox"/> FCSS Community Capacity Building <input type="checkbox"/> FCSS Individual Programming | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Community Services Events <input type="checkbox"/> KFRN Caregiver Capacity Programming <input type="checkbox"/> Lamont County Regional Family Day Homes <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation Agreements and Grant Funding; <input type="checkbox"/> Community Grant Application Administration; |
|---|---|

Key achievements in 2024:

- FCSS Aging in the Community;
- Expanded CALC programming; and
- #LamontCountyCares Campaign.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Tourism)

Council APPROVED Initiatives in 2024:

- No specific initiatives as part of the 2023-24 Budget planning.

Services Provided:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Investment Attraction | <input type="checkbox"/> Alberta Industrial Heartland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relationship Building - Land Owners | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development Needs - Assessment and Resolutions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industry Events/Attendance and Networking | <input type="checkbox"/> Ukrainian Twinning Agreement - Lamont County Initiatives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Retention | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Licensing and Directory; |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partnering - local events & attractions | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Reeve's Charitable Golf Tournament | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Groups – Collaboration | |

Key achievements in 2024:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Church Tour Revamp and promotion;• Tax Incentive Bylaw;• New Lamont County NOW website and development, and data visualization tools;• Reeve's Charity Golf Tournament record amount of funds raised;• Economic Development Profiles for business and community;• Business Directory and Business Licensing revamp; | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multiple new leads in the investment funnel (in target sectors including agriculture, manufacturing, transportation and logistics) and Invest Alberta;• New investment attraction marketing in publications, inc. Invest Alberta magazine• New relationships established with key stakeholders at AIHA, Invest Alberta, Province of Alberta ministries; and• Tourism marketing expansion. |
|--|--|

EMERGENCY SERVICES (Regional Fire & Community Peace Officer)

Council APPROVED Initiatives in 2024:

- Enhanced Duty Crew.

Services Provided:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Prevention | <input type="checkbox"/> External Education (Specialty/Additional Training) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Recruitment (LCES) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Interaction | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Response |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Permit Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Investigation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Management & Preparedness | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Administration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Mitigation Preparedness | <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Response & Recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Crime Watch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Emergency Management Initiatives | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Enforcement and Incident Support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence (CPO) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health/Welfare | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Security (CPO) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Training Center | <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaw creation/review/update |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internal Education (Accredited Training) | <input type="checkbox"/> Complaints (CPO) |

Key achievements in 2024:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drone and brush pile program;• Paid On-call recruitment campaign;• Regional Emergency Management - REAC Workplan;• Fire Services Master Plan development; | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional Emergency Management exercises and training;• Fire Training Grants; and• Review of Fire Services fees. |
|--|---|

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Council APPROVED Initiatives in 2024:

- Transitional funding for Senior Planning and Development Officer.

Services Provided:

- Development Permit Processing
- Subdivision Application Processing
- Administer Municipal Development Plan and process amendments
- Administer Land Use Bylaw and process amendments as needed
- Administer Quality Management Plan for Safety Codes processes
- Administer Intermunicipal Development Plans with adjacent municipalities
- Administer Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks with adjacent municipalities
- Development Compliance Certificates
- Enforce Land Use Bylaw and Unsightly/Nuisance Bylaw
- Coordinate with Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association for Designated Industrial Zone requirements
- Update Off-site Levy Bylaw, as needed
- Process land use and development information requests
- Provide Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Secretary services to Lamont County and urban towns/villages;

Key achievements in 2024:

- Adoption of new Municipal Development Plan;
- Adoption of new Land Use Bylaw;
- Approval of Heartland Industrial Area Infrastructure Plan;
- Adoption of new Offsite Levy Bylaw;
- Funding strategy for Heartland Infrastructure in conjunction with the CFO;
- Completion of external Safety Codes Audit;
- Participated in Designated Industrial Zone coordination with AIHA; and,
- Developed Development Compliance matter and monitoring program.

PUBLIC WORKS (and Water)

Council APPROVED Initiatives in 2024:

- Re-introducing Private Dust Abatement program; and
- Gravel Pit Strategy;
- Shoulder Pulls & MG 30 Pilot project; and
- Improved Gravel Road Maintenance – Gravel Spread Rate.

Services Provided:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Purchases | <input type="checkbox"/> Dust Control - Residential (Oil) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Dust Control – Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Garbage pickup – Hilliard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road Signs | <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal - Graveled Roads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dust Abatement (Rip and Re-pack) - Oil Road | <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal - Churches & Halls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shoulder Pull/Light Road Re-construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal - Paved Roads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road Grading | <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal - Multi-Lot Sub-division and Hamlets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graveling Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Heartland Water Reservoir & Truck Fill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graveling Program (Hauling) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hilliard Water Fill Station |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel Haul Cards - Inventory Spreadsheets | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Michael Hamlet Water Distribution System |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road Patching | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Michael Water & Pump Station |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance of Hamlets | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Michael Water Usage Metering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road Crossing Culverts | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential - New Water Service Connection Fees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ditch Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Requests |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approaches | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Purchases |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Courses | <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fleet Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> All County Owned Infrastructure; |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance of Emergency Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Dust Control (Calcium, Oil & MG30) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance of PW & Ag Equipment | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal – Private Driveways | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dust Control - Residential (Calcium) | |

Key achievements in 2024:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process water line planning; • Water Rate workshop; • Implementation of 2024 Capital Plan (including STIP, procurement, etc.); • Create 15-year Capital replacement Plan; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised Graveling program and gravel pit strategy (including gravel and clay acquisitions); • Waterline repair (Hilliard to Andrew); • Svit-Whitford Drainage review; and • Re-introducing Private Dust Abatement program. |
|--|---|

[Service Levels...continued]

Municipal Partnerships and Agreements - This includes recreation agreements to ensure service access and opportunities for all residents, fire service agreements with surrounding municipalities for safety, Highway maintenance with Emcon (as delivered through Alberta Transportation). Lamont County works with its regional partners to ensure services are appropriately managed and that residents have access to community services and programs to benefit their livelihood, including proper road maintenance on highway and transportation corridors to operate safely.

Council, Board and Committee Meetings

The public and media are invited and encouraged to attend Council and Agricultural Service Board (ASB), Municipal Planning Commission (MPC), Intermunicipal Subdivision Development and Appeal Board (ISDAB) Meetings Council, meetings in Council Chambers, onsite or virtually (when available) - meeting links are available on the Lamont County website. The full meeting schedule is published at:

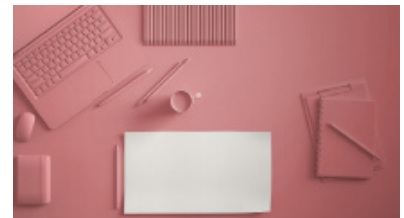
- (Council) lamontcounty.ca/governance/agendas-minutes;
- (ASB) lamontcounty.ca/departments/agricultural-services/agendas-minutes-asb;
- (ISDAB) lamontcounty.ca/governance/boards-committees/isdab; and
- (MPC) lamontcounty.ca/departments/planning-development/mpc.



Please note: all meetings are recorded and Lamont County follows any pandemic protocols as set by the Government of Alberta.

Did You Know...

- The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) is the single employee of Lamont County Council. Decisions and direction are set by Council for the CAO to manage on behalf of the County.
- Tax rates are set annually with the Tax Rate Bylaw to consider the best course of direction for the municipality. Lamont County Council sets this with consideration of its budget, shortfalls and future economic growth.
- Public Works tracks and monitors its roads through Geographic Information System (GIS) to ensure all areas of the County are properly maintained.
- Service levels are set by Council at its annual budget meetings. This direction is then implemented by Lamont County Administration.
- There are many wildlife species across Lamont County. You may see deer, moose, bison, coyotes, wild boars, prohibited weeds, etc. Agricultural Services works to assess, manage, conserve or eradicate these when needed.
- There are many programs offered in Lamont County aimed to provide opportunities closer to home, including workshops, learning opportunities and workshops.
- Publicly available information, documents and updates include:
 - *Policies, Procedures and Meeting updates* (lamontcounty.civicweb.net/filepro/documents),
 - *Soundbytes* (external newsletter: lamontcounty.ca/newsletter),
 - *Coffee Talks summaries* (lamontcounty.ca/coffeetalks),
 - *News updates*: lamontcounty.ca/news,
 - *inFocus*: lamontcounty.ca/communications,
 - *Engagement with Council*: lamontcounty.ca/public-engagement,
 - *Economic Development* lamontcountynow.ca,
 - *Submit Service Requests*: lamontcounty.ca/servicerequests, &
 - Social Media (Facebook, X, LinkedIn, YouTube) - including Highlights from recent Council meetings.



lamontcounty.ca | lamontcountynow.ca

[Page Intentionally Blank]

Lamont County

*Cradle of Ukrainian Settlement in Canada and
the Church Capital of North America*

lamontcounty.ca | lamontcountynow.ca

Administrative Building

5303-50 Avenue
Lamont, AB T0B 2R0

Phone: 780-895-2233
Toll-Free: 1-877-895-2233

Fax: 780-895-7404

info@lamontcounty.ca

Public Works and Agricultural
Services/ASB Building

553004A Hwy 831
Lamont, AB T0B 2R0

Phone: 780-895-2547 (PW)
Toll-Free: 1-866-895-2547
Phone: 780-895-2585 (ASB)
Fax: 780-895-2892

ASB@lamontcounty.ca

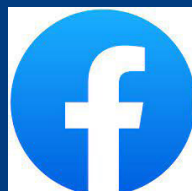
PublicWorks@lamontcounty.ca

ServiceRequests@lamontcounty.ca

Follow us on Social Media:



LamontCounty.ca



/LamontCounty



/@LamontCounty



@LamontCounty



/company/Lamont-County