

# What's New in Mountain View

## From the desk of the Reeve

### MDP REVIEW, AND YOUR INPUT, REMAIN COUNCIL PRIORITY

In October of 2010 a new Council was elected in our County, a Council with a mandate to change direction together with a promise to be more transparent and accountable to the electorate.

Chief among those issues were the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and the Land Use Bylaw. Last week, a new Land Use Bylaw received third reading from Council, after a review by the Municipal Planning Commission and Councillors. The result is a bylaw we believe to be more reflective of ratepayers expectations and more easily understood. This is also a review process that Council will undertake on a yearly basis in an attempt to continually improve clarity.

At the same time, Council has been working toward a similar outcome for the Municipal Development Plan, legislation that is required by the Municipal Government Act, (MGA) for any Municipality in Alberta with a population over 3,500.

This process, as of the date of this publication, has been ongoing for exactly one year. It was on Jan. 25, 2011 that we held our first public open house on the MDP to garner ratepayer feedback into what was working and what was not working with the current plan.

Since that first step we saw the completion of the initial open house sessions across the County, a mail-out survey in which we received an unprecedented response from residents, and a statistically valid telephone survey that provided us more insight and direction. Councillors and Planning and Development Staff, with the help of McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd., have reviewed the accumulated data and have taken the necessary time and care with the clear intention that the new MDP would be reflective of what you told us.

It's at this point that we brought the draft of proposed changes to Mountain View County's MDP to the public in a series of four more open houses over two weeks in late November and early December. We also published the draft revised MDP and a summary of amendments on our website for the public to review in advance of the open houses.

The attendance and feedback at all open houses was impressive and all that information was noted and is being reviewed and compiled for an upcoming public presentation to the Policies and Priorities Committee - comprised of all Council members - on February 8th. That public presentation will also include feedback from questionnaires gathered at the open houses as well as from those downloaded from our website, filled out and submitted.

All the presented information on February 8th will



BRUCE BEATTIE

then be reviewed and debated by the P&P Committee to guide any potential revisions to the current draft of the MDP.

We have now created a draft document that Council believes reflects what we've been hearing in the community. While this part of the process took longer than originally expected we think that extra diligence will pay off in the long run with an MDP that mirrors the planning and development priorities of our residents. This draft will again be subject to further review, not only from our citizens, but also from the five municipalities that lie within our County boundaries.

It is important to note that this plan is not finalised. Until this council is confident that the revisions reflect what the majority of you have told us you want from your MDP it will not be approved by Council, and then only after the mandated public hearing and three readings of the plan

You may have read or heard the point of view that this process is being rushed. Given that first reading of the bylaw to amend the MDP likely will not be before council until early spring, and that we will continue to pursue public feedback right up until that point, we are looking at a possible 15 months of discussion and consultation prior to the adoption of the new Municipal Development Plan for our County.

We have adhered to the best planning practices and have been - and will remain committed to open discussion over the course of the entire review. As your Council, we remain committed to honest public engagement and transparency

### Community Aggregate Payment Levy Bylaw in effect

On January 1, 2012 Bylaw No. 14/11 Community Aggregate Payment Levy came into effect.

Under the terms of the bylaw a \$0.25 per tonne levy will be applied on all shipments of aggregate from any pit within the boundaries of Mountain View County. The levy will be applied against sand and gravel business operators and not the individual landowners.

Exemptions to the Community Aggregate Payment Levy Bylaw include shipments for provincial or municipal projects. However, those shipments must be accounted for in the semi-annual reports provided by the pit operators.

Council passed the bylaw on October 19 after a public input process, which included a public hearing that featured numerous representatives from the local sand and gravel industry. Council determined through the public hearing process and by reviewing submissions in regards to the bylaw to dedicate funds raised from the levy towards the cost of infrastructure upgrades and maintenance - in particular County roadways directly affected by the gravel industry.

Under the terms of the bylaw operators must provide semi-annual reports to Mountain View County within 30 days of June 30 and December 31. The reports must be submitted using an Aggregate Tonnage Roll that will be available from the MVC office or on the County's website at [www.mountainviewcounty.com](http://www.mountainviewcounty.com).

Within 45 days of receiving the report, the County will send out to each operator a levy notice in the form of an accounts receivable invoice. Payment will be due within 30 days of mailing of the levy notice.

In developing the bylaw, Council took into account that the levy is supported by the Alberta Sand and Gravel Association, an organization that collaborated with the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties, the Alberta Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association to develop the Community Aggregate Payment Levy concept.

According to the Alberta Sand and Gravel Association, 22 Counties and Municipal Districts in Alberta were collecting a Community Aggregate Payment in 2009. In November Red Deer County also approved a Community Aggregate Payment Levy Bylaw and southern neighbour Rocky View County has had a similar bylaw in place for several years. Additionally, the MD of Bighorn has had a similar bylaw in place since 2008.

The full bylaw can be viewed at [mountainviewcounty.com/bylaws](http://mountainviewcounty.com/bylaws) or by contacting the County office at 1-403-335-3311 or toll free at 1-877-264-9754.

January 24, 2012



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**COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR**

**BEARBERRY WAPITANA SOCIETY**

bearberrycommunity.com

The Bearberry Wapitana Society is hosting the following Performing Arts Event:

**February 18, 2012 — Tim Hus & The Rocky Mountain Two**, featuring Billy MacInnis on fiddle and lead guitar and Riley Tubbs on upright string bass.

For more information please visit his website at [www.timhus.ca](http://www.timhus.ca)

Doors open: 7:00 pm

Concert starts at 8:00 pm

Tickets: \$ 20.00 per person. For tickets please call Barb: 403-638-2704 or book at 'Just Travel' in Sundre.

**JAMES RIVER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

jamesriver.ca

JR Sew & Sews

**When: Every Monday, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM**

**Where: James River Hall**

J&R Sew & Sew's meet every Monday to work on their quilting, sewing or craft project at the JR Community Hall. Bring whatever project you are working on. Coffee & tea are provided, however, bring your own lunch. There is a \$3 drop in fee.

Tickets: \$ 20.00 per person. For tickets please call Barb: 403-638-2704 or book at 'Just Travel' in Sundre.

Drop in fee.

**WATER VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

watervalleycommunity.ca

WVCA Coffee Get Together

**Where: Water Valley Community Hall**

**Thursday, January 26, 2012 9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Come enjoy a coffee and conversation with fellow local residents. Everyone is welcome!

Everyone is welcome!

Boot Camp

**Where: Water Valley Community Hall**

**Thursday, January 26, 2012 6:30 PM-8:30 PM**

Boot camp exercise!

Call Jessica for more info at 403-463-7317.

WVCA Coffee Get Together

**Where: Water Valley Community Hall**

**Thursday, February 2, 2012 9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Come enjoy a coffee and conversation with fellow local residents. Everyone is welcome!

Everyone is welcome!

Boot Camp

**Where: Water Valley Community Hall**

**Thursday, February 2, 2012 6:30 PM-8:30 PM**

Boot camp exercise!

Call Jessica for more info at 403-463-7317.

**Attention all Mountain View County Community Groups!**

If you are a non-profit community group or association and have projects and events you are looking to promote; use this space to help get the word out to the greater Mountain View community! Contact Andrew Wild, Communications Coordinator at 403-335-3311 ext. 214 or email you event information to [Andrew.Wild@mountainviewcounty.com](mailto:Andrew.Wild@mountainviewcounty.com).

**Council News**

**LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENTS PASSED**

Mountain View County council approved amendments to the Land Use Bylaw 10/10 at its regular council meeting on Jan. 18.

The amendments, in the form of Bylaw 11/11, were part of a process started last year to reduce repetition, tighten language and make the document more user-friendly for landowners contemplating development.

According to the presentation by the Planning and Development Department to council the reason behind the amendments was not to change the intent of the bylaw but to provide clarity.

During the public consultation process the County received one letter of objection to one of the proposed amendments.

**GRADUATED LETTERS OF CREDIT FOR GRAVEL PIT ROAD USE AGREEMENTS**

County council approved a graduated system for required letters of credit on road-use agreements for gravel pit operators.

Under the approved system, operators will be required to submit letters of credit based on the length of road travelled and the road-surface type for the length of their proposed haul route from the pit of origin to a provincial highway.

Operators will have to submit security letters of credit based on

their proposed haul route at \$5,000 per mile of gravel surface and \$10,000 per mile of paved surface. There will be a minimum of one mile security required and a maximum total of \$25,000, the previous fixed amount for all road use agreements.

County officials hope the new measures will provide an impetus for gravel operators to choose the shortest route possible for their haul with a stated goal of lessening the impact on County roads used in gravel hauling as well as the number of roads utilized by the industry.

Administration noted that compliance by operators had resulted in zero known instances where accessing the letter of credit to cover road repairs was necessary. The new measures go into effect immediately and were proposed after council requested further information on the road bond structure during the approval of the Community Aggregate Payment levy Bylaw in October 2011.

**FUNDS APPROVED FOR NEW FIRE TRUCK IN SUNDRÉ**

Mountain View County Council approved up to \$205,000 to purchase a new pumper truck for the Sundre Fire Department.

The funds are part of a 50-50 cost split for the new truck which was due for replacement in 2011 according to the 20-year Capital Apparatus Fire Plan, part of the existing Fire Services Agreement between the county and the Town of Sundre.

The truck will be prepaid before construction and delivery by Pierce, a fire equipment manufacturer. By prepaying, the municipalities will see approximately \$10,000 in savings according to the report submitted to council by administration.

Upon order, the new pumper will take approximately seven to eight months for assembly and delivery. The new truck will replace a 1991 Mid Ship Superior Pumper Truck.

Council has made the funding conditional on the verification that the prepayment be protected in the event of bankruptcy or other unforeseen circumstances.

**WESTWARD HO CAMPGROUND NEGOTIATIONS APPROVED**

Council approved the CAO enter into negotiations with Chris Demers and Craig Masley for operation of the Westward Ho Campground.

Council has also requested that upon completion of the negotiations that any proposed contract come back to council for review and approval.

The applicants have several years of experience in campground management in Alberta and are currently involved in the management of the Westerner Campground in Red Deer.

In total, three proposals to manage the County-owned campground were received.

**Road Watch - - - February 2012**

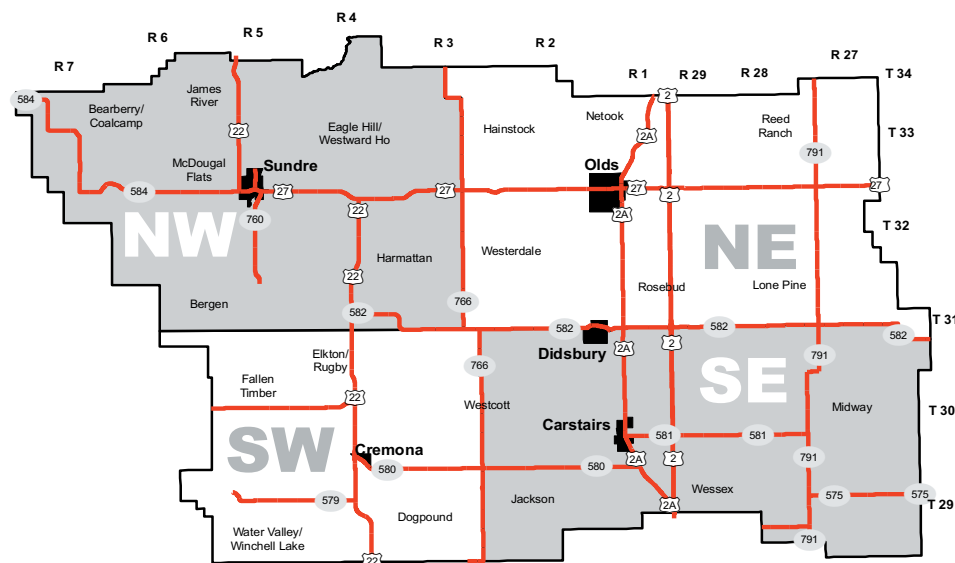
**ATTENTION: Watch for roads with year-round weight restrictions**

**Northwest Quadrant**

1. Sign maintenance
2. Pothole patching
3. Snow and ice control
4. Grading
5. Brushing
6. Culvert steaming

**Southwest Quadrant**

1. Sign maintenance
2. Pothole patching
3. Snow and ice control
4. Grading
5. Culvert Steaming
6. Brushing



Note: Twp Rd. between Range Road 31 and Range Road 33 - Year round truck ban

**Northeast Quadrant**

1. Sign maintenance
2. Pothole patching
3. Snow and ice control
4. Grading
5. Brushing
6. Culvert Steaming

**Southeast Quadrant**

1. Sign maintenance
2. Pothole patching
3. Culvert Steaming
4. Grading
5. Snow and ice control
6. Brushing

To report issues on Mountain View County roads, please contact the County Office: 403-335-3311 or toll free at 1-877-264-9754

**Your County Councillors**

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