



2019 FALL COFFEE WITH COUNCIL RESIDENT COMMENT SUMMARY

Planning & Development

- Want to see Lacombe attract waste to energy facility
The City has received proposals centered around this concept. Administration is actively watching the advancement and implementation of the technology in other municipalities.
- Can we move public works dept. sooner rather than later to the industrial area of town
The public works building is at the end of its life requiring significant costs to maintain. To ensure long term value for the ratepayers of Lacombe, an option for the relocation of public works is currently under review subject to further consideration by Council.
- Protecting green space, can we do more to slow urban sprawl? In other words to encourage densification?
*Densification was reviewed in the 2015 Municipal Development Plan, which highlighted: *The Housing Needs Study, conducted in 2013, identified that to improve affordability and better reflect the needs of the city's demographics, a wider range of housing options is needed than is currently available. The Study advocated for an increased mix to the housing stock to achieve overall ratio of at least 35% multi-family units. A number of Outline Plans have been adopted using the previous housing mix championed by the 2003 MDP...These plans have proposed delivery of approximately 2,752 units with multi-family units accounting for approximately 60% of total units. Should these plans be developed as proposed, the end result will be a total mix of 56% single family dwellings to 44% multi-family dwellings. Therefore, Lacombe is on a positive path to diversifying its housing stock.**

Customer Service

- How does the Lacombe Cross Country Ski Club apply for funding to cover costs of regular expenses?
Search the City's Online Volunteer Handbook (www.lacombe.ca/volunteer) for grants and funding resources like:
 - [Community Initiatives Program Funding \(CIP\)](#)
 - <https://www.alberta.ca/cip-operating-grant.aspx>
 - [Red Deer & District Community Foundation](#) <https://rddcf.ca/grants/>
 - Lacombe County RC(9) Grant for Community Programs, Events, and Activities <https://www.lacombecounty.com/index.php/policies/recreation-and-culture-rc-1>



- Please recognize volunteers well.
This is a council Strategic Goal. The City uses a “toolbox” of recognition resources to show appreciation to our many cherished volunteers. This varies from Goodies/Gifts, Meet & Mingle Opportunities, Formal Applause to Heartfelt Hoorays. The City celebrates our unique volunteers in many of these ways - the City hosts a formal Volunteers of Distinction evening for our volunteer board and committee members in June of each year, and through City swag, invitation to events/training opportunities, community/provincial volunteer awards and personalized thank you's. If any volunteer for the City has preferred ways to be recognized, don't be shy - let us know!
- With prometal gone where do we take scrap metal?
A&M Scrap Metal located in 4527-48 Ave advertises online they accept scrap metal. The Lacombe Regional Solid Waste Commission also accepts metal at the Prentiss Transfer Station <http://www.lrwsc.ca/index.php/contact-us>.
- Feel BOLT should be expanded so it is more useful for the rider.
At their regular meeting on September 23, 2019, Council directed Administration to immediately initiate the process for discontinuing the BOLT Transit service within the City of Lacombe. The process includes a 12-month notice to all parties to the service contract, and in that year-long interim, BOLT will continue to operate as it does today.
- The city is wasting money on assessors, should just stick with mill rate. Landlords have to fill out a lot of forms.
The Municipal Government Act (MGA) states that every municipality must appoint an assessor to prepare an annual assessment. Non-residential properties are asked by the assessor to complete documents in order to prepare the annual assessment. Owners have the option of non-compliance but relinquish their right to appeal their property assessment

Enforcement

- Pedestrian jaywalking fines.
If the Lacombe Police Service observes jaywalking they will take appropriate enforcement action.
- Nuisance bylaw, thank you for changes to bylaw. However a known problem property is accumulating improper material again. Please address it ASAP instead of letting it get carried away.
Please forward any bylaw concerns to bylaw@lacombe.ca, or at 403-782-1269.
- Property by RESIDENT still causing problems. Fire hazard? Maybe
Addressing the two above comments: Thank you for the concerns. The City is aware of the situation and is working with the tenants and homeowner. Over the past year, the property



has had many clean ups completed on it; and Bylaw Enforcement Services will continue to work with the occupants. To date (October 3, 2019), the exterior yard is compliant with the Nuisance Bylaw.

- Bylaw should have the authority or tools to reward good behavior i.e. gift card to local business

Thank you for the comment. That is a good idea, this will be considered in future project planning impacting budgets.

Infrastructure

- Waste management, would like all houses to have roll out bins. Had one in another part of town. Go to two week garbage pickup so people to manage own garbage. Would like back alleys cleaned up a bit. Likes Trash to Treasure. Green bins need to be emptied more often.

The City has contracted TetraTech to review the current solid waste system and provide recommendations for consideration. Roll-out bins and 2-week collection could be some of the recommendations they provide, the review will be completed by 2020.

Back alleys are cleaned up periodically by City staff, although the disposal of material not accepted in the garbage bins is the responsibility of the Owners of said items. These items are accepted at the Prentiss Transfer Station and not to be left in the alleys for someone else to cleanup. It is the responsibility of the items' owner to dispose of the items (couch, fridge, dryer, washer, TV, mattress, etc) by taking the item to Prentiss, or arranging for someone to take the item to Prentiss, or place the item at the front of their property during the Spring or Fall Community Cleanup events.

City Staff empty the community grass bins once every 2-weeks or as operational needs allow. These bins accept grass clippings, leaves and some garden waste, they **Do Not** accept tree branches of any size or sod. The organic material collected in the community grass bins are broken down into useable compost by a 3rd party contractor. This process is hindered when the bins are used for everything, but grass clippings, leaves and garden tops. Streamlining what is accepted helps the end user by producing nutrient rich compost.

Residents are encouraged to compost organic material on their own and keep grass clippings on their lawn by grasscycling. Grasscycling leaves the grass clippings on the lawn after mowing, allowing the clippings to quickly decompose back into the soil, returning nutrients back to the soil.

- Fairway drive pleased that there is no sidewalk initiative. Speed still a problem on Fairway but speed bumps are not a solution. More police enforcement, perhaps especially late afternoon. Also too many noisy motorcycles on fairway.

Thank you for the comment. The input has been received, and will be considered in future decisions impacting Fairway Drive. The Lacombe Police Service has also been made aware of this concern.



- Signs on lights with arrows to determine the lanes people should turn or go forward on.
Thank you for the comment. The input has been received, and will be considered in future decisions impacting new traffic lights and the maintenance of existing traffic lights.
- Sidewalks to the Movie Theatre or a crosswalk to the theatre. Suggestion of a roundabout at 45 street and hwy 12. Or at least beacons flashing for pedestrian crossing
The City is currently developing an Active Transportation Plan which will result in, among other things, a standardized system for pedestrian crossing infrastructure within the City. Based on metrics such as pedestrian crossing volumes, pedestrian demographics, proximity to other crossings, crossing distance, road configuration, speed limit and traffic volumes an appropriate crossing type will be recommended and, based on budget resources, implemented. Crossing types may include unmarked crosswalks, marked crosswalks, pedestrian activated lights, and/or intersection bulb outs. This is one of the intersections that will be included in our review.
- Drainage issues old Lacombe Travel building. 5006 5008 5010 5012. Property management co. is very frustrated with absence of catch basin for run off
- Poor drainage behind the businesses on main street behind red hot threads, crafty lady and others. How will this be addressed?
Drainage behind these buildings has been a long standing concern of building owners in this area. In 2015 drainage improvements were made to a portion of this lane to ensure positive drainage away from these properties– which it currently has. However, other drainage issues remain adjacent to the Denike Block so Administration will be requesting funding from Council to revisit the drainage issues in this lane and improve them where possible as funding allows.
- Fairway pavement repair concerns, emailed, no response.
The Director of Operations and Planning spoke to this resident and the issue will be taken care of – the construction damage will be repair this year.
- Thanks for fixing the light, change camera issue at intersection 12 and 2A,
You're welcome, we have passed on your note of appreciate to the Roads Department.
- Truck bypass is that being identified as a priority?
A Bypass around the south end of the City is identified in the City's Transportation Master Plan but traffic volumes are not projected to trigger the need for the bypass for some time. However with the City's growth, and the revitalization of Main Street in recent years, the bypass will be revisited in the next Transporation Master Plan Update.
- Happy to see greater priority on repairing roads and sidewalks. Keep it up!
You're welcome, we have passed on your note of appreciate to the Roads Department and Engineering Department.
- Lights at 54th ave and 50th st still not working
The Director of Operations and Planning spoke to this resident and the issue will be taken care of this year.



- Brownstone Dr the condition of the road, the excessive humping is getting worse and is making access to the storage yard in particular very difficult
Agreed. The engineering assessment of Brownstone Drive is scheduled to begin in 2020 with construction 2021 subject to funding approval.

- Why isn't fresh tar treated with sand or something to help set it? Or block off route to allow setting.

The Roads Department uses a cold-applied, single component, polymer modified asphalt emulsion for its crack sealing operations on paved roads and trails within the City. This product provides lower application costs and requires relatively inexpensive application equipment with smaller crews. It is recommended by the manufacturer to apply the cold-pour crack sealer when the ambient temperature is between 5°C to 30°C. To prevent tracking during the drying period, fine sand can be sprinkled on top of the material. The Roads Department currently places "SLOW FRESH OIL" signs and provides flag persons to control the flow of traffic while working on Priority 1 and 2 roads (signage only on Priority 3 roads), but does not have the resources to detour traffic nor apply fine sand on the large volume of cracks encountered during these operations. However, the Roads Department does apply a fine powdered product on top of freshly sealed cracks on sections of paved walking trails and City-owned parking lots within Lacombe.

- Little pond (to the east of Henner's Pond) was really low in May 2019, what happened? It was below the sluice gate. Let me know at EMAIL ADDRESS

The Utilities Department lowered the water level in the Henners storm forebay via the sluice gate to Henners pond, helping to decrease pipe loading in the storm main that is feeding the pond.

In recent years, the forebay held a larger volume of water and this was causing the storm main to also hold water in the pipe. Lowering the water level has helped the storm main by no longer holding water and has increased the capacity within the pipe to accommodate larger storm events without damaging or flooding property.

Community Services

- Love the trees in Lacombe. Love the size, better services now but like the small town feel.

The is very nice to hear. The Parks Department budgets \$20,000 a year to proactively treat trees on City boulevards, primarily the elms, to preserve their health. The Land Use Bylaw also identifies requirements to plant new trees with the development of new sites and subdivisions. Developers are typically required to landscape (including with trees) their green space contributions prior to the City taking the areas over.

- Need to do more about climate change here in Lacombe i.e. a tree preservation order/bylaw to ensure we have a process in place before trees are cut down

A goal statement in Lacombe's Urban Tree Management Program is: "To pro-actively manage municipal trees in a proper arboricultural and cost-effective manner by providing to the



taxpayers innovative leadership and services designed to preserve and improve the natural beauty of the Urban Forest.” While Lacombe actively shepherds its boulevard, park and urban forest trees, some municipalities go further and encourage property owners to place a covenant on their property title to protect notable trees, although currently Lacombe does not.

A number of provisions in the Land Use Bylaw are intended to preserve the City’s tree inventory including a requirement to replace trees that are removed for construction of new signs, tree conservation guidelines on development sites and especially in sensitive areas, a discretionary requirement for developers to replace mature trees at a 1:1 ratio, discretionary provisions that allow developers to make a payment in lieu of planting trees to offset the costs of the City planting trees in another more suitable location.

- Please increase recognition of volunteers who maintain trails in the summer and winter
We will reach out to our trail volunteers this fall to understand their unique Language of Volunteer Recognition and adapt our current practices to better suit them, which may include highlighting the impacts of their ongoing efforts.
- Could city’s insurance cover trails on Elizabeth lakes in the winter for cross country skiing?
The City tries to limit taking on additional liability risk, as would be the case with such an initiative. The City may still be interested in working more closely with an organization like the Lacombe Cross-Country Ski Club, provided a number of responsibilities are taken care of including the Club having their own liability insurance policy, with the City of Lacombe named additionally insured. The Lacombe Cross-Country Ski Club could seek sponsorship to cover their insurance costs, increase their membership (numbers or rates), or search the City’s Online Volunteer Handbook (www.lacombe.ca/volunteer) for grants and funding resources like:
 - [Community Initiatives Program Funding \(CIP\) https://www.alberta.ca/cip-operating-grant.aspx](https://www.alberta.ca/cip-operating-grant.aspx)
- To Michener park campground operators - is the campground on the tourist-oriented destination signs? Many people do not know the campground exists. Really want to see the campground promoted!!
The Michener Campground is listed on a variety of tourism related websites including Lacombe Regional Tourism, Alberta Campground Guide and Alberta Campsites. A check of Google Maps indicates it appears readily in searches for "campgrounds near me" and the website link to further information works well. We would like to upload some landmark pictures and can investigate this in the next season.
- No regrets taking over the campground. Moved to Lacombe 5 years ago and have been happy that they made the move.
This is great to hear, as the City has benefitted from consistent campground management year over year.