

ACTION PLAN

W1 – Strategy 1		Proposed Actions	Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
W1.1 Develop a City-wide approach to water management	W1.1 #1	Conduct an assessment of the City's current and future water consumption, needs and resources.	✓		
	W1.1 #2	Conduct an assessment of the City's water and wastewater infrastructure identifying areas for improvement and upgrades.	✓		
	W1.1 #3	Conduct a legislative/regulatory review of the water, wastewater and stormwater systems.		✓	
	W1.1 #4	Develop a proactive and phased Water Management Strategy through collaboration with City departments that incorporates water source protection, municipal water utility operation and maintenance, the City's plans for economic development and growth, applicable legislation and response to climate-related events.	✓		
W1 – Strategy 2		Proposed Actions	Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
W1.2 Implement measures to promote water conservation and efficiency within City Operations.	W1.2 #1	Create an awareness campaign for smart water use for internal City staff, covering topics such as changing levels of service, park naturalization, and more. Investigate incentives for water saving grants for the community.	✓		
	W1.2 #2	Develop a potable water consumption inventory for all City-owned properties (buildings, parks, recreational facilities, open spaces).	✓		
	W1.2 #3	Develop a rate calculation for water utilities that balances cost recovery, profitability and resource protection for inclusion in the Water Service Bylaw.	✓		
	W1.2 #4	Investigate cost benefits of City-owned buildings undergoing retrofits (if inclusive of plumbing retrofits), major renovations or new construction to reduce indoor and outdoor water use based on baseline consumption data.		✓	



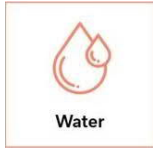
GOAL 1:

Achieve a community-wide reduction in potable water consumption, leading with City internal operations.

TARGET(S):

- Future target to be set for community potable water consumption.
- 30% reduction of indoor/outdoor potable water consumption at City-owned properties by 2030, based on a baseline (to be established by the City)

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GOAL 2:


Develop enhanced stormwater management planning and watershed protection.

TARGET(S):

– Targets regarding stormwater management and watershed protection are to be established through the Master Drainage Plan.

W2 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
W2.1 Develop a holistic approach to watershed protection and stormwater management.	W2.1 #1	Conduct an inventory, inspection, and condition review of the existing stormwater system (including airport lands).	✓		
	W2.1 #2a	Develop and adopt a level of service (LOS) for the stormwater service.	✓		
	W2.1 #2b	Develop and adopt a stormwater bylaw to regulate drainage and stormwater quality protection.	✓		
	W2.1 #2c	Evaluate and consider the establishment of a stormwater utility that balances cost recovery, infrastructure needs and environmental protection.		✓	
	W2.1 #3	Develop a city-wide Master Drainage Plan that combines existing plans and evaluates outstanding areas to provide direction for management of the entire stormwater system.	✓		
	W2.1 #4	Expand existing collaboration with adjoining municipalities through intermunicipal development planning to include stormwater planning and watershed protection.		✓	

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 <p>GOAL 3: Collaborate, integrate, and educate on energy efficiency for City operations, generation and distribution systems.</p> <p>TARGET(S): – n/a</p>							
E3 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions			Priority			
				High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)	
E3.1 Increase awareness and implement measures for energy efficiency throughout City operations.	E3.1 #1	Develop and implement awareness campaigns regarding energy efficiency in City daily operations. Develop educational material about energy conservation practices.			✓		
	E3.1 #2	Complete an Energy Benchmark Assessment to identify gaps and opportunities for continual energy efficiency improvement.			✓		
	E3.1 #3	Following the Energy Benchmark Assessment, implement energy efficiency actions.				✓	

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GOAL 4:
Enhance and optimize energy efficiency & resilience of new and existing City buildings.
TARGET(S):
– Specific targets for energy will be established through the Energy Conservation Plan.

E4 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
E4.1 Continue to identify and implement energy efficiency opportunities at City-owned facilities.	E4.1 #1	Implement energy efficient building codes / standards for new City facilities and upgrades. Explore setting targets for additional savings beyond code and include in design standard.		✓	
	E4.1 #2	Report and monitor energy consumption annually.	✓		
	E4.1 #3	Identify grant funding.	✓		
	E4.1 #4	Develop an Energy Conservation Plan that outlines prescriptive and performance energy efficiency requirements for facilities.		✓	

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GOAL 5:

Reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by implementing actions for emissions reduction within City buildings, fleet and operations.

TARGET(S):

— Specific targets for carbon will be established through the Emissions Reduction Plan.

E5 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
E5.1 Reduce GHG emissions from City buildings, fleet, and operations.	E5.1 #1	Develop an internal educational program regarding importance of emissions reduction for City buildings, fleet, and operations.		✓	
	E5.1 #2	Investigate financing and grant options.	✓		
	E5.1 #3	Develop a corporate baseline GHG inventory.	✓		
	E5.1 #4	Develop and implement an Emissions Reduction Plan for City-owned buildings, fleet, and operations.		✓	
	E5.1 #5	Develop and implement a Methane Reduction Plan for the landfill by 2029.		✓	
E5 – Strategy 2	Proposed Actions		Priority		
E5.2 Support the community in GHG emissions reduction.	E5.2 #1	Investigate funding opportunities for the community to transition from fossil fuel heating.	✓		

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GOAL 6:

Protect indoor and outdoor air quality through City operations.

TARGET(S):

- Meet or exceed concentration limits for NO2, CO, SO2, PM2.5 and O3, as outlined in the Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives and Guidelines Summary or Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards.

E6 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
E6.1 Implement actions to enhance outdoor air quality.	E6.1 #1	Adopt alternative fuel vehicles/equipment into City fleet.			✓
	E6.1 #2	Investigate providing bike parking at City-owned buildings that is accessible by both staff and visitors. Explore secure parking and storage for both traditional bikes and e-bikes.	✓		
	E6.1 #3	Add conditions in the Parks rental agreements for restriction of bonfires during times of reduced outdoor air quality.		✓	
E6 – Strategy 2	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
E6.2 Prioritize indoor air quality at City-owned buildings and facilities.	E6.2 #1	Develop specifications for renovation work at City-owned buildings prioritizing low-emitting materials.	✓		
	E6.2 #2	Develop an Indoor Air Quality Management Plan for City operations and buildings.		✓	

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GOAL 7:
 Increase clean and/or renewable sources of electricity to City of Medicine Hat electrical grid.
TARGET(S):
 – Specific targets will be established through the Clean Energy/Energy Transition Strategy.

E7 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
E7.1 Identify opportunities for adding clean and/or renewable energy sources to the energy grid.	E7.1 #1	Develop and implement a Clean Energy/Energy Transition Strategy.	✓		
	E7.1 #2	Continue to pursue potential pilot projects underway, including Energy Innovation Challenge and Facilities Management Solar Generation.	✓		
	E7.1 #3	Develop an educational program for City staff and Council to understand the federal requirements that will impact the City energy generation and distribution operations.	✓		
	E7.1 #4	Develop an educational program to build awareness and support various grant funding programs for the community.	✓		

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GOAL 8:


Enhance and protect the quality of ecosystems.

TARGET(S):

- Tree planting target to be established through the Urban Forestry Strategic Plan update.
- Target to increase the naturalization in City-owned parks, building (and where appropriate infrastructure) landscaping to be established in the Naturalization Plan.
- Protect 25% of high-priority sensitive environmental areas by 2040.

EA8 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
EA8.1 Develop a standard City operational program for dealing with invasive species, pests, and vegetation control.	EA8.1 #1	Develop and adopt levels of service and related areas for vegetation control on City parks and properties.	✓		
	EA8.1 #2	Develop an Integrated Pest Management Plan.	✓		
	EA8.1 #3	Develop a City operations education program regarding weed control and invasive species.		✓	
EA8 – Strategy 2	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
EA8.2 Implement planting of trees and shrubs on City-owned properties and encourage community tree planting and maintenance.	EA8.2 #1	Update and implement the CMH Urban Forestry Strategic Plan.	✓		
	EA8.2 #2	Update the list of trees/shrubs for landscaping of developments.	✓		
	EA8.2 #3	Encourage planting trees on private properties and city-owned properties through investigating incentives and reinstating the free tree program.		✓	
EA8 – Strategy 3	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
EA8.3 Encourage naturalization and promote protection of sensitive environmental areas.	EA8.3 #1	Conduct an inventory of City-owned properties, rights-of-ways, environmental reserves and parks to understand vegetation and maintenance requirements.	✓		
	EA8.3 #2	Develop and adopt a Naturalization Plan for identified City-owned parks, building landscape and infrastructure projects.	✓		
	EA8.3 #3	Conduct a city-wide biophysical assessment.	✓		
	EA8.3 #4	Provide education and lunch and learns to internal City staff regarding conducting work, operations, and construction within species at risk habitat and migratory birds habitat.		✓	

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 <p>Ecosystem & Agriculture</p>							
<p><u>GOAL 9:</u> Encourage the production and consumption of local food.</p> <p><u>TARGET(S):</u> – Increase local community food assets by 75% by 2040, based on 2024 levels.</p>							
EA9 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions				Priority		
					High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
EA9.1 Implement a program that uses City park space or vacant lots and leases with organized groups for local food production.	EA9.1 #1	Develop an education program regarding growing local food and the key benefits.			✓		
	EA9.1 #2	Investigate a strategy to use vacant City-owned land as potential locations for community gardens.			✓		
	EA9.1 #3	Investigate grant funding opportunities to support local food networks.				✓	

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GOAL 10:

Increase opportunities for the reuse and recycling of waste and the total amount of waste diverted from landfill.

TARGET(S):

- Achieve a waste diversion rate for City operational waste of 75% by 2035 and 90% by 2040 (based on 2024 levels).

SW10 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
SW10.1 Encourage waste diversion within City operations.	SW10.1 #1	Conduct waste audits at priority City-owned facilities to ensure proper waste diversion. Conduct audits of cleaning and waste management practices at priority City-owned facilities. Add recycling and separation of waste requirements to City contracts.	✓		
	SW10.1 #2	Investigate requiring Waste Diversion Plans for the construction, major renovation and/or demolition of City- owned facilities. Look to include standards in City construction/ demolition contracts for sorting and diverting of waste materials.	✓		
SW10 – Strategy 2	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
SW10.2 Encourage better waste management and diversion for citizens and developers within the City of Medicine Hat.	SW10.2 #1	Implement and pilot a residential food waste composting program in accordance with the Waste Management Strategy.	✓		
	SW10.2 #2	Adopt a full residential food waste composting program, contingent on the success of the pilot program (SW10.2 #1).		✓	
	SW10.2 #3	Collaborate with the Development Sector to explore and support the implementation (where feasible) of opportunities that encourage developers to achieve construction and demolition waste diversion targets.		✓	

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GOAL 11:
Increase opportunities for public and active transportation to improve the health and well-being of its residents and the environment.
TARGET(S):
– By 2030, increase the number of trips made using sustainable modes of transportation by 15% compared to 2024 levels.

C11 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
C11.1 Increase demand for and use of the City's public transportation network.	C11.1 #1	Complete a full review for transit demand, including all geographical area. Identify areas/routes that may need special consideration for scooters, bikes etc. to increase ridership. Explore the feasibility of adding bike and scooter racks on buses (including both traditional bikes and e-bikes).	✓		
	C11.1 #2	Investigate additional opportunities for public transportation during times of large scale community events at various City facilities and parks with consideration for adding park and ride locations. Ensure ample access to accessible transportation. Investigate existing issues regarding parking for mass events at Echo Dale Regional Park.	✓		
C11 – Strategy 2	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
C11.2 Encourage all new neighborhoods are designed as multi-modal communities.	C11.2 #1	Review development policies for new communities, ensure that there are minimum standards for amount and access to trails / pathways that are interconnected with the City's active transportation network.	✓		
	C11.2 #2	Conduct an audit of new and existing (only if re-visited or analyzed) City playgrounds to determine connectivity / accessibility of playgrounds to trail system or accessible parking spaces.		✓	

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GOAL 12:

Promote a healthy, sustainable and vibrant community through efficient use of land, promoting compact communities and increased access to open space.

TARGET(S):

– n/a

C12 – Strategy 1	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
C12.1 Optimize the use of available land, reduce urban sprawl, and create walkable neighborhoods that encourage active lifestyles.	C12.1 #1	Create an inventory of underutilized land.	✓		
	C12.1 #2	Develop and implement an Underutilized Land Strategy for all types of development, including residential, commercial and industrial. Enable accessible means of financing and tax incentives for underutilized land. Create possibilities for ensuring resources available to accelerate underutilized land required.		✓	
	C12.1 #3	Develop a strategy to intensify existing commercial and residential zones and encourage mixed-use development at commercial nodes.	✓		
C12 – Strategy 2	Proposed Actions		Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
C12.2 Promote ecosystem continuity through a thoughtfully designed open space network, which could include the inclusion of more flora and fauna into landscape design, incorporation of natural and historical features and connections into open space design strategies, etc.	C12.2 #1	Review development policies for new communities, ensure that there are minimum standards for amount and access open space network.	✓		
	C12.2 #2	Review development and landscape policies to ensure there are minimum standards for natural landscaping / incorporation of landscape features that connect to the City's history while also improving biodiversity.	✓		
	C12.2 #3	Review landscape policies to ensure that traditional Indigenous flora and fauna are celebrated, and the implementation of gardens and edible plants are encouraged.		✓	
	C12.2 #4	Further examine the allocation of City-owned open spaces to understand distribution and form and encourage purposeful design.	✓		

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C13 – Strategy 1		Proposed Actions	Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
C13.1 Develop a community education and outreach program to support the Environmental Framework and associated initiatives.	C13.1 #1	<p>Leverage Strong Towns Community Lab to support this strategy, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Creating guidelines for community-led volunteer experiences related to environment and landscape. – Ensuring proper planning occurs for activities that will occur. <p>Engage with the community by creating volunteer opportunities and informing on how they can support the initiatives.</p>	✓		
	C13.1 #2	<p>The City will develop and implement a community education and outreach program that covers at least the following themes within the Environmental Framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potable Water: encourage reduced residential potable water consumption and awareness of water management practices, covering topics such as efficient irrigation practices, xeriscaping, low-flow plumbing fixtures, etc. - Stormwater: covering topics related to stormwater, including what happens when it rains, storm ponds, actions that the community can take, etc. - Air Quality: covering topics related to the human and environmental health impacts of residential wood smoke in Parks and Campgrounds, and actions that can contribute to improved air quality (e.g., alternative transportation, planting trees, etc.) - Energy: support the understanding of the available programs under the CEIP (expected to launch in 2024) and HAT Smart, in addition to helping build community awareness regarding decarbonization and the value of transitioning to clean energy. - Ecosystems: covering topics such as how greenspaces can contribute to the health of the environment, biodiversity, weed control and invasive species, suitable trees/shrubs to plant according to local climate, and more. <p>The program will expand upon existing education efforts and will be built upon interdepartmental collaboration.</p>	✓		
C13 – Strategy 2		Proposed Actions	Priority		
			High (1-5 Yrs)	Medium (5-15 Yrs)	Low (15-25 Yrs)
C13.2 Enhanced celebration of heritage and culture through knowledge, understanding, protection and communication.	C13.2 #1	Investigate heritage and culture background of Medicine Hat to further identify areas of significance for preservation.		✓	



GOAL 13:

Foster a collaborative and inclusive community that celebrates heritage, promotes shared learning, and ensure equity in environmentally sustainable initiatives.

TARGET(S):

– n/a