

Subject: **GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**
 Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024
 Prepared By: Theresa Cochran
 Presented By: Theresa Cochran

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT: (Check all that apply)

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High Quality Infrastructure		Economic Resilience		Quality of Life		Effective Leadership		Level of Service	

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite)- N/A

Council Bylaw/Policy (cite)- N/A

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) is an international organization which strives to advance excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development, resources, and practical research for more than 22,500 members and the communities they serve.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is designed to encourage and assist local governments to prepare budget documents of the highest quality that reflect best practice of budgeting, and to recognize those governments for achieving that goal.

There are over 1,700 participants in the Budget Awards Program throughout North America, and approximately 15 recipients within Alberta in any given year.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES/OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

The County received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the first time in 2021. We have received it every year since, including this year for the 2024 Budget document and consider it a standard for our operation.

The distinguished budget presentation award represents a significant achievement by the County. It reflects the commitment of Council and administration to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the County had to satisfy internationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- A policy document
- A financial plan
- An operations guide
- A communications device

Budget documents must be rated " proficient" in all four categories, and in the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.



REQUEST FOR DECISION

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated as being primarily responsible for having achieved the award. This has been presented to Marika von Mirbach.

FINANCIAL & STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:

There are no staffing implications of receiving this award. Work plans for the upcoming year include staffing time to ensure the 2025 budget document also meets the criteria in order to submit the document to GFOA for consideration for the award.

RECOMMENDED ENGAGEMENT:

Directive Decision (Information Sharing, One-Way Communication)

Tools:	Individual Notification	Other:	
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ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix A: Award Certificates

COUNCIL OPTIONS:

1. Accept as information.
2. Provide administration with alternative guidance.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That Council accepts the report on the 2024 GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for information.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

N/A

APPROVAL(S):

Mike Haugen, Chief Administrative Officer

Approved-

