






Subject: **2025 Budget – Additional Information**
 Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2024
 Prepared By: Marika von Mirbach, Manager of Financial Planning
 Presented By: Marika von Mirbach, Manager of Financial Planning

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)- The County is required under the Municipal Government Act (MGA) to annually approve both an operating and capital budget which are balanced and fully funded.

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

This report and the attached presentation represent the fifth stage of the 2025 Budget process.

The planned stages for the 2025 Budget process include:

- **October 8 – Setting the Stage and Proposed Projects**
 - This step intends to provide context on how the budget was prepared and outline proposed projects for consideration in the 2025 Budget.
- **October 22 – Proposed Core Operating Budget**
 - This step will outline the core operating budget, which is developed based on maintaining existing service levels and Council approved guidelines.
- **2024 Third Quarter Variance Report**
 - While not a formal part of budget deliberations, the third quarter variance report will inform Council of the County’s projected results for 2024 to provide additional context for 2025 Budget requests and adjustments.
- **November 12 – Budget Discussions**
 - This step allows Administration to respond to questions and information requests received from Council resulting from the first two presentations. This time will also be utilized to obtain guidance from Council required to balance the budget for future adoption by Council.
- **November 26 – Budget Discussions**
 - This meeting provides an additional opportunity for budget discussions by Council and seeks to determine a balanced budget to be presented at the final stage.
- **December 3 – Additional Information and Budget Discussions**
 - This meeting is intended to provide additional information requested by Council with respect to the budget, and to provide Council with an additional opportunity to deliberate items included within the budget.
- **December 10 – Budget Adoption**
 - The intention for this stage is for Council to adopt a balanced budget.



DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES/OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

As part of the 2025 Budget process, Administration has prepared the fifth presentation to Council. This presentation includes:

- *Historical Budget Trends* to provide context of trends that have affected the budget in recent years and continue to impact the planning process concerning the budget.
- *Current Trends* to provide an overview of the significant current trends that affected the preparation of the 2025 Budget.
- *Current State* reflects the current state of the proposed 2025 Budget.
- *Council Consideration Items* to highlight critical points of deliberation required to move towards a balanced budget for presentation to Council at the December 10th Council meeting.

FINANCIAL & STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:

The annual budget process is incorporated into existing staff work plans annually. The budget itself provides Administration with the authority to implement plans in alignment with Council's Strategic Plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2025 Budget – Additional Information slide deck

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to bring the 2025 Budget forward for consideration at the December 10th Council meeting.

APPROVAL(S):

Mike Haugen, Chief Administrative Officer

Approved-

