

Examples Of MSP Projects - Actions

- Taber- Develop Concept for Taber Natural Area Park
- GAER- Development of strong regional identities through land use management
- GAER- Protection of heritage properties/resources
- GAER- Promotion & protection of natural habitat & encourage biodiversity, minimize human impact & ecological footprint on the environment

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Examples of MSP Projects Actions

- MAP- Committed to protected sustainable environment & local sustainable agriculture
- Swan Hills- Ensure sufficient parks/trails/green spaces, in promoting the towns liveability
- Peace River- To have ready access to historic sites, parks, forests, & trails in order to pursue outdoor recreational, cultural activities & interests

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Emerging Trends in MSP Projects

- AUMA/MSP Provincial Initiative prepared an Information Package for the Alberta Government Provincial Land-use Framework, Regional Advisory Councils August 2009
- AUMA Convention adopted the Operationalizing Land Use in Alberta, Position Paper, October 2008
- Since 2005, AUMA, has taken a lead in promoting, developing, & resourcing Municipal Sustainability Planning across the province

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Emerging Trends in MSP Projects

- Developing MSP's that solidify partnerships, "Collaborative Regional Governance"(MAP), formulas for fair & equitable cost sharing of services & resources
- Provide clear direction, specific targets, & delivery mechanisms within the planning process both regionally & for individual community MSP's

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Emerging Trends In MSP Projects

- MSP Projects will define & develop plans that will include by-laws & regulations that support the implementation of the actions stated in the MSP
- Reflective & critical debate about "growth", from should we or shouldn't we", to "what kind of growth & for whom"

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What is an MSP?

Best viewed as a strategic business plan that:

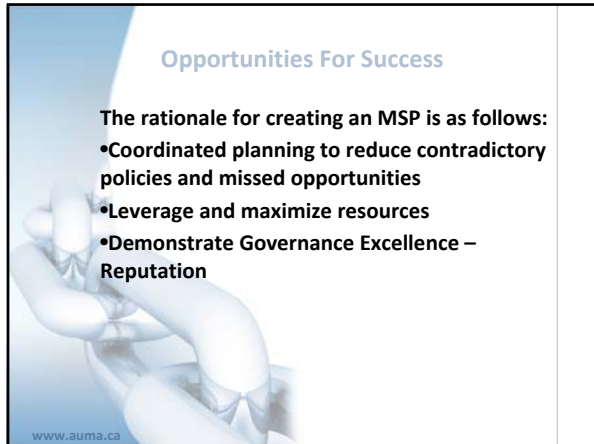
- Identifies short, medium, and long term actions for implementation
- Tracks and monitors progress
- Is reviewed and revised on an annual basis
- Provides guidance for the development or alignment of all municipal plans and documents

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Opportunities For Success

The rationale for creating an MSP is as follows:

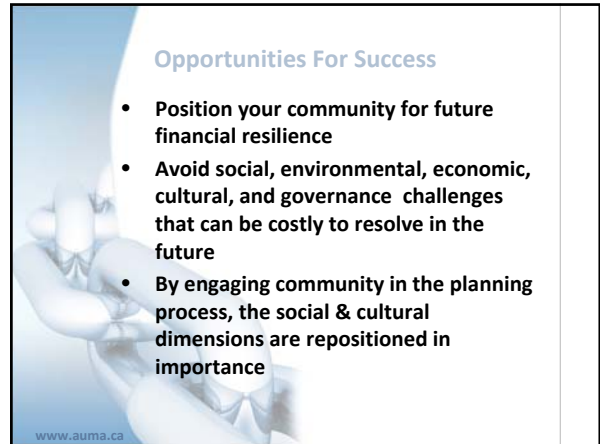
- Coordinated planning to reduce contradictory policies and missed opportunities
- Leverage and maximize resources
- Demonstrate Governance Excellence – Reputation



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Opportunities For Success

- Position your community for future financial resilience
- Avoid social, environmental, economic, cultural, and governance challenges that can be costly to resolve in the future
- By engaging community in the planning process, the social & cultural dimensions are repositioned in importance



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MSP – How does it all fit together?

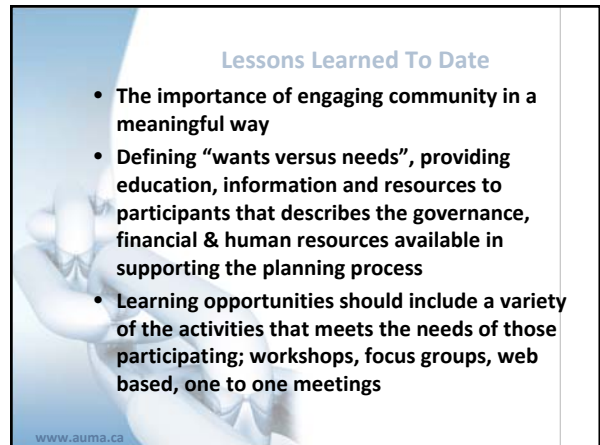
1. What is it?
2. What's the role?
3. What's the connection with the MSP?



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Lessons Learned To Date

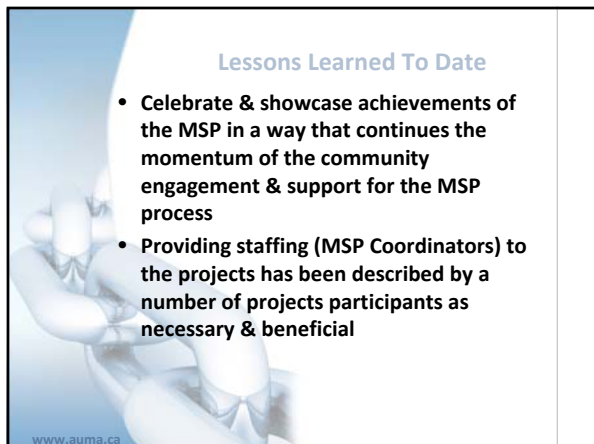
- The importance of engaging community in a meaningful way
- Defining “wants versus needs”, providing education, information and resources to participants that describes the governance, financial & human resources available in supporting the planning process
- Learning opportunities should include a variety of the activities that meets the needs of those participating; workshops, focus groups, web based, one to one meetings



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Lessons Learned To Date

- Celebrate & showcase achievements of the MSP in a way that continues the momentum of the community engagement & support for the MSP process
- Providing staffing (MSP Coordinators) to the projects has been described by a number of projects participants as necessary & beneficial



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MSP Planning Process

The Steps Involved

1. Create a vision
2. Develop a description of success
3. Determine the current reality
4. Develop an action plan
5. Implement and Monitor

REPEAT!



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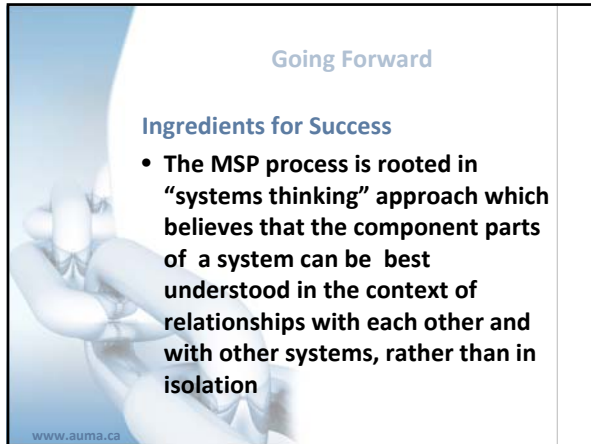
- ### Current MSP Project Communities
- **County of Camrose & Area** (includes: Town of Bashaw, and Villages of Bawlf, Bittern Lake, Edberg, Ferintosh, Hay Lakes, New Norway and Rosalind)
 - **Grande Alberta Economic Region** (includes: Onaway, Town of Jasper, Brazeau County, Drayton Valley, Yellowhead County, Edson, Hinton, Grande Cache, Fox Creek, Mayerthorpe, Whitecourt, and Woodlands County and one associate member, Jasper National Park)
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- ### Current MSP Project Communities
- **Olds Area (Municipal Area Partnership Committee includes: Mountain View County, Town of Carstairs, Town of Didsbury, Town of Olds, Town of Sundre, Village of Cremona)**
 - **Taber & Area (includes: Town of Taber, Town of Vauxhall and Village of Barnwell)**
 - **Town of Swan Hills**
 - **City of Brooks**
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- ### Current MSP Project Communities
- **Beiseker & Area (includes Town of Drumheller, Town of Irricana, Village of Acme, Village of Beiseker, Village of Carbon, Village of Linden)**
 - **City of Grande Prairie and County of Grande Prairie**
 - **Town of Morinville**
 - **Town of Peace River**
 - **City of Wetaskiwin**
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- ### Going Forward
- #### Ingredients for Success
- **Citizen Engagement is a critical ingredient in local democracy**
 - **Effective governance relies on public participation**
 - **Creates opportunities in developing leadership and capacity**
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- ### Going Forward
- #### Ingredients for Success
- **Is improving transparency and accountability**
 - **Creates a cultural that supports actions in developing a community which is invested in the common good for all of the citizens**
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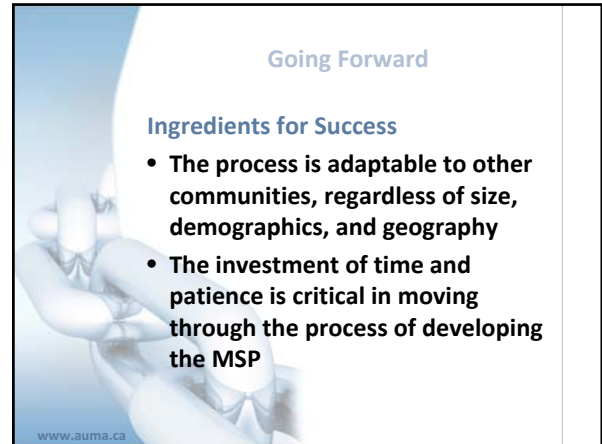


Going Forward

Ingredients for Success

- The MSP process is rooted in “systems thinking” approach which believes that the component parts of a system can be best understood in the context of relationships with each other and with other systems, rather than in isolation

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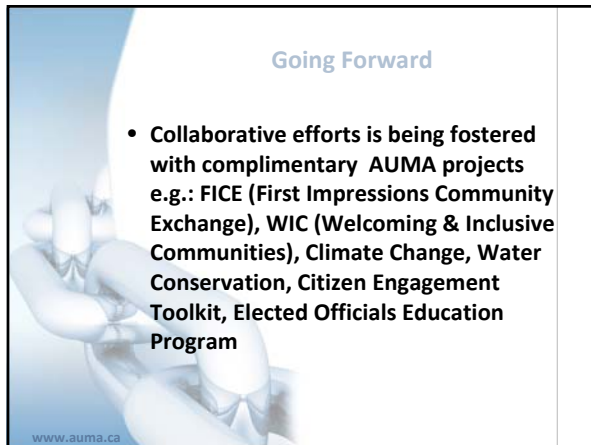


Going Forward

Ingredients for Success

- The process is adaptable to other communities, regardless of size, demographics, and geography
- The investment of time and patience is critical in moving through the process of developing the MSP

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Going Forward

- Collaborative efforts is being fostered with complimentary AUMA projects e.g.: FICE (First Impressions Community Exchange), WIC (Welcoming & Inclusive Communities), Climate Change, Water Conservation, Citizen Engagement Toolkit, Elected Officials Education Program

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Going Forward

- Research project underway by UofA Master of Arts in Communications, “Engaging the Community”, Communication Strategies in Municipal Sustainability Planning in Alberta
- Future of Local Governance Policy Paper will be debated & voted on at the AUMA Convention November 2009

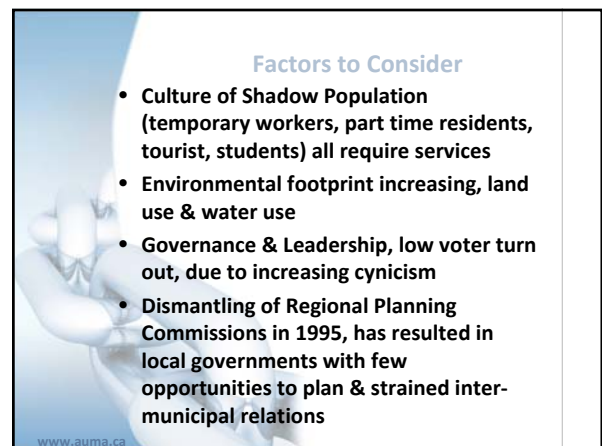
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Going Forward

- Sustainable Local Governance is defined by the AUMA, as delivery of people & infrastructure services in an effective & efficient manner
- Community’s confidence in clear & strong accountability system
- Strong intergovernmental coordination & processes
- Assessing the communities resources & access to those resources (population, local economy, property tax base)

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Factors to Consider

- Culture of Shadow Population (temporary workers, part time residents, tourist, students) all require services
- Environmental footprint increasing, land use & water use
- Governance & Leadership, low voter turn out, due to increasing cynicism
- Dismantling of Regional Planning Commissions in 1995, has resulted in local governments with few opportunities to plan & strained inter-municipal relations

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Working Together

MSP Initiative –in partnership with:



- Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
- Alberta Environment
- Alberta Municipal Affairs



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