



NEW COUNCIL SETS COURSE WITH SERVICE LEVEL REVIEW

The new Town of Rocky Mountain House Council wrapped up its inaugural Service Level Review last week.

The three-day intensive workshop with Council and Administration reviewed all 350 services provided by municipal staff, classified according to the Town's Core Services Policy.

"It was a very positive and productive (long) three days," said Mayor Shane Boniface. "Council looks forward to sharing the results of this intensive review during the upcoming budget meetings. We might not always agree on every detail, but we share a love for this place and that's what keeps us moving forward."

The ultimate goal of a Service Level Review is to ensure Council knows all the service levels of the municipality, and that Administration understands the expectations of Council. This is especially important this year, following the General Municipal Election that elected new members to Council.

Council's discussions at Service Level Review will inform the draft 2026 budget to reflect its desired service levels and supports.

Council will consider several new initiatives arising from the Service Level Review as part of the 2026 budget:

- Remuneration for public members at large appointed to Town committees;
- An engineering plan based on the Riverview Concept plan with the intent to create an affordable area for new residential development;
- Exploring the idea of a new Civic Complex, combining recreation, government and cultural services in one facility;
- Examining the housing needs and supply of our community;
- Further focus on land development, including P3 initiatives;
- Construction of an outhouse block in the active district (bike park/dog park area).

These and other programs and projects will be considered during Council's upcoming budget deliberations, scheduled for December 10, 11 and 12, 2025.

Ideas discussed but not moving forward in the 2026 budget are the Lochearn Park residential infill plan and the Ambassador program.

What is a Service Level Review?

A Service Level Review is a systematic review of municipal services and programs, designed to help municipalities evaluate and determine the most fiscally responsible and appropriate way to deliver these services and programs.

It is also one of the earliest steps in a priority budgeting process. The process allows municipalities to set priorities and creates potential for innovative, efficient and cost-saving methods to deliver services that a municipality has deemed as important or essential.

A review of local services and programs can be undertaken to improve a current service, meet new service demands and/or maintain a current service by finding efficiencies to reduce the costs of delivering it, for example.

The annual Service Level Review is an integral part of the municipal budgeting process.

What's next?

Residents and business-owners in the Town of Rocky Mountain House should watch for public engagement opportunities in early 2026 as Council prepares a Strategic Plan for its term ahead.

Also in 2026, Council expects to update its Memorial Bench and Weed Spraying policies, to better reflect the needs of the community.

Council will also undertake further exploration of vacant land subclass mill rates and mill rates for properties not serviced by municipal water and wastewater utilities.

Related media and documents

[Core Services Policy 009/2023](#)

[Service Level Review](#)

[Council 2024-2026 Strategic Plan](#)

