



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF FOOTHILLS NO. 31

309 Macleod Trail, Box 5605

High River, Alberta T1V 1M7

Telephone: (403) 652-2341 Fax: (403) 652-7880

www.mdfoothills.com

Jan 25, 2017

Dear Landowner,

RE: Flood Studies and the M.D. of Foothills Proposed Flood Risk Mitigation Program

Subsequent to the 2013 flood, with support from the Province of Alberta, the M.D. of Foothills retained the services of AMEC Foster Wheeler Environment and Infrastructure and Advisian WorleyParsons Group to complete the *Scoping Study of Flood Related Areas of Concern on the Highwood River and Little Bow River within the M.D. of Foothills*.

Last May the M.D. hosted two open house information sessions at the Highwood Memorial Centre to present the results of this study and gather feedback from Foothills residents. At this time, landowners were also invited to book individual appointments with M.D. staff to discuss the results of the study specific to their own property. Many of you took advantage of this offer and we appreciated meeting you and hearing about your experiences, your concerns and your plans for the future.

After completing over 50 meetings, which took place through June, July and September, M.D. staff developed a proposal for a *Highwood / Little Bow Flood Risk Mitigation Program* which was submitted to the Government of Alberta on November 1st, 2016. This proposal suggested that the Province and the M.D. establish a partnership, whereby the Province would provide the funding and the M.D. would administer a program to offer buy-outs or protection to M.D. landowners along the Highwood and Little Bow Rivers whose residence was predicted to be impacted in a future 2013 equivalent event. The proposal also included a request for funding for additional studies including one that would explore the feasibility of offering compensation for lands downstream on the Highwood that are predicted to be subject to an increased risk of flooding due to the mitigation work constructed in High River.

After the M.D. had submitted the proposal, the Province requested that the M.D. meet with them to formally present the proposal and discuss it in detail. At this meeting, which took place December 1st, 2016, staff from the Government of Alberta requested that the M.D. submit additional information, including a proposed process for offering buyouts or protection and a phasing / prioritization scheme. This work has been completed and submitted to the Province and we are awaiting their response.

The proposal for the *Highwood / Little Bow Flood Risk Mitigation Program* as well as the supplemental information that were submitted to the Province can be found on the M.D. of Foothills Website (www.mdfoothills.com) on the page entitled "Flood Scoping Study and Mitigation Program" under the "Services" section of the website.

Should you have any questions about the study that has been undertaken or the proposed program, please contact:

Rob Miller: email: Robert.Miller@mdfoothills.com tel: 403-603-6217; or
Julie McLean: email: Julie.McLean@mdfoothills.com tel: 403-603-6239

Sincerely,

MD of Foothills No. 31

original signed by:

Harry Riva Cambrin C.L.G.M., C.E.T.
Municipal Manager