

# Supporting Enhanced Economic Growth Through Improved Land Use Planning



FactSheet

June 2022

## Regional Planning: Planning Amendment and City of Winnipeg Charter Amendment Act (Bill 37)

- The Planning Amendment and City of Winnipeg Charter Amendment Act (Bill 37) implements key planning recommendations from the June 2019 Treasury Board Secretariat Report, Planning, Zoning and Permitting in Manitoba.
- These changes adopt best practices and ensure greater transparency, consistency and accountability across the province.
- The overall goal is to establish a province-wide framework to support a co-ordinated approach to planning and development, reduce planning delays and enhance planning appeals.

The regional planning provisions of Bill 37 have not been proclaimed, pending consultation on regulations to support implementation:

### *Planning Regions*

- Regional Planning is adopted world wide and in other major Canadian Cities because it supplements but does not replace local municipal planning authority and has broader public benefits as follows:
  - Housing affordability – allows for conscious planning of diverse housing options.
  - Ease of transportation – regional approaches support easier movement of people, reduced travels times, by connecting periphery to core.
  - Prosperity– economic growth and investment brings higher paying and better jobs for residents of the region
  - Poverty alleviation – inconsistent planning and infrastructure decisions can lead to low income housing and public transit gaps
  - Indigenous relations – regional planning can strengthen collaboration on services, land agreements and espouse respect for treaty land rights
- The Planning Amendment and City of Winnipeg Charter Amendment Act provides a mechanism for regional approaches to land use, infrastructure planning, shared servicing and economic development.
- It establishes a Capital Planning Region (legislated membership: 18 municipalities, including City of Winnipeg).
- The Capital Planning Region will be required to adopt a regional plan within 2 years and approved by the Minister.

- Once adopted, member municipalities will have 3 years to ensure local development plans are consistent with the regional plan.
- A new regulation has been drafted for stakeholder consultation, that outlines the structure, governance, operations and decision-making processes for the Capital Planning Region board.
- Member municipalities must agree on their funding contributions to the planning region to support cooperation among members.
- Regional board must submit a copy of its budget to all member municipalities and the minister to support transparency.

#### ***Additional Measures to Simplify/Expedite Processes***

- The Planning Amendment and Winnipeg Charter Amendment Act includes a number of provisions intended to streamline and reduce the administrative burden of planning, including:
  - Expediting development application processes by enabling municipalities to attach development agreements at development permit stage.