

Ecosystem Services and Municipal Priorities **Michael Walters**

Edmonton City Councillor, Ward 10

Part 1

Purposes, Powers and Capacity of Municipalities

Municipal purposes

3 The purposes of a municipality are

- (a) to provide good government,
- (b) to provide services, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of council, are necessary or desirable for all or a part of the municipality, and
- (c) to develop and maintain safe and viable communities.







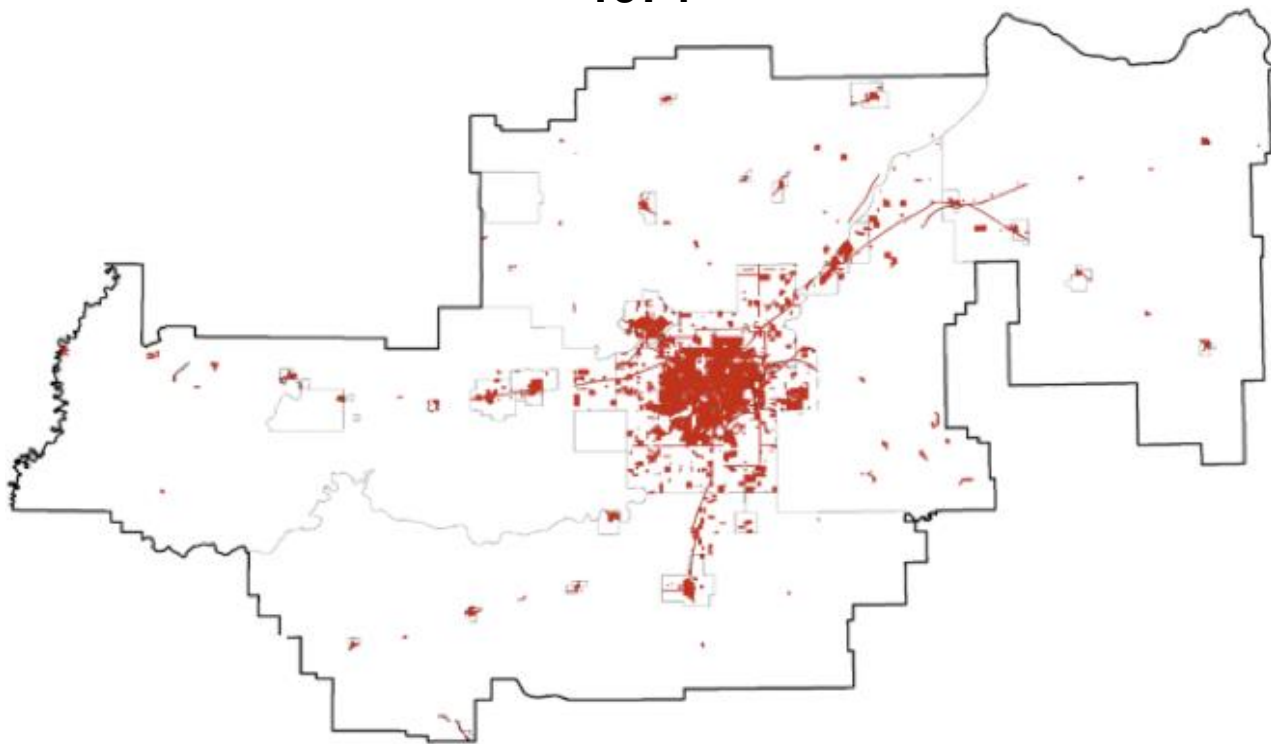
Ecosystem Services Overview



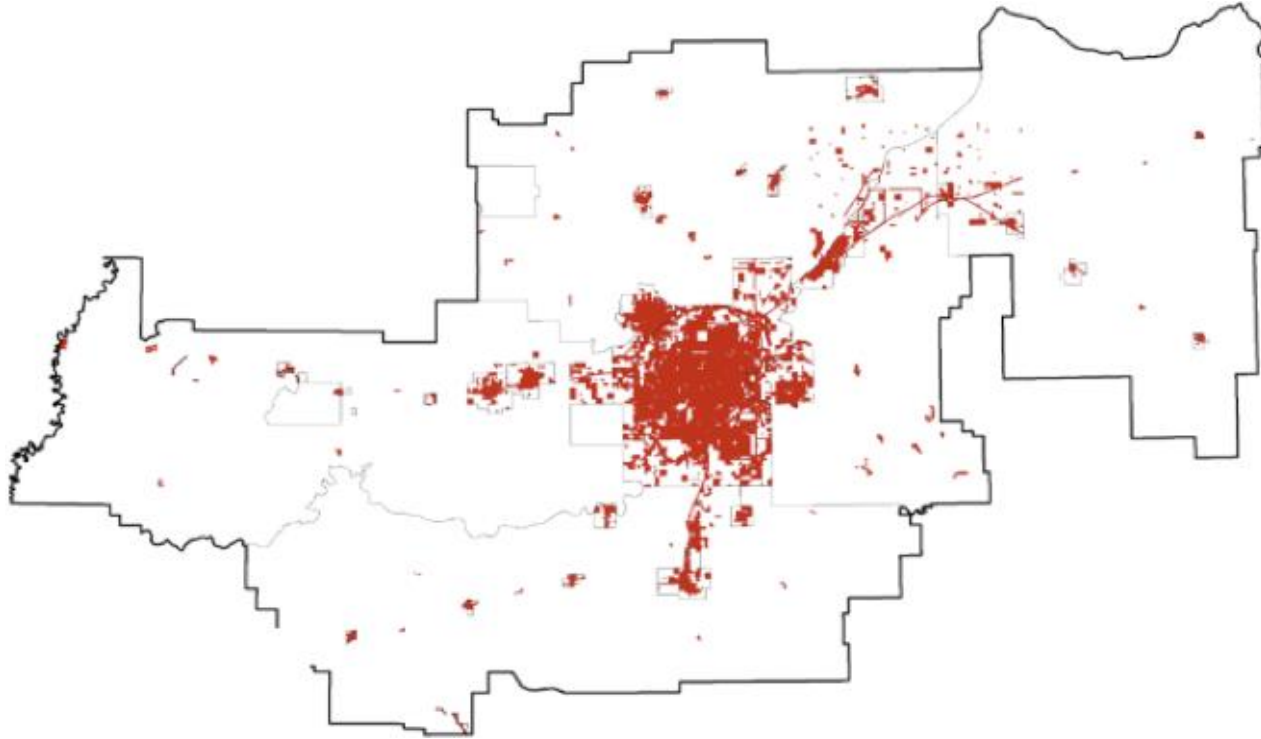
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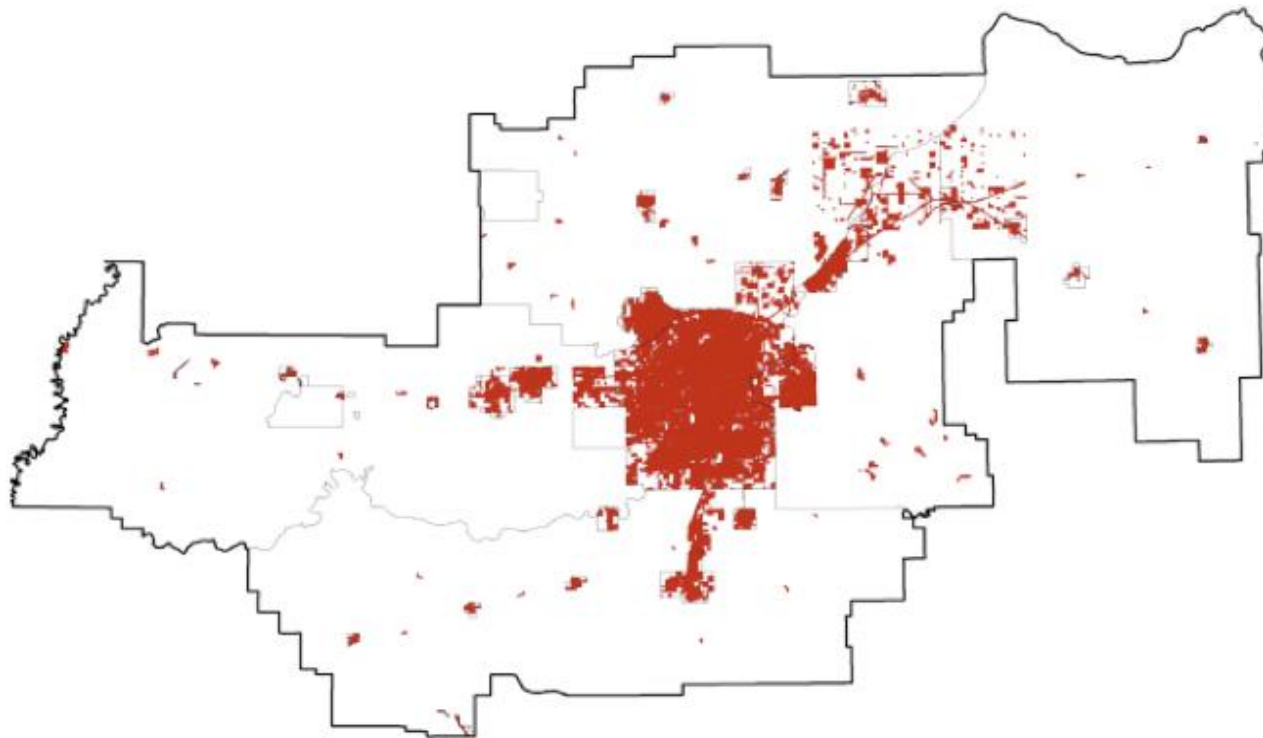
Capital Region Population Growth 1974



Capital Region Population Growth 1994



Capital Region Population Growth 2014





EDMONTON'S
FOOD & URBAN AGRICULTURE
STRATEGY



Sustainability

A way of living that meets the needs of the present and does not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

- *Environment:* An environment that is sustainable for current and future generations through responsible social, fiscal and environmental practices. Clean air and water, access to local food supply and the healthy coexistence of natural and urban environments.



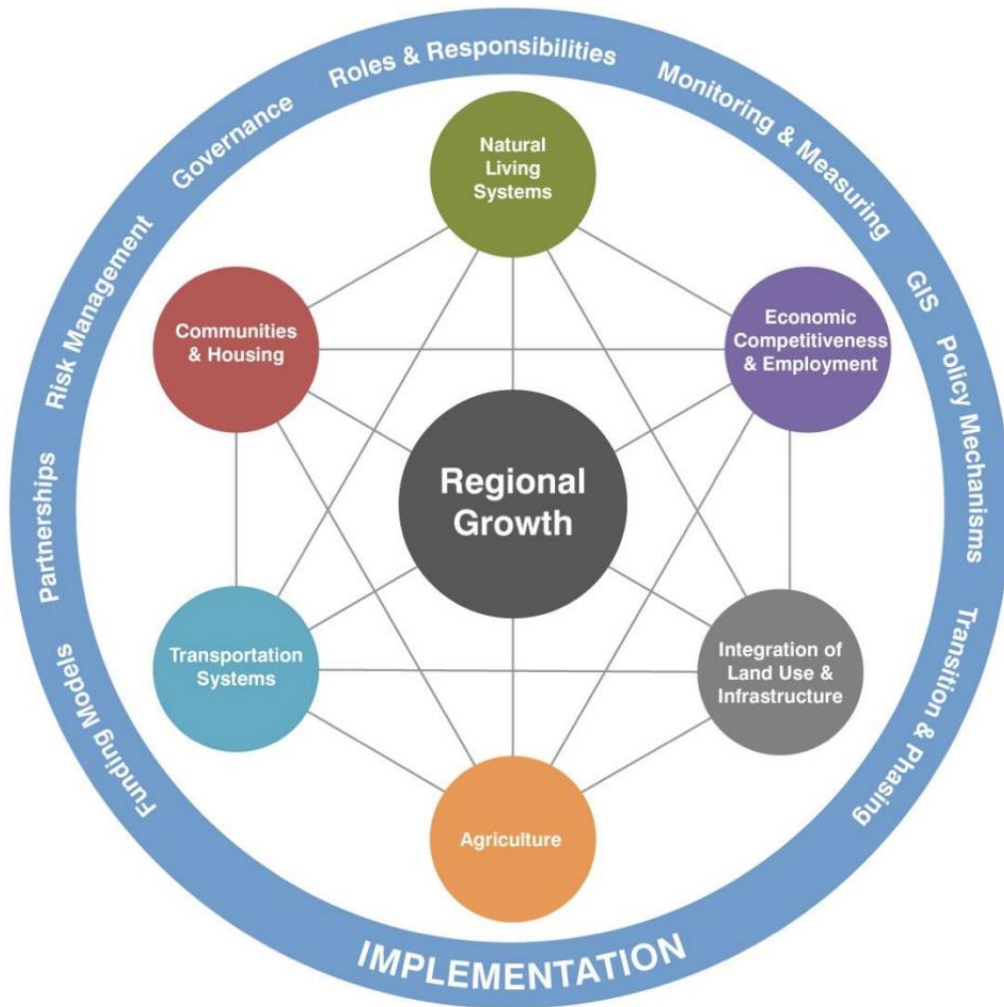


City of Edmonton Priorities

- Releasing Breathe: Edmonton's Green Network Strategy in early 2017, with ecosystem services as a primary focus.
- Meeting the Urban Forest Management Plan target to double Edmonton's tree canopy.
- Completing both Mill Creek Daylighting Feasibility Study and Southwest Ribbon of Green Master Plan.
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in development.
- Changes to the MGA/City Charter to allow municipalities more power to protect natural areas.

Questions

- How do we talk about ecosystem services relatably with everyday people?
- What are the political implications, now and in the future, of decisions made to improve our community ecosystems?
- How do we bridge the gap between 2044 and 2016?









(d) to protect and preserve the natural environment for the benefit of its citizens