

**Civic Addressing Options for Acheson****Introduction:**

Proposed change from a rural addressing system to a new civic addressing system for the Acheson area (*industrial/commercial area only*) is recommended.

**Facts (Background Information)**

To accommodate existing and future commercial / industrial growth in Acheson, an updated civic addressing system is required from the current rural address system.

In the Acheson area (*industrial/commercial area only*), a new urban addressing system is required over the current rural addressing system due to:

- 1) Suite/Lot Address numbering limitations that impact mail service; and
- 2) Multi-access points into Acheson. Not always direct access off a Township Road or Range Road.

For this updated civic addressing system to occur, a standard will have to be created to establish the requirements and guidance for the Addressing Authority to use for:

- a) Assigning addresses;
- b) Naming/Numbering roads and localities;
- c) Recording and mapping the related information; and
- d) Signage.

The main objective of this standard will be to provide instructions for assigning addresses that can readily and unambiguously be identified and located by first responders, the business community and customers.

**New Civic Addressing System Methodology**

For simplicity in creating a new civic addressing system there are really only two questions to be answered:

**1) Should the new urban addressing system be based on a grid or non-grid system?**

If a non-grid system is selected, all roadways will require naming. In this instance, a new Naming Committee for the County is recommended in addition to a new Addressing / Street Naming Bylaw and administrative process / policy standards.

If a grid system is selected, to accommodate the higher density development in Acheson, it is Administration's recommendation to have a grid density (the spacing between Street grid lines and Avenue grid lines) of no more than 100 metres or 16 lines per mile. This should reduce the number of street and avenues requiring A and B naming.

**2) Should the new civic addressing system use either a numbered road system, a named road system or a combination of both?**

Numbered road systems are logical and are easier to navigate without the aid of maps and GPS compared to a named road system. That said, the numbered road system is better suited to straight, grid roadway systems compared to the spaghetti road networks found in new community subdivision designs.

When comparing a numbered road system to a named road system, another consideration is the naming of roadways in the context of the Capital Region. Given continued growth within the Region, the number of unique and distinct names will continue to be reduced. With the numbered road system, roads that travel both north/south and east/west can be numbered Streets in one direction and Avenues in the other direction. Within a road name system, multi-direction roadways will have to be named with a postfix of east/west or north/south which may lead to confusion.

### Civic Addressing System Options:

There are two addressing systems in the immediate area which could be followed:

#### 1) City of Edmonton Addressing System (GRID)

- Close proximity to Acheson / immediately adjacent to Winterburn Industrial area;
- The City of Edmonton's grid system is based on the two roads designated the "centre" of Edmonton: 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 100<sup>th</sup> Street;
- Grid system naturally continues west from the current city limits (Range Road 261 / Hillview Road / 231<sup>st</sup> Street) in the NW quadrant;
- Grid interval is approximately 100 metres for distances between Streets and Avenues
- A mixed numbered and road named system can be utilized to capture existing named roads in Acheson as well as include potential future road names in Acheson as needed;
- Pros: Harmonizes the two adjacent commercial/industrial areas (Winterburn/Acheson). Provides a sense of location for business community within the Capital Region (250<sup>th</sup> Street, etc.). Continues the pattern that most capital region municipalities use: Streets (north/south) and Avenues (East/West). Consistent for Capital Region first responders.
- Cons: Does not provide as strong an identity for Acheson over a new system.
- Provide a good rationale for Edmonton to include in future annexations of Acheson.

#### 2) City of Spruce Grove Addressing System (NON-GRID)

- Not close proximity to Acheson. Commercial areas in the City are not adjacent to Acheson.
- As a note, new residential subdivisions in north (City of) Spruce Grove are named roads and have unique addresses not based on a grid.
- As a note, new industrial/ commercial subdivisions in south (city of) Spruce Grove are also named roads and have unique addresses not based on a grid.
- The City of Spruce Grove has developed their own brand for naming their roadways and communities not applicable to Acheson.

Or, one of the following two additional systems could be considered:

#### 3) New Grid

- Based on a NW Quadrant only – origin or "centre" would occur at Township Road 524 (Hwy 628) and Range Road 261 (231<sup>st</sup> Street / Hillview Road).
- Suggested as it is one system to implement and one quadrant for all of Acheson.
- The grid system could utilize numbered, named, or a mix of both numbered and named roadways.
- Pros: Similar to other areas of Parkland County where urban addressing is required to accommodate higher densities. e.g. Hamlets. Creates a unique identity for Acheson.
- Cons: Creates yet another addressing system within the Capital Region for first responders, the business community and customers to learn.

#### 4) No Grid / Named Roadways

- This option would be the same as the City of Spruce Grove Addressing system. All roads would be named and not based on a grid numbering system.
- A Naming Committee would be required to implement consistent naming standards in Acheson. Council direction on the make-up of a Naming Committee would be required. Pros: Pre-approved themes or names would be required to implement a unique identity for Acheson.
- Cons: Additional processing time required during the subdivision process to receive approval for named roadways. Creates yet another addressing system within the Capital Region for first responders, the business community and customers to learn.

#### Conclusion/Summary:

Administration is of the opinion that Options 3 and 4 as presented above is the best system to implement for the Acheson area as it is similar to other areas in the County, and distinctive to Acheson. Administration also acknowledges the other options are possible.

In addition to Planning & Development Services, acknowledges that Option 1 is supported by Protective Services, Fire Services, as well as the Acheson Business Association.

Upon confirmation of the system methodology to use for Acheson, the following items will need to be completed by Administration and brought forward to Council to implement the change:

- New Addressing / Street Naming Bylaw
- Administrative process / policy standards
- Naming Committee (*potential*)

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