

Asset Management and Grants

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Asset Management Survey



Asset Management Survey

- Started in 2017 to fulfill reporting requirements of the Federal Gas Tax Fund
- 2018 online survey: Nov 27 – Dec 21, 2018
- Overall response rate: 53%
- These municipalities own about 54% of Alberta's municipally-owned TCAs
- Survey will be repeated annually

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Survey Results

Municipal Approach to Asset Management

- 66% of respondents have initiated or implemented asset management strategies
 - Of these respondents, 44% review their strategies on a regular basis
- 34% of respondents identify lack of understanding as the primary challenge to introducing asset management strategies

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Survey Results

Asset management remains largely informal

- 33% have integrated asset management with their financial planning and reporting
- 34% have council-approved policies (23% in 2017)
- 16% have formalized their strategies in an asset management plan
- 45% of respondents with no policies in place have no target date to implement such policies

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Information Management

- 63% have a full inventory of their assets, 34% have a partial inventory
- 62% have a system or tools to manage information (50% in 2017)
 - GIS is the most utilized tool (68% of respondents which use tools or systems utilize GIS for information management)

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Risk and Risk Mitigation

Risk associated with natural disasters

- 64% considered these risks in planning infrastructure investments (56% in 2017)
 - 11% factored these risks into long-term costs
- The primary reasons for not considering these risks are:
 - no enough time and/or resources
 - believe the risk is low
 - lack of understanding of disaster risks

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Climate Change Adaptation

- 37% consider potential impacts of a changing climate on the asset or its environment (29% in 2017)
- Primary reasons that this was not considered:
 - Unsure of how to proceed
 - Uncertain of the need
 - Insufficient resources in their infrastructure budget

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Asset Management Barriers

Primary barriers

- Insufficient resources
 - staff, financial, time
- Inadequate knowledge, understanding, and expertise
- Lack of appropriate systems, standards, and consistent processes

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How the Government Supports Asset Management

Grant Funding Programs

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Grant Funding Planning

Three types of programs

- Allocation
- Competitive
- Needs-based

Planning for these programs varies

- Each has a unique place in asset management planning

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Allocation Grants

- Annual allocations
- Predictable
- Guaranteed once allocations announced
- Broad flexibility
- Simple to plan for
- Simple requirements, applications, and reporting
- Informed by capital plans

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Competitive Grants

- Ranking criteria
- Larger available amounts of funding per project
- Smaller number of recipients
- No guarantee of receiving funding
- More complex information required
- Informed by asset management

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Needs-based Grants

- Response to natural disasters
- Assist recovery to pre-disaster state
- Difficult to plan for

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Capital Grants of Interest

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Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) Capital

- Studies, plans, and system-wide reviews related to capital infrastructure
- Infrastructure Management Systems, including hardware, software, and data collection
- Capital acquisition, construction, rehabilitation

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Federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF)

- Expenditures related to strengthening the ability of municipalities to improve planning
- Capital acquisition, construction, rehabilitation

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Other Grants of Interest

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Operating Grants

MSI Operating

- Planning and development
- Infrastructure management software and data collection

Alberta Community Partnership Program

- Intermunicipal Collaboration component
- Municipal Restructuring component

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How the Government Supports Asset Management

Training and Materials

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Training

- Through stakeholder organizations
 - Infrastructure Asset Management Alberta
 - Alberta municipal associations

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Resources on Municipal Affairs Website

- GTF Asset Management Approach
- Asset Management Toolkit and Handbook
 - Toolkit User Guide
 - Toolkit Excel Workbook
- Alberta Municipal Sustainability Strategy
 - Capacity Building Tools

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Questions?



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