



# City of Prince Albert

**RPT 2025-159**

**TITLE:** LiDAR Acquisition – Funding Application

**DATE:** March 27, 2025

**TO:** City Council

**PUBLIC:** X

**INCAMERA:**

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative Grant Application between the City of Prince Albert, Rural Municipality of Buckland and Rural Municipality of Prince Albert for LiDAR acquisition in 2025, be supported and approved; and,
2. That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the Agreements and any other applicable documents on behalf of the City if funding through the Grant Application is successful.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The City of Prince Albert, Rural Municipality of Buckland and Rural Municipality of Prince Albert would pursue an application for funding through the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative for LiDAR acquisition. The last time the City had LiDAR flown was in 2016. If approved the funding provides for 75 percent of eligible costs up to \$100,000. The City's portion of the cost if funding is approved would be less than \$15,000 which would be expensed through existing approved budgets. The TSS application requires the City Council resolution supporting the funding application.

The LiDAR acquisition would not proceed if the funding application is not approved by the TSS Steering Committee.

## **BACKGROUND:**

In 2016 the acquisition for LiDAR data was completed for the City of Prince Albert. This data is collected using aircraft with laser scanners. The data is utilized to provide elevation points, contours and 3D digital terrain models. This information is utilized for countless projects including flood hazard assessment, river bank stabilization study, West Hill and Crescent Acre Master Plans and past, current and future design projects.

The City was contacted recently by the Rural Municipality of Buckland to advise of a partnership funding program that was available through the Targeted Sector Support Initiative which is administered by the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) on behalf of the TSS Steering Committee. If approved, the funding would provide for 75 percent of eligible costs up to \$100,000.

#### **PROPOSED APPROACH AND RATIONALE:**

The LiDAR data the City currently has is a valuable resource to analyze the terrain within the City. Recapturing this data would provided us with the ability to analyze how the terrain and elevations have changed over the last decade. This comparison could be utilized for a number of projects including river bank erosion for both the Little Red and North Saskatchewan River, the City's clay pit quantities, surface water runoff and drainage analysis and future land planning studies.

#### **CONSULTATIONS:**

The City's Engineering Services and Asset & Data managers met with the Rural Municipality of Buckland and Rural Municipality of Prince Albert to discuss the funding opportunity available through the TSS initiative. Internally members from Public Works, Community Development and Parks, Recreation & Culture met to discuss the benefits of the LiDAR acquisition and how approved 2025 budgets could be utilized to expense the City's portion of the funding if approved.

#### **COMMUNICATION AND/OR ANNOUNCEMENT PLAN:**

Upon receiving funding approval, the City user groups of the LiDAR data will be provided when the new LiDAR data will be available.

#### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The estimated cost for the LiDAR acquisition is \$137,500. If funding through the grant application is successful, the cost to the City would be \$10,000 - 15,000. This cost would be shared between the utility operations and general operations approved budgets.

If the grant application is not successful, there would no cost as the City would not obtain the LiDAR.

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS/IMPLICATIONS:**

There are not policy, privacy, legal, safety or environmental implications.

#### **OPTIONS TO RECOMMENDATION:**

There are no options to the Recommendation.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

The application and if successful, acquisition of new LiDAR data aligns with the strategic priority of Delivering Professional Governance. The collaboration with the Rural Municipality of Buckland and Prince Albert will continue to strengthen our relationship.

**OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN:**

The LiDAR acquisition aligns with the Land Use strategy within the Official Community Plan. Master Plans that have been completed by the City have utilized historic LiDAR data and recapturing this data will provide additional benefits to future plans.

**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

Public Notice pursuant to the Public Notice Bylaw No. 24 of 2015 is not required.

**Written by:** Nykol Miller, Engineering Services Manager

**Approved by:** Director of Community Development, Director of Public Works and City Manager