



## **Subject: Community Identification Committee Recommendation – Clearwater Drive and Prairie Loop Bay**

### **Community Identification Committee Recommendations:**

1. THAT the stretch of road along the Clearwater River starting from Hardin Street up to the King Street overpass, currently named as Prairie Loop Boulevard and Gordon Avenue be re-named as Clearwater Drive” (to be extended to Morrison Street when constructed).
2. THAT the stretch of road providing access to Marine Park be named as “Prairie Loop Bay”.

### **Summary:**

The Community Identification Committee (CIC) recommends that the names for the roads along the Clearwater River be forwarded to Council for approval.

In accordance with the Community Identification System (Council’s Policy No. PRL-040), Council’s approval is required for the naming of roads in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

### **Background:**

On February 2, 2017 the CIC met to consider names for the road starting from Hardin Street and leading to Rex Terpening Landing. Since the long term plan is to connect this road with the existing Gordon Avenue and Prairie Loop Boulevard, the CIC recommends that the entire stretch of road be renamed as “Clearwater Drive”.

Also, since this area historically consisted of prairies, the name “Prairie Loop Boulevard” is of significance to the area. Considering this, the Committee recommends that the road next to Marine Park be named as “Prairie Loop Bay” and that the recommendation be forwarded to Council for approval.

The map showing the existing names for these roads is available in Attachment 1 and the map showing the proposed names is included as Attachment 2 of this report.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

The Clearwater River, designated as part of the Canadian Heritage Rivers System, flows 187 kilometers from its headwaters in Broach Lake in northwestern Saskatchewan, through Saskatchewan and Alberta and joins the Athabasca River at Fort McMurray, eventually reaching the Mackenzie River and the Arctic Ocean. For decades, this river has been used as a major transportation route to transport goods and services to northern Alberta.

The proposed “Clearwater Drive” is meant to enable access to the waterfront and provide for various activities like walkways, amenities, parks and green spaces along the river for public

enjoyment. Considering the importance of the Clearwater River to Fort McMurray, the Committee recommends the name “Clearwater Drive”.

The Committee also suggested keeping the name “Prairie Loop” because of the historical importance of the Prairies in the area. Considering this, the Committee recommends that the road next to the Marine Park be named “Prairie Loop Bay”.

The proposed names are in accordance with Community Identification System (Council Policy No. PRL-040), create a unique identification and are distinctly different sounding from the existing ones in use in the Urban Service Area and Hamlets and hence are recommended for approval.

**Strategic Plan Linkages:**

Pillar 1 – Building Responsible Government

Pillar 6 – Building a Sustainable Region

**Attachments:**

1. Subject area map of existing names
2. Subject area map of proposed names