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Public Information Session #63

August 23, 2017: 6 to 8 p.m.

Here for You: Casman Centre

Public Participation: 12 Residents

Internal Participation: Wood Buffalo Recovery Task Force (RTF)

Background:

- Work is now under way to rehabilitate firebreak areas created to support firefighting efforts during the 2016 Horse River Wildfire and to restore all trails that were damaged or destroyed at the time.
- This session provided an update to Thickwood and Dickinsfield residents about the work that is expected to be completed in 2017 and 2018.

Feedback:

- Some residents asked questions about the details of the firebreak rehabilitation and firebreak restoration projects.
 - Residents were told firebreak rehabilitation work will include grading and adding topsoil and grass seed in the first 30 metres beyond the end of residential property lines. Approximately 30 per cent of the firebreak areas beyond the first 30 metres will receive the same treatment and the remaining firebreak areas will regenerate naturally.
 - The rehabilitation work will also include the restoration of the trails damaged or destroyed during the wildfire. All trails will be restored to their previous condition. For example, paved trails as paved trails and gravel trails as gravel trails.
 - In some cases, trails will be moved further from the property line and closer to the tree line.
 - Both projects will implement FireSmart guidelines, which identify tree species and spacing. Grass in the firebreak areas will be maintained and added to the Municipality's mowing and maintenance program.
 - Firebreak rehabilitation and trail restoration is expected to be completed in 2017 in firebreak areas near Walnut and Fireweed Crescents and on the north side of the Birchwood Trails in Eagle Ridge and in Timberlea.
 - The remaining work in Abasand, Anzac, Dickinsfield, Parsons Creek, Stone Creek and Thickwood will be completed in 2018.
- Some residents asked about the access points to trails and whether signs and gates damaged will be repaired.
 - Residents were told that the Municipality will repair or replace any damaged signs or gates as soon as possible.



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Next Session:

Here for You: Urban Market
Wednesday, August 30: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Topic: General Recovery Update