

Annexation Sub-Committee (ASC) RMB ACTION ITEMS

@ December 13, 2023

To Be Determined/Action Items

Assigned to

Status

Action Complete

a.	Suitable 'Rural' communities/areas that surround RMB borders that RMB might be interested in for Annexation:			<i>Ongoing</i>
a. i	Options Maps:	Bob	ASC had a preliminary discussion to create Options Maps to help generate ASC findings. It was suggested that the Murray's area would not be appropriate, due to unpopular historical discussions; plus the current infrastructure within the two municipalities. Four other initial options were discussed that might be suitable/beneficial to both the GPEI and RMB, to add unincorporated areas (only) into RMB. This would allow RMB to retain its current mandate of " <i>Rural</i> "; and would allow RMB's current administrative structure to stand (four options maps attached A-D).	<i>Completed</i>
	1) Murray's Area (Murray River, Murray Harbour, and surrounding unincorporated communities - All serviced within the Murray Harbour Fire-Map coverage) - Suitable or Unsuitable?	All	<i>Not suitable</i> (as above). The Murray's are in the process of doing its own Amalgamation/Annexation Exercise. They are using an outside consultant and have agreed to work with RMB where appropriate. The concept is to ensure that no unincorporated community, within the RMB and Murray's areas, are left behind.	<i>Ongoing</i>
	2) Option A (immediate areas to the east of RMB boundaries) - Suitable or Unsuitable?	Bob	Map Completed. Communities include: Kinross (partial); Newtown Cross; Grandview (partial); Bellevue (partial); Iris; Lewes; Hopefield (partial?); and Little Sands (partial). <i>Suitability yet to be determined</i> .	<i>Ongoing</i>
	3) Option B (immediate smaller section of areas to the east of RMB boundaries) - Suitable or Unsuitable?	Bob	Map Completed. Communities include: Kinross (partial); Newtown Cross; Grandview (partial); Bellevue (partial); and Lewes. <i>Suitability yet to be determined</i> .	<i>Ongoing</i>
	4) Option C (immediate immediate areas to the north of the RMB boundaries) - Suitable or Unsuitable?	Bob	Map Completed. Communities include: Glencoe; Uigg; Orwell; and Alberry Plains (partial?). <i>Suitability yet to be determined</i> .	<i>Ongoing</i>
	5) Option D (immediate immediate areas to the north that includes Earnscliffe and the <i>Vernons</i>) - Suitable or Unsuitable?	Bob	Map Completed. Communities include: Vernon River; Vernon Bridge (partial?); Earnscliffe; and Cherry Valley.	<i>Ongoing</i>

a. ii	What type of infrastructure do those communities/areas already have in place: Who owns it? (Not for Profit or business or individual) What are the Pros and Cons of Annexing each Option?			<i>Ongoing</i>
	1) Option A:	Katherine Billy	Chair-Councillor Bryson looked at Community Centres and other facilities <i>in all four Option areas</i> (not just Option A) and identified that there only seems to be substantive community infrastructure within the Options C and D areas. It was decided that the best way to look at these options, is to create a separate Pros and Cons and Infrastructure spreadsheet for each option. ASC will list what Councillor Bryson has found once we have created the spreadsheet to input the data. (<i>Action in Progress</i>). Regarding Councillor Gamble's task; Billy did not identify any current infrastructure in Little Sands; however, there may be an area of concern in Little Sands later, if the Province decides to force water and sewer infrastructure in that area in the future regarding a large residential compound. (<i>Action in Progress</i>)	<i>Ongoing</i>
	2) Option B:			
	3) Option C:			
	4) Option D:	Garth	Nothing to report at present. ASC will also use the Pros and Cons and Infrastructure Spreadsheet once created. (<i>Action in Progress</i>)	<i>Ongoing</i>
a. iii	What financial arrangements do they currently have?			
	1) Option A:			
	2) Option B:			
	3) Option C:			
	4) Option D:			
a. iv	What would be the RMB responsibility, if annexed?			
	1) Option A:			
	2) Option B:			
	3) Option C:			
	4) Option D:			
a. v	Get Fire-maps for RMB, Three Rivers and the Murrays:	Bob	<i>(Completed)</i>	<i>Completed</i>
	1) RMB's Fire-map Area: List of communities covered.	Bob	<i>(Completed)</i>	<i>Completed</i>
	2) Three Rivers Fire-map Area (<i>they have 3 separate maps</i>): List of communities covered.	Bob	<i>(Completed)</i>	<i>Completed</i>

	3) Murray's Fire-map Area (<i>they have 2 separate maps</i>) List of communities covered.	Bob	(Completed)	Completed
	4) Also get a Fire-map(s) of the areas immediately north of the RMB area.	Bob	(Action in Progress)	Ongoing
a. vi	What would the Municipal/Provincial tax-rate change be for those communities/areas and RMB, with an annexation with RMB:			
	1) RMB: change?			
	2) Option A: Current Rate? Change?			
	3) Option B: Current Rate? Change?			
	4) Option C: Current Rate? Change?			
	5) Option D: Current Rate? Change?			
b.	Can/Will these Annexations take place in a timeframe that will affect the 2026 RMB Municipal General Election?	Bob	Preliminary discussions with Municipal Affairs suggest that a 'good' process could take two or three years, so it is doubtful that the 2026 RMB election would be affected. Will continue to monitor - to be determined...	Ongoing
b. i	Will those annexed residents now be voting in the RMB Election?	Bob	To be determined...	Ongoing
b. ii	Will the election process for RMB change? And if so how?	Bob	To be determined...	Ongoing
b. iii	Find out the GPEI Process for Annexation with expected timelines?	Bob	Received Process Document (Completed). Should Council wish to proceed with an Annexation initiative, the next steps would be to follow the process. To be determined...	Ongoing
C.	Are there other sources of funding to help get the required larger RMB municipal office infrastructure established, <u>before</u> any Annexation take place? Possible other sources suggested:	All/Bob	Preliminary estimates are that RMB will need approximately double the office space for more office equipment and more staff - to be determined...	Ongoing
c. i	Infrastructure Secretariat?			
c. ii	PEI Emergency Measures Organization (Reception Centre Resiliency Fund)?			
c. iii	Rural and Regional Development?	Bob	ACOA said no for the infrastructure improvements on a current area building. Consequently, RMB has now started a follow-up that MAY see the Rural and Regional Development Program able to fund some of that cost - to be determined...	Ongoing

c. iv	Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA)?	Bob	NO - It looks like ACOA will provide funding for an Emergency Generator for a 2nd Warming Centre (at Wood Islands), which would also keep the RMB Office with power in an outage; however, ACOA is unable to supply Infrastructure Funding for the RMB Office at this time.	Completed
c. v	Municipal Affairs?			
c. vi	FCM Green Funds?			
c. vii	CLIM-Atlantic (depending on initiatives)?	Katherine	Identify the other environmental group with possible funding avenues (Completed) WILL they provide funding? To Be Determined...	Ongoing
d.	What will be the financial, infrastructure and human resource implications to RMB be with the Annexations?			
d. i	Financial _____			
d. ii	Infrastructure _____			
d. iii	Human Resources _____			
e.	Which communities/areas are NOT Suitable for Annexation into the RMB current boundaries?	Bob	Create a <u>Pros and Cons and Infrastructure Excel Spreadsheet</u> for each of the Options areas.	Ongoing
e. i	<u>Preliminary</u> ASC discussions suggest that the areas to the far east of the current RMB boundaries (all those communities east of the County Line Road – RTE 325) would not be suitable candidates for the following reasons:	All		Ongoing
	a. A number of communities in that area have municipal infrastructure (<i>the Murrays</i>) (RMB would have to make a significant and expensive change to its operations/staffing systems to take on those communities and would require a complete overhaul to the RMB operations);	All		Ongoing
	b. Historically, that whole area noted that neither they or RMB wanted to amalgamate; and	All		Ongoing
	c. Taking on only pieces of that area, may make that areas' own annexation plans unworkable.	All		Ongoing

	d. Adding the <i>Murrays communities and surrounding</i> would make the RMB Municipality too geographically large to be effectively managed without major changes to RMB's operational system/infrastructure, and the distances that RMB would have to take in, too large.	All		<i>Ongoing</i>
	e. This area is a mix of Urban/Rural Infrastructure, while RMB is a Rural make-up.	All		<i>Ongoing</i>
	f. This area is currently undergoing its own Annexation/Amalgamation process. RMB has agreed to work in cooperation to ensure no community is orphaned as 'Un-incorporated'.	All		<i>Ongoing</i>
	g. Would there be significant Fire-map concerns with this addition?			
e. ii	<u>Additional Preliminary</u> ASC discussions suggest that the areas to the far north of the current RMB boundaries (Option/Map D) <u>MAY</u> not be suitable candidates for the following reasons:	All		<i>Ongoing</i>
	a. A number of communities in that area have municipal infrastructure (RMB would have to make a significant and expensive change to its operations/staffing systems to take on those communities and would require a complete overhaul to the RMB operations);	All		<i>Ongoing</i>
	b. Adding Option/Map D may make the RMB Municipality too geographically big and distances too large to be effectively managed without a major overhaul to RMB's operational system/infrastructure.	All		<i>Ongoing</i>
	c. Would there be significant Fire-map concerns with this addition?			
f.	Proposal to Council and ultimately to the Government of PEI for consideration.			

g.	Does the Town of Three Rivers already have a plan for further Amalgamation?	Bob		<i>Ongoing</i>
h.	Set up a meeting with Helen Smith-MacPhail – Mayor of West River, to discuss previous experience/pitfalls with the Annexation Process	Katherine	A meeting with the committee was set up, but had to be moved to another date. To be determined...	<i>Ongoing</i>