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# Southwest Okotoks NASP Preliminary Engagement Summary

May 2026

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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This engagement summary documents the initial public engagement activities completed to support the Southwest Okotoks Neighbourhood Area Structure Plan (NASP). The report summarizes the engagement tactics, participation, key themes heard, and how input will help inform the ongoing planning process as the NASP proceeds through the Town of Okotoks review and approval process.

Hopewell Residential is advancing plans for a new neighbourhood in southwest Okotoks through the preparation of an NASP for approximately 220 acres (89 hectares) of land located southwest of Sheep River Ridge and west of the developing Tillotson neighbourhood. A NASP is a statutory plan that, if approved by Town Council, will provide a detailed framework to guide future development in the area over time.

At full build-out, anticipated over the next 10 to 15 years, the plan area is envisioned as a complete community that includes a range of housing options, a central natural wetland area, recreational amenities, neighbourhood-serving commercial uses, and future school sites for elementary, junior high, and high school students. The intent is to create a thoughtfully designed neighbourhood that responds to the natural landscape while providing services and amenities that support both future residents and the broader Okotoks community.

This is the first summary of public engagement for the NASP, and future engagement opportunities will be available as the application moves through the review and approval process.

## 2.0 WHAT WE DID

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The engagement program for the Southwest Okotoks NASP was designed at the **Inform and Consult** level of engagement, with the goal of providing early opportunities for residents and community interest holders to learn about the project and share input.

The objectives of this phase of engagement were to:

- Provide clear, accessible information about the NASP and planning process.
- Support early understanding of key plan elements, including land use direction, transportation, servicing, and open space concepts.
- Create opportunities for interest holders to ask questions, share feedback, and identify priorities or concerns.
- Document input received to help inform ongoing technical work and future engagement stages.

To support these objectives, a range of communications and engagement activities were completed between April and May 2026.

### **Project website - [www.hopewellokotoks.ca](http://www.hopewellokotoks.ca) – 730 visitors as of May 21, 2026**

A dedicated project website was launched to serve as the central source of project information, including background materials, project updates, virtual engagement opportunities, and the online feedback form.

### **Town website**

Information was provided to the Town of Okotoks in April 2026 to share information about the NASP land use concept and process.

### **Print advertising**

Two weeks of advertisements were placed in the Western Wheel to raise awareness of the project and encourage participation in the April 30, 2026 virtual information session and online feedback opportunities.

### **Site signage**

A sign was installed at the site for two weeks leading up to the April 30, 2026 virtual information session to help inform nearby residents and direct community members to the project website for more information and participation opportunities.



### **Virtual information session – 44 registered, 26 attended**

A virtual information session was held on Thursday, April 30, 2026, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The session introduced the project, shared details about the proposed NASP, and provided an opportunity for attendees to ask questions directly to the project team.

### **Email communications - 39 subscribers as of May 2026, 24 opened the email with 9 clicks**

Project subscribers received an email follow-up communication thanking attendees, sharing session materials, and encouraging continued participation through the online feedback form. We will continue to share email updates with subscribers.

### **Online feedback form – 8 responses**

An online feedback form was available from the virtual information session through May 14, 2026, providing an additional opportunity for community members to review information and share feedback at their convenience.

### **Ongoing engagement**

This summary reflects the first phase of engagement for the Southwest Okotoks NASP. Additional communications and engagement opportunities will continue as the project advances through the planning and approval process.

## 3.0 WHAT WE HEARD

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Overall, feedback received to date reflects interest in the future growth of Okotoks generally. Participants included a mix of Okotoks residents, adjacent landowners, and residents in the surrounding area, with many respondents identifying as living near the proposed plan area.

Feedback reflected broader community concerns related to growth, infrastructure capacity, and the pace of development in Okotoks. While some participants expressed interest in the vision for a complete community with new amenities, housing, and schools, many questions focused on how future growth will be supported through transportation improvements, servicing infrastructure, developer levies and thoughtful long-term planning.

Adjacent landowners and nearby residents raised questions related to potential off-site impacts, including traffic and how development may affect surrounding properties and existing communities. Questions about implementation, timing, and the Town of Okotoks approval process were also common, with participants seeking clarity on what is being considered at the NASP stage and what future opportunities for input will be available.


The online feedback form received a limited number of responses (eight submissions); however, responses generally aligned with the themes raised during the virtual information session. Participants expressed the strongest interest in learning more about transportation, servicing infrastructure, and the planning process.

At the same time, feedback suggests participants generally left this phase with a clearer understanding of the purpose of the NASP and the proposed development vision for the area. The following sections summarize the key themes heard through this first phase of engagement.

### 3.1 Growth, Transportation, and Infrastructure

The most common feedback theme related to growth management and whether community infrastructure will keep pace with future development. Participants raised questions about transportation capacity, road upgrades, water servicing, stormwater management, schools, recreation amenities, and other municipal services needed to support a growing population.

Questions frequently focused on Big Rock Trail, Highway 2A, western access routes, and broader traffic impacts, alongside concerns about how infrastructure improvements would be timed relative to future development. Several participants also questioned how growth-related infrastructure costs are allocated and whether municipal systems are prepared for continued expansion.



Overall, feedback reflected broader community concern about the pace of growth in Okotoks and a strong expectation that future development be supported by coordinated infrastructure planning.

### **3.2 Relationship to Existing Communities and Adjacent Properties**

Residents living near the proposed plan area raised questions about how the future neighbourhood will interface with existing communities and adjacent properties.

Comments focused on compatibility between new and existing development, including housing transitions, buffering, noise, traffic distribution, and construction-related impacts such as haul routes, dust, drainage, and topsoil management. Adjacent landowners also expressed interest in understanding how off-site impacts will be considered as planning progresses.

Survey feedback similarly reflected interest in thoughtful transitions between neighbourhoods, including comments about maintaining natural landscape features, aesthetics of future development, and creating appropriate buffers along existing community edges and the existing community across Big Rock Trail.

### **3.3 Parks, Recreation, and Community Amenities**

Participants expressed interest in the amenities and quality-of-life elements proposed as part of the future neighbourhood. Questions focused on recreational spaces, dog parks, pathway connections, community gathering spaces, and how amenities will support both future residents and the broader community.

Some feedback also reflected concern that existing recreation facilities in Okotoks are already heavily used, with participants emphasizing the importance of ensuring community amenities evolve alongside growth.

Survey comments highlighted interest in preserving natural landscape features, creating a tree canopy, and developing a neighbourhood that offers strong recreational and lifestyle amenities.

### **3.4 Planning Process and Understanding of the NASP**

Participants expressed interest in better understanding the Town of Okotoks planning and approval process, including what decisions are being made at the NASP stage and what approvals remain before development could proceed.

Questions focused on project timing, technical review, municipal approvals, and future opportunities for public input. Feedback suggests that while participants generally left this phase with a clearer understanding of the overall vision for the site, there remains strong interest in understanding how the Town's review process works and how community input will continue to be considered as the project progresses.



## 4.0 NEXT STEPS

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As the Southwest Okotoks Neighbourhood Area Structure Plan (NASP) moves forward, the project team will continue to refine the plan and advance supporting technical work, informed by feedback received through this first phase of engagement.

The NASP application is anticipated to be submitted to the Town of Okotoks in **May 2026**, after which the plan will enter the Town's formal review process. This will include technical review, circulation to relevant agencies and departments, and opportunities to respond to municipal feedback and refine the plan as needed.

Public engagement will continue as the project progresses through the planning and approval process. Project subscribers will continue to receive updates, and future engagement opportunities will be publicly advertised to provide opportunities for residents and community interest holders to stay informed and share input.

This engagement summary reflects the first phase of engagement for the project and will be updated as additional feedback is received. Future communications will also share how the project has evolved in response to technical review, municipal input, and community feedback as planning progresses.

**Stay informed: [www.hopewellokotoks.ca](http://www.hopewellokotoks.ca)**