

Media Release

August 13, 2020

Drayton Valley launches Smart Cities Pilot

Cameras go live, Town leverages new technology to improve planning.

Drayton Valley, Alberta – The Town of Drayton Valley is excited to announce the launch of a six-month Smart Cities Pilot Project that is utilizing new technologies to aid in community planning and optimize municipal processes. Initiated by Town Council, this innovative technology will assess and improve community planning, maintenance and infrastructure upgrading processes.

The pilot project included the installation of cameras at five key intersections and five public spaces in Drayton Valley to gain insights that can be used to support better infrastructure planning and maintenance of Town-owned assets, while also helping to address issues like traffic congestion and timing of lights. In consultation with the Town's Planning and Development and Engineering departments camera locations were selected based on the opportunities they provide to achieve these goals.

Although infrastructure was installed earlier in the year, the launch of the pilot project was postponed from March 2020, to August 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Residents may have seen signage posted at different locations in the community, stating the locations of the cameras, and that video is being recorded.

The hardware, infrastructure, and software for the pilot was provided by TELUS. As Drayton Valley continues to make strides in municipal planning, this technology will help the Town to make more informed decisions around infrastructure planning and maintenance, and will ensure the Town is well prepared for further technological advancements and the next generation of communications networks.

"We are excited about this latest opportunity to leverage new technology in our efforts to achieve our planning objectives," said Councillor Fayrell Wheeler. "The analytics derived from the pilot will provide us with information that can guide our future decisions and will help us improve our community for the betterment and enjoyment of our residents."

For more information on this initiative including the comprehensive list of camera locations, please visit <https://www.draytonvalley.ca/telus-smart-cities/>

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