

Warman looking to acquire more land for expansion

 ckom.com/story/warman-looking-acquire-more-land-expansion/387213

City hopes to double population with development of land to the south and north

The City of Warman is looking to expand by about a third by acquiring around 900 acres of land to the south and north.

The land will expand the Traditions and Southlands neighbourhoods with mostly residential development, two new elementary schools in Traditions and a small, light industrial and commercial area in Southlands.

"We're looking at probably about seven to seven-and-a-half units an acre and it will about double our population," Brad Toth, manager of planning and development with the City of Warman, said.

The land is currently part of the Rural Municipality of Corman Park and owned mostly by a private developer as well as other landowners with acreages.

The City of Warman has formally submitted an annexation proposal and is currently in negotiations with Corman Park to acquire this land and compensate the Rural Municipality for the loss of tax revenue.

"R.M. Council reviewed that proposal, was satisfied that this is a need for immediate growth that the City of Warman has and now there's a consultation process that's occurring between the City of Warman and those affected landowners," Adam Tittlemore, administrator with Corman Park, said.

Warman city council will then have to approve and the provincial government has to sign off on the deal and make the change of jurisdiction.

Both Toth and Tittlemore are confident the deal will go through.

"We'd like to start some servicing this fall and over the winter as well. So, we're hoping that everything would be completed (in) September/October," Toth said.

Toth emphasized private landowners are not going to be forced to sell their land. Instead, their lots would remain unchanged, but they would pay taxes to Warman and not the R.M. of Corman Park.

A public hearing is scheduled for July 28 at 6:30 p.m., at Warman Council Chambers for anyone with concerns or comments.

Toth said the reason they are looking for this large amount of land is to avoid repeatedly coming to the Rural Municipality of Corman Park with land requests.

"One of the things we've heard from the R.M. is that they want us to take larger chunks of land at once and not come back as often as we have in the past. We're hoping this land, once annexed, will provide enough land for us for the foreseeable future, we're estimating about 10 years," Toth said.

Warman has a current population of 9,000 and according to Toth did around \$90 million worth of development last year.

tburdeniuk@rawlco.com

Follow on Twitter: [@Trelle_B](https://twitter.com/Trelle_B)

