



# ROYAL GARDENS

## WHAT WE HEARD SUMMARY

### BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**  
SHARE YOUR VOICE SHAPE OUR CITY



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Starting in 2019, Royal Gardens will see the replacement and enhancement of its aging collector and local roadway surfaces, streetlights, and sidewalks as part of the City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Renewal program for mature neighbourhoods. A new dedicated City branch, Building Great Neighbourhoods, has also been exploring the enhancement of other City owned areas within the community, including green spaces and parks, and looking for opportunities to make desired upgrades and improvements in coordination with the Neighbourhood Renewal program.

To develop a better understanding of what these enhancements might look like and how they could improve the way people work, live and play in the community we wanted to engage with residents. Engagement began in early 2018 during the first phase of neighbourhood renewal (Concept Phase). Public engagement for this phase supported the development of a vision statement, core values, urban design themes, and focus areas (draft concepts), as well as an urban design analysis.

To begin the engagement process, we asked residents about their current experience in the neighbourhood and what aspects of this experience could be improved upon. We also asked them to share issues and opportunities that they have observed, as well as ideas for the future. By asking these questions, we began to discover many

underlying values of the community including the desire to engage in safe and family friendly activities in a community that makes it easy for people to get around and enjoy the outdoors.

Through analysis of feedback from residents, we identified common trends which became our urban design themes and focus areas. The themes included: Connectivity & Corridors, Open Space, Placemaking, Traffic, Lighting, and Safety. These acted as our framework for further urban design-related discussion. The focus areas were site-specific ideas that included potential design elements. (For example, the addition of amenities along the pipeline corridor such as benches, landscaping, and trail connections). The engagement called on residents to share their level of comfort with the benefits and tradeoffs of design elements in each focus area and provide additional feedback on what neighbourhood renewal would look like. Input from these activities was used along with several other considerations including technical considerations, policy, programs, and strategies, to refine the focus areas into draft concepts.

These concepts were brought to the public in June to gather feedback on them and to engage in a prioritization exercise. These outcomes were used to support the development of preliminary designs for the next phase. The public will have the chance to provide additional feedback on these designs on November 8, 2018.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

Generally speaking, residents believe that neighbourhood renewal for Royal Gardens should work towards improving safety and accessibility, and support a family-friendly atmosphere throughout the neighbourhood. These residents believe that there is a need to make it easier for people to walk, bike, and drive in the community. Residents also believe that park spaces should be enhanced to better connect residents with the outdoors and to provide additional amenities such as benches, lighting, and landscaping. Safety was a major concern in the community, particularly near schools, with residents suggesting that neighbourhood renewal should work towards improving safety for those travelling to and from schools. These are just a few of the themes that were identified which ultimately influenced the development of the draft concepts.

The table on the right depicts the results of the prioritization exercise to determine the level of importance of the draft concepts to residents and to begin to consider the timeline for when these concepts could be built. These results were considered when developing the preliminary designs.

For more details on these concepts please visit [edmonton.ca/BuildingRoyalGardens](http://edmonton.ca/BuildingRoyalGardens)

### Draft Concepts Exercise Results (June 27, 2018)

Draft Concepts	Level of Importance	Timeline for Construction
Focus Area 1 – Pipeline Corridor Improvements	Very High	Short term
Focus Area 2 – Pocket Park Improvements/Off-Leash Dog Boundary Expansion	Low	Long term
Focus Area 3 – Wayfinding Signage	Medium	Long term
Focus Area 4 – Royal Garden Park Improvements	Very High	Short term
Focus Area 5 – Traffic Improvements Near Richard Secord	Very High	Short term
Focus Area 6 – 114 Street Enhanced Walking and Biking Connection (43 Avenue – 44A Avenue)	Medium	Mid term
Focus Area 7 – Harry Ainley & Louis St. Laurent Traffic & Pedestrian Improvements	High	Short term
Focus Area 8 – Bus Stop Improvements	Low	Mid term
Focus Area 9 – Intersection of 40 Avenue and 114 Street	High	Short term

Draft Concepts	Level of Comfort
Focus Area 6 – 114 Street Enhanced Walking and Biking Connection (40 Avenue – 43 Avenue) Option A – Shared Roadway*	High
Focus Area 6 – 114 Street Enhanced Walking and Biking Connection (40 Avenue – 43 Avenue) Option B – Shared Use Path*	Very High

\*Focus Area 6 included two options for 40 Avenue – 43 Avenue, and therefore the public was asked about their level of comfort with these options, instead of their level of importance.

# ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE





## Vision Statement:

*“Neighbourhood Renewal in Royal Gardens will support a safe, accessible, and family-friendly community. As a neighbourhood with many schools, activities, and green spaces, Royal Gardens is a community that is easy for people to walk, bike and drive. The design of the neighbourhood enables residents to visit, play and enjoy local destinations together.”*

