The Way We Green

Citizen Survey Results

Aug.1 to Nov.1, 2010

TRANSFORMING | EDMONTON
BRINGING OUR CITY VISION TO LIFE

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Summary:
Raising Awareness of *The Way We Green* in the Community

During the month of August, 2010, four university students who were knowledgeable about *The Way We Green,* met the public to talk about *The Way We Green*. Armed with a large flag to capture attention, displays designed for feedback, and surveys loaded onto iPads and printed on paper, the students attended festivals and events, visited malls, parking lots, streets and community picnics to inform Edmontonians that *The Way We Green* was being developed, how to get involved, and to solicit feedback on the plan. Edmontonians shared their thoughts on current environmental management practices and where they would like to see changes occur. The same survey taken out to citizens was also posted online for completion. Overall, Edmontonians were unaware that *The Way We Green* was being developed, pleased to learn that the City was developing the strategy and supportive of what issues were being considered as part of the strategy. In total, 1150 surveys were conducted, 400 online and 750 in the community. In this report, surveys taken out to the community are referred to as the "iPad" surveys, although some were completed using pen and paper. Detailed results can be found on the following pages.

Background to The Way We Green

What is *The Way We Green*?

The Way We Green is the City of Edmonton's environmental strategic plan. The difference between it and more traditional environmental strategic plans is subtle, but significant. Like most environmental strategic plans, *The Way We Green* calls for strong action to protect and preserve nature. But it goes further, stressing that for Edmonton to endure long into the future and maintain our outstanding quality of life, we must understand the finite limits of nature and do a better job living within those limits. Essentially, we must learn to live sustainably. *The Way We Green* challenges Edmonton to pursue sustainability – a vision that will require us to rethink and redesign the ways we function as part of the natural environment so that the ecosystem services that support us today can continue to support life in the future.

How do Citizens Affect *The Way We Green*?

The Way We Green calls upon Edmontonians to be part of the strategy: to develop it, review it, embrace it and implement it. As such, citizens were approached throughout the plan's development to seek their input on *The Way We Green*. The public involvement consultant, Defining Common Ground, created two online surveys conducted between May and July, 2010. Those surveys aligned with the information gathered during two *The Way We Green* workshops held in June. Survey three, this summer survey, was designed specifically to take out to citizens in the community during the month of August. It was also posted online where it remained until *The Way We Green* Public Forum, held November 3-4, 2010. At the Forum, citizens commented again on the environmental topics and issues of concern to them and where they would like to see change.

Citizen Survey:
What did Citizens Respond to?

The following pages contain the results of the third *The Way We Green* survey. Although the survey was posted online from August 1 to November 4, 2010, the majority of responses were gathered by students on iPads during the month of August. Except where noted, the graphed responses represent combined results of both the 400 responses to the online survey and the 750 completed iPad surveys.

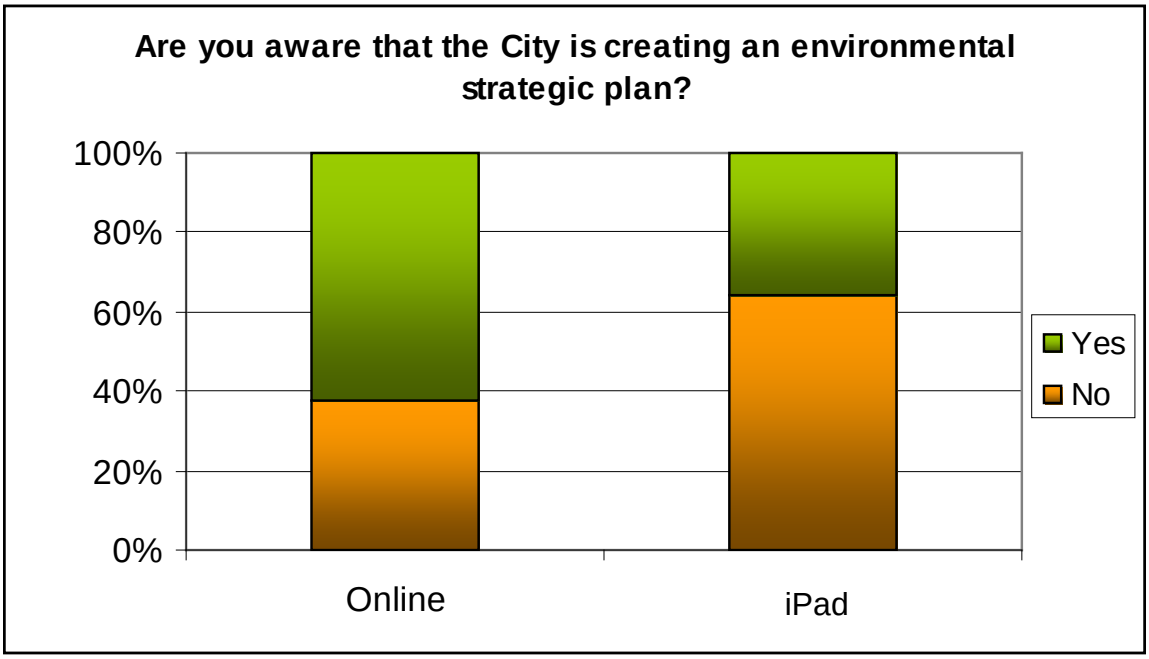
Citizen Survey Questions

The citizen survey consisted of 11 questions, some of which had several parts to each question. See Appendix A for the complete survey, including preamble, the FOIP clause and questions.

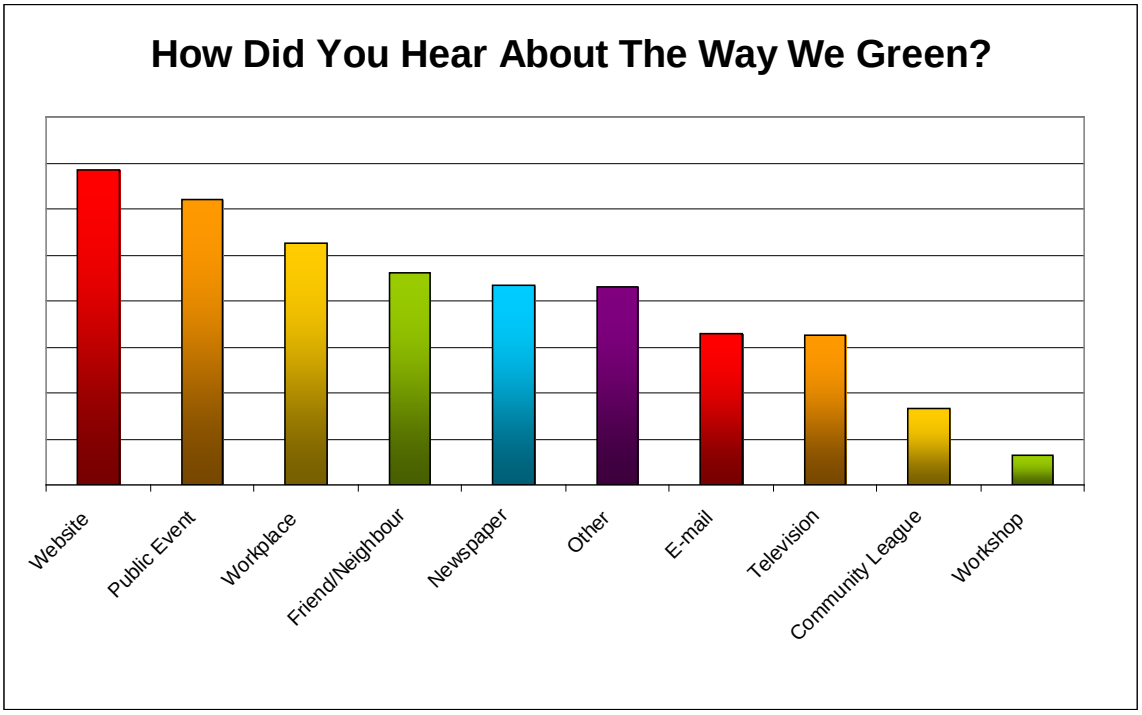
Question:
Are you aware that the City is creating an environmental strategic plan called *The Way We Green?*

In total, under half of respondents claimed they were aware that *The Way We Green* was being developed.

The bar graph on the next page (top of page 5) shows differences in levels of awareness, depending on where the survey was completed. Over 60% of those who completed the survey online (on their own) were already aware of *The Way We Green*, while fewer than 40% of those approached in the community with iPads were aware of *The Way We Green*. This is a significant observation that reinforces the need to move information to where people gather. Taking the survey to the community helped to build awareness of *The Way We Green*. It is for this reason that a variety of different events were attended, from music festivals to art festivals, malls, libraries, community picnics, and even grocery store parking lots.



Question:
How did you hear about ***The Way We Green***? Please check all that apply.



Those who had heard about *The Way We Green* prior to responding to the survey indicated that their awareness came from a variety of sources. Of interest is that a number of citizens heard about *The Way We Green* from a friend or neighbour, which speaks to our need to continue to find ways to facilitate information-sharing at this very basic level. The power of conversation remains very strong.

Social media like Twitter and Facebook were not specifically mentioned as a choice, but it may be logical to suspect that social media is reflected in the category "other" since it was inadvertently not provided as a choice.

Pens made of cardboard and cornstarch and featuring *The Way We Green* website address were distributed extensively starting August 1. The pens created a lot of excitement, and further helped to raise awareness of the *The Way We Green*.

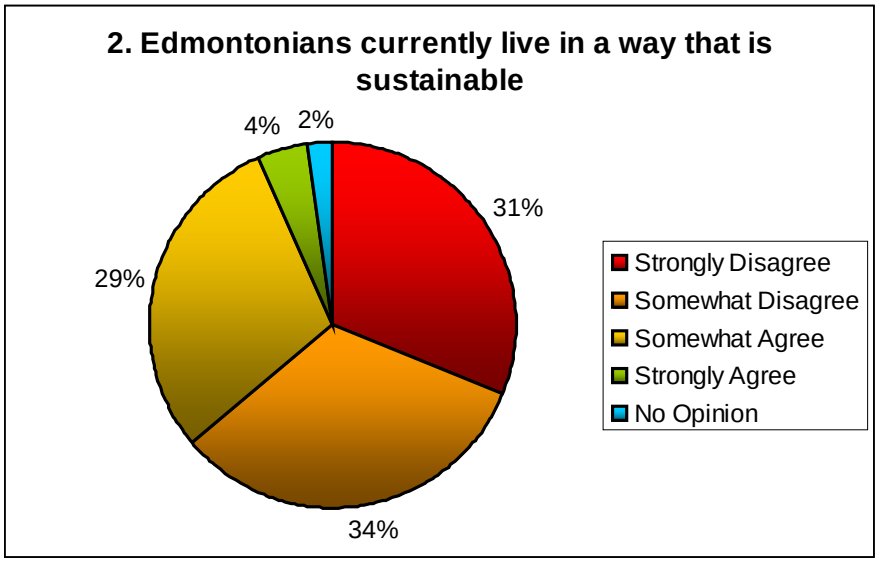
Survey Statement:
A sustainable society is one that lives within the limits of physical, social and natural resources in ways that allow the environment to thrive today and into the future.

Question:
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements*? Please circle or check one response for each question.*

In general, the survey results for this question show that Edmontonians tend to lean toward agreement that we are not currently sustainable, we need to make changes to become sustainable and there is willingness to change lifestyles to become sustainable.

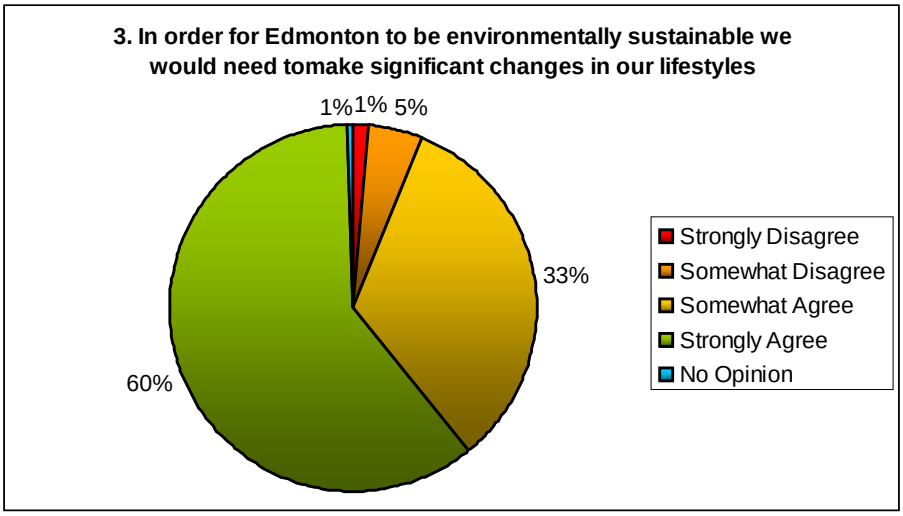
Note that the responses to this set of questions reflect a *gut* reaction and should not be perceived as an informed response. While we can assume that some people are informed about the environment, we may also assume that many are not well-informed. The responses, however, indicate a general awareness and general desire to make change for something that is perceived to be a necessary way forward. Individual questions pertaining to sustainability are presented on pp. 7-9.

- Edmontonians currently live in a way that is **sustainable**.



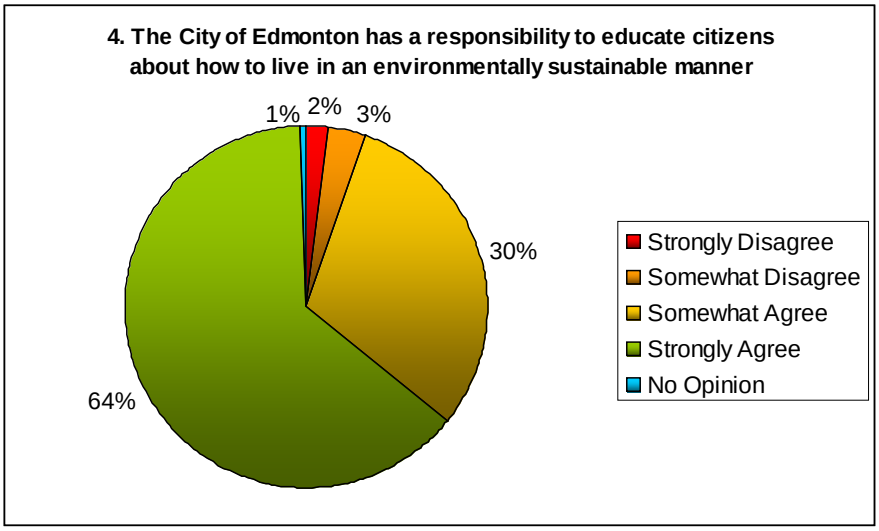
Sixty-five per cent (31% + 34%) of respondents indicate that there is disagreement with this statement, while 33% (29% + 4%) agree that we already live sustainably and 2% offer no opinion.

- In order for Edmonton to be environmentally sustainable, we would need to make significant changes in our lifestyles.



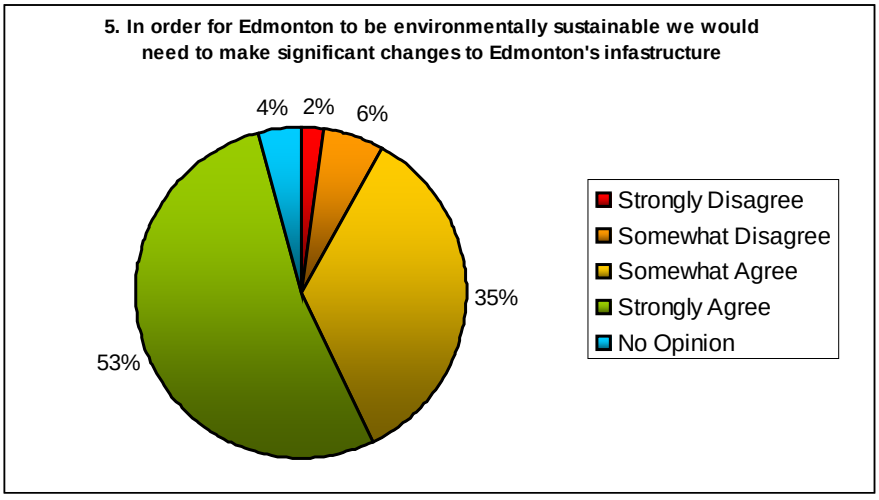
Whereas just 65% of citizens (above) surveyed suggest that Edmontonians do not live sustainably, 93% agree that significant lifestyle changes are needed for Edmonton to be environmentally sustainable.

- The City of Edmonton has a responsibility to educate citizens about how to live in an environmentally sustainable manner.



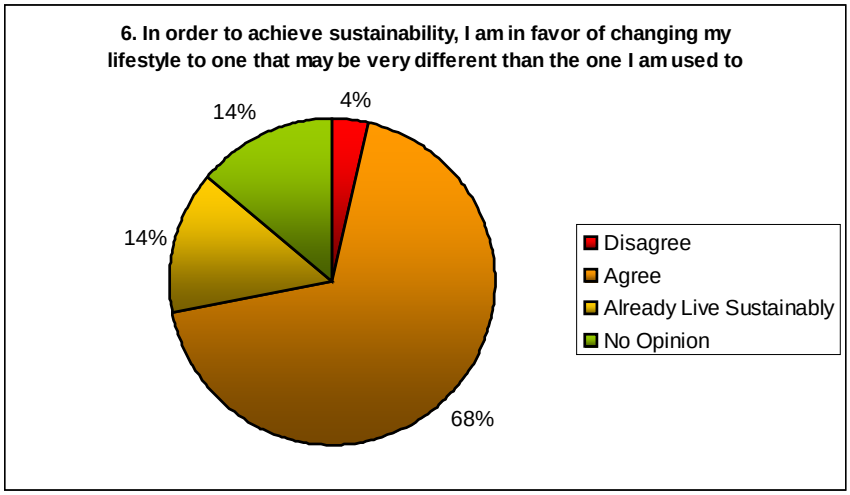
At 94%, there is overall agreement, to a greater and lesser degree, that the City must continue with its efforts to engage and educate citizens on environmental sustainability. In order to successfully implement *The Way We Green*, great effort will need to be placed on working with citizens to help them to understand implications of the strategy and how they can contribute to its success.

- In order for Edmonton to be environmentally sustainable, we would need to make significant changes to Edmonton's infrastructure (roads, buildings, water and power systems).



Again, 88% agree that significant infrastructure changes will be necessary to move Edmonton toward sustainability.

- In order to achieve sustainability, I am in favour of changing my lifestyle to one that may be very different than the one I am used to today.



With 14% of respondents considering themselves to already live sustainably, Edmonton can tap into this energy in an effort to help move a greater percentage of the population toward sustainable living. Additionally, 14% are not willing to change their lifestyles and 68% are willing to change.

This forms a classic *Diffusion of Innovation* (Everett Rogers, 1962) graph where a small percentage, the early adopters, are *already doing,* the bulk of the population is *willing but unsure*, and the laggards *will resist change at all costs* unless something is presented that causes them to shift toward change. According to Rogers (1962), 2.5% are the *Innovators* and 13.5% the *Early Adopters.* This equals 16%, close to the 14% of respondents who consider themselves to live sustainably. Rogers refers to the next groups, the 34% *Early Majority* and 34*% Late Majority*, which reflects the 68% of respondents who state a willingness to change. The *Laggards* are another 16%, which is close to our 14% of respondents who indicate an unwillingness to change. See Appendix D.

Survey Questions Addressing Policy

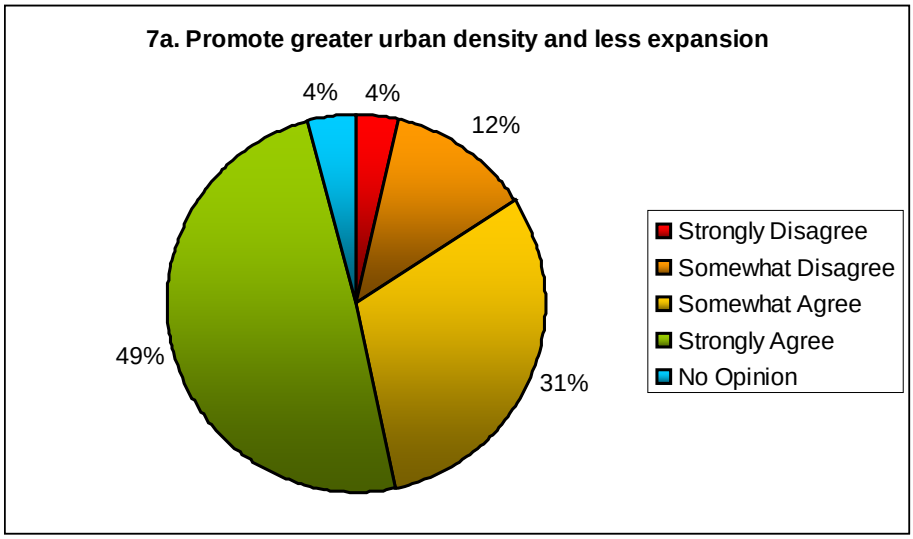
The next set of questions pertained to policy directions under consideration for *The Way We Green*. The purpose was to inform citizens about what types of information they might expect to see in the strategy, to gain perspective on whether or not Edmontonians might be supportive of the proposed policies and the extent to which they were in agreement or disagreement.

Information regarding effort and costs required to transform Edmonton to sustainability was not highlighted as part of the survey, which could have created a shift in opinion. Again, the

reactions to each statement provide us with some direction in terms of what the public thinks about the environment and what they feel are good choices for the City. In all, the responses signal that Edmontonians are in favour of changes that will reflect environmental sustainability.

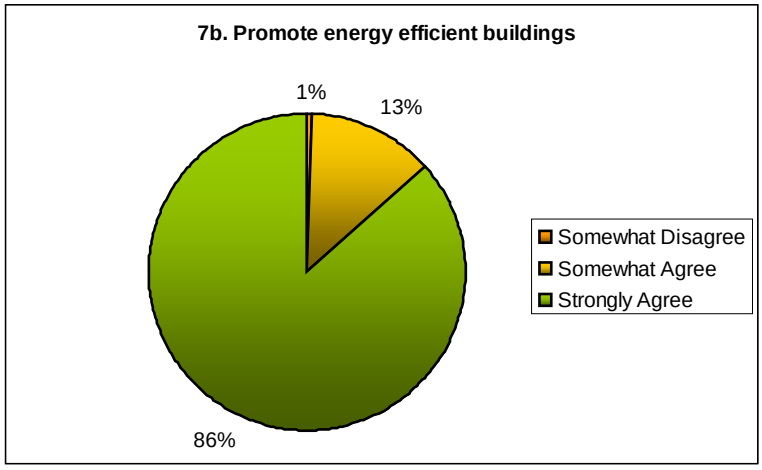
Question:
To what extent would you support the following City policies for making Edmonton a sustainable city? *Policies that:*

- promote **greater urban density and less urban expansion (less outward growth)**



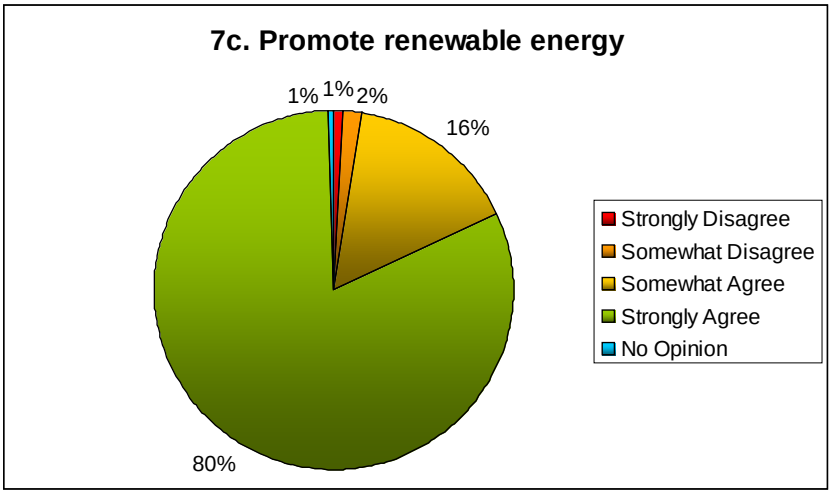
There is overall agreement, 80% that the City needs to plan for a denser city with less expansion at the fringes.

- promote **energy-efficient buildings**



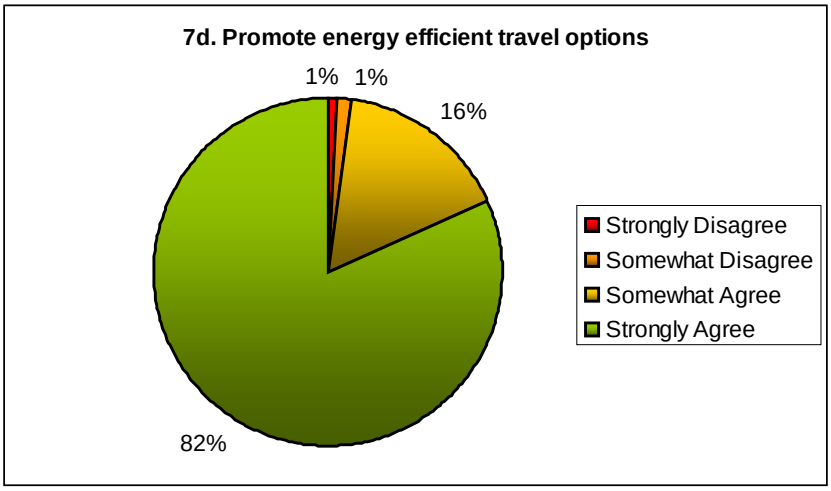
There is 99% agreement that Edmonton needs to promote energy-efficient buildings, with 86% in strong agreement. Only 1% somewhat disagreed with the statement and none strongly disagreed.

- promote **renewable energy (e.g. solar or wind power)**



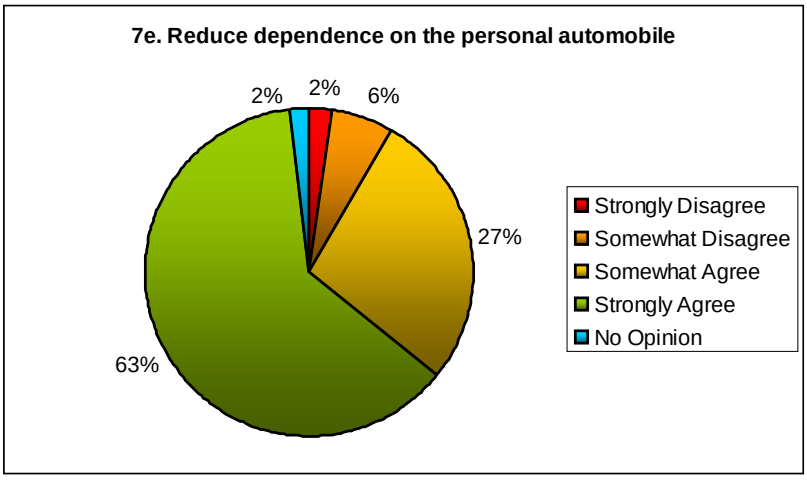
With 96% in favour of promoting renewable energy, there is indication that the time is right to pursue alternative energy in Edmonton.

- promote **energy-efficient travel options (e.g. public transit, cycling or walking)**



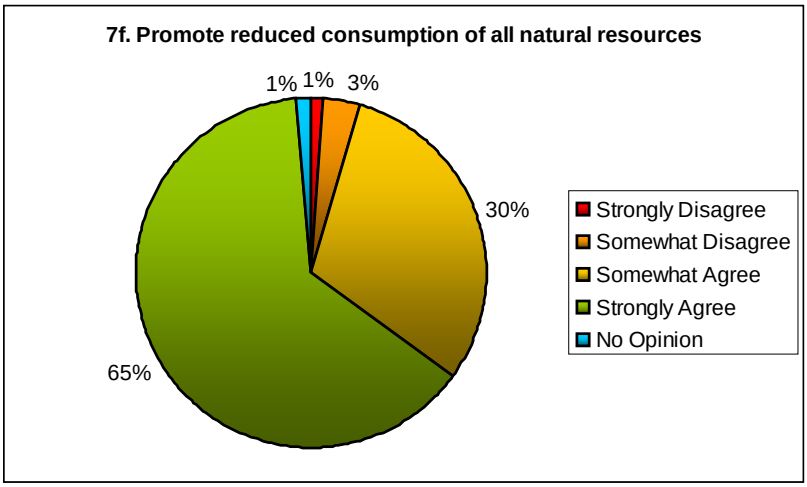
Moving around a large city can be a challenge, yet 98% of respondents are in favour of more efficient travel options. The survey did not ask what this might look like, e.g. pathways for cycling and walking, improved transit, hybrid or electric vehicles, etc. Overall, however, travel options that are more efficient resonated well with respondents. In total, only 2% strongly or somewhat disagreed with the statement.

- reduce **dependence on the personal automobile**



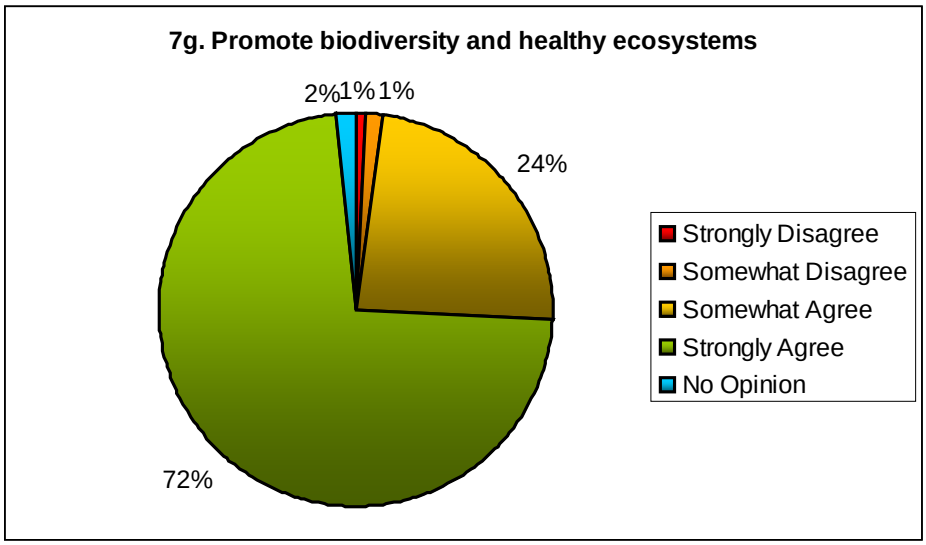
With 90% of respondents in agreement with reducing the use of the automobile, this result shows that the time is right for Edmonton to make a shift toward sustainable transportation.

- promote **reduced consumption of all natural resources**



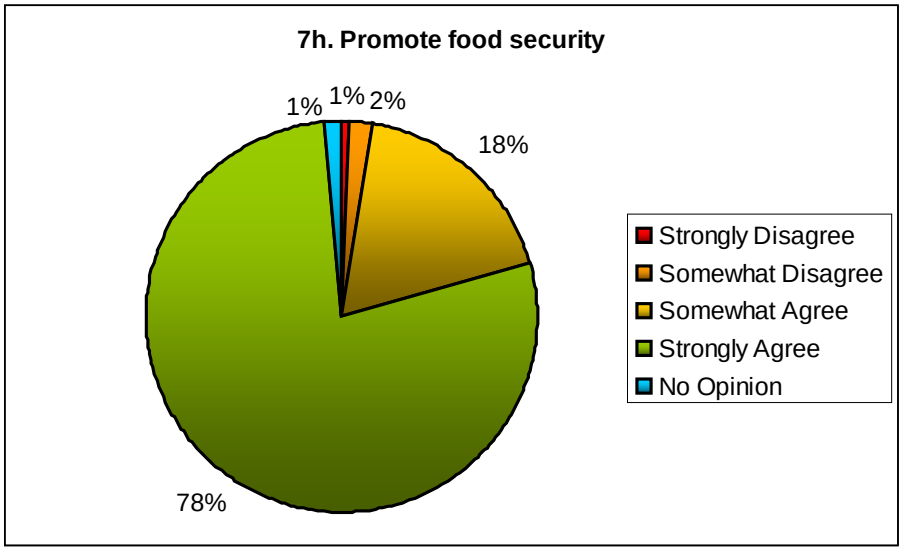
Overall, there is 95% support for the City to promote the concept of reduced consumption. This will need to be considered as the financial and economic sustainability plans are being developed.

- promote **biodiversity and healthy ecosystems**



Ninety-six per cent of respondents are in favour of promoting healthy ecosystems and biodiversity found within the City.

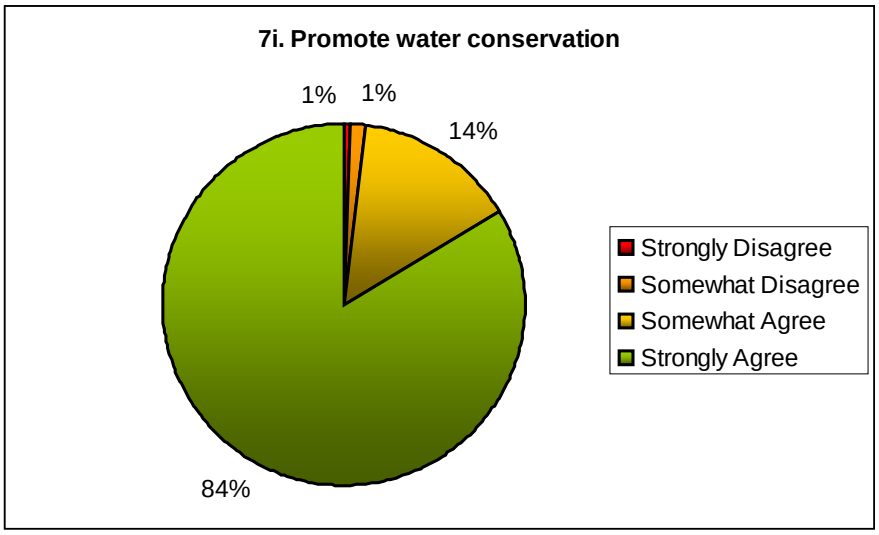
- promote **food security (e.g. preserving agricultural land)**



Discussions on the topics of food security, local food, global food trade and global food markets are regularly found in the media. This information has undoubtedly resonated with the public and

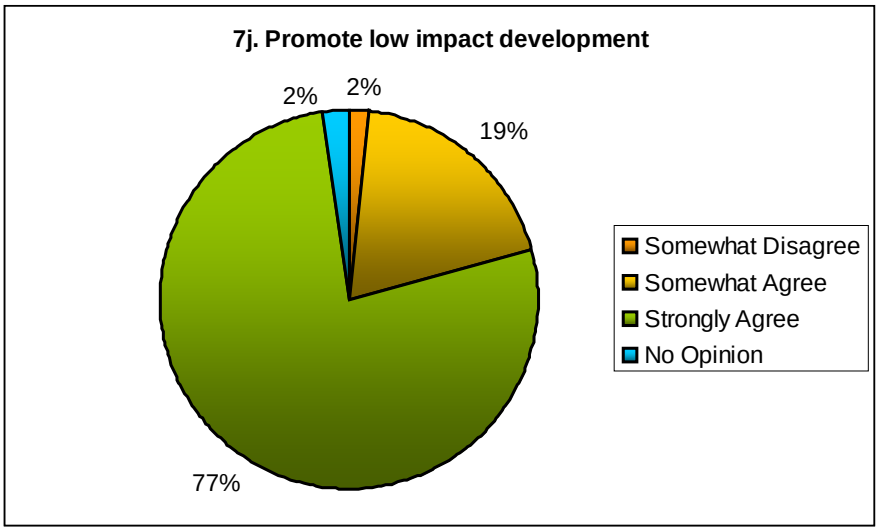
96% of respondents are in favour of policies that promote food security.

- promote **water conservation**



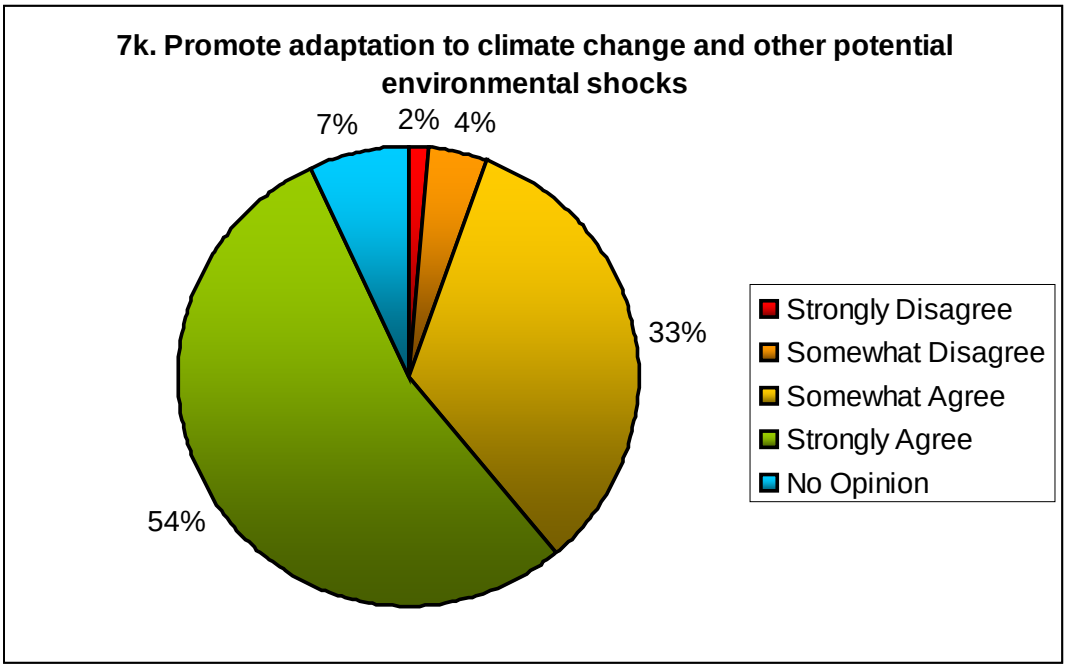
While expert opinion suggests that Edmonton will not be faced with water supply challenges, there is still 98% support for policies that promote water conservation.

- promote **low impact developments (e.g. building stormwater management systems that use natural features to help clean stormwater before it enters the river)**



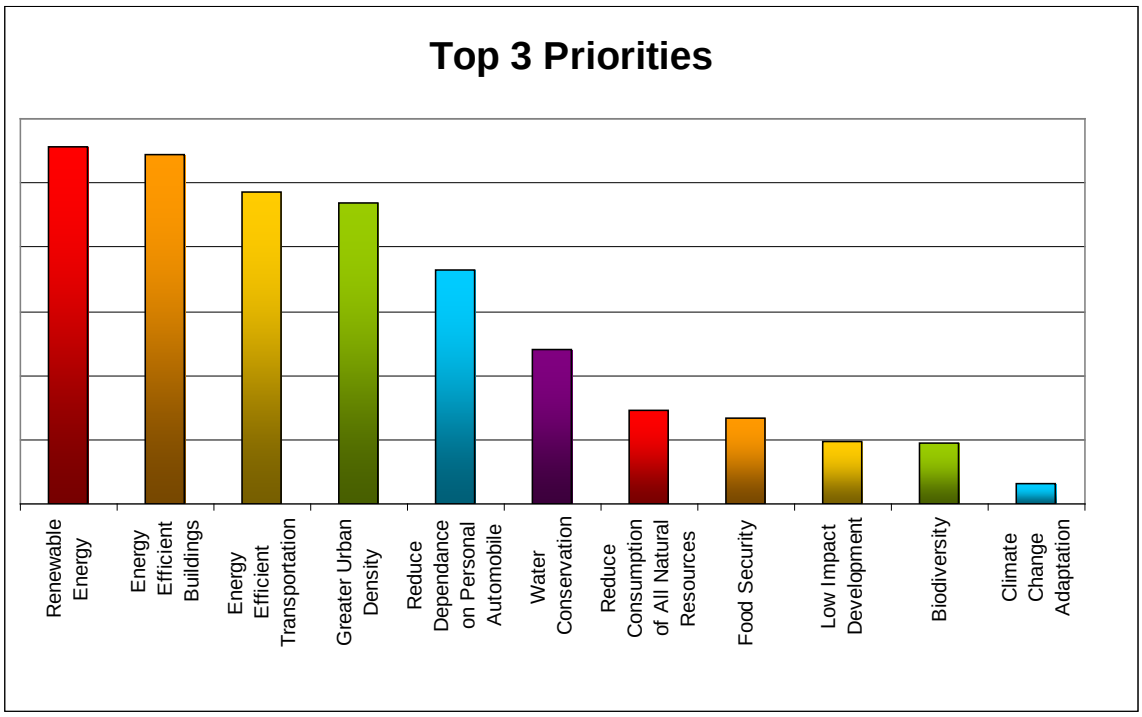
Aligned with the previous question is the topic of water quality. Ninty-six per cent of respondents favour low impact development as a way to protect water quality.

- promote **adaptation to climate change** and other potential environmental shocks



Over half of respondents strongly agreed with this statement and there was 87% agreement overall. A high number of respondents, 7%, respond with "no opinion." This response aligns well with the topic of climate change, the global debates about its severity and whether or not it is real. People generally have difficulty in projecting into the future about a topic that we cannot immediately touch or see. Even though over half of respondents are strongly in favour of policies that promote climate change adaptation, much work will be needed in this area to help those who are not convinced of scientific opinion, to understand scientific understanding and potential impacts.

If you had to choose three policy directions to focus on, with the intent to move Edmonton toward environmental sustainability, which three would you choose? Please rank, 1-2-3.



Respondents are clearly in favour of policies that address energy efficiency, yet climate change adaptation is lower on their list of priorities. While it is difficult to single out any one issue as being more important than another, mainly because every topic and issue is so greatly dependent on and linked to other topics and issues, there is still indication that energy efficiency makes sense to citizens.

Question:

Please use this space to share further comment for consideration in *The Way We Green* or other thoughts you have about environmental sustainability.

Space was created to invite further feedback. A compilation of comments, broadly sorted into categories, can be found in Appendix B.

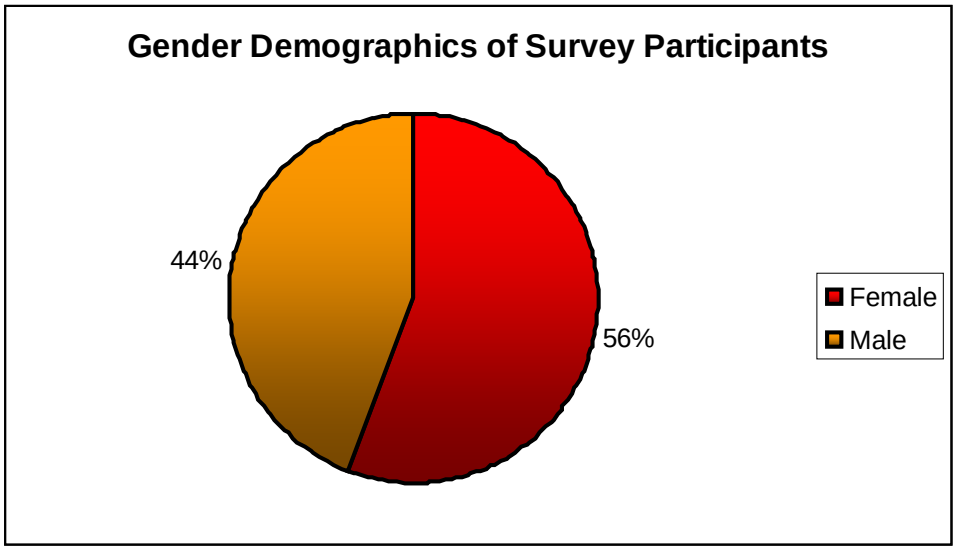
Comments included:

- The traffic light system should also be overhauled to make a smart system. Synchronized lights could reduce the amount of stop and go traffic to reduce emissions as well as allowing prioritized lights for buses.
- Please plan and build more bike paths to make it easier for cyclists to use.
- We need to lead the way (to) put Edmonton and Alberta in a positive light in the world; go Edmonton.
- Teach people how to live green that would not impact their life too much.
- The COE should not be spending large amounts of money trying to deal with climate change, as there are factors outside of the City's purview that affect climate.
- I am not sure how to do it but as a young person I know my future is unpredictable. I know we need massive change.
- Thanks for taking the initiative to get feedback from the community on these issues and I hope to see Edmonton move towards more sustainable policy!
- Edmontonians love their vehicles. Attitudes must change - increase parking fees, increase gasoline costs, give incentives to take public transit. Raise taxes in outlying areas - reduce taxes in downtown and adjacent areas.
- I am glad to be part of the process, and glad this process is occurring in our fair city.

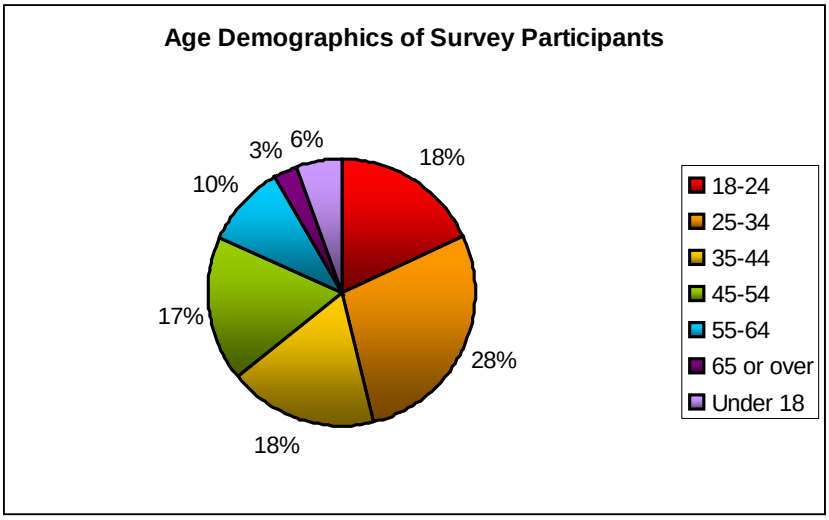
ABOUT YOU

The following information will assist us in analyzing the feedback we receive.

Gender:

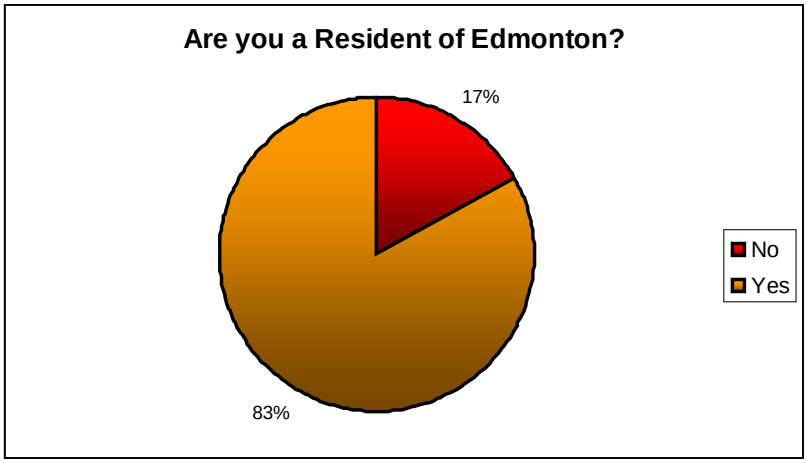


Age Group:



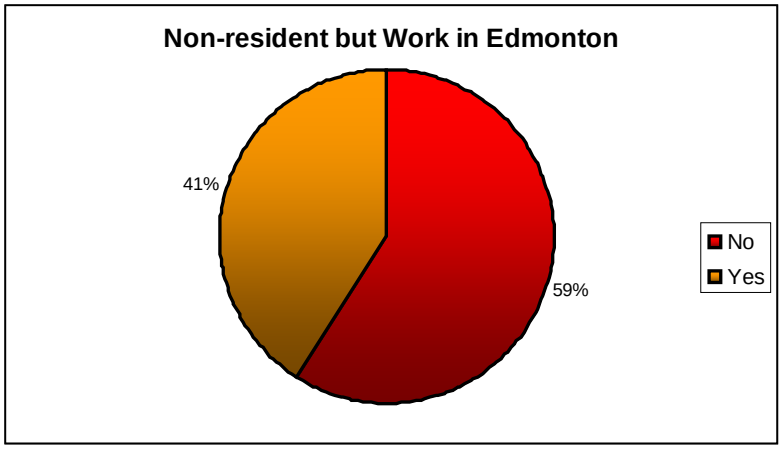
Question:
I am a resident of the City of Edmonton.

Most respondents, 83%, reside in Edmonton.



For the 17% who responded NO, they are not a resident of Edmonton, we wanted to know if they work in Edmonton. See next question.

Question:
I am <u>not</u> a resident, but I work in Edmonton.



Of the 17% respondents who did not reside in Edmonton, 41% work in Edmonton, which is important for *The Way We Green* as we know that our efforts reach beyond city residents. This makes it critical that we continue efforts to work with our neighbouring municipalities in The Capital Region.

Question:
I neither live nor work in Edmonton but I visit Edmonton:

☐ 1-2 days per week	☐ 3-4 days per week	☐ 5-7 days per week
☐ 1-4 days per month	☐ once per month or less	☐ once per year or less
☐ this is my first visit to Edmonton		

With 83% of respondents living in Edmonton, very few responded to this question and therefore results were not tabulated. It is felt that although 17% of respondents do not reside in Edmonton, their perspective is still valid. As the capital city, Edmonton's efforts touch all Albertans and Canadians. As one municipality in a larger region and watershed, it is important for people to learn about what happens in Edmonton and to take some responsibility to move the City toward sustainability.

Survey Locations:

Date	Event
Aug-02	Roaming Whyte Ave
Aug-07	CariWest Festival
Aug-08	Folk Fest
Aug-14	Latin Festival
Aug-14	Celtic Festival
Aug-15	Latin Festival
Aug-15	Capitals Baseball Game
Aug-16	Churchill - Live at Lunch
Aug-16	Northgate Mall
Aug-19	Hallal Meats
Aug-19	Fringe
Aug-19	Londonderry Mall
Aug-20	Movies on Square
Aug-21	Movies on Square
Aug-20	Fringe
Aug-21	Fringe
Aug-20	Stanley Milner Library
Aug-20	Fringe
Aug-21	Dragon Boat Races
Aug-22	Dragon Boat Races
Aug-23	Stanley Milner Library
Aug-24	Live at Lunch
Aug-25	Valley Zoo
Aug-26	Hallal Meats
Aug-26	Valley Zoo
Aug-27	Hallal Meats
Aug-28	Eskimos Game
Aug-25	Live at Lunch
Aug-26	Live at Lunch
Aug-27	Nite Market
Aug-27	Valley Zoo
Aug-29	Druze Picnic
Aug-29	Viva Italia

Conclusions:
What Did We Learn?

Survey Success

The citizen survey was a critical piece of work for the Office of Environment as *The Way We Green* was being developed. The primary goals of this community survey were achieved:

a) raise awareness that *The Way We Green* was being developed
b) invite citizens to get involved in the process

In addition, the survey enabled staff to:

- meet the public in places where they gather
- share *The Way We Green* strategy ideas
- provide opportunity for feedback on strategy ideas

Success Factors

iPads

The summer students reported that the iPads were a huge hit and people were generally excited to use them. Each team of two students carried two to three iPads with them. When they spoke to people in groups exceeding the number of iPads, they found it useful to have paper copies of the surveys so that everyone could complete the survey at the same time. The paper surveys were then transferred into the online survey, and coded to indicate that the survey was completed out in the community.

Display

The summer students reported that the flag and whiteboards were excellent tools for attracting citizens when students were required to be stationary. At events, they would stay in one general spot, as compared to when they were roaming, such as through streets or libraries or at a baseball game with the iPads. Many would stop to read what others had written on the boards before adding

their own comments. The colourful nature of the whiteboards was a great way to draw people in. The flag stood metres into the air, and was an impressive marker to attract people.

Pens

The compostable pens, made of cardboard and corn starch, were quite popular, especially when people realized what they were made of. Many people wanted extras to share with their friends. With the website address printed on the pens, they were an excellent way to raise awareness of *The Way We Green* website.

T-Shirts

Students wore T-shirts with the City of Edmonton logo on the front and *The Way We Green* and the *Transforming Edmonton* logos on the back. In addition to wearing City of Edmonton identification cards, these visuals were an important means to assure citizens that the surveyors, survey and displays were legitimately sanctioned by the City of Edmonton.

Event Choices

Students focused on a wide variety of events to engage citizens. Musical festivals, heritage events, community picnics, sporting events, store parking lots, family nights and markets were places where the surveyors could reach a large number of people at once. They surveyed at events and places where they might find a variety of people from different cultures and who might have varying perspectives on the environment and *The Way We Green*.

Citizen Responses

Overall, citizen response to the survey was positive. Discussion about *The Way We Green* raised people's interest in the strategy. Some expressed concern that it was the first time they had heard about *The Way We Green*, but were glad to be able to participate and learn more. Some talked at length, some would respond to the survey with little discussion. A typical comment reported by the student surveyors was, "good job, keep it up!"

Students further categorized reaction to *The Way We Green* into "apathetic" and "in denial." These reactions were not as prominent as most, but those who voiced them made an impact. Some viewed *The Way We Green* as a pointless exercise that would result in a "business as usual" type of action, while others felt there was no need to worry about the environment or sustainability.

Clearly, the discussions the students had with citizens reinforce the work needed to engage the community in *The Way We Green*. The majority of citizens expressed a desire to see change and be part of that change. While it is expected that some are unwilling to, or do not see a need for change, City engagement efforts must continue. *The Way We Green* is an important and timely strategy that has many citizens excited about the change it will bring and the potential it has to transform the city toward sustainability.

Appendix A: Survey Questions

The Way We Green: Public Survey #3

The Way We Green will be Edmonton's long-term environmental plan to help realize the City's 30-year Vision and 10-year strategic goals. The Way We Green has the potential to make Edmonton a national leader in setting and achieving the highest standards of environmental preservation and sustainability. Your participation will help us develop a plan that will focus on the most important environmental challenges facing Edmonton.

Any personal information provided/collected is under the authority of section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act and will be used by the City of Edmonton to administer and follow up on public involvements. This information will not be disclosed to any third parties except as allowed by FOIP.

The Way We Green Survey

1. Are you aware that the City is creating an environmental strategic plan called **The Way We Green**?

☐ YES ☐ NO

*If you respond **YES**,* please go to question 2.

*If you respond **NO**,* please skip the next question and go to question 3.

2. How did you hear about **The Way We Green**? Please check all that apply.

☐ Newspaper ☐ Television ☐ Friend/neighbour ☐ Workshop

☐ Public event ☐ Workplace ☐ Community League ☐ Email

☐ Website ☐ Other *(please describe):*

A sustainable society is one that lives within the limits of physical, social and natural resources in ways that allow the environment to thrive today and into the future.

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? **Please circle or check one response for each question.**

- Edmontonians currently live in a way that is **sustainable**.

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- In order for Edmonton to be environmentally sustainable, we would need to make significant changes in our lifestyles.

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- The City of Edmonton has a responsibility to educate citizens about how to live in an environmentally-sustainable manner.

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- In order for Edmonton to be environmentally sustainable, we would need to make significant changes to Edmonton's infrastructure (roads, buildings, water and power systems).

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- In order to achieve sustainability, I am in favour of changing my lifestyle to one that may be very different than the one I am used to today.

Agree Disagree Not sure Already live sustainably No Opinion

4. To what extent would you support the following City policies for making Edmonton a sustainable city? **Policies that:**

- promote **greater urban density and less urban expansion (less outward growth)**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- promote **energy-efficient buildings**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- promote **renewable energy (e.g. solar or wind power)**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- promote **energy-efficient travel options (e.g. public transit, cycling or walking)**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- reduce **dependence on the personal automobile**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- promote **reduced consumption of all natural resources**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- promote **biodiversity and healthy ecosystems**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- promote **food security (e.g. preserving agricultural land)**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- promote **water conservation**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

- promote **low impact developments (e.g. building stormwater management systems that use natural features to help clean stormwater before it enters the river)**

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

---

- promote **adaptation to climate change** and other potential environmental shocks

Strongly Agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree No opinion

---

5. If you had to choose <u>three</u> policy directions to focus on, with the intent to move Edmonton toward environmental sustainability, which three would you choose? **Please rank, 1-2-3.**

___ greater urban density and less urban expansion (less outward growth)

___ energy-efficient buildings

___ renewable energy

___ energy-efficient travel options

___ reduce dependence on the personal automobile

___ reduced consumption of all natural resources

___ biodiversity and healthy ecosystems

___ food security

___ water conservation

___ low impact developments

___ adaptation to climate change and other potential environmental shocks

6. **Please use this space to share further comment for consideration in The Way We Green, or other thoughts you have about environmental sustainability.**

ABOUT YOU

The following information will assist us in analyzing the feedback we receive.

7. **Gender:**

☐ Male ☐ Female

8. **Age Group** *(please check one):*

☐ < 18 years ☐ 18-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44

☐ 45-54 years ☐ 55-64 ☐ > 65 years

9. **I am a resident of the City of Edmonton:**

☐ YES ☐ NO

If you responded NO and you are not a resident of Edmonton, please answer the next question.

10. **I am not a resident, but I work in Edmonton.**

☐ YES ☐ NO

If you responded NO, you neither live nor work in Edmonton, please answer the next question.

11. **I neither live nor work in Edmonton, but I visit Edmonton:**

☐ 1-2 days per week ☐ 3-4 days per week ☐ 5-7 days per week

☐ 1-4 days per month ☐ once per month or less ☐ once per year or less

☐ this is my first visit to Edmonton

Thank you for taking time to provide input.

Check **The Way We Green** website often for updates and further opportunities to get involved.

www.thewaywegreen.ca

Appendix B: Survey Comments

The Way We Green Summer Survey 2010 Comments

Happy with the city / survey process:

- Thank you for this important initiative
- This is a good way to enhance awareness on achieving a better environment for Edmontonians. Thank you!
- What the government is doing is good: I appreciate the city of Edmonton transit service for older people (DATS). As well, I truly value Canada's disability benefits.
- Thanks.
- The city council is doing very well and should continue on the course. In the past years they have moved toward a more environmental Edmonton by extending the LRT, making recycle bins easier to find and accessible and, redeveloping the airport. No comment I believe the way we green covers the most important issues!
- Good job! ;)
- I travel a lot and I think Edmonton is one of the best cities for taking care of the environment.
- This is an important initiative, glad to see Edmonton is doing this.
- Looking forward to the final plan
- I think Edmonton is at a segue in its development, and has the opportunity to make some brilliant changes.
- Great process, glad to see so much innovative stuff on the table. Edmonton has a great opportunity here, but a lot of work to do as well.
- Appreciate opportunity to provide input. Excellent survey! One confusing part was understanding the difference between greater travel options and reducing reliance on personal vehicle. Suggest providing more information on the website on some of these topics (e.g. what is biodiversity and how does it contribute to sustainability)
- Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.
- Try to get people involved in choosing what direction to go...just like this survey...very good idea.
- A great, positive direction to move in.
- We really can change the way we live to help preserve our environment. I'm pleased to see the City planning on this.
- Go Green!!
- I am really looking forward to seeing some early drafts of this plan. I would love to be more involved in the process. I don't envy decision-makers here, but I think we could do something remarkable with a bit of courage on the part of our leaders.

- While I feel strongly that citizens must make changes to their (my) lifestyles in an effort to reduce our individual and collective environmental footprint, I also feel that the City should lead. The Way We Green is an awesome start!
- Any moves in this direction would be beneficial.
- Keep up the good work!
- Thanks!
- I love nature and I have environmental engineering Masters. I am so keen on working with you.
- Keep going, do something with the momentum.
- I believe that we are doing a lot to make Edmonton a cleaner, and healthier city, however, we could be doing so much to promote our ability to reduce our impact while still being creative in how we face these challenges.
- Thanks for taking the initiative to get feedback from the community on these issues and I hope to see Edmonton move towards more sustainable policy!
- Thank you for working towards a healthier city, which will translate into healthier individuals living here, too. Major changes are needed, to make walking, cycling, and use of public transit top priorities available to all--and the preferred means of transportation!
- Thanks for having this survey. I sincerely hope we can make some improvements here in Edmonton so that we can proud of this city. If I am going to live here and raise my family here, I need it to be more sustainable, I want to be proud of where I live.
- I think that it is really great that you are doing twwg project.
- Keep up the good work, because someone has to wake up other people!
- I believe the city plays an enormous role, and has the responsibility to make policy to lead Edmonton to greener habits. Our environmental policy cannot afford to be watered down.
- Thank you Edmonton for the great green in the past.
- Thank you
- City councilor Don Iveson has been a good ambassador for this project. This kind of initiative is what Edmonton needs to pursue in order to be a leader in tackling global problems such as climate change, which we are such a part of. Education and awareness.
- Good idea to survey people in public forums
- I think what you guys are doing is great for Edmonton!
- The fellow conducting this survey was extremely patient and helpful!
- I am glad to be part of the process, and glad this process is occurring in our fair city
- This is a great initiative. I hope that it garners the attention it deserves.
- I dig it all. Keep it green and clean!
- Great initiative and good outreach, especially on social media.
- Namaste
- The world is changing and we are becoming more and more aware that our earth is our home to cherish and protect. Keep up the wonderful work you are doing. Thank you.
- Thank you!

- I think the city does a lot people just do not know
- City is already taking initiatives that promote sustainability. Many of these questions posted on this survey reflect what the city is doing and or committed to do. Proper evaluation and surrounding community buy in will help promote teach ideas to city.
- I appreciate this initiative and the steps to both educate the public and gather information from them.
- Great idea: I hope that it goes ahead!

Unhappy with the city / survey process:

- What about the environmental shocks question? I don't understand.
- I don't want to continue the survey because the questions are so vague my answers can be construed in so many different ways, I'm not comfortable with it.
- As a frequent visitor, the contradictions of this city's development directions are shocking. Someone just gave me an unimaginable cost number for an overpass to connect to South Edmonton Common, (a place that looks like it was designed for 1950's L.A.)I feel a lack of support for renovating my home to make it more energy efficient. I recently removed a plaster wall so I could add more to the existing 1.5 " of insulation) and found little information on the internet as to how to go about it. For example, I could have removed the plaster in half the time and with less mess if I had had more information. I had to learn by trial and error. I was also given bad information as to how to make my walls thicker so I can fit in more insulation.
- I found the question very leading - next time hire someone who understands how to construct a survey.
- The COE should not be spending large amounts of money trying to deal with climate change, as there are factors outside of the City's purview that affect climate.
- I think your collection of opinions from Edmontonians through this survey somewhat silly, and a means of preventing the environment from becoming a transversal theme in the City's planning and activities, as it remains for now as its own separate compartment, "The Way We Green" ...until this environmental policy development strategy becomes the mirror of and inseparable from the economic plan (The Way We Grow or whatever), we are in trouble.
- Is this survey going to be useful? It seemed to consist of
    - Are you in favour of good things?-yes - no
    - Are you willing to change to have good things? -yes -no
- Your survey has worded the questions as so to basically guaranty that everyone approves the environmentally conscious decisions that the survey is probably to be used for. Therefore it is really just collecting useless data.
- Present politics are not conducive to environmental concerns.

Comments on raising awareness / community engagement:

- Instruct newcomers about different types of environmental preservation because many people are not aware of it in Edmonton .
- Requesting/requiring(?) all festival organizers address/publicize how they are contributing towards sustainability (good example: EFMF)
- Do it ways that will make financial sense to people, if they save, or make more money they will be more willing to make changes to their lifestyle.
- We all take care of the environment and I we do all Edmontonians can benefit. More awareness.
- Support local environmental organizations and become more involved in local environmental projects in your community and encourage citizens to participate in City environmental initiatives.
- Be responsible for what put into and take out of the environment. User pay, e.g. use a car and pay an extra fee for research to make vehicle greener. Have industry more accountable for what they leave behinds. Follow Europe's lead, e.g. Sweden regarding industry.
- Give homeless people a chance to contribute.
- Green rebate and incentives
- Promote conservation instead of increased consumerism.
- It's not only about informing the general public but also about promoting lifestyle changes that are simple with the largest possible impact.
- Always educate, follow-up with action plans!
- Environment issues should pervade all subjects in school
- Suggest incentives for home and vehicle owners for reducing emissions and other greener heating and cooling options like insurance or tax rebates
- I think we should co ordinate our efforts within the larger economy and gov't spheres that Edmonton interacts with so as to not place ourselves at a disadvantage, but still be proactive to the extent that we can, i.e. Education and implementing ideas.
- Educate people as you have to change the mindset before you can create change.
- You have to make change convenient such as more transit frequency.
- You have to cultivate a society which is has greater responsibility for their actions.
- I think that people need visuals of how a more conservative lifestyle would affect them in the long run, especially for their offspring.
- I think we need to start being more proactive instead of reactive. Another thing to do for greener environment is composting! A lot of people think it's gross when it's really not! Community gardens would also be fantastic!
- Educate and create fun activities to get the public involved.
- Larger fines for littering as well as more enforcement of this law
- Teach people how to live green that would not impact their life too much
- Promote it heavily at schools
- People also have to earn a living, so employment has to be considered

- City should support financially by reducing taxes on energy saving investments in private houses, differentiate fees for garbage services.
- I feel or should I say most people in our society need to not be so selfish that one does not need a 29min shower everyday make sure you choose laundry detergent and equipment that promote limited water use dishwasher and chemicals same thing
- Promote more green practices in general
- Whatever is done should actually make a difference and not just make people feel good.
- The environment should be sustained for the enjoyment of the citizens, not the exclusion of them.
- Attitudes have to be altered with all citizens to create a sustainable long term strategy for a healthy city. Small encouraging factors of perhaps providing waste water incentives for those who plant gardens, incentives to move closer to the city centre (reduced bus pass costs) taxation models to better reflect the increased cost and resource demands of new subdivisions.
- I recently read that there was a presenter advocating that AB adopt a FEEBATE system such as the one in Ontario and Germany. I wish I had heard him since this is one the most effective tools for creating sustainability.
- Tax incentives for conserving energy. Building and renovations credits for upgrading to cleaner, energy reduced options.
- More strongly quickly enacted changes leadership via bylaws (pesticide free) (idle free)
- More firm development incentives and dis-incentives
- Many people are not threatened by global warming nor disasters until it hits them personally. How can we prioritize the need to be involved?
- You need more advertising. Most of the people don't know about these issues.
- I think that their needs to also be some focus on education and programs as well as making it affordable to live sustainably. If people are educate and it is not more costly more will move towards living this way.
- Just because it's packaged in green doesn't mean that it is green. Please don't fall into this trap. Use this opportunity to create a community that cares; that provides opportunity, that looks after one another and that can enrich our lives. The Alberta government has a horrible reputation in the eyes of much of the world - use this as an opportunity to create a broader blueprint for Alberta and transform our community and our lives for the better - instead of using rhetoric to make people think that we're doing the right thing in the short term.
- I'm tired of being let down and disheartened by leaders and government pursuing the interests of business and short term strategies. Please use this initiative to generate something positive on a grand scale.
- Getting people to understand and accept the need for lifestyle changes is key to achieving all of these goals.
- Better education and exposure for this Program. I read local media and look for green initiatives in the City, but I have never heard of your Program.
- Educate all age groups. Make things feasible for families so efficiency is appealing.

- Be careful of theories and not proven facts.
- Individual responsibility. Need to make financially viable options. People will always balk out if $$$ is too much.
- The challenge is to include and make affordable, the opportunity for low-income and working poor to be able to change and be part of anything being offered - leisure access, bus, etc.
- Is there a way to incorporate environmental performance in Job Descriptions and Performance Reviews?"
- Creating a sustainable Edmonton does not to be a huge change. Policy and small changes can be made that encourage the correct behaviours from our residents. Drive that behavior with dollars as it is the easiest way to change behaviour. That does not mean increase tax for more infrastructure, communication programs, etc. Financing for projects should be driven by the areas where additional dollars are gained by changing behaviour.
- Examples:
  My monthly gas, water bill has an extremely high fixed rate with low variable rates based on my usage. Lower the fixed and increase the variable to make it worthwhile for residents to change behaviors and invest in technology.
- Encourage ridership of the LRT by making it make sense financially to do so. The cost benefit currently does not make sense for me. I believe the only financial analysis on this system is limited to those that work downtown which limits the market.
- Develop a variable rate program for waste to encourage recycling, composting, etc.
- I am happy to support a sustainable Edmonton, but I'm tired of seeing tax hikes that have no impact on the behaviors of residents. I am aware that the small changes suggested would actually be huge changes to put into effect, but just because jacking up rates is easy doesn't make that right either. Remember? How do you eat an elephant?"
- I don't think that the economics currently make sense to encourage people to make environmentally conscious decisions. Water, natural gas, and other utilities are extremely cheap. Most of my bill is flat fee and is not affected by consumption. Reduce the flat fee and make consumption more expensive in order to drive sustainable behaviours. Another example is the transit system. For me, the cost of driving (including parking, the insurance premium of city driving, and even car maintenance) is the same as public transit and I get to leave later in the mornings, don't have to wait in the cold, and always get a seat. (I don't work in the core). I find that public transit economics only worked for me when I did work in the downtown core. Other than that, driving has always been a better option... and it is even cheaper than public transit when you've got more than one person in the car.
- You should get university students of various faculties involved in this program.
- Go green.
- Try to stop greed!! Who needs multiple cars? Only buy what we need and not over indulging. We are so spoiled. Recycle.
- I think raising awareness is wonderful; however, it is up to every person to make the changes themselves. We can only promote so much.

- Need political change and commitments, including regional government in metro area to implement program policies.
- Please provide a definition of sustainability (ie. How long you want this sustainability, in what forms, etc.) Business developments and housing patterns GREATLY effect the lifestyle choices and energy consumption (consider the weekend pilgrimage to South Edmonton Common.)
- Green is good. We all need to do our part.
- Sustainable Development: the Spiritual Dimension
- All City Departments should work together to achieve common goals in the Way We Green.
- Lately, the word Tesla has been long in my mind, renewable energy, not finite like the oil resources. We need to go back to school and change how we learn about GNP and what is renewable and does not deplete our finite resources.
- Households should have incentives perhaps credits to their property taxes for sustainability initiatives. For example, if someone builds an infill property perhaps give them a 1 year property tax exemption, other examples: installation of solar panels offer 10% price subsidy.
- A great resource to check out is 'Towards a Zero Carbon Vision for UK Transport' by the Stockholm Environment Institute.
- I am astonished that within the City Corporation we are poor stewards of our resources. We have no recycling program in our building other than bottles and paper. As well, we have too many lights for our office space and they are on constantly - even the weekends. We have so many windows east, south and west facing which could be used for vertical food production and reduce heat gain that requires air conditioning. As well, simple things like people leaving their computers and monitors on overnight still happen. Where is the energy audit on the minute level? We should have reports posted in locations to demonstrate our energy and resource usage and if we are reaching our targets. This tracking can be done at the unit level.
- I would support efforts to reduce overall noise pollution. Living in a city is already too noisy and the effects of it are hard to live with.
- I just heard of this today. Please try and make this more visible at all festivals, events and schools.
- More should be done to educate children, as they will become the future of our city.

Comments on Looking Forward:

- Change takes time and education, you need to start with the children...they are the future.
- I am not sure how to do it but as a young person I know my future is unpredictable. I know we need massive change
- Education!
- Keep receiving public feedback, have plebiscites, listen to taxpayers concerns.
- Take baby steps to solve giant problems.

- Children in the schools need to be taught about the environmental impact. Education is very important.
- Changing old infrastructure is hard, but that's what needs to be done. It doesn't need to be done fast fast fast but we need to change everything from the bottom up. 60's mentality won't work anymore.
- I think that the power to make a significant change lies in the hands of government.
- Do it. Just do it already.
- Get 'er done!
- The city should be a leader in all conservation.
- In regards to conservation of our natural resources we need to practice.
- Promotion of accountability. Making people take more pride in their city and keeping it clean
- Live sustainability everyday
- I do not think that we should be spending time preparing for the consequences of climate changes when we should all be making changes to our life to prevent these climate changes from occurring. I believe that the city should be focusing more on prevention.
- Any action taken should be slow and deliberate - knowledge and technology in these areas is constantly changing, which may result in new advances and improvements. Implementing ideas too quickly or early may be a waste of already precious tax dollars and in the long term may not be effective.
- I support Edmonton moving towards a more sustainable city 100%. I think it is imperative that citizens are educated on environmental issues and made aware of how they can make a difference in their every day lives. The City of Edmonton should set an example for its citizens and for our country in moving towards environmental sustainability. These are issues that everyone should know about and have concern over in their own lifestyles.
- It is important to consider the interrelationships between environmental, social and economic sustainability in determining "optimum" environmental strategies.
- This program should not only be about education, but the success (challenge) will be based on making it accessible for the average Edmontonian.
- Green investment is a good thing!
- We need to work with what we have and adapt it to be more effective.
- 2012 is coming if changes aren't drastically make!!! ☹
- I'd love to see Edmonton take the lead on environmentally progressive policy AND action.
- I strongly believe that, globally, the world needs to change. We take too much for our ecosystems without putting back. We are stressing our planet out. If we do not learn to satiate our appetites for excess, we are not leaving our future generations a sustainable or healthy, happy life.
- All the points, above, are very important. We need legislation in order to get government and the public moving toward a greener lifestyle.

- A coherent and forward-looking policy in development will impact all of the policy areas above, particularly agricultural land, diversity and transportation.
- It is not about gaining a profit (i.e. Oil companies). It's about sustaining the environment for future generations.
- We have to be more responsible about our environment.
- We need to lead the way put Edmonton and Alberta in a positive light in the world go Edmonton

Comments on One Planet Living:

- I think that we as a city have the responsibility to do everything we can to preserve the earth for generations of the future.
- Stop creating goods and services that further contribute to our throwaway society
- Economical cost for goods and services. It makes sense that non-conventional services, for example organic farming, will cost more. However, if sustainability is something that the city wishes to move towards, it needs to be something that the majority of us support. I think it is important for people to care about sustainability and the future of the planet
- Shop local
- Make companies that are polluting planet earth more responsible, and accountable for their actions.
- I think that people should be nicer to the environment and in order to do so I think we need to make a concerted effort to work together to achieve this!
- Promote the local economy – e.g. Local farms and other goods & services. This will improve our local economy, as well as reducing greenhouse gases from exportation.
- We need to get more serious about being "green", and get over this whole Alberta-beef-(expletive deleted). Raising meat is NOT environmentally friendly, and with the way that population is expanding, it is NOT sustainable as a source of food. Meat heads need to learn to eat their beans and greens, and realize that a steak carries more environmental impact than their jacked up F350.

Comments on Water Quality / Supply:

- Don't sell our water to the states. Don't run our rivers dry by letting oil and gas use it. I support walking and public transit. Anthony Henday should stick to fur trading, not being a highway.
- We need to work together and educate ourselves and our children today so that everyone can have a better future. We need to be very careful with our water and preserve it. The North Saskatchewan feeds more than just Edmonton.
- Water conservation in everyday tasks like watering your driveway, sweep instead.
- Water conservation, Canada wastes too much.
- The sewer smell downtown needs to be attended to.
- We do need the oil sands, and keep our water home (don't sell it to the states).
- Water will become of paramount importance in the coming years. Water sustains life; oil only sustains convenience.

- Reusing rain water - offer subsidies to set up household rain capture systems.
- Edmonton must also be a leader in conservation and management of the North Saskatchewan watershed. We know climate change is happening, and we know it is affecting water. Edmonton must step up in a big way, plan for environmental changes, and educate citizens on environmental changes and the sustainable lifestyle options being built in Edmonton.

Comments on Food Security:

- Promote back yard gardening.
- I think Edmonton has great potential but we need to focus on food security and our rate of growth.
- Focus on keeping local agriculture available so that we can reduce carbon emissions in transportation and are able to sustain ourselves affordably in the future.
- What gets missed with environmental planning is food production and consumption. This is an area which requires more attention and has sig. Environmental impact.
- Allow urban beekeeping and river city chickens. Promote vegetable gardening. Do not rezone the market gardens in the city outskirts for light industrial and housing. Allow basement suite in all residential areas. Do not falter in the closing of the city c
- Eliminate factory farms!
- The City needs to get their heads out of the sand and lead by example. Instead of getting rid of the garden/farming areas in Northeast Edmonton area, they should be promoting them as they are the only areas left around Edmonton. Promote smaller garden Agri/Horticulture farms that will be less harmful (pesticides etc.) on the Environment.
- I am not sure about food security since a much more effective program would favour a meat and dairy free diet (vegan). Also, focusing on "adaptation" can be easily misinterpreted as "don't do anything really radical as we can always adapt (not true, at least with only the minimal expense of mitigating carbon)."
- I think Edmonton should investigate transforming some of the more traditional green spaces (mowed grass with a few trees and other plants) into something based more on an "edible forest" permaculture model. By building sustainable, interdependent forest-style micro-systems using mainly edible plants, we could create lush and vibrant parks with excellent soil quality and a supplemental source of publicly available food. It would be difficult at first, but once such systems were established, they could be maintained with minimal resources.
- More gardens - encourage use of dormant land for food cultivation - offer credit on property tax for land owners who don\'t use it for parking and provide land at reasonable rates to urban gardeners/industrial growers (like the fellow in the north who supplied his own grocery store and couldn't afford to pay taxes.)
- Promote backyard composting, gardening, and food growing, with a focus on neighborhood gardens and donation options for excess food. Build communities and transit as one and the same, not afterthoughts of each other. Keep the momentum going on LRT and cycling. Work with the region to curb urban sprawl and promote infill,

density, and truly walkable, vibrant neighborhoods, where transit and cycling are ingrained in their design and DNA. Be bold and innovative in all areas of sustainable growth, like we have been in waste management.

- Edmonton's agricultural land in the northeast should be protected from ANY development whatsoever, as this land contains some of the best soil in Canada. No new industrial or residential should occur here as the land should remain agricultural in order to preserve this special gift!
- Food security needs to be linked to urban farming practices, not just preserving agricultural land. The City of Edmonton needs to be examined as a closed system - what are the inputs and outputs? How can we decrease inputs and outputs to be more sustainable?
- Instead of buying produce which has been shipped in from California, we should encourage citizens and supermarkets to buy locally or even better yet, promote community gardens and encourage our young people to get their hands dirty.
- Encourage urban agriculture and the locally sustainable production of food.
- Cluster farming in the communities.
- I live in Aspen Gardens. Moved in 16 years ago . . . many of our mature trees have died. We have been replacing, but many residents do not - need to promote re-planting!!, water conservation and food crops, like raspberries, etc.! I love Edmonton! Thanks so much for doing this!!!!
- Food security is an important issue, but there is no sense in protecting agricultural land if we don't protect the farmers. I don't know what the solutions will look like, but I do know that urban and rural communities need to work together to support each other. Water conservation is one part of a much larger need to have a watershed-scale management plan for our river. Water quality, ecosystem health, groundwater protection, and cumulative effects management need to be considered. Impacts of COE residents outside of the City limits also requires extensive education: anyone who goes to the West Country needs to realize that is our headwaters. Most City residents that I've spoken to don't realize our river is dammed. I'm very excited about our future, and I'm very thankful the COE has such innovative and progressive thinkers. I'm with you.
- No GMO feeds, use organic.
- Greater support for local produce over imported produce.

Comments on Biodiversity:

- I'd like to see less spraying in the parks, so less pesticides etc.
- Plant more trees. Broad leaf.
- Let's get wise, no pesticides, no toxins.
- The city needs stronger policies to prevent the loss of wetlands in and around the city and the city needs to enforce those policies. I advocate for a no loss of any natural wetland in Alberta.
- The city needs to incorporate more bird friendly buildings
- Promote the use of hemp, and legalize the medicinal use of cannabis.

- We should plant more trees in the boulevards and major road ways.
- More plant growth in the city to make streets pretty and encourage people to take care of them.
- Green Roof projects are urgently needed. We also need to promote more biodiversity by encouraging city gardening projects.
- Support the creation of green roofs in the city.
- Green spaces - vegetation within the city needs to be maintained.
- Could you review and release to the public the unacceptable cost of ecosystems of removing all of topsoil/old sod and importing topsoil from agricultural lands!!!

Comments on Urban Density / Built Form:

- I'm old school, keep things the way they are. The city the same size, don't build up or out.
- Strongly recommend for more density for downtown and matured neighborhoods where everything is within reach. Work live play. Encourage redevelopment of mature neighborhoods. Change current land use zoning to allow for more density.
- Less construction.
- Do not allow construction on houses on number one farmland or on the river banks.
- Urban sprawl requires extensive infrastructure that increases taxes.
- I think that green building should be made a policy i.e. windows in bathrooms so that you don’t need to use light switches.
- With density comes, population troubles as well as problems cleanliness but with proper systems and fail safes to ensure this wouldn't be a problem, as well as if expansion was not to affect local plant and or wildlife expansion should not be a problem.
- Strong impact of population density and our reliance on car for transportation.
- Increase taxes on suburban development. Implement a waste and consumption tax.
- Keep walkable amenities available to central city neighborhoods. E.g. Recreation and Scona pool, mix between small local businesses and residential so people can walk and bike to get their everyday tasks done.
- For example initiatives just as LEED are by large Activities that give the appearance of making a difference. But unfortunately it's just an exercise that gives an a…
- Stop urban sprawl. Stop ridiculous suburban mansions and allowing the destruction of already built neighborhoods. Promote urban gardens in all unused areas. Promote walkable communities, bike and transit.
- I would like to see less urban sprawl and more of Edmonton rising up. It also makes no sense that we are going to build a new arena and not an LRT that connects east and west and connecting the city together communities like Sherwood Park and St. Albert.
- Promotion of urban density by making older existing neighborhoods more palatable to families improved roadways repair sidewalks quit closing schools
- I think Edmonton is very poorly set up in terms of public transit and accessibility. We require the use of the personal automobile much more than cities like Vancouver and Toronto because our public transit systems aren't as extensive or as time efficient.

- Greater density is crucial not only for sustainability but also to promote cultural/social stimulation in the city. No more ugly developments/urban sprawl on farm land.
- I think it is essential to take a chance to build the city we want to live in--with bustling, walkable neighbourhoods that rival other Canadian cities. Density is so crucial--we have a beautiful city that is getting too big. Please limit expansion--the suburbs and big box stores that surround the city just help to promote the idea that we aren't a real city with a vibrant core. I can't wait to see the day when the transit system is so good that it makes more sense to take a bus or LRT than drive for most people.
- Need not only increased density but mixed use. Default zoning on major inner city traffic arteries (e.g. 124th street north side or 109th street south side should be multilevel (say 5 levels) with no minimum parking requirements and ground level businesses permitted. I.e. special zoning required to prevent ground level businesses rather than special zoning required to permit them.
- Stopping urban sprawl is likeliest the easiest way to reduce energy consumption for Edmonton.
- Stop giving developers permits to build swaths of new communities in the outer suburbs; this not only strains utilities but it encroaches on fertile farming land. It is time to put an end to our outward expansion, not everyone can live in the suburbs it just isn't sustainable.
- The city of Edmonton needs to become a leader at the municipal level. We can't sit around and wait for the Provincial government to take action. We need to make it easier for people to become more sustainable by using urban infill instead of expanding farther and farther into the countryside. Focusing on urban infill will allow us to put more of our budget towards transit instead of roads.
- I think oil is here for a while but we do not all need to use it all the time. We can cut automobile use before squeezing people into dense urban environments - as a people, we still like our space. Local shops and Local schools are important markers for neighbourhoods. School boards and city planners need to work together before our inner city becomes hollow.
- A cap on growth; this is how big we will be and after that option is only for better not even bigger
- I am very interested in co-housing options that substantially increase density by sharing facilities and create community. Most present high density housing in Edmonton, apartments & condos, have designs that discourage community by preventing daily incidental/non-intentional contact. By this I mean that there are no front windows on the street (hall ways and elevators) that allow residents to see the coming and going of their neighbours. Thus, a person can live in one of these condos or apartments for years and never see, let alone come to know, their next door neighbours. Part of "green" is community. Green involves relationships and sharing with neighbours. Housing designs can encourage or discourage relationship building. Blank hallways, opaque elevators and stairs, boxed in balconies, etc. discourage community and sharing. Visual contact and shared facilities encourage community and, because many households can use the same

facilities, energy consumption is less and community building occurs as an almost inevitable byproduct of that sharing.

- Stop expanding Edmonton! It's getting too big - a waste of gas to get around, and a waste of land. We definitely need to expand the LRT in all directions so we can get more cars off the road. I don't believe it's "just" the city's responsibility to teach citizens about sustainability - it should be taught at home, at school, in the workplace. Our environment - worldwide - is in a critical state so we need to teach, learn, and do all we can about sustainability.
- I truly believe the only way Edmonton will become a better, greener city is by greatly reducing urban sprawl! It never stops here! We just keep building and building out. We need to build up, not out. More density will create a better sense of community and will be more pedestrian friendly. Stop urban sprawl!
- With regards to the previous page, it makes very little sense to divide the survey into such particular development strategies when in fact they are all so interrelated. For example, if one takes the goal of protecting biodiversity, within that would be a requirement to reduce sprawl, increase infill development and be more reliant on environmentally friendly energy sources. Therefore it would be much more appropriate to take a more holistic approach when creating such surveys and concentrate on developing plans that allow individuals to make more eco-friendly lifestyle choices.
- Edmonton can no longer afford to let its planning be done by developers. There needs to be a major shift in attitude regarding density and how we build and plan this city. It is appalling how little mixed-use development has been built in this city.
- I think it's very important to keep in mind the social aspect of sustainability. The great thing about increasing urban density is that, done correctly, it can result in a vital, exciting city that is not only much more energy efficient, but a very pleasant, attractive, and human place to live.
- We need to include something about Development Vs Growth and something regarding Population growth
- The recent Municipal Development Plan is a serious misstep. Mandating that 75% of all new development shall happen on our City fringes mean higher increases in uses of all resources and escalating increases in property taxes.
- Failure to oppose upgrading plants in the greater Edmonton area will mean much higher pollution especially in the northern and eastern ends and edges of our City.
- Edmonton's focus needs to be on either reducing its urban sprawl or focusing on expanding its public transportation to meet the needs that are created through such development. Even the parking lots that are used to service transit stations are built in a manner that facilitates sprawl; parking lots are expanded outwards, rather than upwards. When land runs out, parking lot space runs out and individuals can no longer park at LRT stations, limiting the amount of transit users.
- Edmonton should study Stockholm, Sweden. They have a network of parks with walking and cycling paths which allows easy movement through the city without using roads. High density development borders the parks and nearby LRT stations include small strip

malls with grocery stores and other services allowing food to be picked up on the way home from work without needing to drive.

- The City of Edmonton needs to substantially focus more on in-fill development, and discourage growth in the suburbs. Although there\'s an argument to be made that Edmonton will lose property tax revenue because people who want to live in the suburbs will simply move to other municipalities, providing services/utilities to suburban neighborhoods is a money-loser. For these neighborhoods, we spend more in services than get back from property taxes.
- The city must stop the continued urban sprawl on its outer edges. Increased urban density serviced by alternative transportation is a must. Shifting away from fossil fuels to renewable power source is also very important to a sustainable future. Also, preserving farm land for local food production is much more important that economic growth and development.
- Building practices are incredibly wasteful, refurbishing/recycling/repurposing reconnecting people who need materials in conjunction with higher dumping fees to encourage recycling.
- I believe if we refurbished what we have instead of demolishing and rebuilding new that would be more cost-effect and use less resources.
- I believe in controlling municipal expansion with an Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), similar to one used in the state of Oregon. Although this would be a provincial legislation, Edmonton could be spearheading this idea to the rest of the province and its government.
- Consider alternate building methods, using sustainable practices - less toxic buildings, less waste, last much longer. Check out SIREWALL.com.
- I think it is a shame that Edmonton is sprawling. We have some of the most beautiful land in Canada and it is being gobbled up by housing developments (ie. SW Edmonton).
- To become more green, we need to have more green spaces with a focus on community gardens. There needs to be a lot more biking/walking trails - new developments (housing) need to emphasize walkability. In an urban setting, everyone should be able to walk to a grocery store, doctor's office, dentist, etc.
- Edmonton should put limits on house sizes and urban sprawl, much of Alberta's fertile soils have been lost to the Southern Edmonton housing developments.
- The City, other orders of government, boards and agencies need to cooperate and plan together to achieve desired results. For instance - City of Edmonton promoting urban density needs to consider how families access schools and other facilities. It seems like school boards are working against the City of Edmonton in attracting families to inner city neighborhoods by closing down schools in the very areas that are meant to attract families.
- In general I fully support any initiative that reduces urban sprawl and promotes urban densification in a thoughtful, community minded manner. I think there needs to be more support for family rec centers and new schools in the city core and surrounding neighbourhoods. This will eliminate the reasoning that all new schools and family centers

are built in the suburbs, so that\'s why young families move out there. Let's give them a reason to stay central.

- Outward expansion is hugely wasteful, both in the near term (requirement to build more roads, schools, etc) and in the long term (people driving further every day for the next 50 years). I hope the city will look at unorthodox ways to stop the huge urban sprawl problem this metropolitan area has, like toll roads for people who commute into the city. The key is to put a dollar figure to the currently unaccounted for costs.
- The sprawl that is happening is very disappointing to see when areas of this city can be revitalized and use existing infrastructure.
- Edmonton needs to take a lesson from others green cities (see: Seattle and Portland) and make some serious changes.
- Focus on developing a more "urban" form is critical in supporting a lifestyle in which people can live more sustainably without feeling as if they have sacrificed quality of life. High density, mixed use, and efficient, reliable transit are critical.
- In considering more density/better use of urban lands:
- keep schools in older communities, prioritize walkability, small-sized schools over industrial, farm-sized "super-schools".
- Blend usage in neighbourhoods, more, smaller outlets for all services, in order to increase walkability.
- Run down areas ought to be re-developed rather than expanding into agricultural lands or building in old school yards.
- Some facts:
    - Edmonton is one of the biggest (read: sprawling- 270 sq. mi.) cities in North America.
    - Chicago 228 sq. mi. San Francisco 46.7 sq. mi.
- Shifting focus from creating more endless, tasteless, emotionless suburbs to repairing the parts of the city that are central, but in need of repair or re-population will reduce dependencies on cars, etc. As well, this will foster a feeling of community, (something Edmonton LACKS) which will make people more apt to working together towards common goals.
- Minimal renovations are allowed to homes.
- One thing I don't understand is how central school closures is environmentally sound? If Downtown is a priority growth area, how will families live there without schools for their children? Especially if we want to make a value shift, and drive less...
- Edmonton is one of the largest cities in North America yet its population is relativity low compared to its size. This is unsustainable. We are destroying some of the best farmland at a time when overall global arable land is decreasing. The municipal airport and the U of A farm lands should be opened up for urban development and high density residential skyscrapers should be built. They should also be linked by LRT. This urban sprawl is not sustainable and when gas prices go through the roof in the next 20 years it will have to happen anyway. The City is always playing catch up. For once why doesn't the City get out in front of the trends and plan a new strategy that will be in line with future trends for the next 50 years.

- New greenfield development must have a reduced footprint for buildings and asphalt and concrete devoted to automobiles.
- It would be great if Edmonton Planning considered the planning to promote small business in residential areas to make a "walking city."
- A "MINIMUM" building density is required in the downtown area.
- The mature neighbourhood overlay should be scrapped to promote more intensive developments in the mature areas closer to universities and colleges and downtown.
- Good program, in terms of what is within the City's ability to impact, development policy, has the widest reach. E.g. once new suburban subdivisions are populated, it's hard to get people out of their cars - they need them by that point.
- The recent ten year plan released by the City showing that 70% of new growth will take place outside the city core is despicable. Greater density. More transit. Stop paving over valuable farm land. Stop letting downtown landowners become slum lords. No surface parking downtown.
- It is sad to see the "spread" of the city - it would be great to see extensions of public transit - Yay Edmonton, for the LRT development. If the city continues to spread, let's keep the LRT going, too!
- I think current facilities that allow users to access via walking, such as Scona Pool, should be maintained to promote a green lifestyle instead of using new resources and building a service farther away from the core and requiring automobile transportation to access.
- Housing is more expensive closer to the core. I think that if there were higher taxes for suburban living (maybe zones) it would off set the cost and make central living more affordable and discourage outward growth.
- The thing that concerns me most about Edmonton is our urban sprawl. We are one of the least dense cities in North America. Edmonton should focus on infill and high density development and promote public transit and other alternatives (walking, cycling) to reduce congestion on our roads.
- The City should work with the province to change the property tax system. Right now cheap properties on the fringes of the city receive preferential tax treatment, encouraging sprawl. Denser neighborhoods are much cheaper to service, so there should be significant tax advantages to higher density.
- I think that downtown will never be vibrant, if people don't live there. We really need to focus on stopping urban sprawl and make the city livable for pedestrians and cyclists.
- I would love to be able to say in 10 years that I stayed here because of the good choices and forward thinking of Edmonton's officials and planners. If bad decisions are made, I don't think I will be here long enough to say such things.
- In order for the plan to work we need a total commitment from city departments. There needs to be leadership and a zero tolerance for plans that do not fit into the plan. If this doesn't happen the plan won’t be worth the paper it's written on.
- Edmonton already has advanced waste management policy and systems. However, that wisdom has not transferred to much of the infrastructure. We seem to be expanding roads that really don't need it (we do not have traffic problems anywhere close to other

large urban centres), thus catering to the auto instead of using that funding for more transit. If you plan a city for cars, that's what you'll get. Our air is dirty from exhaust and nearby industry.

- There should be urban planning. We need higher density rather than destroying the farm land around Edmonton.
- Construction on white mud is taking too long.
- The further expansion of the city must stop.... It's getting ridiculous. We are building roads to sustain those expansion that are costing tax payer unnecessary money.
- Having too dense of a population is not good.
- Reducing the average person's dependence on automobiles and encouraging walkable neighborhoods, as well as cutting down on overdevelopment, would go a long way towards a sustainable city lifestyle. Protecting farmland and refusing to allow further urban expansion.
- Do not allow any further building anywhere in the river valley. Use buses that use other fuels than diesel or gas.
- I think that the city needs to develop more plans and strategies for becoming green and start going into the suburban areas and really stressing lifestyle change to those areas because they're primarily the ones who seem to waste the most energy.

Comments on Energy use:

- Focus on using less energy all together!
- The lights that are always on in the downtown core
- Green energy is the future and great way to preserve the environment.
- Look at green roofing and solar power, continue to preserve green space in Edmonton, and continue education of environmental issues as well as alternative ways to live in order to achieve sustainability.
- Using the energy of the gravitational pull and rotation of the earth. Using magnetic forces are the only true recyclable energy sources. Nuclear, solar, wind and even water affect the environment and leave waste.
- Some possible methods would be passing a bylaw to remove the standby phase of electronic equipment and transporting
- I think a pay as you go power meters will help people understand how they consume energy, and will teach people about their use of energy.
- Edmontonians should consider using a pay as you go energy meter so they can become more in touch with the amount of power they use and begin to change there lifestyles
- Push for energy efficient bulbs.
- Understand that in order to transfer effectively to alternate sources of energy, we must start immediately to negotiate with the current energy industry, to encourage their participation in the transfer and in the future.
- We should try to use less energy in our homes and try to go energy efficient.
- Teach kids about green power.

- Incentives for homes to become more green especially the retrofitting of older homes. It's too expensive for most people.
- Geo-thermal options.
- Use burn-off from oil companies to produce electricity.
- Further development of Edmonton's infrastructure towards utilization of renewable energy sources is a very good thing.
- Subsidize or give some economic incentive for homeowners and apt owners to invest in retrofitting their homes and buildings with sustainable energy and water infrastructure
- To have the oil sands project be left alone. The way most companies are drilling for oil is environmentally friendly. It is steam injection and all that is being sent into the ground is clean water / steam. Thank you
- No nuclear!
- Hydro energy.
- Near-immediate changes are possible, including, reductions in street and other outdoor lighting; indoor lighting off after hours by law; better public transit; tree planting adjacent to major roads (e.g. Henday) reduced speed limits in selected areas; changes to building codes to require better insulation and efficient systems.
- While I'm happy to reduce my energy footprint, I want this to be SHARED – by regulation or rationing, e.g. I don't feel like being the only one bailing out a leaky boat while others make no effort.
- Another key issue is where we get our electricity from. Alberta is one of the highest emitters of carbon and toxins because we get most of our electricity (70%) from coal. I am willing to pay more (and I do, I pay for Bullfrog power) for my electricity if it came from cleaner sources.
- Prepare for electric cars, enhance commuter bike lanes, move away from Coal generated electricity- perhaps natural gas co-gen plants, have new neighbourhoods development more efficient-net zero). Provide education on energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.
- I think the two most important issues are water and energy. I think that Edmonton has a great waste water treatment plan but we could go even further. I have heard about a debate to changing building codes to allow individual buildings to have their own treatment process; that is a change that I am in support of.
- Edmontonians care about the environment, in many cases they simply need to be supported, activated and encouraged. For example a demonstration project, such as Enmax's solar roofs program that is coming is excellent because it should result in 1,000 small solar systems that will get citizens involved, make them feel empowered and lead to all sorts of good, positive actions.
- The City of Edmonton needs to change bylaws/restrictions immediately on solar and wind turbine installations to allow businesses and residential homeowners to convert and offer subsides/grants due to the high current costs.
- Promote solar energy - Edmonton has lots of sunshine after all.

- Incentives for business to install solar or small scale wind generation at they are the peak users of daytime electricity and will not be affected by aesthetic problems that may be an issue in residential areas.
- Wind and solar power generation - wind generators do not have to be multi-bladed. Permit use of vertical tunnel wind generators within city limits.
- If we want to take a proactive approach to being green and sustainability then we need to invest in forward-thinking technologies. A lot of the previous questions focused on how to build new and/or better things. In taking this approach we need to hold companies accountable as well. I.e. Award contracts to organizations who make less of an environmental impact in the construction process, and who utilize Edmonton's labour force. If it comes to food then promote organic farming and farmers from in and around Edmonton etc. Don't just hire the same companies and organizations to construct things that should (in theory) provide 'green' rewards in the end.
- Besides renewable resources, what about finding new options at a LESS EXPENSIVE cost like solar or wind power.
- Promote solar energy, hold contests for developing viable solar technology. Put Edmonton on the map for the new solar economy, build a new energy dynasty that will enrich Alberta for decades and make us an example to the world.
- Would love if producing solar energy so that personal homes could use their own solar energy first and rely on power companies second (exp. solar panels on a roof) ... would love if accessing underground heat for homes & water heating would become affordable... one time investment by home owners.. These 2 green ideas could be a mortgaged product and instead of paying companies to produce these we would buy the equipment to produce our own....
- I feel a complete internal audit should also be done to find ways for the City to lead by example. For instance, I commute to work through the River Valley. I often see City vehicles idling while work is completed adjacent to the vehicle - i.e. the Graffiti Van. I understand that some vehicles need to idle to power tools, but not all vehicles.
- To attain environmental sustainability, the City should work and give due attention to the wide utilization of renewable tech. and climate change mitigation measures.
- Incentives to use energy efficient appliances.
- Green lighting in all Alberta Government buildings - no more fluorescent.
- I think it's important for the City of Edmonton to model what citizens should do, for example, installing geothermal heating and solar panels. Another example, reducing the amount of waste it generates as a business and only using caterers that use locally grown produce.
- Windmills everywhere - Starting with all government buildings - solar panel roofing.
- I strongly believe energy efficient travel and renewable energy sources could play a more valuable role in Edmonton.
- We should look at promoting energy efficiency in transportation and buildings. Promote the use of renewable energy and maintain farmland in the Northeast.
    - Incentives for homeowners for installing low-flow toilets

- I believe that we need to promote more off-the-grid houses that use solar power. We need to reduce our dependence on personal automobiles and increase our use of public transportation. We need a more vibrant downtown so that people can live within walking distance of their workplace and not rely on vehicles. We need to discourage the waste of our society - our over excessive use of water, and vast amounts of food. We need to promote natural landscaping both commercially and residentially - choosing grasses and trees that don't require vast amounts of energy and resources to stay green. We need to be proactive in cleaner power sources, such as nuclear reactors. We need to improve buildings to use fewer resources (as in MacEwan, have the toilets run off of rainwater/snowmelt from the roof).

Comments on Transportation:

- Further expansion of the LRT in all directions and to the airport
- Increase taxes on petroleum.
- Improve ETS. The bus system in this city is terrible. I can bike to a destination across the city in less than half the time a bus would take.
- Safer more efficient ways to travel on a bike.
- Focus on LRT over a long term. A great transit system takes decades, don't take shortcuts and build a sub standard system. Look to Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver.
- Getting people out of their cars is all well and good but it needs to be affordable for all families not just middle class but all families.
- Hybrid busses. All busses!!
- Increase bus routes to industrial fringes where economical.
- Give rebates to people driving hybrid vehicles.
- Biking. Cars with no gas
- Walking. Biking
- Please increase funding for active transportation and seriously consider food security issues, thank you
- Please plan and build more bike paths to make it easier for cyclists to use
- Lower prices for transit
- Better, safer, and more practical bicycle routes. Rather than having cyclists brave traffic increase bicycle lanes in more areas in Edmonton. The trails are a nice scenic ride but for everyday commuting they are very impractical and not time efficient.
- Keep extending the LRT
- Widen the roads inside the city for more room for cars, especially 127 st. If we expand then we’d have less traffic. I support renewable energy as long as it's reliable. The streets are meant for cars and bicycles are in danger on the road.
- Edmonton is too dependent on driving. Need to increase public transit options before public will start to use.
- Expand city transit and build bike lanes. Look at Sherwood Park for recycle and waste management

- Transit needs to improve a lot! Need more bike friendly paths, not just in the river valley. Need them to go to business areas for people commuting to work. Traffic needs to start moving faster during rush hour.
- If they were to decrease bus fares they would increase ridership. I am so often riding buses which are empty. There really ought to be more free zones. Downtown for example. Fewer cars downtown from 9 to 5. I have a daughter and am low income.
- More public transit and less parking downtown
- LRT to international airport and Leduc.
- Dependence on personal vehicles is my biggest concern right now. Partially it is due to the inconvenience to take public transportation such as expensive monthly pass, not enough routes on LRT, as well as not enough bike lanes.
- Introduce local taxes on trucks, SUVs. More secured parking for bikes, More bike lanes.
- I'm proud to live in a city as progressive in Edmonton and love the expansion of the LRT
- Public transit needs to be a focus. Inexpensive transport especially. The shuttle to the airport is a must. Greater urban density is something we need to encourage.
- Good job on the recycling program and the expansion of the LRT.
- expand LRT on a fast track/no more debate - DO IT!
- We require bike commuter lanes and better public transit accessibility.
- Reduce the cost of public transit. All ETS should be at no cost during large city events such as Oilers games to further promote and ingrain the idea of using transit. Improve the quality of the public transit, i.e. busses that sell like vomit.
- The city has BLOWN a chance by NOT PROVIDING park-and-ride facilities with sufficient future parking expansion at the newest and current LRT sites, and SCRAPPING the N.E. LRT expansion in a growing area that because of lack of facilities puts even MORE VEHICLES on the roads. The city planners are all just JPL Rocket scientists.
- Very happy with general increase in use of LRT. Transit has to be convenient to be usable, so the more we can make bussing and LRT and cycling (protected lanes!!) a feasible option, the more people will use them.
- Major changes should be done to promote cycling and other alternative public transportation methods with low impact. Alternative sources of energy can fuel some of this transportation. Convenience is the key so in order to make public transportation appealing to people it has to be reliable, networked and frequent. Safe cycling lanes should be installed, preferably with raised barriers between car and bicycle traffic. How come Europe\'s most efficient public transportation are electric based and Edmonton dropped its trolley service? Street level trams can be a lower impact solution for already established neighborhoods. Edmonton has to become a people's city and not a 'car's city' but because it's so sprawled major investments should be made in transportation and walkable (green) sidewalks.
- LRT expansion (underground) is key. I drive downtown from Millwoods everyday. If the LRT was more accessible I would definitely switch. Also - we need to have recycling bins in office buildings. I work in Manulife place and there is no recycling program. It's disgusting.

- Continued LRT expansion, ECCA closure are vital to making Edmonton sustainable.
- It's great to see public consultation on this. I believe Edmonton is ready to become a truly sustainable city. I.e.: recent LRT expansion saw significant number of commuters choosing to take public transit instead of driving. We are ready to change our lifestyles, but need viable alternatives in place in order to make changes.
- It does not make sense for me to take public transit if it takes 2 hours more than driving my own vehicle. If you can change this, I will switch to public transit.
- I think more high-rises coupled with an efficient transit system will allow us to focus our resources on the land we occupy and make it efficient
- We need bike lanes on the road so more people can feel comfortable using cycling as a way of everyday transportation.
- I feel that City of Edmonton needs to pay immediate attention to promoting energy-efficient travel options (e.g. public transit, cycling or walking. As a bicycle commuter in the downtown core I would like to see bike travel corridors in addition to enforcement of existing bike routes.
- Focus on concrete local goals: consume less of everything, build more LRT, prepare for major changes in the world.
- As the city grows, our movement within the city must change too. The current focus on personal vehicles does not have a sustainable future in a 1 million+ person city. Cycling paths and lanes, high density housing around major public transit hubs and a promise to build only high energy efficient rated buildings in future. Road tolls for those choosing to utilize the roadway, or incentives for those that do not own a vehicle might be in order as well
- Keep extending the LRT, put cycle lanes on all major roads, introduce bus lanes, run all buses on 15 minutes intervals, charge higher parking fees, stop development of new subdivisions, fine people for idling cars especially in winter,
- I moved to Edmonton 45 years ago. In my 20's there was talk of rapid transit as a priority. In my opinion it is shameful that this issue has been driven by politics and not city management. This one thing alone must be top priority for city management. Bike paths are nice but it gets pretty cold here so let’s not focus on them. Rapid transit to the international airport must be another top priority. Please take these important items off the campaign trail and get to work managing the city’s infrastructure to accommodate public/rapid transit.
- From a transport point of view Edmonton should improve the efficiency of the transit system. The current transit system is very inefficient with busses on similar routes running in simultaneous time slots with long periods, half an hour, between time slots. Staggering busses on similar routes would allow those willing to walk a few blocks flexibility in time while still allowing those, such as the elderly, routes that have the minimum amount of walking. Ideally individual neighbourhoods should have a shuttle bus that travels just that local neighbourhood dropping passengers at a central point in that neighborhood for area busses to nearby major centers and then express bus or LRT between major centers.

- The traffic light system should also be overhauled to make a smart system. Synchronized lights could reduce the amount of stop and go traffic to reduce emissions as well as allowing prioritized lights for buses.
- I think the biggest environmental challenge Edmontonians face is that it is very difficult to live without a car here. I was able to do it for a year, only because I lived downtown, but now I need a personal vehicle for work anyways. There is way too much sprawl and everything is so spread apart that even though I think our public transit is decent, living without a car is a huge inconvenience. Add that to environmental cost of heating our homes 8+ months of the year and it is very, very difficult to feel like I'm living sustainably here. A part of me wants to move away just for that reason. So I would 100% support any efforts to decrease Edmontonians' dependence on their cars. Speed up the expansion of the LRT, double or triple the number of bike paths, curb expansion on the outskirts of the city and invest more money into the core area.
- I think a priority should be put on having the LRT powered by clean energy instead of coal. Also, I'm hoping the investments the city is making in solar energy are successful and expanded in the future. Thanks for having this survey as a form of public engagement!
- Bicycle parking downtown! Scooter & Motorcycle parking at 1/6 cost of car parking at NUMEROUS locations. Perhaps a sidewalk sharing zone for scooter users to park. If they don't obstruct or interfere with pedestrian traffic.
- Please, please, please, please improve bicycle infrastructure. I want to ride my bike on the road and not fear for my life. 100th Ave downtown needs a bicycle lane.
- I am new to Edmonton and find it really difficult to get around town without a car. Transit is ok, and I like the ETS website, but I feel really unsafe after dark.
- Make bike lanes.
- Putting in bus routes for the sake of bus routes won't help if people can't get to work or other activities they have to do. For example I am 3 doors away from a new bus stop and the bus doesn't connect with any buses going past my work place which is straight up the road about 5 or 6 miles! And the bus only runs for early rush hour times so I can't get groceries or other shopping done either! Bike routes need to be more than just recreational routes - we need direct routes to work and shopping with safe places to leave the bikes - even in a northern city like Edmonton, 4 or 5 months out of a year on a bike is better than driving a car 12 months a year.
- We need small, self contained communities where walking and bicycling are promoted and all essential and most non essential needs are within close proximity to your living domicile.
- Edmonton is really bike unfriendly and has poor transit routes from the Northwest to downtown. I wish that would change soon.
- We are from out of town and tried to take transit to the zoo today. We couldn't because transit doesn't come here or so we were told by the transit phone line, anyway.
- bike paths and bike parking in cities.
- Dedicated bike trails with more bike racks downtown.

- I live in the suburbs (Rutherford) and I think sustainable living is possible with the introduction of the LRT extension to Century Park. Kudos to the City for that! However, South Edmonton Common makes me cringe - it should have been made into a mall with public transit access. My husband and I have driven there and tried to walk from store to store - not only is that difficult due to lack of walkways, but aggressive drivers honked at us for being on the road. A concept like South Edmonton Common is the complete opposite of environment sustainability! ☹
- Edmontonians love their vehicles. Attitudes must change - increase parking fees, increase gasoline costs, give incentives to take public transit. Raise taxes in outlying areas - reduce taxes in downtown and adjacent areas.
- I walk, bike or take ETS to get to work. I strongly believe we need better, safer and more extensive bike trails and sidewalks. There are some areas of the city where it is very difficult to get around by foot, due to no sidewalks and no crosswalks for busy roads.
- I believe this is a good initiative by the City of Edmonton. It's a step in the right direction; however, I am concerned how these policies will be implemented. We are blind of stubborn. I believe we have a BEAUTIFUL River Valley Park system. The envy of North America, and we should make sustaining the river valley ecosystem a top priority so our children can reap the benefits for generations. to come. I also believe more should be done to encourage the use of public transit. This will reduce our carbon footprint greatly. Thank you for giving me the chance to voice my opinion. I look forward to seeing a greener Edmonton.
- Please emphasize the importance of carpooling. Please find ways to ensure reduction of consumption of all natural resources. Ask a First Nations person, as example of how they respected and gave thanks to "Mother Earth".
- Further expand the LRT.
- Carpool lanes on freeways
- Make transit more "friendly," cost accessible options; better connections, bus drivers to announce upcoming stops, take off "ads" on bus windows, as it makes it hard for the rider to see outside where they are going.
- Although educating the public is important, it is pointless without leadership and action. The city needs to lead the way by DOING, not just talking – e.g. our transit system has improved substantially. There is no reason that most Aldermen can't use it instead of their cars. Using transit should be mandatory 5 days a month for them to get to work.
- The City needs more public transportation that will promote less auto usage. As well as use more renewable resources, such as solar panels on buildings, and to use more green technologies and tools.
- Changing our infrastructure to promote more public transportation is very important. I think developing our LRT system is of utmost importance.
- Get a better transit system so more people take the bus. Make it more convenient - currently an unpleasant experience.
- The City should be leading by example with its own projects. For example, the new LRT lines should not be paved the entire way - but should have grassed R-O-W's. Also the City busses should not be idling when they are stopped for more than a couple of

minutes. There are many other such things that the City should be doing in leading the way to a greener city.

- City should look at green transport alternatives such as Segways.
- Improved access to public transportation with better routes - especially to outer areas.
- Expand the public transit system including LRT expansion and public transport to the International Airport.
- Improve public transportation - at this point, I live close to work, but can't get the connection to take the bus, as it takes 6 minutes by car, but 3 busses - how does that work? I'd rather take the bus, as I live near the LRT and have a bus stop right by my job site and a few feet from my door step. It's sad!
- Better LRT system would reduce need for cars
- Promote transit use by allowing people to travel to/from special events/festivals for reduced (some free?) rates – e.g. $1/loonie/toonie fare
- Better mass transit LRT and buses
- All aspects of a project should be examined for their effects on the environment. For example when building LRT consider the amount of cars idling at crossings, the emissions emitted at the power plant used to run the LRT, and the costs to operate the new LRT before calling it a sustainable project.
    - continue to expand ETS
    - Longer LRT/Bus hours
    - less expansion and focus more on downtown/ other urban areas (housing/shops)
- I like that new roads take into consideration bikers and would like to see existing roads, like Whyte Ave have a bike lane.
- I think that with Edmonton being cold, people rely on cars more (I am one of them) but if we had a denser population, and extended our pedway system outward from the down town core, it would be easier in our climate to be less reliant on cars.
- I would like to see more LRT extension, core of old Strathcona, West Edmonton Mall etc. As a driver I think the LRT should come before cars, if ETS was easier, more accessible, more reliable I would love to use it!!!
- MAKE TRANSIT MORE USABLE - it must run LATER and it must run MORE FREQUENTLY - LRT works because it does those two things. I love taking the bus when it goes every 15 minutes and doesn't require a billion transfers. I won\'t take it when it goes to dumb frequency, which it does after 6 pm in many cases.
- While I had to pick my top 3 options I would also like to point out that “reduce dependence on personal vehicle" really is an umbrella that covers reducing urban sprawl, better transit and several other areas. I am extremely pleased that such surveys are being conducted in such an open public way.
- I believe that the city must continue to promote walkability, rather than continue to expand outward and make transport more difficult. One good current example that one can look at is Scona pool, which is located in the heart of Queen Alex. The residents of various community leagues can easily arrive at Scona pool on foot, which is a strong example of sustainability.

- Dedicate 3% of capital budget for bicycle infrastructure; enable residents to put excess solar energy back to grid and turn back power meters; set high goals aligned with livability to affect enviro change such as "do what it takes to make River water drinkable again.

- Public transportation has to be substantially improved before you can convince people they don't need a car. Increase price of parking downtown to make public transport more desirable.
- I think that we should have routes that are similar to the ones for busses, except for bikes.
- We need more bike routes.
- Please continue to expand the LRT.
- Rather than reduce dependence on individual vehicles, provide electric vehicle options.
- Transit system should be improved. Transit is not always convenient for people living at the cities edge. This improvement should be made soon. People would use it now. Make transit affordable and personal automobiles unaffordable.
- Make public transit free and 24hrs a day
- Improve public transit, make it 24 hours.
- I think we should stop all the construction. It delays traffic and leaves cars idling for longer then they should.
- Transit options to the airport or Leduc area.
- The whole fact of the personal transportation needs to change. More awareness to the public. As for that, you are doing great things and great things will come out of it.
- Run a train between here and Calgary.
- More bike and walking paths would increase health and decrease traffic on the roads.

Comments on City Centre Airport:

- Not happy with city councils position on airport lands.
- By saying that I support greater urban density I do not mean that I support closing the municipal airport. I believe it should stay open.
- Use already vacant land downtown before working to close City Centre Airport for development.
- City wide and regional LRT expansion. Development of ECCA land- densify the city centre. Rebates to change to solar power.
- Hope now that the ECCA is a dead issue, the city can focus on turning the area into a model of sustainability.
- The land which contains the city centre airport should soon contain a new transit line, and a green community to promote urban density. This should be the cities priorities, and the community should be developed sooner than 2024. The city should also promote biking better than it currently does. Current bike paths should be maintained, and additional paved trails developed that connect all areas of the city. An ad campaign should also probably occur which promotes biking trails and informs citizens of where they're located.

- Edmonton's Airport lands redevelopment can showcase a model of sustainable urban development that leads the world. The City must invest in this important showcase.
- Redevelop the City Centre Airport into a community based environment, creating housing and recreational centres.
- Redevelop municipal airport as a new town to off-set potential/reduce market for relentless greenfield suburban edge sprawl.

Comments on Waste Management:

- Have more clean-up programs for the river valley
- Recycle more
- I would like to see more commercials on TV showing our kids to avoid wasting food.
- Increase awareness and promote the importance of recycling
- Scrap the recycling program.
- Even though we have a great waste management system, I think one like Sherwood Park or San Francisco would be more effective especially with compost and recycling. I also think rain barrels and water conservation systems would be better.
- Recycle more. For ever garbage bin put a recycle bin next to it.
- Have more recycling options for the residents in the city and out-lying areas
- Charge people for plastic bags
- Teach people how to recycle properly
- Place paper recycle bins beside paper boxes, especially free papers like metro. Plastic recycle bins beside every city garbage can. Cheaper bus rates would help as well.
- Push recycling
- Public compost collection,
- Promote the reduction of personal consumption. Examples include a reduction in wasted food, personal clothing etc.
- More trash cans promote recycling and maintain green spaces, parks and river valley
- More trash cans
- The city should provide transportation or a pick up service for such things as an Eco station. Some residents of Edmonton, or Alberta as a whole do not have a vehicle to use these types of resources, and simply use the garbage to dispose of reusable things.
- Need tougher laws on recycling.
- Recycle all vehicles that are '95 and older!
- Have recyclable bins at community events, not just for bottles.
- Have a green box program that uses household kitchen waste turned into composite. i.e. One similar to Halifax N.S. That has had this initiative for a decade or more
- Before worrying about making big changes, work on the little ones that you can actually change right now. E.g. Pick up the garbage in the city. The storm water system for cleaning the water before it hits the water is far too expensive. Instead store it
- Also impose a tax/bylaw on excessive packaging. You will make money off of people who make/consume excessively.

- We are from Ontario, and there is a very progressive food (green bin) recycling program in place. Regular garbage is only picked up every other week - and bigger garbage containers are allowed by the curbside.
- I think that we have evolved into a consumable and disposable society and that is what is really killing our planet. To counter act this we need to start consuming less, find ways to consume more efficiently and get back to the land.
- We NEED to recycle styrofoam or ban it from the City. We promote that we are one of the best recycle facilities in North America and yet we don't even recycle styrofoam, which can be recycled.
- I don't think I personally will give up my car, but I support quicker commutes with Park 'n Ride or easier transport between building downtown and the greater downtown area. I think we do a lot as a city in solid waste management and water management. I think more could be done with air quality, but that is more Provincial jurisdiction.
- Management of electronic waste is a priority - the waste treatment plant at Goldbar is CRUCIAL and increased awareness of toxicity of electronics.
- The City of Edmonton should try and find ways to prevent Edmontonians from throwing their personal items and garbage off cliffs or the sides of the river into the water.
- Reduce, reuse, recycle.
- More sharing station where citizens can trade goods they no longer need and promotion of this program could reduce garbage accumulation

Suggestions / Broad Comments:

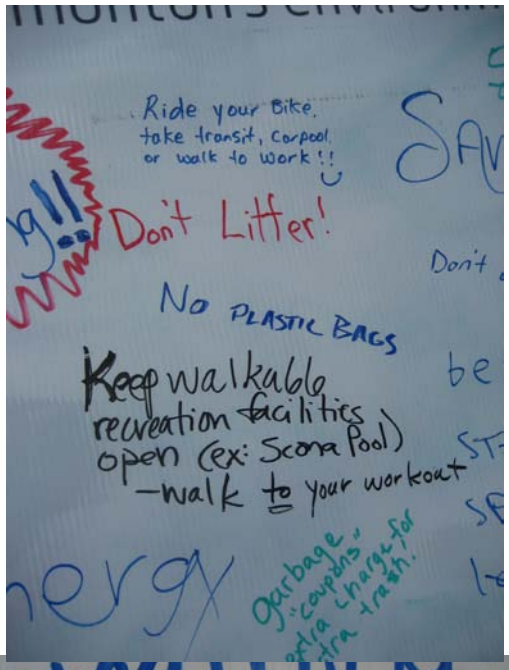
- I think the city has to provide incentives for citizens to adopt new green habits such as low flush toilets and energy efficiencies. We must start to plan now for what needs to be done for the future. I am encouraged that the city is planning more LRT.
- Vladmir Megre's “The Ringing Cedars of Russia.”
  - 1. Industrial ecology
  - 2. Electrified transportation
  - 3. Permaculture
  - 4. Net zero energy buildings
- The Triple Bottom Line should be applied to all City projects, and projects should be developed in the greenest ways possible. For example, LRT is arguably green in and of itself, but the way it is designed could significantly impact how green it really is. For example, will the entire r-o-w be paved or will some of it be grassed as per LID principles?
- Most of these issues are related, so if the city tries to do one, the other issues will also be partly addressed.
- From the previous page, all items are interconnected. We need to start working on things with an understanding of connections and be willing to consider inter-relationships and uncertainty. Energy efficiency of buildings, for instance, is not enough by itself. I want to pick "human survival" and "minimizing the suffering for all creatures" as my main priorities, and not just one of the bits that might contribute to this.

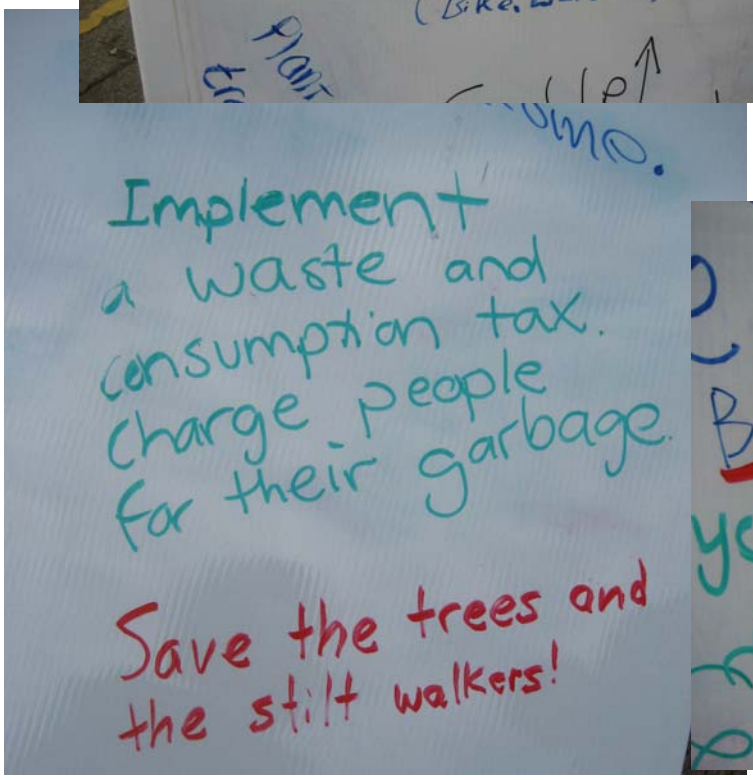
- Apart from the last question which actually ranked the priorities, don't you think you will have very similar responses to all these questions?
- The City of Edmonton, for example, would benefit greatly from electoral reform. I support affirmative action to ensure that the city councilors are elected proportionally based on gender, race / visible minority, and age. Right now, our city council is relatively old, male and Caucasian, and the decisions they make tend reflect the interests of rich developers and of capital. Their electoral campaign budgets are not sufficiently transparent or restrained. We should also extend the voting age to youth 16 years and up: If youth they are old enough to drive cars, taking their own lives and those of others into their hands, they are old enough to know what is best for them and make decisions about who to vote for. Arguments against this tend to sound quite similar to the reasons given by people in previous decades against female suffrage. There is a real crisis in democracy right now, with declining proportions of people voting and, more importantly, getting involved in their communities; youth especially are disenchanted by politics, and extending the voting age along with proactive regulations to guarantee the city council has a balanced number of women and ethnic minorities in council will help strengthen democracy - a prerequisite for implementing environmental changes.
- To protect our natural environment, at the same time as building a more just and harmonious society, we need to change our social, political and economic systems.
- I feel strongly about Edmonton becoming a leader in sustainability. More money should be given to upgrading transit, building sustainable schools, community centres, etc., retrofitting existing buildings. If you haven\'t already, I strongly urge all of you to read "The Ecology of Commerce" or "Natural Capitalism" by Paul Hawken.
- It is time to get radical. We have been debating climate change and sustainability for nearly 20 years now, going back and forth in arguments and only tip toeing towards progress. In fact the overall direction Alberta is following is becoming less sustainable overtime. We need to act fast and make some serious changes
- Our environment minister should NOT be promoting the tarsands. I'm willing to makes changes, stand up and fight, I hope the city of Edmonton is willing to do the same.
- Provide more community shared garden space and composting stations. Provide free recycling containers to each household.
- Please note that to me, all the items in #5 are interrelated and therefore hard to rank. E.g. Biodiversity is connected to food security and water conservation. Renewable energy is connected to "reduced consumption of all natural resources." etc.
- Some concrete suggestions, in addition to #1 ranked item in question #5:
- -no more pesticides in city parks & lawns
- -no more road salts (sand instead)
- -bus services to airport (scandalous that we don't have it!!)
- -Anti-Idling Bylaw.
- A statement by the International Community to the First Session of the Preparatory Committee of the World Summit on Sustainable Development:
- New York, U.S.A.
    - 30 April -2 May, 2001

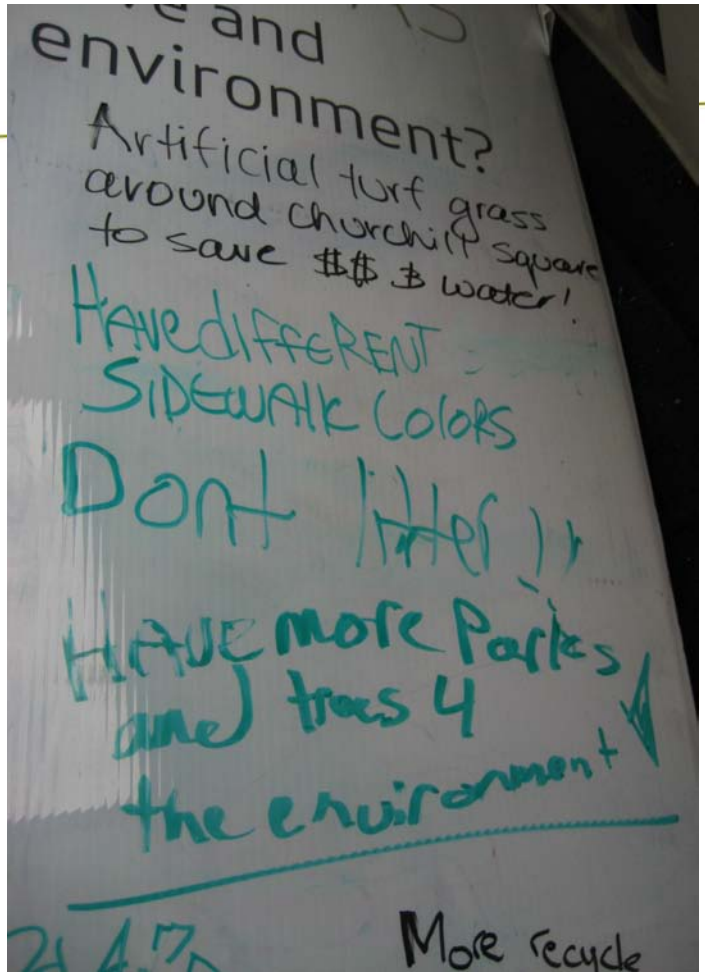
- Some nine years ago, over the course of the Earth Summit process, the governments of the world, with significant contributions from global civil society, crafted Agenda 21, a remarkably forward-looking strategy for the achievement of sustainable development world wide.
- Some nine years later, the work of determining the next steps in the evolution of Agenda 21 has been placed upon the shoulders of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The Summit has been called to "identify major constraints hindering the implementation of Agenda 21" and to "address new challenges and opportunities that have emerged since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development." It is in identifying these major constraints, challenges and opportunities that the Summit's Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) must necessarily come face to face with spiritual issues.
- No matter how far the material world advances, Writings state, it cannot establish the happiness of mankind. Only when material and spiritual civilization are linked and coordinated will happiness be assured. For in material civilization good and evil advance together and maintain the same pace.
- more: http://bic.org/statements-and-reports/bic-statements/01-0430.htm

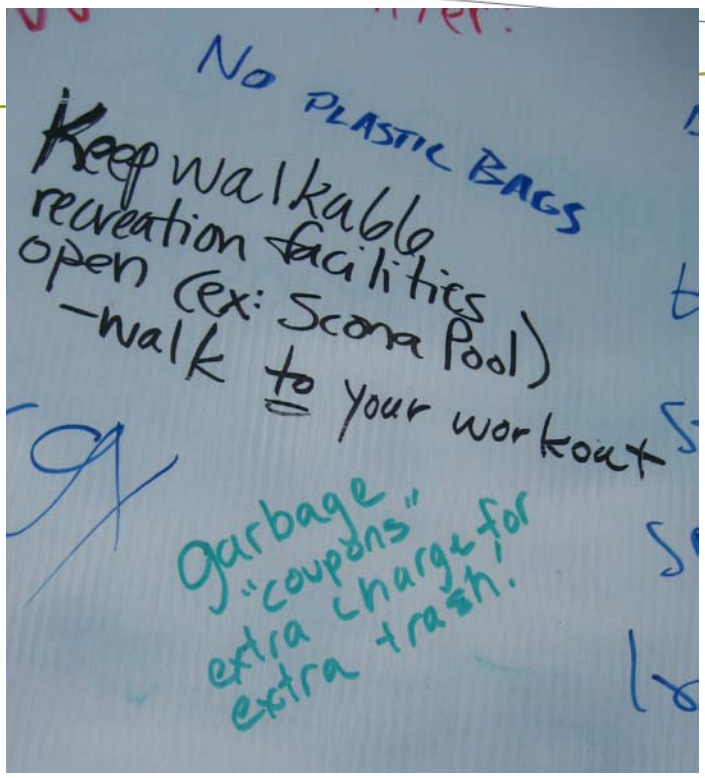
Appendix C: Display Comments

The TTWG displays taken to festivals and events were designed so that citizens could record their thoughts about environmental actions that are important to them. The following pages contain snapshots of all comments made throughout the month.

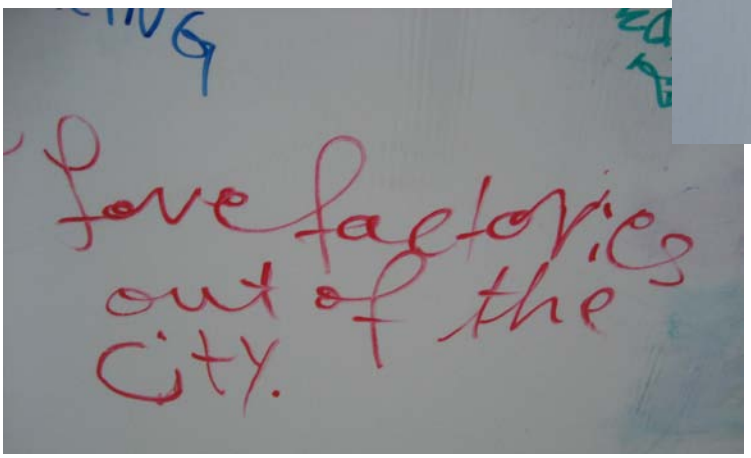


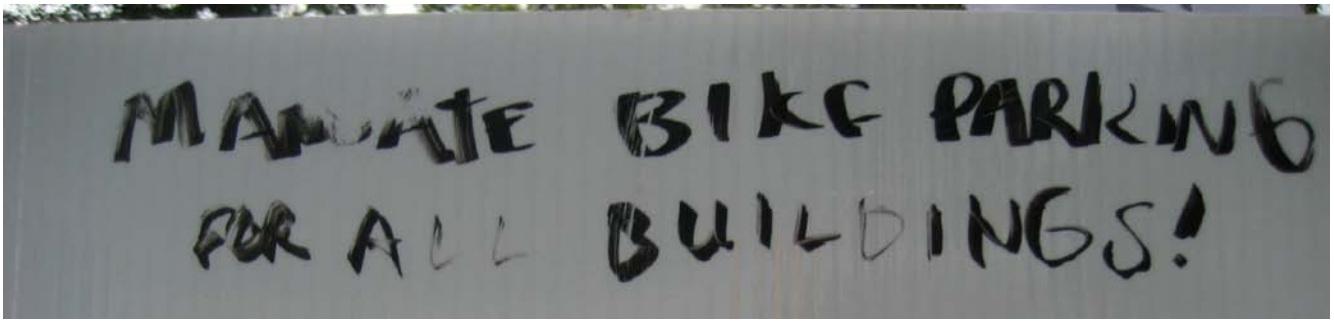


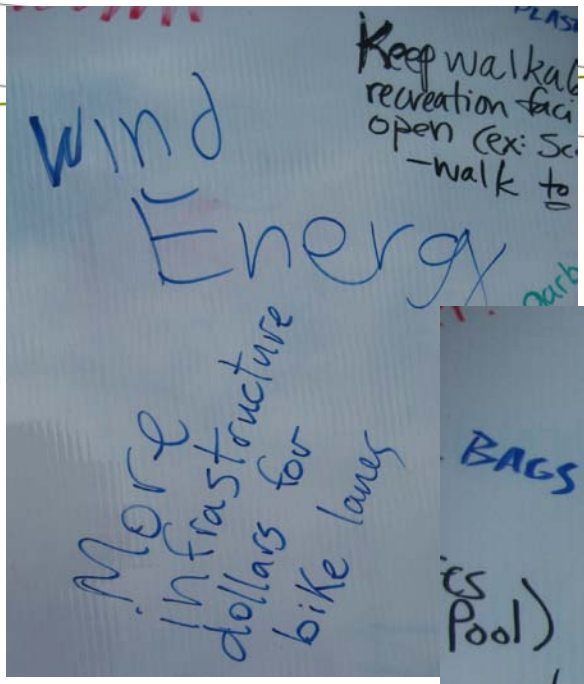

and
environment?
Artificial turf grass around Churchill square to save $$$ water!
HAVE DIFFERENT SIDEWALK COLORS
Dont litter!!
HAVE more Parks and trees 4 the environment
More recycle

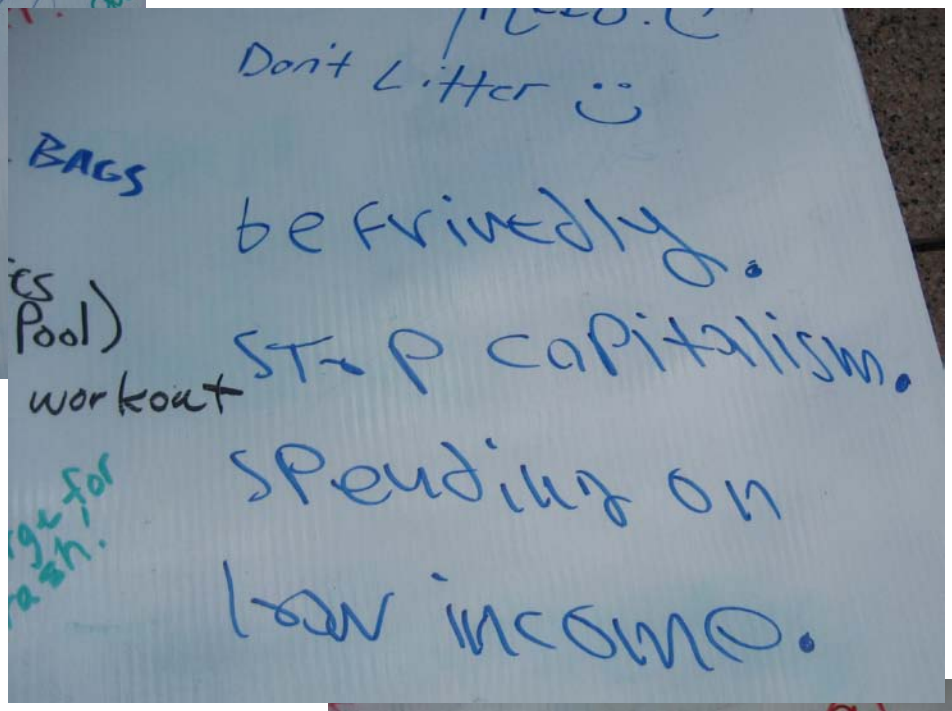

No PLASTIC BAGS
Keep walkable recreation facilities open (ex: Scona Pool)
-walk to your workout
garbage "coupons" extra charge for extra trash!

Waste less
Compost!

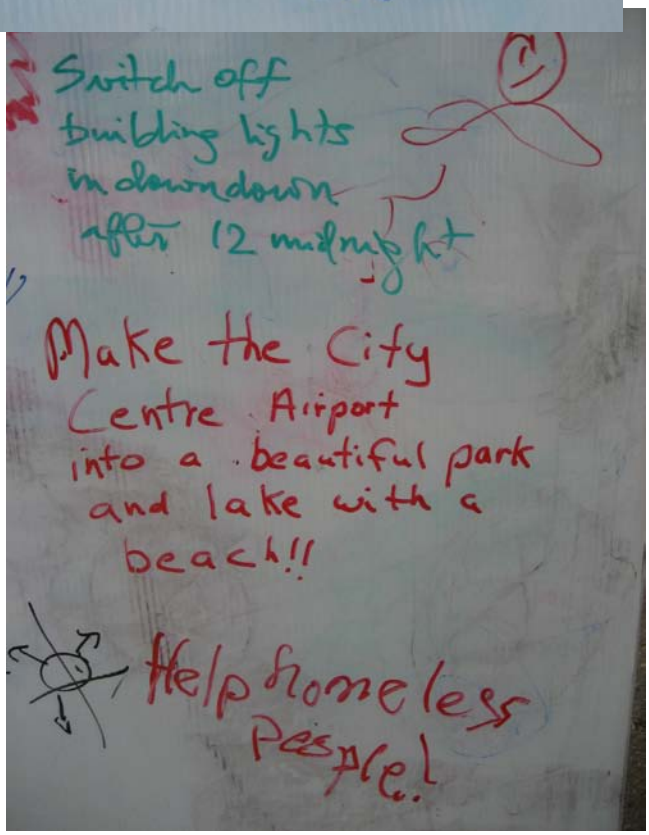

fove factories out of the City.


MANDATE BIKE PARKING
FOR ALL BUILDINGS!


Wind
Energy
More
Infrastructure
dollars for
bike lanes


Don't Litter :)
BAGS
be friendly.
STOP capitalism.
Spending on
low income.

Energy efficient
Lightbulbs
SAVE TREES! :)
Litter :)


Switch off
building lights
in downtown
after 12 midnight
Make the City
Centre Airport
into a beautiful park
and lake with a
beach!!
Help homeless
People!

Comments Welcome!

SHARE YOUR IDEAS

How should we preserve and sustain Edmonton's environment?

PLEASE STOP THE USE OF TOXIC PESTICIDES, HERBICIDES ON OUR LAWNS! AS IT IS POISONING US, OUR FAMILIES, OUR PETS... OUR H_2O SUPPLY AND OUR ENVIRONMENT!

PLEASE WAKE UP EDMONTON ~ WE DO HAVE NON TOXIC ALTERNATIVES!

Work with School Boards - Stop closing school in the established neighbourhoods - this forces the families to move to suburbs because that's where the new schools are!

→ One World AND One Love!

→ Think of the street as your living room.

→ BEFORE YOU WORRY ABOUT A ENVIROMENTAL CHANGE ON A LARGE SCALE, HOW ABOUT PICKING UP THE GARBAGE AROUND THE CITY. WORRY ABOUT THE LITTLE STUFF YOU CAN FIX FIRST!!

- NO GMO FOODS! STOP KILLING BEES - DIRTY ENERGY

- PROMOTE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

- CONTINUE OFFERING PARK'N RIDE OPTIONS

MORE Recycling bins!! :)

LEVY - SMALL PLASTIC ITEMS BY WEIGHT → RECYCLE FOR CASH!!!

We Should Not Cut Down trees or pollute waters!! - MJ

How should we preserve and sustain Edmonton's environment?

We could take shorter showers.
Say... under 5 min?

I've heard they already have to do that in Australia and Japan!

1/2 level of water in your tub!
IF ITS YELLOW LET IT MELLOW
BROWN FLUSH IT DOWN

improve + increase number of cycling trails.

Refuse to buy products that have unecessary over 'packaging' materials.

- PROMOTE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

- CONTINUE OFFERING PARK'N'RIDE OPTIONS

LEVY – SMALL PLASTIC ITEMS BY WEIGHT → RECYCLE FOR CASH!!!

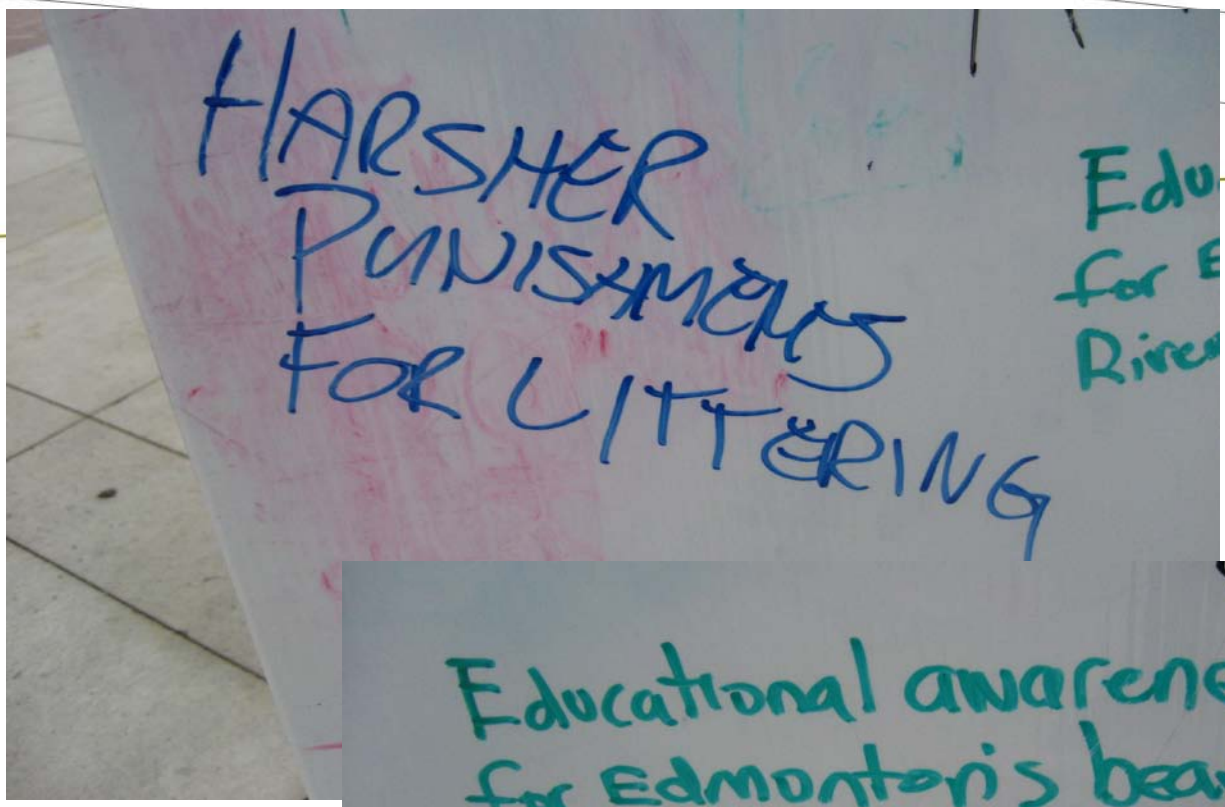
(more buses, more times)
- improve ETS system
- bike lanes on main roads.
- ETS after hours
- more bike racks
- higher gas taxes!

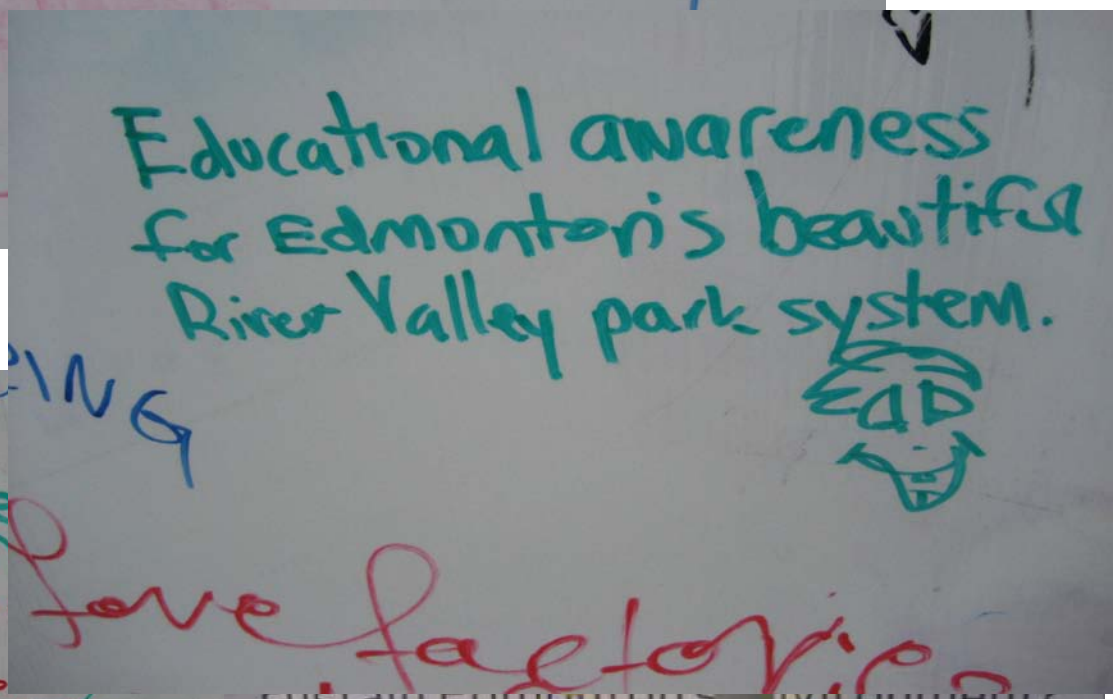
LRT to International Airport
St. Albert
Sherwood Park
Millwoods

Carpool more

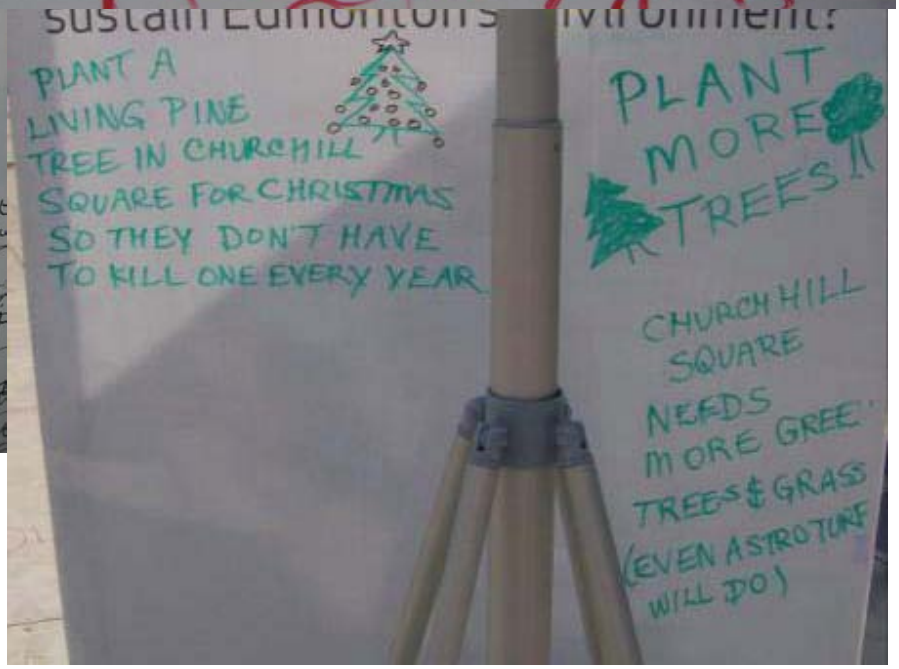
have bike lanes

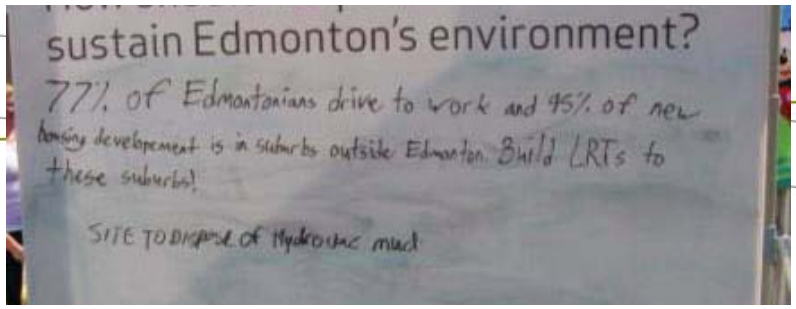
MORE Recycling bins!!

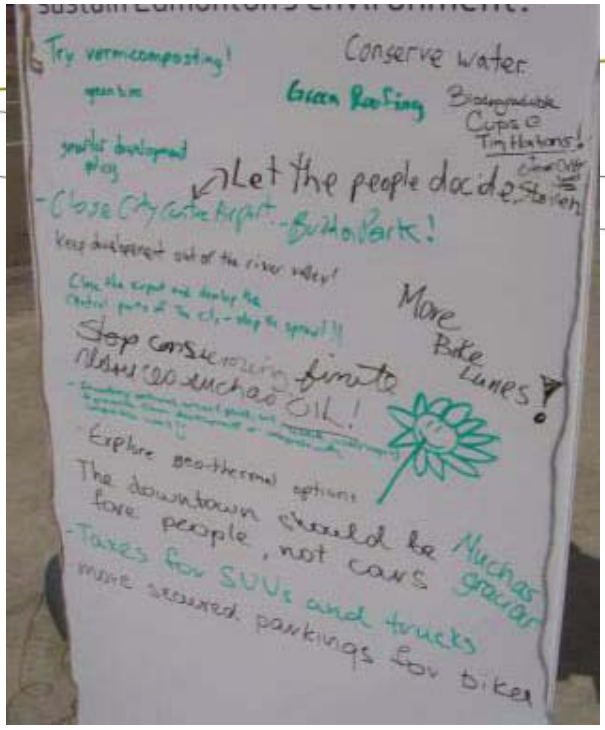

HARSHER
PUNISHMENTS
FOR LITTERING

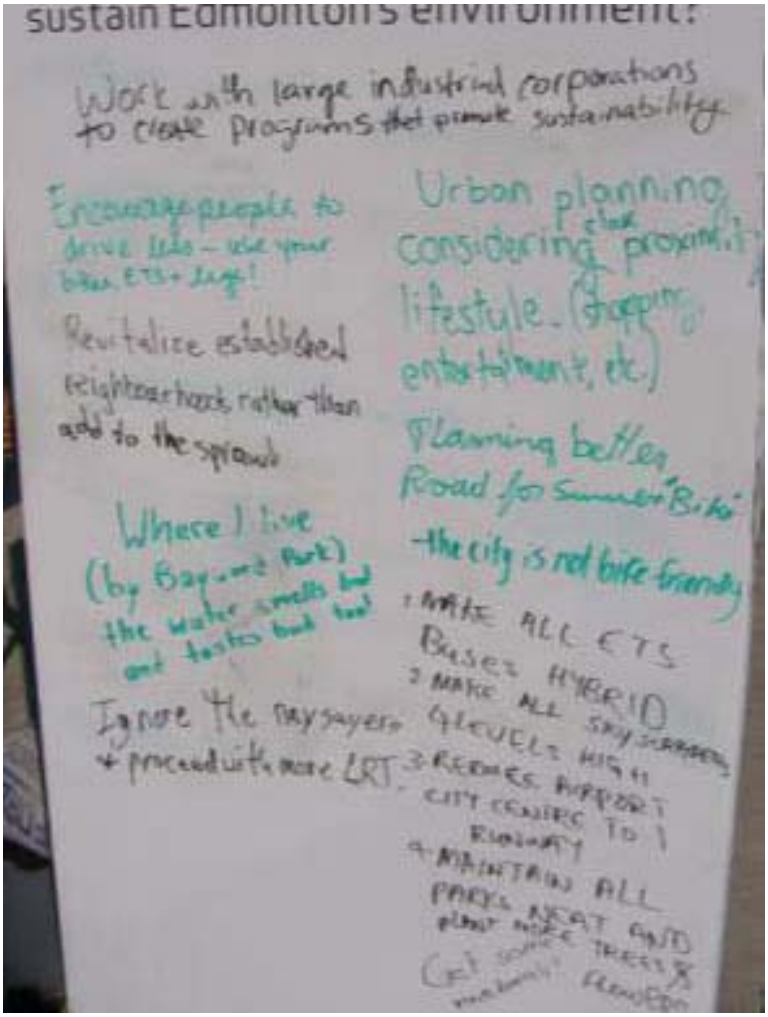

Educational awareness
for Edmonton's beautiful
River Valley park system.
love factories

Ride A Bicycle
Animals
Take
a car-
pool


PLANT A
LIVING PINE
TREE IN CHURCHILL
SQUARE FOR CHRISTMAS
SO THEY DON'T HAVE
TO KILL ONE EVERY YEAR
PLANT
MORE
TREES!!
CHURCH HILL
SQUARE
NEEDS
MORE GREE
TREES & GRASS
(EVEN ASTROTURF
WILL DO)

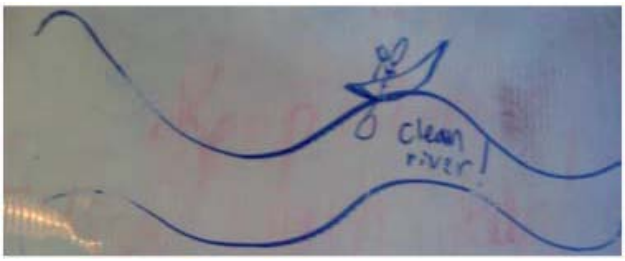

sustain Edmonton's environment?
77% of Edmontonians drive to work and 95% of new housing developement is in suburbs outside Edmonton. Build LRTs to these suburbs!
SITE TO DISPOSE of Hydrovac mud


Try vermicomposting!
Conserve water
Green Roofing
Let the people decide
Close City Centre Airport - Buxton Park!
Keep development out of the river valley!
More Bike Lanes!
Stop consuming finite resources such as oil!
Explore geothermal options
The downtown should be for people, not cars
Taxes for SUVs and trucks
more secured parkings for bikes


sustain Edmonton's environment?
Work with large industrial corporations to create programs that promote sustainability
Encourage people to drive less - use your bike, ETS + LRT!
Revitalize established neighbourhoods rather than add to the sprawl
Urban planning that considering proximity lifestyle. (shopping, entertainment, etc.)
Where I live (by Bay-net Park) the water smells bad and tastes bad too
Planning better Road for Summer Bikes
the city is not bike friendly
Ignore the naysayers + proceed with more LRT.
1 MAKE ALL ETS BUSES HYBRID
2 MAKE ALL SKY SCRAPERS 4 LEVELS HIGH
3 REDUCE SUPPORT CITY CENTRE TO 1 HIGHWAY
4 MAINTAIN ALL PARKS NEAT AND PLANT MORE TREES

Put low-flush toilets in Hawrelak Park's washrooms!!!
can anybody tell me ??? which came 1st - the chicken or the egg?.....

- Continue offering Park'N'Ride options
LEVY - SMALL PLASTIC ITEMS BY WEIGHT → RECYCLE FOR CASH!!!


clean river!

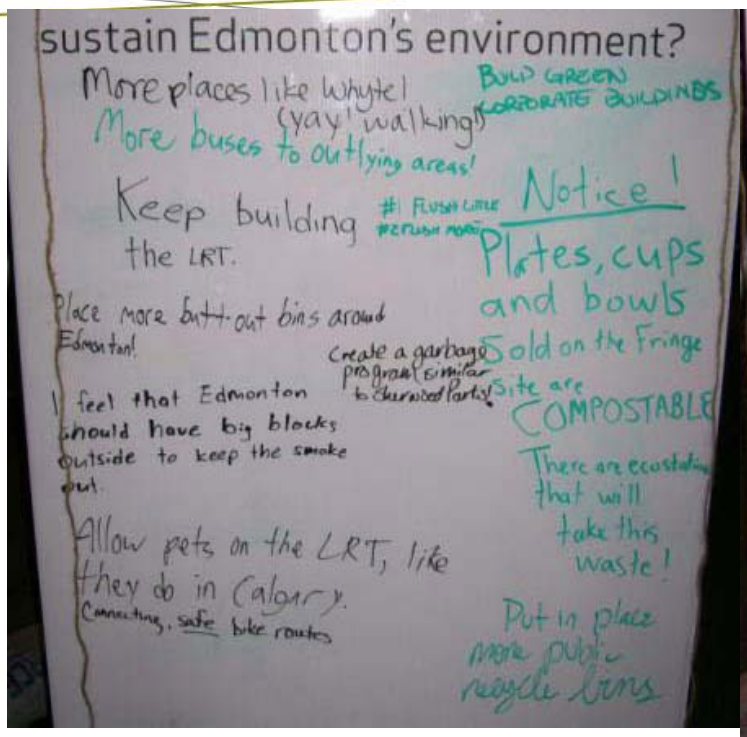
sustain Edmonton's environment?
Write on me!!
Do a survey!
Draw a picture
Free Transit For All !!!
FIRE ALL THE POLITICIANS
LO SINE HARE
Did you Know?

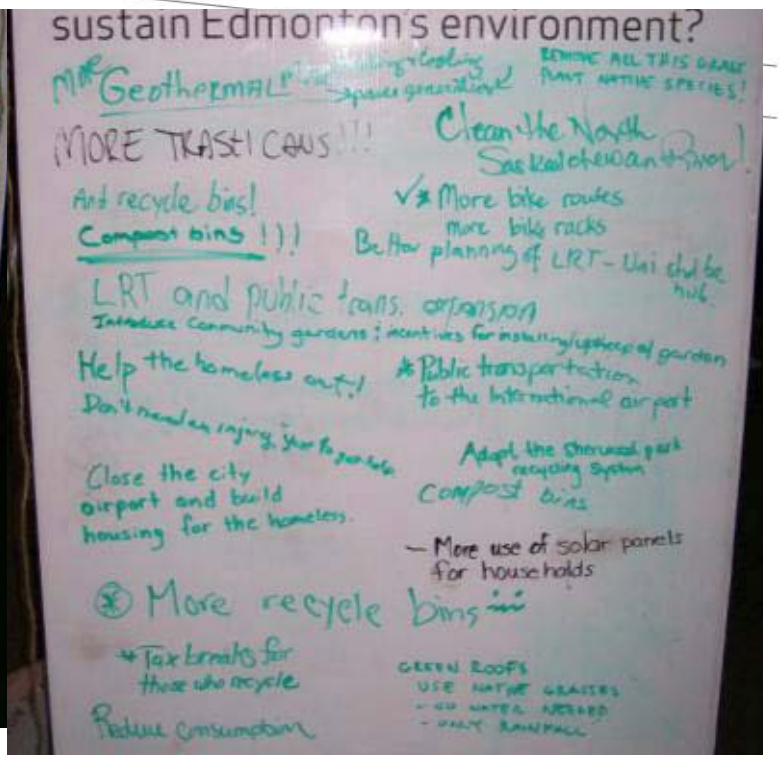
FIRE ALL THE POLITICIANS
LO SINE HARE
Did you Know?
Pressing gigitator what is it???

STOP BUYING THROWAWAYS!
(like Swiffer & disp. diapers)
walk more!
Re-use
Reduce
Recycle
Recover!

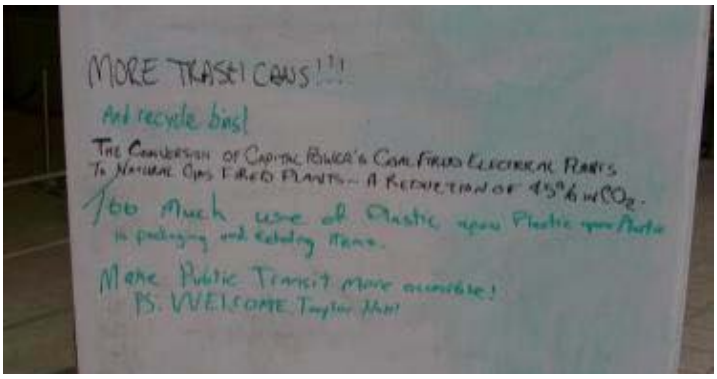
(P.S. Edmonton Has a great Transit System, but I agree!)
Edmonton has a Horrible transit, needs to go to the airport
Free Transit For All !!!
FIRE ALL
LO SINE

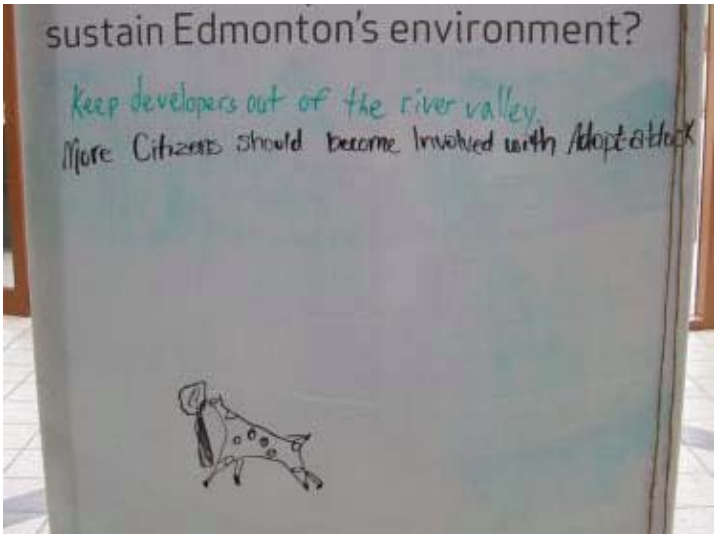
Lower Bus Fare!

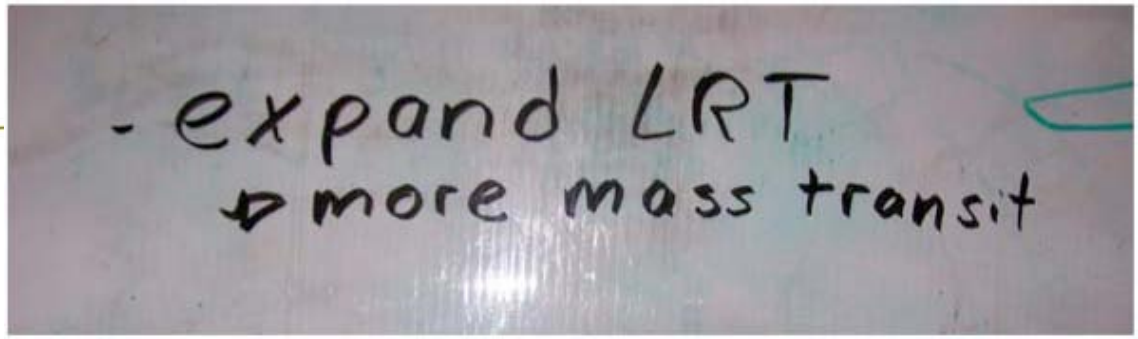

sustain Edmonton's environment?
More places like Whyte!
(yay! walking!)
More buses to outlying areas!
BUILD GREEN CORPORATE BUILDINGS
Keep building the LRT.
#1 FLUSH LESS #2 FLUSH MORE
Notice!
Plates, cups and bowls
Sold on the Fringe
Site are COMPOSTABLE
There are ecostations that will take this waste!
Place more butt-out bins around Edmonton!
Create a garbage program similar to Sherwood Parks!
I feel that Edmonton should have big blocks outside to keep the smoke out.
Allow pets on the LRT, like they do in Calgary.
Connecting, safe bike routes
Put in place more public recycle bins

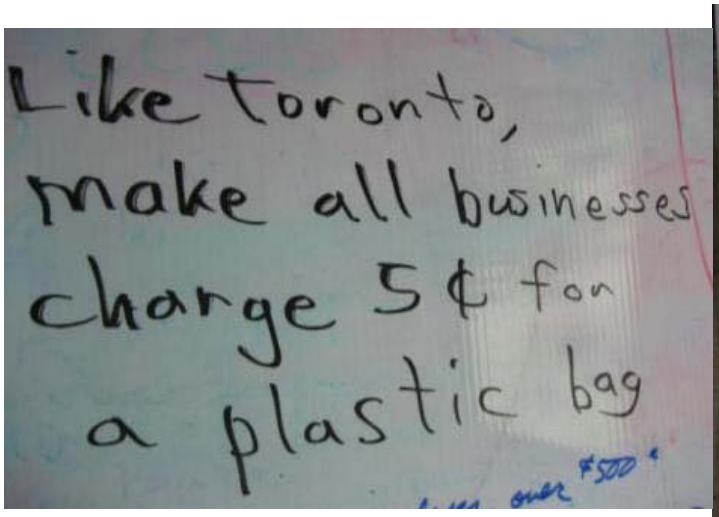

sustain Edmonton's environment?
More Geothermal!
REMOVE ALL THIS GRASS PLANT NATIVE SPECIES!
MORE TRASH CANS!!!
Clean the North Saskatchewan River!
And recycle bins!
Compost bins!!!
More bike routes
more bike racks
Better planning of LRT - Uni should be hub.
LRT and public trans. expansion
Help the homeless out!
Public transportation to the International airport
Close the city airport and build housing for the homeless.
Adopt the Sherwood park recycling system
Compost bins
More use of solar panels for households
More recycle bins
Tax breaks for those who recycle
GREEN ROOFS
USE NATIVE GRASSES
Reduce consumption

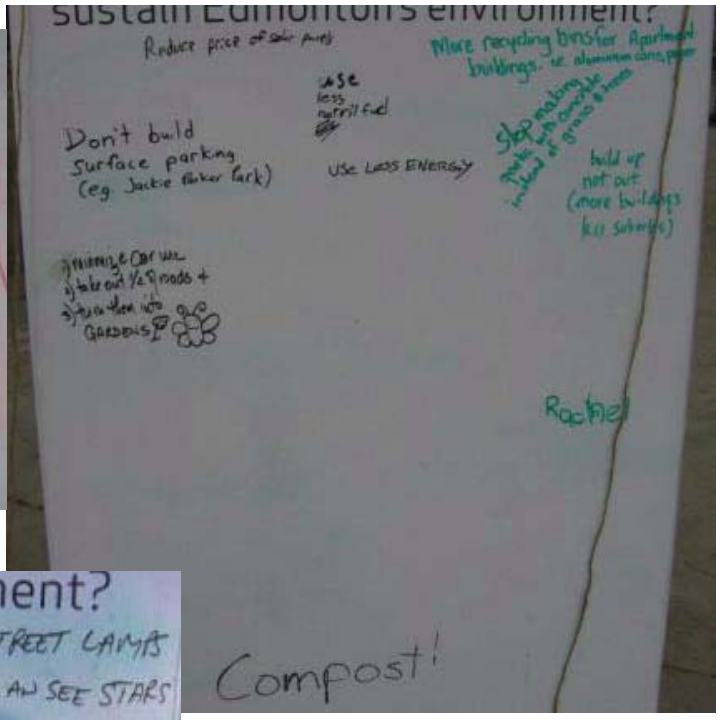
Dout cut trees down
send garbage to space

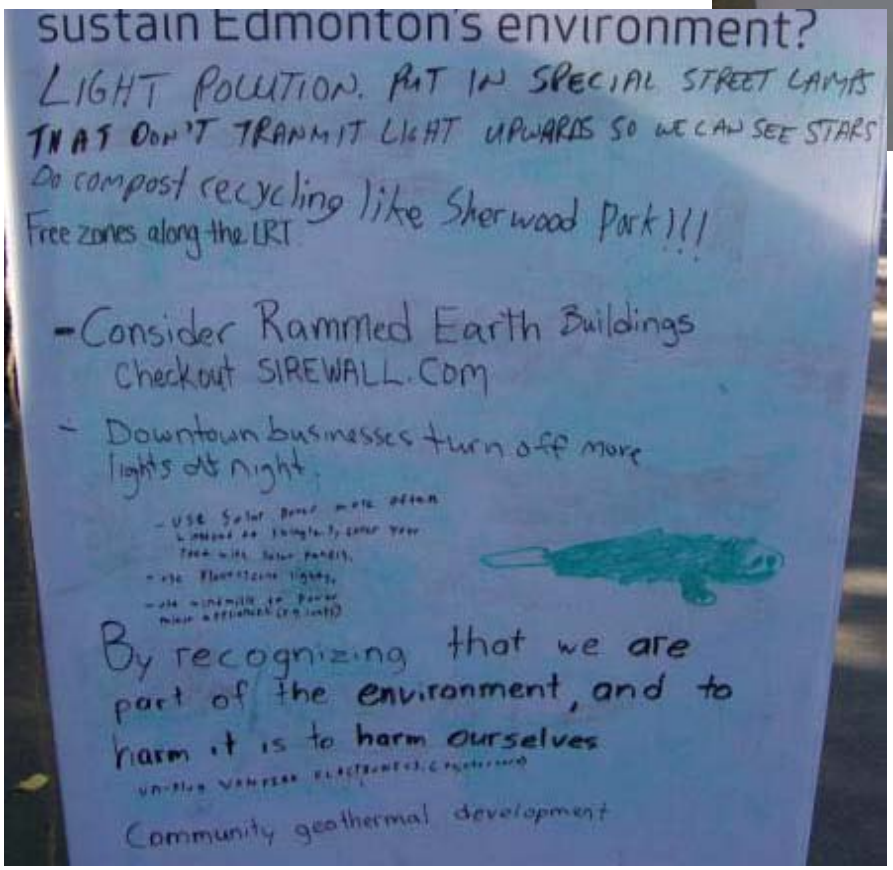

MORE TRASH CANS!!!
And recycle bins!
The Conversion of Capital Power's Coal Fired Electrical Plants To Natural Gas Fired Plants - A Reduction of 45% in CO2.
Too much use of Plastic upon Plastic upon Plastic in packaging and labeling items.
Make Public Transit more accessible!
PS. WELCOME Taylor Hall


sustain Edmonton's environment?
Keep developers out of the river valley.
More Citizens should become Involved with Adopt-a-block


- expand LRT
more mass transit

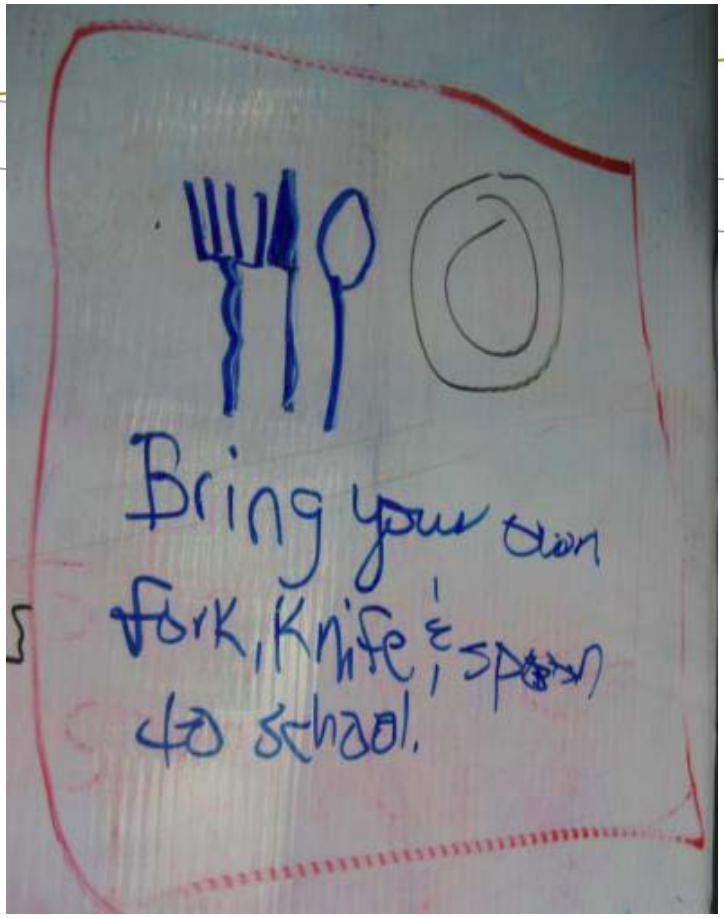

Like toronto,
make all businesses
charge 5¢ for
a plastic bag

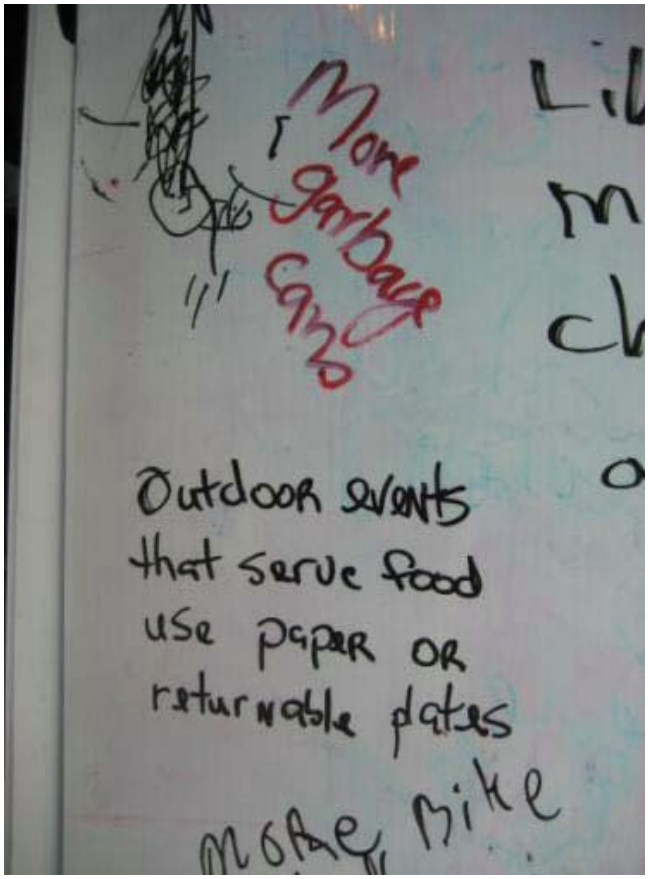

sustain Edmonton's environment?
Reduce price of solar panels
More recycling transfer Apartment buildings - ie. aluminum cans, paper
use less nutrition
Don't build surface parking (eg. Jackie Parker Park)
USE LESS ENERGY
build up not out (more buildings less subwaysc)
Rachel
Compost!


sustain Edmonton's environment?
LIGHT POLLUTION. PUT IN SPECIAL STREET LAMPS THAT DON'T TRANMIT LIGHT UPWARDS SO WE CAN SEE STARS
Do compost recycling like Sherwood Park!!!
Free zones along the LRT
- Consider Rammed Earth Buildings
Checkout SIREWALL.Com
- Downtown businesses turn off more lights at night
By recognizing that we are part of the environment, and to harm it is to harm ourselves
Community geothermal development

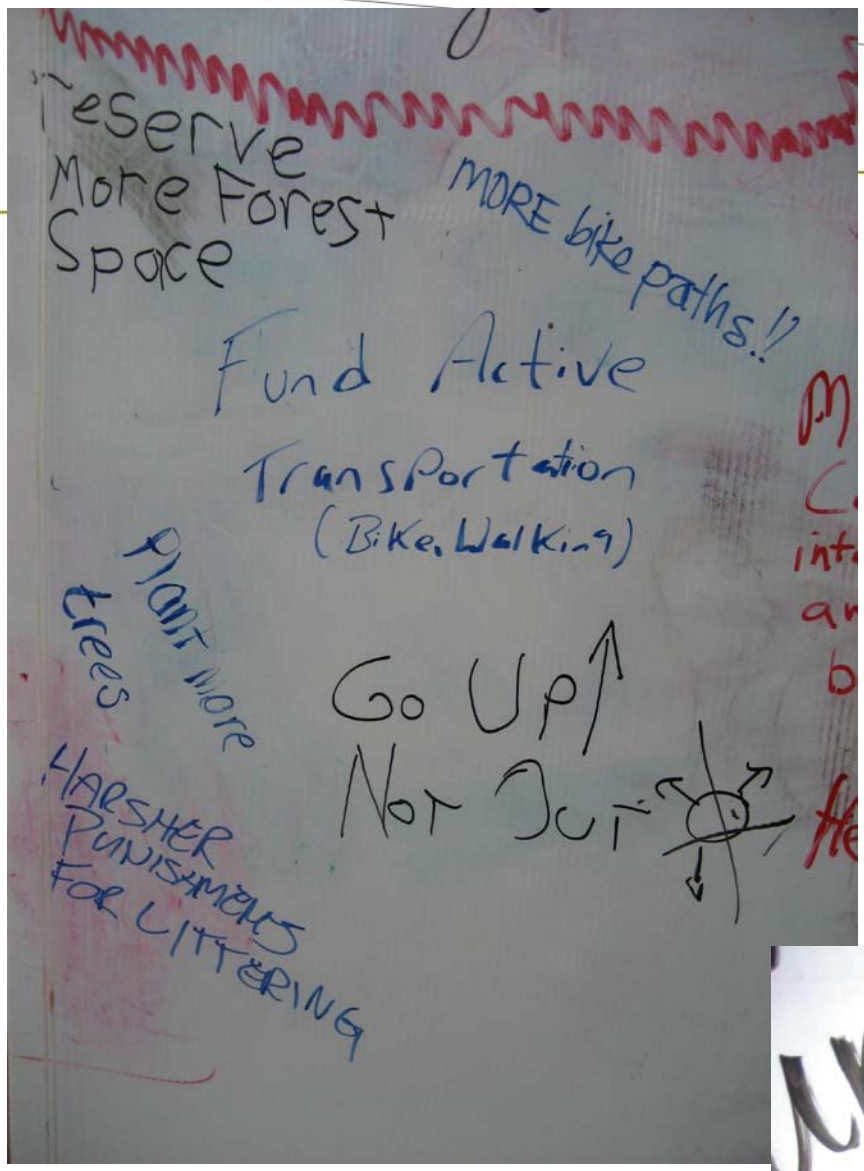
More dedicated
Paths!
+1
+2

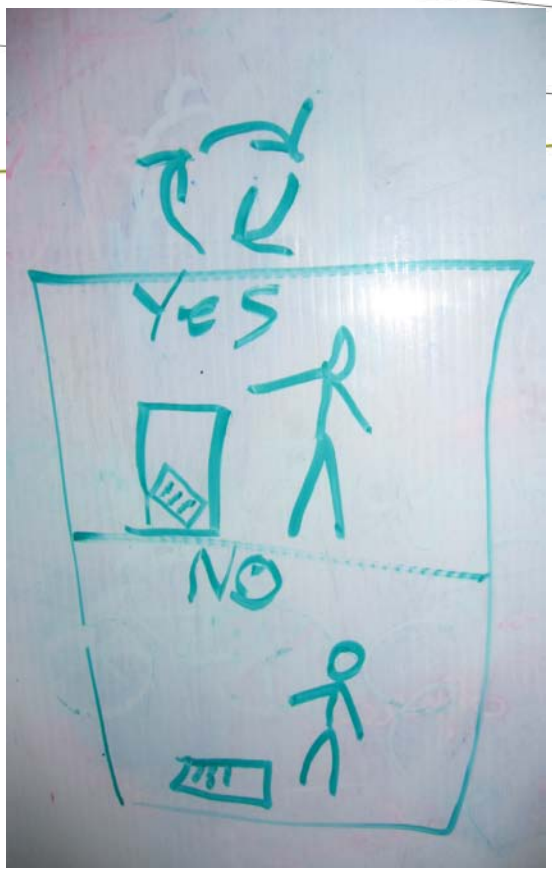
Comments Welcome!
SHARE YOUR IDEAS
How should we preserve and sustain Edmonton's environment?
Reduce Construction
Plant more Trees
Improve and Promote E.T.S more
Promote ~~too~~ Car Pooling
Give Tax Breaks to E.T.S Riders and Car Pooters.
MORE BIKE TRAILS!
stop urban sprawl
no more pesticides in Edmonton
anti-idling bylaw


Bring your own fork, Knife & spoon to school.

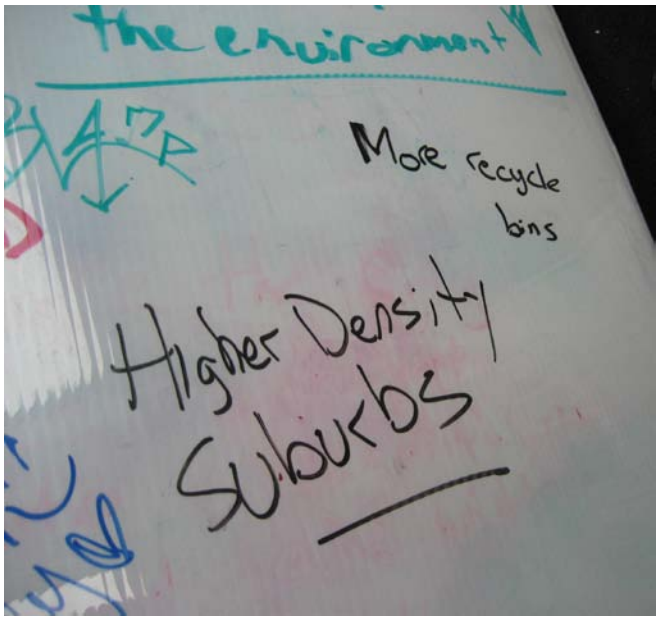

More garbage cans
Outdoor events that serve food use paper or returnable plates
more bike

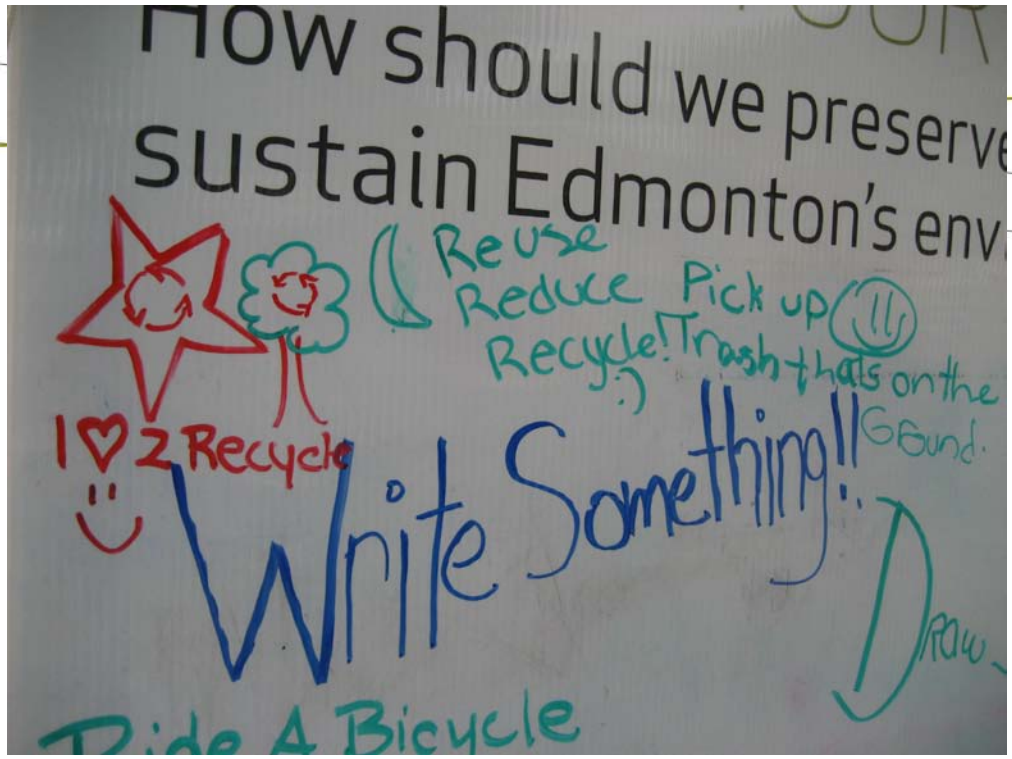
Write Somethi
Hooray for C-Line
More Neighbourhoods with priority to walking, biking + public transit.
make all cars that suck in air to produce energy
cars That run on garbage
Legalise Bees! (Becky Hi

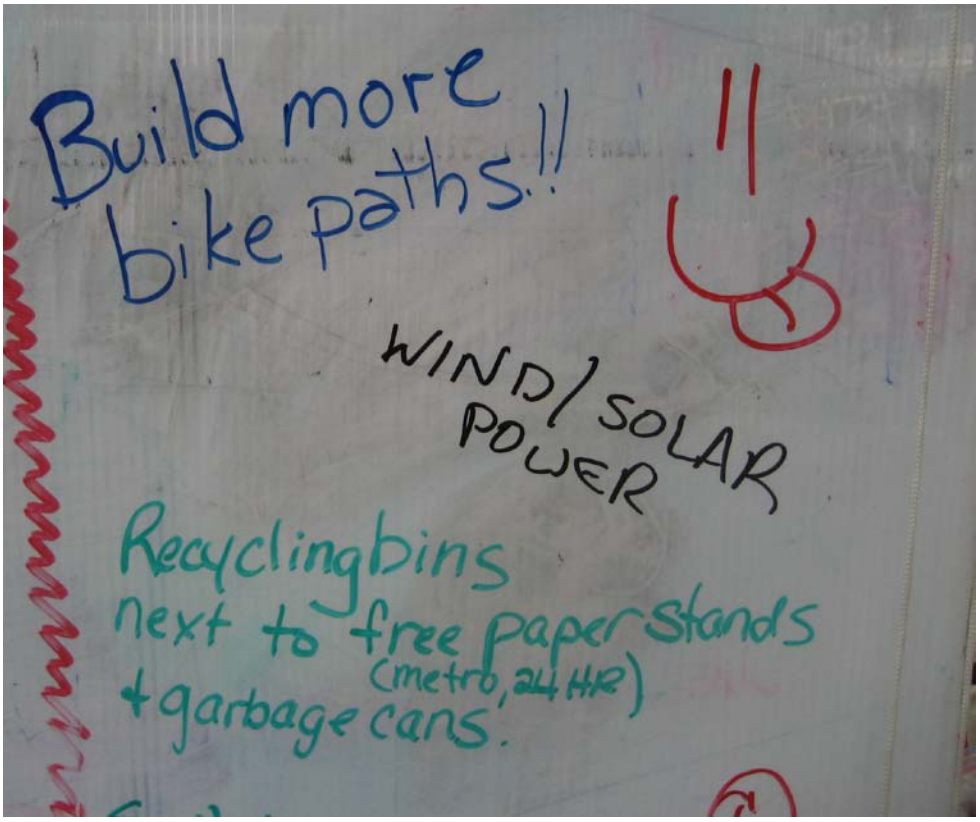

Reserve
More Forest
Space
MORE bike paths!!
Fund Active
Transportation
(Bike, Walking)
Plant more
trees
Go Up
Not Out
HARSHER
PUNISHMENTS
FOR LITTERING


YES
NO

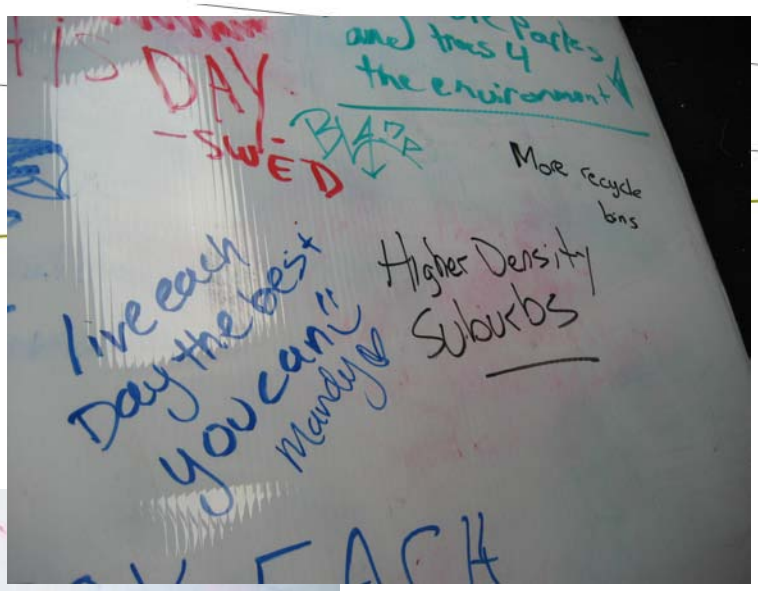
Pack of
tobako

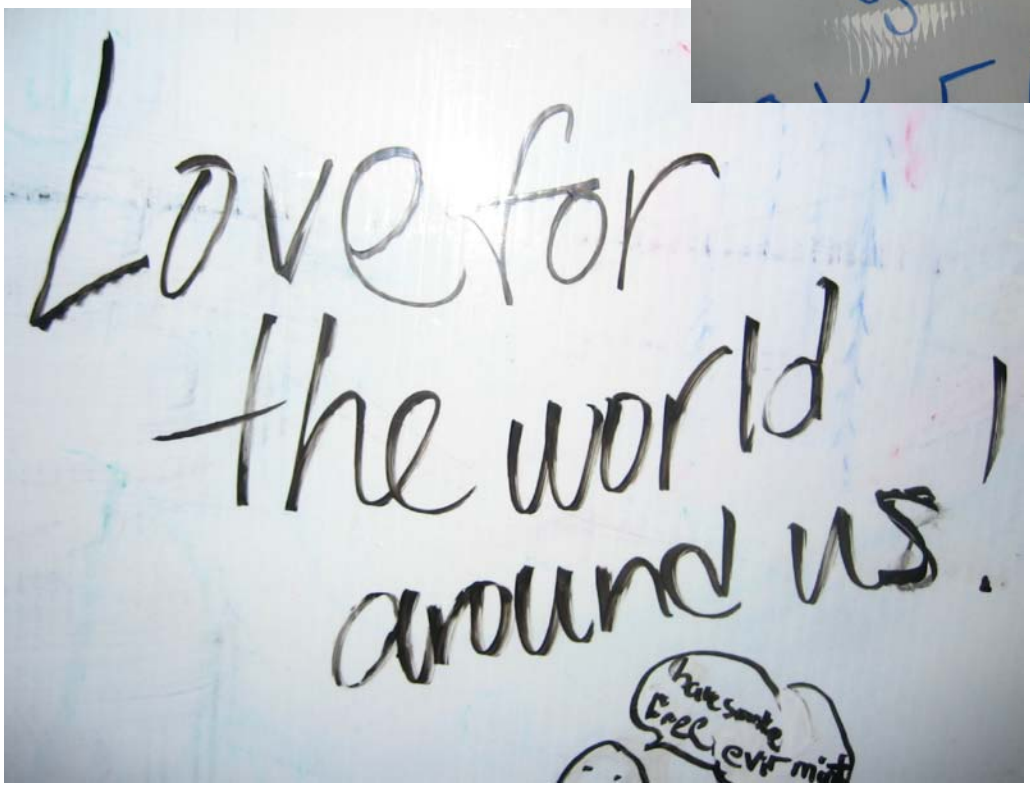

the environment
More recycle
bins
Higher Density
Suburbs

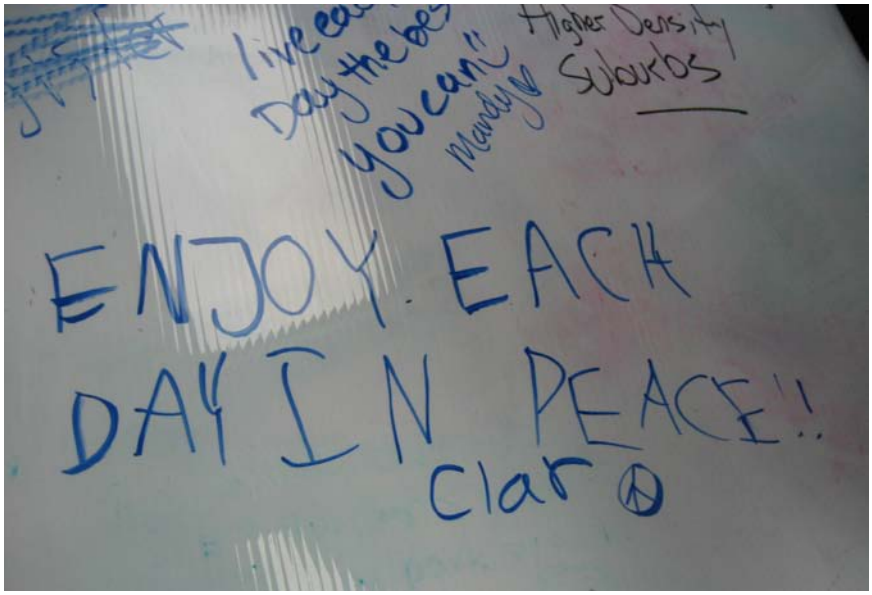

How should we preserve
sustain Edmonton's env
Reuse
Reduce Pick up
Recycle! Trash thats on the
Ground.
I ♡ 2 Recycle
Write Something!!
Draw
Ride A Bicycle


Build more
bike paths!!
WIND/SOLAR
POWER
Recyclingbins
next to free paper stands
(metro, 24 HR)
+ garbage cans.

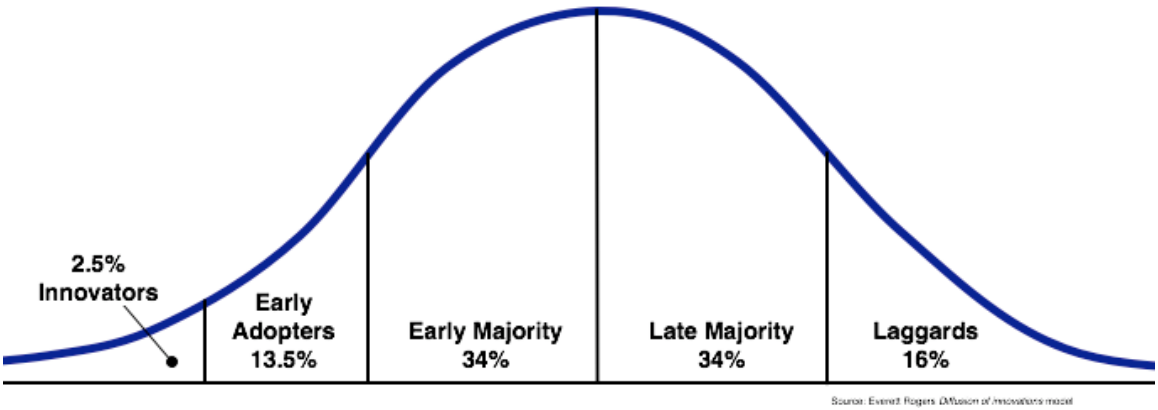
Bring back the trolley buses.


DAY
-SWED
the environment
More recycle bins
Higher Density Suburbs
live each Day the best you can"
Mandy


Love for the world around us!


Higher Density Suburbs
live each Day the best you can"
Mandy
ENJOY EACH DAY IN PEACE!!
Clar

Appendix D: Diffusion of Innovation



Everett Rogers Technology Adoption Lifecycle model, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:DiffusionOfInnovation.png

Report Prepared January 15, 2011

Office of Environment

City of Edmonton