



THE WAY AHEAD

# Building Great Neighbourhoods

TRANSFORMING | **EDMONTON**

BRINGING OUR CITY VISION TO LIFE



# We are here today to:

- Explain what Building Great Neighbourhoods is and the processes and timing for your neighbourhood.
- Ask about any neighbourhood projects/initiatives already underway that may align with, or impact, opportunities for City capital investment.
- Listen to your suggestions for capital investments to improve pedestrian/cycling access, traffic access and overall liveability.
- Ask your help in advertising future Building Great Neighbourhoods public meetings.

# Presentation Overview

- Building Great Neighbourhoods
- Video
- Selecting Neighbourhoods
- Drainage Renewal Program
- Neighbourhood Renewal Program
  - Design Standards
- Local Improvements
  - Sidewalks
  - Street lights
- Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program
- Discussion

Building Great Neighbourhoods is an initiative that coordinates three City infrastructure investment programs to renew and improve Edmonton neighbourhoods.

## Building Great Neighbourhoods

Drainage Renewal  
Program  
(Infrastructure  
Services)

Neighbourhood  
Renewal Program  
(Transportation  
Services)

Office of Great  
Neighbourhoods  
Capital Program  
(Community Services)



Great neighbourhoods are the building blocks of a great city. The City invests approximately \$25 million on average to reconstruct a neighbourhood by:

- Renewing and replacing sanitary and storm sewers.
- Renewing and replacing roads, curbs, sidewalks and streetlights on City road right-of-way.
- Improving neighbourhood pedestrian/cycling accessibility.
- Identifying enhancements to the neighbourhood's liveability.
- Asking residents for feedback on preliminary designs that include proposed improvements to pedestrian/cycling accessibility and overall neighbourhood livability.

## In Addition:

Property owners have the opportunity to choose:

- *To pay for* the additional cost of installing decorative street lighting in the neighbourhood.
- *To petition against* sidewalk reconstruction. Sidewalk maintenance work is then done -- mud-jacking, grinding and asphalt patching.

# Before & After





# Before & After





# Selecting Neighbourhoods

Annually over a four year cycle, City crews examine the condition of pavement and concrete in all of Edmonton's 300+ neighbourhoods.

Selection and timing depends on various factors including street level and underground infrastructure conditions, available budget and coordination with underground utilities.



# Drainage Renewal Program

Drainage Renewal involves a combination of relining and open cut work:

- The majority of the work is done by relining. This involves minor disruption to your neighbourhood.
- Sometimes an open cut is required which involves cutting the road open.

# Relining



You may already be seeing drainage renewal work in your area.



# Neighbourhood Renewal Program

There are three components to the Neighbourhood Renewal Program: Microsurfacing, Overlay and Reconstruction.

Your neighbourhood will be Reconstructed.

This involves repaving roads, replacing curbs, gutters and streetlights and replacing sidewalks (through Local Improvement) or eliminating trip hazards on sidewalks.



\*All City property tax bills include a 1.5% property tax levy for Neighbourhood Renewal.

## Design Standards

The City reviews current design standards before reconstruction begins. These include:

- Road Design
- Curb Design
- Traffic Signage
- Active Transportation
- Streetlights

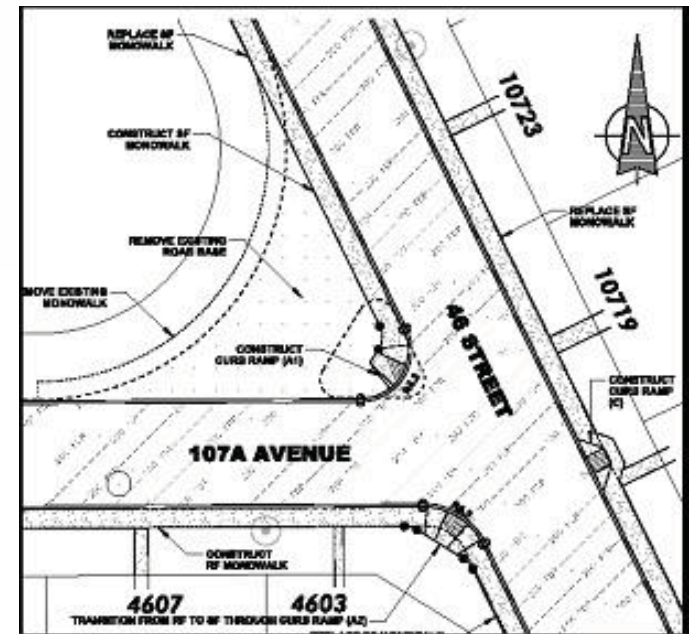
# Road Design Standards

## Intersections

- Adding curb ramps, eliminating 'overdesign' and improving curb radius.

## Road Width

- Where possible, roads are sized to current standards (collector = 11.5 m/Local = 9 m).
- Shift curblane walks to boulevards.





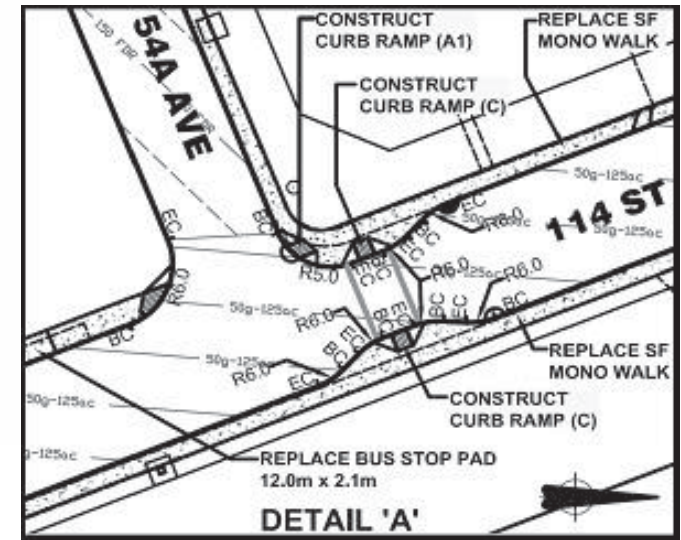
# Curb Design Standards

# Curb Extensions

- Considered at key pedestrian crossings near schools, community halls, playgrounds.

# Curb Types

- Generally install mountable curbs except on collector roads and bus routes and around schools, parks, commercial areas.



# Traffic Signage Design Standards

Review circulation/traffic control signage and determine if changes required.



# Active Transportation Design Standards

## Improve infrastructure

- Sidewalks: In residential neighbourhoods ensure accessibility to all bus stops, provide a sidewalk on at least one side of the street.
- Bicycle Routes: Use the Bicycle Transportation Plan to implement bike lanes, shared-use lanes and shared-use pathways.





# Street Light Design Standards

Neighbourhood street light system

- Upgraded to energy efficient LED lighting, the new City standard for street lights.



# Local Improvements

What are they?

- Construction projects undertaken near or adjacent to your property.
- Projects City Council considers of greater benefit to an area of the municipality rather than to the whole municipality.
- Paid for in whole or part by property owners through a local improvement tax on annual municipal property tax bill.

# Local Improvements

Two types involved with neighbourhood reconstruction:

## City initiated

- City proposes improvement and advises property owners of improvement and projected costs.

Example: Sidewalk reconstruction

## Property owner initiated

- Property owners propose improvement through an Expression of Interest (EOI) and gather support for it.

Example: Decorative street lighting



# Sidewalk Reconstruction

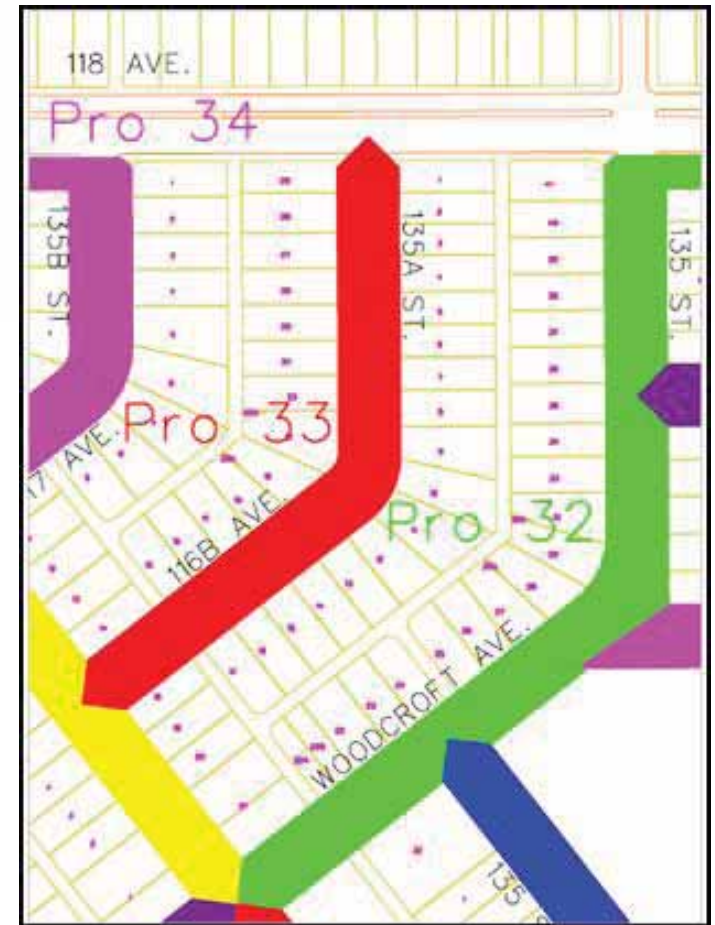


# Sidewalk Reconstruction

- City and property owner share costs (50/50) of sidewalk reconstruction adjacent to the owner's property.
- 51% of property owners in a project area needed to *petition against the improvement* to defeat sidewalk reconstruction.
  - Deadline for petition is 30 days after Local Improvement notice received by property owners.

# Sidewalk Reconstruction

- If one reconstruction sidewalk project is defeated, other projects proceed if supported by majority of property owners.
- Map of your project area is provided with your Local Improvement Notice





# Sidewalk Reconstruction Outcomes

Sidewalk Reconstruction



Sidewalk Maintenance



# Decorative Street Lighting

Residents have the option of upgrading their neighbourhood street lighting.



Newport  
Arm



Scroll  
Arm



Heritage  
Arm

Blue - Federal  
Standard, 15055

Black - Federal  
Standard, 17038

Dark Green - Federal  
Standard, 14036



Octagonal  
Pole



Fluted  
Pole

*Residential Decorative Street Light Options.*

# Decorative Street Lighting

Property owner initiated local improvement:

Expression of Interest Received      July 1

Signed Petition      Nov. 1

Must have 51% of *all* neighbourhood property owners agree to pay the additional costs for decorative lighting (beyond standard street lighting.)



# Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program

The Great Neighbourhoods Improvement Fund makes improvements in neighbourhoods on City property:

- Investments are coordinated with work planned in the neighbourhood to maximize the investments made and increases the liveability of a neighbourhood.
- Investments are unique to each neighbourhood. The City invests \$500,000 on average in each neighbourhood.

# Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program



Neighbourhood Park in  
Fulton Place BEFORE



Neighbourhood Park in  
Fulton Place AFTER

# Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program



Sherbrooke  
Neighbourhood  
BEFORE



Sherbrooke  
Neighbourhood  
AFTER



# Project Stages - Concept



Your feedback today will help inform preliminary design.

Preliminary designs will be presented at a neighbourhood public meeting in the next few months.

Residents will see detailed maps that show the proposed changes they will see in the neighbourhood and around their property. Resident input and feedback will inform the final design prior to the Build phase.

# Timing



Community League meeting

**April**



Preliminary Design Public Meeting

**June**

(Opportunity for Decorative Street Lighting Committee to get signatures)



Preconstruction community meeting

**Nov – Feb**

Follows Local Improvement Notices mailed to property owners

Construction starts

**Spring 2013**

# Discussion

Are there any projects/initiatives you have underway that may align with or impact opportunities for Building Great Neighbourhoods?

Any suggestions around pedestrian and cycling access, traffic access or opportunities to improve the livability of your neighbourhood?



# Thanks!

We ask your help with the next two Building Great Neighbourhoods public meetings:

- Does your community have a contact for newsletter content and advertising suggestions?

For more information about work in your neighbourhood:

- [www.edmonton.ca/BuildingGreatNeighbourhoods](http://www.edmonton.ca/BuildingGreatNeighbourhoods)
- [NeighbourhoodRenewal@edmonton.ca](mailto:NeighbourhoodRenewal@edmonton.ca)