



BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

ROSSLYN NEIGHBOURHOOD MEETING ONE WITH COMMUNITY LEAGUE EXECUTIVE OCTOBER 2, 2013

Attending from the community league

Greg Hilker, <i>President</i>	Lynette Steingard
Lynn Blommaert	Cheryl Sydor
Dave Choma	Olive Sydor
Donna Dixon	Lisa Takacs

Attending from the City of Edmonton

Cathy Dytiuk, Great Neighbourhoods
Kelly FitzGibbon, Communications
Dale Lehman, Neighbourhood Renewal
Janice Scott, Drainage Services
Trudy Raadik, CRC

The Building Great Neighbourhoods team met with the Westwood community league to share the City's plans to renew and replace sanitary and storm sewers, reconstruct roads, curbs and sidewalks on City-owned Property, and replace streetlights starting in 2015. The City presentation included:

- An outline of the Building Great Neighbourhoods process and timing.
- A question to the league about any initiatives underway that could align with or impact opportunities for any City capital investment.
- The City listening to league suggestions for capital improvements that could be made during the construction process to improve pedestrian and cycling access and the livability or attractiveness of Westwood.
- An overview of the Local Improvement process and the choices property owners will make.
- A request for the community league's help in advertising future Building Great Neighbourhood meetings.

The following provides an overview of the discussion:

League: What other neighbourhoods have been done? Where can we go to see decorative streetlights?

City: Every year we do three to five neighbourhoods. In 2013 alone, the City was doing work in 12 neighbourhoods and completed reconstructions in six. Neighbourhoods where you can see some decorative streetlight options include Grovenor, Dovercourt and Sherbrooke.

League: What opportunities will the neighbourhood residents have to get involved?

City: Besides our first meeting with the community league, there will be two neighbourhood-wide meetings during the preliminary and final design stages. We will mail out information and put out street signs well in advance of these meetings to let residents and property owners know about the meetings. Tonight's meeting is to give you a heads up and get some initial feedback that we can include in our preliminary designs. These designs will then be brought to the first neighbourhood-wide meeting for feedback from residents.

We'd appreciate receiving the community league's suggestions by early 2014, as we start design in late 2013. The more information we have up front, the better we can include them in our initial plans.

League: Why doesn't the City cover the full cost of sidewalk renewal? Why don't taxes pay for it?

City: Reconstructing the sidewalk in front of property owners' lots is a local improvement—a project that City Council considers of greater benefit to a specific area rather than to the municipality as a whole. Residential property owners surrounding a particular sidewalk are the primary beneficiaries to the sidewalk reconstruction; therefore they share the cost 50-50 with the City. The neighbourhood is divided into a number of project areas. If 51% of residents within a particular project area do not want sidewalk reconstruction, they can petition against the project. If the petition is successful, the City will only do sidewalk maintenance such as grinding, mudjacking or asphalt patching.



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League: Can we share this information in our community newsletter?

City: Yes, please do. We will also send information prior to the first neighbourhood-wide meeting that you may include in your newsletter for residents to learn more about the program.

League: Can you explain the sidewalk local improvement process for corner lots?

City: All residential lots with frontage (the sidewalk at the front of a property) abutting a local improvement construction project will be assessed the full rate (50% of the full cost, as sidewalk renewal is shared 50-50 with the City). Corner lots that abut and flank proposed local improvement construction (i.e. have sidewalks on both the front and side of the property) will be assessed the full rate (50%) on the short side (frontage) and 15% on the long side (flankage). More information is available at edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/sidewalk-reconstruction.aspx

League: Will the local improvements improve flooding on sidewalks?

City: Yes. The new sidewalks will improve flooding issues by ensuring appropriate drainage to the gutter and toward catch basins.

League: Is neighbourhood renewal being considered for Rosslyn because of flooding?

City: No, this project was earmarked a year ago. Every year, one-quarter of local roads are assessed visually for condition of pavement, curbs and sidewalk. Crews look for: sidewalk trip hazards, cracks and surface damage; roadway cracks, potholes, ruts, distortion and raveling; light stands rusting and tilting. Each defect is rated on a numeric scale. Neighbourhood scores are averaged and graded. Transportation uses surface infrastructure condition assessments (roads, curb and sidewalk) as criteria to determine the type of renewal required (preventive maintenance, overlay or reconstruction). Priority neighbourhoods are selected and scheduled for renewal based on: available budget;

detailed condition assessments; maintenance history; underground infrastructure condition and material; coordination with priorities identified by City Council, Transportation, Drainage, and utilities.

City: Are there any suggestions around pedestrian and cycling access, traffic access or opportunities to improve the livability of your neighbourhood?

League: The sidewalk crossing by our community league building doesn't point the right way. We'd like to fix it with consideration for wheelchair accessibility and usability for people crossing the street.

Also, by Scott Robertson School, there is an issue with crossings marked on a curve. There is a lot of speeding around the school. Edmonton Police Service monitored it, but nothing was done. The issue is most noticeable on 105 St/135 Ave and 107 St/135 Ave. There is also no crosswalk at Scott Robertson School.

City: Thank you. Will have noted these issues and will take them into consideration when working on our design. We will have more information on the detailed design at our Meeting 2 with the entire neighbourhood in spring 2014.