



BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

BELGRAVIA NEIGHBOURHOOD MEETING ONE WITH COMMUNITY LEAGUE EXECUTIVE OCTOBER 14, 2015

ATTENDING FROM THE COMMUNITY LEAGUE

Kevin Klein (President)	Hilary Allbon (Transportation Committee)
Heather Scherer (Vice President)	Sheila O'Brien (Secretary)
Josie Hammond- Thrasher (Communications)	Susan Kamp (Planning and Place)
Ken Goble (Facilities)	Jennie Lambert (Membership)
Annette Stupar- Cairns (Programs)	Roger Laing (End of the World Committee)
Dale Rowe (Director at Large)	Gail Fraser-Steffler (Transportation Committee)
Graham Walker (Transportation Committee)	

ATTENDING FROM THE CITY OF EDMONTON

Jebon Iqbal, Drainage Planning
Cathy Dytiuk, Community Services
Tony Sestito, Neighbourhood Renewal
Darryl Mullen, Transportation Planning
Kate Russell, Community Recreation Coordinator
Carla Putnam Kerr, Communications

The Building Great Neighbourhoods team met with the Belgravia 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 2017.

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.
- 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: Are you doing microsurfacing, overlay or reconstruction in Belgravia?

City: We are doing reconstruction in Belgravia.

League: Don't the curved sidewalks give greater accessibility?

City: We will install curb ramps at every intersection for accessibility, but we may use a combination of roll-face and straight curbs in Belgravia due to grading issues, tree roots, etc.

League: On 115 Street, there are sharrows, but it's too dangerous right now with bikes because of the potholes.

City: Thank you for flagging that for us. The road will be reconstructed in 2017 when Neighbourhood Renewal begins.

League: How much does the sidewalk reconstruction cost?

City: You can find information about sidewalk reconstruction on the City website:
http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/sidewalk-reconstruction.aspx.

We will also send information in local improvement notices to every homeowner that outlines the exact cost.

League: If you're in the minority against the sidewalk improvement and the project goes ahead, do you still have to pay?

City: Yes. The amount will be indicated on your local improvement notice.



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League: Is there tax relief for seniors who can't pay the sidewalk levy?

City: Although the City doesn't have a direct program to assist with local improvements, there is tax assistance for seniors available through the Government of Alberta. Go to http://www.edmonton.ca/residential_neighbourhoods/property_tax_assessment/tax-assistance-for-seniors.aspx for more information.

League: Does this project include all the alleys in Belgravia?

City: The City does not have an alley pavement renewal program in place. As part of Neighbourhood Renewal, existing alley lighting will be upgraded to the new LED standard.

Alley maintenance, which includes pothole and patch repairs, is available to preserve existing alleys. A complete alley resurfacing or reconstruction may occur in one of two ways:

1. Pave alleys reconstructed/resurfaced as part of utility (ATCO, EPCOR or drainage) restoration. In these situations, the utility pays for the restoration.
2. An alley local improvement is petitioned for by benefiting property owners using the local improvement process.

The cost of alley renewal is covered 100% by property owners. Details can be found at www.edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/alley-renewal.aspx.

League: Does Neighbourhood Renewal cover boulevard sidewalks?

City: Yes. Existing private connector walks are also reconstructed.

League: If we get the community involved and it looks like we have a majority who want the decorative streetlights, the City still requires a majority of people to sign?

City: Yes. 50% plus one of all Belgravia neighbourhood property owners must vote in favour of the decorative streetlights.

League: This is only if we want decorative lighting. If no one wants it, we don't have to do any of it. What's the benefit of it? Does it help with property values?

City: The City will provide upgraded, galvanized steel streetlights with LED bulbs if your neighbourhood doesn't want decorative streetlights. Find more information about property values and the City's assessment process here: http://www.edmonton.ca/residential_neighbourhoods/property_tax_assessment/assessment-process.aspx.

League: What is the cost of the decorative streetlights?

City: You can see cost estimates on our website: http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/decorative-lighting.aspx. Your local improvement notices will have the exact cost if the community chooses a specific decorative light and the local improvement passes.

League: There's no difference between decorative lights or standard ones in light pollution?

City: No.

League: Calgary had backlash over their new LED light colours. They're putting back warm colour bulbs. I would like to express that we want warmer colours, not the blinding white lights. I want to request a change to the colour spectrum.

City: Thank you. We will pass that feedback on to our Streetlighting group. Please email specific feedback to buildinggreatneighbourhoods@edmonton.ca and we will make sure it's passed along to the right expert.



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League: Was there any thought to the trains being taken out on the CN lands? Are they going to put 76 Avenue through?

City: That's not City property - it belongs to CN right now. City and CN met last year to discuss, but we haven't seen any plans yet.

League: If they're going to develop that land, then the traffic is going to be a concern.

City: We don't own that part of the discussion because it's out of the Neighbourhood Renewal program, but we will make sure our colleagues in Sustainable Transportation have seen your concerns.

City: Do you have any concerns about pedestrian access, traffic or other issues? Please flag them for us so we can use your feedback to inform our Belgravia Neighbourhood Renewal design.

League: We are doing the new hall. We have the park over there. For the hall, it would be nice to have a cutout in the road so people have a place to park near there. Can we have that parking option? We need handicapped parking accessibility as well.

City: We will make a note of that to assess whether that is possible.

League: You might approach the school too because they might want something similar.

City: Thank you for passing that along.

League: At the end of 74 Ave to 76 Ave at the top of Saskatchewan Drive, I always get stuck with my stroller in the windrows. There's no sidewalk. You have to walk on the road. It's very dangerous. There's no sidewalk between the stairs and the old Keillor Road. There isn't one near new Keillor Road either.

City: Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We will assess the area.

League: The trail near Keillor Road is in bad shape near Saskatchewan Drive.

City: Please email us the specific address you're concerned about, and we will look into it.

League: Coming south on Saskatchewan Drive, turning left onto 76 Ave, the sidewalk is very gradual. Speeding is always an issue. I've seen so many cars rip around the corner. I'd like the radius to be looked at - more of a 90 degree. Or another traffic circle - something to address the speeding concerns.

City: We will assess this location.

League: There is an exit lane from University Ave off Saskatchewan Drive. This encourages shortcutting.

City: We will assess this location.

League: What's the email address?

City: Email us at buildinggreatneighbourhoods@edmonton.ca.

League: I have a question with your meetings. Is there no opportunity to have a final design meeting before construction?

City: After our preliminary design meeting #2 in spring 2016, we want to hear whether we got it right. We want to gather your feedback. We will take all the information from today and up to December 15, and we'll include this information in the preliminary design. At meeting #2, you can let us know if there is anything we missed. At our final design meeting in fall 2016/winter 2017, there will be one last opportunity for feedback for a short time after. You can give us feedback at any point during the public meeting process in person or via email.

League: Does the design get posted prior to the meeting?

City: Usually it's posted the day of or the day after the meeting. However, if there are certain pieces of the



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projects that have been designed and are ready far in advance, we may be able to give your community recreation coordinator the information. Meeting #2 where we present our designs is very important to attend because we will show the community what we're thinking and get their feedback. You'll see designs twice -- at meeting #2 in spring 2016, and meeting #3 in fall 2016/winter 2017.

NEXT STEPS

Meeting	Phase	Timeline	Who's Invited?	Discussion/ Feedback	Feedback Deadline
#1	Concept	Approximately 18 months before construction	Community league executive	<p>Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline Neighbourhood Renewal process and timing. - Advise community league about decorative streetlight local improvement process and timelines. <p>Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community-led projects that may affect City investments in the neighbourhood. - Suggestions to improve pedestrian/cyclist access and overall livability. <p><i>Comments will be considered for preliminary design.</i></p>	2-3 months after the meeting (by December 15, 2015).
#2	Design	Approximately 12 months before construction	Residents, property owners	<p>Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline Neighbourhood Renewal process and timing. - Advise community about sidewalk and decorative streetlight local improvement process and timelines. - Share preliminary designs. <p>Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pedestrian and cycling accessibility, traffic accessibility, and overall neighbourhood livability. - Input on preliminary designs. <p><i>Comments will be considered for final design.</i></p>	6 weeks after the meeting.
#3	Build	Approximately 3-6 months before construction	Residents, property owners	<p>Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final neighbourhood design and construction process. - Review local improvements and petition 	2 weeks after the meeting.





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				<p>process.</p> <p>Feedback: <i>Comments are welcome. However, few changes can be made at this stage of the project.</i></p>	
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