



RIVER VALLEY ROAD/ GROAT ROAD INTERCHANGE CONCEPT PLANNING

NOVEMBER 2014

About the Project

The City of Edmonton is developing a long-range concept plan that looks at the interchange connecting three popular commuter routes, River Valley Road, Groat Road and Victoria Park Road.

The area serves as a popular commuter and recreation route for all travellers, including cyclists and pedestrians, as a river crossing and for accessing the downtown area, the University of Alberta and the river valley park system.

A public survey running for three weeks from September 26 and October 17, gathered information about issues and concerns about the interchange from motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. City staff also requested input from community leagues, local businesses and organizations. The following concept plan options were developed to address these concerns where possible, while balancing technical standards and City policies.

The Options

The feedback gathered this fall has been used to develop two draft concept plans. The plans are very high level and are meant to start a conversation about the interchange and allow for out-of-the-box thinking.

Both options feature the following benefits:

- Review of wayfinding signs (directional signs) within the project scope
- Steep shared-use path realigned
- High angle merges altered or removed
- Pedestrian crossing on River Valley Road relocated



Project Constraints

In addition to the need to follow industry standards and City of Edmonton policies and guidelines, this interchange presents a few unique constraints for design:

- River to the south
- Steeper slopes to the north
- Government House Park on the west
- Victoria Golf Course on the east
- Concerns about environmental impact to the river valley



Option 1: Modified Interchange

- Removes vehicle connection from Groat Road Bridge to River Valley Road
- Modifies merges
- Relocates / removes pedestrian crossings
- Modifies shared-use paths

Impacts

- The ability to get from the Groat Road Bridge northbound onto River Valley Road is eliminated

Option 2: Modern Roundabouts

- Replaces intersections and other points of direct conflict with roundabouts
- Removes signalized intersection
- Maintains all directions of travel
- Realigns shared-use path
- Relocates pedestrian crossings
- Motorist delay in the PM peak hours improved by 45%

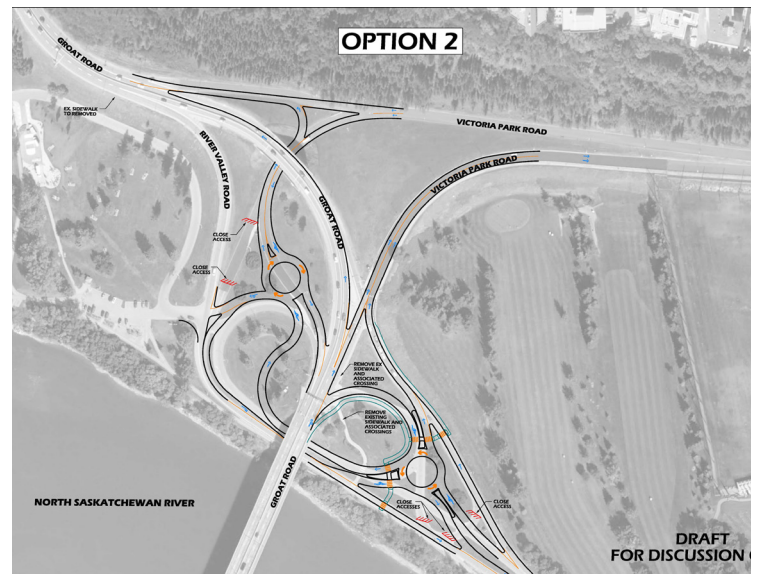
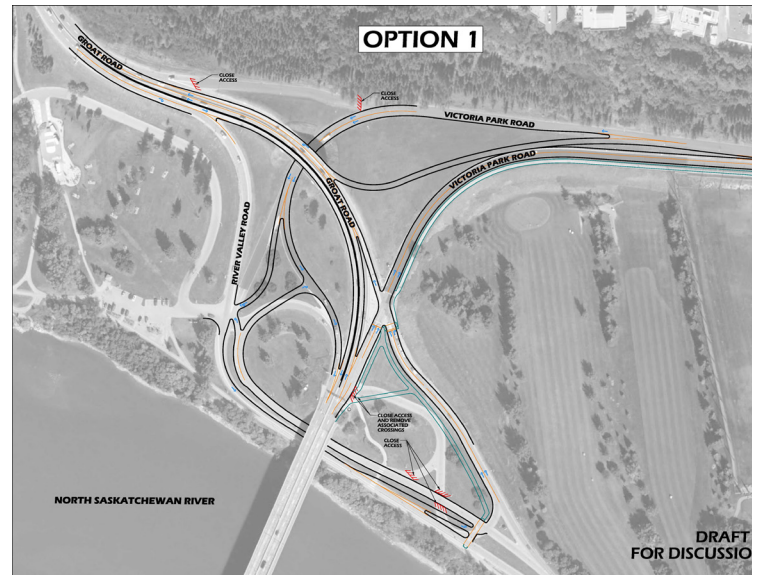
Impacts

- Large change to the layout
- Roundabouts may cause initial travel confusion
- New alignment of the shared-used path and the new crossing locations require pedestrians and cyclists to use a less direct route to get from the north side of Groat Road Bridge to the shared use path on Victoria Park Road.

Next Steps

Comments on the two concept plans will be collected at the November Open House and an online feedback form. The project team will then review the feedback gathered and will make further refinements to develop one concept plan.

The recommended concept plan is anticipated to be complete by Spring of 2015 and the project team



will report back to the public when it is complete.

No funding is currently identified for this project, therefore construction timelines are unknown.

For More Information

Visit:

www.edmonton.ca/RiverValleyGroatInterchange

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