



BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

ROSSLYN MEETING THREE

FEBRUARY 19, 2015 6:30-8:30 PM

The City of Edmonton is building a great neighbourhood in Rosslyn beginning in spring 2015. As the City is committed to involving Edmontonians in the decisions that affect them, residents have been asked to provide input, to identify missing sidewalk connections and opportunities for other investments to add to Rosslyn's livability.

The City held its first meeting with the community league executive on October 2, 2013. A second neighbourhood-wide meeting was held April 16, 2014. A final pre-construction meeting was held February 19, 2015.

Rosslyn residents had the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the neighbourhood preliminary design, and learn about the local improvement process. Staff members from Transportation Services, Community Services, Drainage Services and Forestry were on hand to address residents' questions.

The following provides a general overview of comments and questions from the meeting.

CONSTRUCTION

- *Looking forward to the project. Hope it goes through. Thanks.*
- *I have a double pad (parking). Can the edge of the sidewalk where the pad is be paved like a driveway instead of a sidewalk?*
- *I would like to know about if there is any way I can have my front sidewalk taken out and repoured. I would expect that the cost for that could be billed to me. Can someone confirm this with me if it is available?*

During our sidewalk removal and replacement process, we would only remove the portion of the private owner's sidewalk that is required to facilitate the construction of new sidewalk. The limit of removal depends on the new sidewalk grades and existing lot grades. Please note that we're unable to accommodate private requests for work during the Neighborhood Renewal process. If you require further clarification, please contact Adnan Akram at 780-423-6728.

DRAINAGE

- *We have flooding at 103 St & 132 Ave because catch basins are only 6". We could use an extra catch basin of a larger size. Please call me on this issue.*

Drainage Services is currently investigating the flooding issues at this location. Surface drainage will also be addressed through roadway reconstruction. Grading will be improved so storm water will flow properly to the existing catch basins.



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LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS

- *It is a dictatorship agenda to force taxpayers to pay for improvements to City property and charge them interest if they can't afford a lump sum up front.*

Because the City borrows money to pay for sidewalk reconstruction, interest is applicable for the long-term amortization option. However, the local improvement amortization option ensures that the payment will remain the same with no increase in the interest rate over the 20-year period. Additionally, should the property owner(s) wish to pay out the sidewalk reconstruction any time prior to the term ending, the program provides a penalty-free option to pay off the balance. You may contact the City's Taxation office by calling 311 after tax notices are sent out to find out the penalty-free balance for the sidewalk local improvement reconstruction cost.

- *To force us to have a 51% vote against it is so wrong. Why not a 51% vote for it. Corporations are not allowed to operate this way because it is illegal!*

Because sidewalk renewal is a City-initiated local improvement, you can petition against the local improvement in your specific project area in order to defeat the local improvement (during a specific petition period). For community-initiated local improvements like decorative streetlights, the community must get 51 per cent support in favour of the local improvement. This process is based on the provincial *Municipal Government Act* and City standards and procedures.

- *Why am I paying \$1,000 more than my neighbours when my lot is almost ½ the size for frontage?*
- *Since I have an odd-shaped lot I am disappointed that I am paying for the complete cost of the sidewalk.*
[Address: 13420 113 St]

The cost for an odd-shaped lot is determined by adding the front and rear lot dimensions and dividing the total in half. The average is used for the purposes of assessment and may not be more than twice the front lot dimension. You can see more details on our website: http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/sidewalk-reconstruction.aspx.

If you have concerns about the way your property was assessed, please contact Virgilio Mendoza in our Local Improvement group at neighbourhoodrenewal@edmonton.ca, or call 780-944-7672.

MEETING/PRESENTATION

- *I received no notice in the mail. As my house is getting a brand new sidewalk I am not being charged so I did not receive a packet. I would still appreciate being informed of events and to be able to understand my neighbours' challenges.*

The first meeting was held with the community league executive during a regular community league meeting in 2013. The second and third meetings were held in April 2014 and February 2015 with the entire neighbourhood. Notices were distributed to all homes within Rosslyn. The community league was notified in order to put the information on its website and in the community newsletter. The City also placed street signs and distributed information via our website, social media channels and a media announcement.

- *I found the presentation information presented too quickly.*
- *I was initially disappointed that there was no Q&A time as I feel we would all benefit from the info. However all the representatives were very helpful and spent time to explain and reassure and address my concerns.*



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- *Provide a group Q&A rather than 1-on-1.*
- *At the end of the presentation there was no question period. I was interested to hear what our community had to say and maybe my questions could have been answered. Very poor way to end this meeting that upset many, many people. You want our money however do not want to hear what we have to say.*
- *No FAQ after presentation? One-on-one basis only? What if 100 people have the same question? Wouldn't it be better to answer all at once? What if someone has a "great" question and provides insight for everyone?*
- *We were informed at end of presentation question/answer on a one-to-one basis. Why weren't questions taken from the public?*
- *Had a hard time understanding a couple of speakers.*
- *I would have liked to see open meeting of questions.*
- *It was hard to understand some of the presentation. Either talked too fast or did not speak clearly.*
- *There should have been a question session at the end so we can learn other people's concerns/questions.*
- *Problem with loudness with the microphone (too loud).*
- *Must have questions from the floor for everyone's benefit*
- *A Q&A would have been nice.*
- *It is an absolute farce that there was no question and answer session after the presentation, even when requested.*
- *Acoustics very poor. I sat near the back and half of the presentation was very poor hearing wise.*
- *It would have been helpful if questions were taken and answered with full audience participation.*

Thank you for your comments about the presentation content - we are taking them into consideration going forward.

City staff from various departments are available to answer questions during the meeting. Previously, we held Q&A sessions after presentations and found that this approach only allowed for a small number of questions from a few people. By making a number of subject matter experts available to answer questions after the presentation, we can answer more individual questions and also address specific questions that residents and property owners may have.

The City shares all comments and questions heard from neighbourhood residents and property owners in the What We Heard document, which is available at each meeting and on the project page at www.edmonton.ca/buildinggreateighbourhoods.

NEIGHBOURHOOD LIVABILITY

- *Connector to Griesbach trails - signal x walk 137 Ave*
- *Connector to Lauderdale trail - signal x walk 134 Ave*
- *Both to connect to bike path.*
- *Can the benches be memorials to past residents with a plaque?*

Please call 311 to connect with your Community Recreation Coordinator about these requests, and they will assist you through the process.

- *Picnic table at neighbourhood park's west end at 104 St bordered by 135A Ave and 136 Ave*

Thank you for your suggestion. We will look into this.



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TRAFFIC SIGNALS

- *We need pedestrian activated flashing lights where the bike/walking path crosses 135 Avenue and again at 132 Avenue.*

Thank you for your suggestion. A traffic count will be conducted on the 135 Avenue and 132 Avenue shared use paths in the spring/summer of 2015 to determine if lights are warranted.

Transportation Services uses an objective evaluation process to assess requests for upgrading traffic controls. Considerations include main and side street vehicle volumes, the delays experienced by drivers, the impacts of queued traffic, safety concerns, and implications of signalization on the overall roadway network. This evaluation determines whether a traffic signal is appropriate at a given location and ensures that available resources are allocated to critical locations in an equitable manner.

- *I am thrilled to see the walking path from 137 Ave to 132 Ave become lighted with the addition of park benches. As a rollerblader I utilize this path frequently. On several occasions I have almost been hit by a vehicle while carefully crossing on 134 Ave and 132 Ave. I would appreciate a more lighted crossing.*

We have forwarded your inquiry to Shawn Jacobs (shawn.jacobs@edmonton.ca) in our Street Lighting section to review the crosswalk lighting on 132 Avenue east of 103 St. This will be assessed outside of the Rosslyn neighbourhood renewal. The crosswalk on 135 Avenue west of 104A Street will be upgraded as part of the Rosslyn neighbourhood renewal and has already been identified on the preliminary streetlight design. For any further questions, please contact Shawn.

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A traffic count will be conducted on the 135 Avenue shared use path and the 132 Avenue shared use path in the spring/summer of 2015 to determine if lights are warranted.

- *Can the City install some kind of pedestrian light so that people can safely walk from the foot/bicycle path (that runs between 127 Ave and 137 Ave) to the former military base [Griesbach] north of 137 Ave?*

To access the area north of 137 Avenue, one can cross at the intersection of Pegasus Boulevard.

- *Can the City install a left turning light at 97 St and 135 Ave for traffic heading west and turning south onto 97 St?*

Based on our survey from November 2013, the intersection does not meet our guidelines for a westbound left-turn re-phase.