The 105 Avenue (Columbia Avenue) Corridor Streetscape project began with the Downtown North Edge Development Study in 2004. The corridor will accommodate a wide range of uses and activities for city-wide and community benefit—a place where residents can live, work, shop and play. Streetscape improvements and infill redevelopment will help shape the physical, economic and cultural character of the area. The design will focus on 105 Avenue between 109 Street and 119 Street.

Below are some frequently asked questions that may give you a better understanding of the project’s status and progress.

If parking is removed on 105 Avenue, how will the City deal with overflow parking?
As per the Zoning Bylaw, all commercial and residential developments in the City are required to provide on-site parking and loading facilities to accommodate clients, customers, employees, residents, visitors, etc.

A parking management plan for the area is being developed. The plan may involve time restricted parking on the side streets, which would increase parking turnover rates to support area businesses. It would also reduce spillover parking from other major current and future facilities in the area. All time restricted parking zones will be subject to majority support from area landowners.

How will public art be implemented?
Public art will be an integral part of the streetscape. As part of the Percent for Art Program, larger works will be located at key intersections and smaller integral and evolving works will be located along the length of Columbia Avenue.

Many of the public art features are intended to be developed through community collaboration. Some art initiatives may include opportunity for local residents to provide insight and written elements about their neighbourhood.

Why is the park node located at 113 Street?
The proposed road closure on the block between 112 Street and 113 Street is exactly halfway between the two main arterial roadways (109 Street and 116 Street). This a natural break point in the corridor. The road closure is intended to lessen the volume of non-local through traffic. The reduction of non-local traffic helps to support the transformation of 105 Avenue into a pedestrian and cyclist focused corridor. In the City’s original public consultation in 2006, this location had support to proceed.

How will construction be coordinated with the existing businesses?
The construction project manager will meet with stakeholders to address their concerns and will keep them up-to-date with the schedule of events during construction. The project team will ensure pedestrian access and vehicle access as best they can. Surrounding and affected owners, businesses and resident will be informed of the schedule once a contractor has been selected.
Has emergency access been reviewed for the corridor and park node?
Emergency access through the park space has been designed to ensure that fire trucks and ambulances can continue to have access along 105 Avenue. Ongoing discussions with emergency services will identify any further concerns that will need to be addressed to ensure all emergency requirements are met.

Snow removal is an important concern in Edmonton. How will this be dealt with along the corridor?
Care has been taken with the design to ensure that snow storage space is available. The avenue will be plowed, with windrows pushed to each curb. The windrows will be stored along the curb and gutter, as well as a portion of the furniture zone, and will be picked up several times per season when they begin to constrict vehicular travel.

If you have any further questions, please visit us online at edmonton.ca/105avenuestreetscape