

News Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

North America's Largest Urban Parkland Receives \$72.9-Million Investment

Edmonton, January 23, 2013— Mayor Stephen Mandel joined River Valley Alliance members and government representatives to announce \$90-million in funding support in the capital region river valley.

The River Valley Alliance (with 7 member municipalities including the City of Edmonton), the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada each committed \$30-million to the capital project.



While Edmonton contributed \$24.3-million, it will receive \$72.9-million from the \$90-million announced. The investment will be used for 5 initiatives to increase equitable access and connection opportunities for citizens and visitors enjoying the jewel of the city and the region.

“We’re so proud to showcase our river and river valley, the largest river valley park in North America,” said Mayor Stephen Mandel. “It provides incredible and enviable quality of life along with unique economic and social benefits to our citizens. We thank our government and funding partners as this investment will improve accessibility and create opportunities in Edmonton for generations.”

The capital projects are planned to be completed by 2016. The City of Edmonton will assemble project teams and engage widely with communities and user groups to look at alignment and access on the 5 approved initiatives.

Edmonton's 5 Initiatives

1. Terwillegar Park Footbridge

This 280-metre long footbridge will link Terwillegar Park to the river terrace north of the river.

Estimated cost: \$24.5-million

2. West End Trails

This initiative will add 5 km of primary (paved) and secondary (gravel) trails to the river valley main spine trail. The extensions include a link between the recently completed signature Fort Edmonton Bridge and a new proposed footbridge to Terwillegar Park.

Estimated cost: \$3.5-million

3. East End Trails

This initiative will add 14 km of primary and secondary trails to Edmonton's river valley. The new trails will link existing paths in Goldstick and Hermitage Parks. New trails east of Hermitage Park will link to the bridge at Anthony Henday Drive.

Estimated cost \$8.5-million

4. Boat Launches and Docks

Three boat launches and 7 docks.

Estimated cost: \$2-million

5. Mechanized River Valley Access and Touch the Water Promenade

Mechanized access from Jasper Avenue to Rossdale, connecting to the river valley trail system and the Touch the Water Promenade. The Promenade will create amenities which could include plazas, walkways and docks around the new Walterdale Bridge and areas adjacent to the EPCOR lands.

Estimated cost: \$34.4-million

Edmonton's 5 initiatives align with Council's strategic vision and goals on improving connectedness, supporting healthy active lifestyles and maintaining interconnectivity of our natural environment.

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