

City of Edmonton **Yellowhead Trail Freeway Conversion Program**

82 Street to 50 Street: 66 Street Intersection

PROJECT UPDATE

June 2019

The Edmonton logo, featuring the word "Edmonton" in white text on a blue square background.

As part of the Yellowhead Trail Freeway Conversion Program, the City of Edmonton initiated a concept planning study in fall 2018 for the segment of Yellowhead Trail between 82 Street and 50 Street. The intent is to investigate the impacts of the removal of the signalized intersection at Yellowhead Trail and 66 Street, as directed in the Yellowhead Trail Strategic Plan (2011).

The outcome of the study will be a concept plan for the area roadway network. No decisions have been made, aside from the broader objective of being able to achieve free-flowing traffic (that is, no traffic signals) on Yellowhead Trail.

We need your help to adjust the design of the future roadway network. While multiple options were explored, three design options are being studied to determine the preferred concept plan. Read this second project update to learn more and find out how you can help us to improve the design options—online or in person at our June engagement sessions.

PHASE 1 ENGAGEMENT: LISTEN AND LEARN

JANUARY TO APRIL 2019

We designed a three-phase public engagement process to create multiple opportunities to gather public and stakeholder input throughout the planning study.

The project team met with area residents, commercial property and business owners, and community organizations, as well as those who drive, bike and walk through the area. We discussed the planned removal of the traffic signals at Yellowhead Trail and 66 Street and impacts of the potential closure of 66 Street at Yellowhead Trail. We collected valuable feedback and heard how important 66 Street is to local businesses and residents.



Stakeholder Meetings

(Commercial property owners, community league and parent advisory councils)

January to April 2019

17 meetings



Business and Property Owner Drop-In Event

Jerry Forbes Centre for Community Spirit

February 2019

30 participants



Two Drop-in Public Engagement Sessions

Jerry Forbes Centre for Community Spirit and Balwin School

March 2019

343 participants



Online Engagement

Input was received on the City's project webpage

February to March 2019

181 participants

LET'S TALK:

View the design options and share your input in person June 19 and 22 or online at edmonton.ca/Yellowhead82to50Street from June 19 to July 6, 2019.

WHAT WE HEARD OVERALL

We received hundreds of comments during our Phase 1 engagement about current roadway issues and what your commute might look like if 66 Street was closed at Yellowhead Trail. The comments we heard most often were:

- Maintaining a north-south connection at 66 Street is important
- The existing roadway network in the study area is thought to be at maximum capacity during peak travel times; rerouted traffic from the Yellowhead Trail and 66 Street intersection will worsen the existing congestion issues
- Shortcutting through residential neighbourhoods will increase
- Uncertainty about access from project area to future routes for heavy trucks and dangerous goods vehicles
- The communities of Montrose, Newton and Santa Rosa (located south of Yellowhead Trail) will become isolated

For more detailed information on what we heard during Phase 1, view our public engagement report online: edmonton.ca/Yellowhead82to50Street.

WHAT WE DID

Your involvement helped us adjust our approach to the removal of the signalized intersection at Yellowhead Trail and 66 Street. We have developed roadway network options that balance technical requirements for the freeway conversion with the needs of the community, businesses and commuters.

While multiple options were studied, three options, two of which maintain a north-south connection, will be further studied to determine the concept plan for the area (see next page).

PHASE 2 ENGAGEMENT: CONFIGURATION OPTIONS AND EVALUATION

These three options will be further evaluated to help determine the concept plan. We invite you to attend one of our Phase 2 public sessions to help us adjust the design of the future road network.

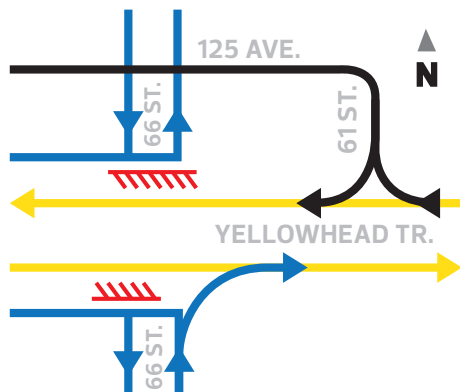
Also, help us improve:

- the criteria that will be used to evaluate the design options
- how we're proposing to accommodate vehicles where roads and alleys will be closed to Yellowhead Trail between 62 Street and 68 Street
- proposed paths and connections for those who bike and walk

OPTION 1

- **Partial Closure with Right Turn onto Yellowhead Trail**

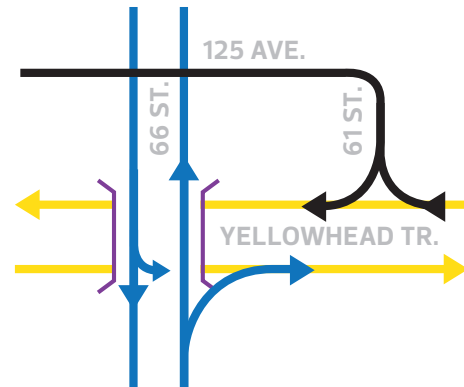
66 Street northbound to Yellowhead Trail eastbound



OPTION 3

- **Yellowhead Trail Underpass at 66 Street**

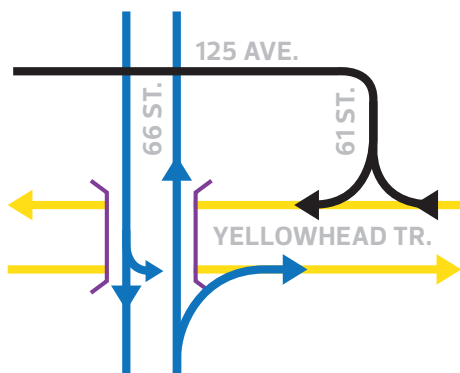
66 Street at grade



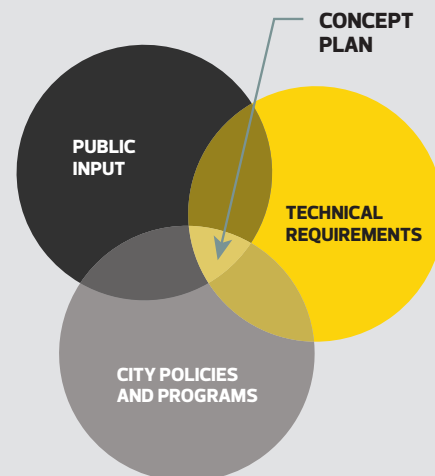
OPTION 2

- **Partial Interchange 66 Street Flyover (Overpass)**

With turns from 66 Street northbound and southbound to Yellowhead Trail eastbound



Your input, along with traffic analysis, safety and technical requirements, and City policies, will help determine the preferred concept plan.



WHAT'S NEXT

Input received during Phase 2 engagement will help determine and refine the preferred concept plan that will be shared this fall.

YELLOWHEAD TRAIL FREEWAY CONVERSION PROGRAM

The Yellowhead Trail Freeway Conversion Program, identified in the City's 2019–2022 Capital Budget as a transformational project, will upgrade Yellowhead Trail to improve the safety, operational capacity and level of service of this key inter-city, inter-regional and inter-provincial route.

Over the next four years, planning, design and public engagement on the multiple projects that make up the freeway conversion will continue. Construction will start in 2019 on roads parallel to Yellowhead Trail in the 149 Street area, and on the service road (125A Avenue) between 97 Street and 82 Street. Major construction on Yellowhead Trail is anticipated to start in Spring 2020. Sign up online to stay informed and learn about public engagement opportunities for all segments of Yellowhead Trail: edmonton.ca/YellowheadTrail.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

Wednesday, June 19, 2019 | 4 – 8:30 p.m.

Jerry Forbes Centre for Community Spirit | 12122 – 68 Street
Presentation at 5 p.m. and repeated at 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 22, 2019 | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Balwin School | 7055 – 132 Avenue
Presentation at 11:30 a.m.

REFINE

Stay Informed!

To learn more, provide feedback, sign-up for email updates, and access a copy of our recent public engagement report, visit us online: edmonton.ca/Yellowhead82to50street

Learn more about this project at: edmonton.ca/Yellowhead82to50street
Email: yellowhead@edmonton.ca

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SHAPE OUR CITY

Edmonton