

EDMONTON DEVELOPING NEIGHBOURHOODS: LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL LOT SERVICING 2014



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Introduction

Each year the Growth Analysis Unit of the Sustainable Development Department coordinates and prepares a 'Low Density Residential Lot Servicing' report for the city's developing neighbourhoods. A historic perspective of low density lot servicing is provided for the past ten years. A summary of the 2014 low density residential servicing is broken down by city Subsector and Area Structure Plan. A servicing forecast for the next six years (inclusive of the current one) includes low density servicing activity within developing neighbourhoods in approved Area Structure Plans (ASPs).



Servicing Activity

Servicing activity is based on low density residential lots (single and semi units). Low density residential home construction constitutes the majority of development in most developing residential neighbourhoods and is also more consistent in terms of the rate of development than is multi-family development. Low density residential lots (single and semi units) also consume more land, proportionally, than do multi-family developments, thereby providing a stronger indication of the general direction and volume of growth expected to take place in approved neighbourhoods over the forecast period. All annual reporting, both historic and forecast, is based on the calendar year of

Historic Low Density Residential Lot Servicing 2005-2014

The total number of lots serviced between 2005 and 2014 was 40,382 (Table 1). The years with the highest lots serviced were 2005 and 2014 with 5,922 and 5,889 lots serviced respectively. The two with the lowest years were 2006 and 2009 with 2,700 and 595 lots serviced respectively. Six of the last ten years have seen servicing exceed 4,400 lots (Figure 1). Prior to 2008 the low density lot servicing calculation excluded semi-detached units.

Historically, the percentage share of low density residential lot servicing has exhibited considerable variation across the different Subsectors of the city (Table 2). Except for the years 2005 (31%) and 2013 (34%), the combined servicing activity of the North and Northeast sectors has been between 10-25% of the City total. Over the last five years West Edmonton has been increasing it's share from the low teens to over 20% of lot servicing. Southwest and Southeast Edmonton continue to attract about 50-60% of the lot servicing.

Table 1: Historical Share of Low Density Residential Lot Servicing by City Subsector

ASP by Subsector	Actuals										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
NORTH											
Castle Downs Extension	227	0	215	0	0	139	109	157	212	192	1,251
Edmonton North	351	285	134	74	67	144	109	341	332	169	2,006
Goodridge Corners	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greisbach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	287	123	410
Palisades	167	94	145	0	0	0	379	184	237	0	1,206
TOTAL	745	379	494	74	67	283	597	682	1,068	484	4,873
NORTHEAST											
Clareview	44	0	62	48	0	48	0	50	217	0	469
Ebbers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	93	93
Horse Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pilot Sound	1,029	307	266	192	38	349	179	55	205	546	3,166
TOTAL	1,073	307	328	240	38	397	179	105	422	639	3,728
NORTHWEST											
Big Lake	0	0	0	0	0	238	0	415	80	167	900
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	238	0	415	80	167	900
WEST											
Cameron Heights	65	0	186	0	41	0	0	0	70	117	479
Edgemont	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	145	225	92	462
Lewis Farms	188	232	100	158	52	290	267	281	434	1,038	3,040
Riverview	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
The Grange	396	304	917	0	164	406	225	155	89	73	2,729
West Jasper Place	65	41	36	68	0	0	0	0	0	0	210
TOTAL	714	577	1,239	226	257	696	492	581	818	1,320	6,920
SOUTHWEST											
Heritage Valley	943	260	322	342	18	988	606	364	701	869	5,413
Terwillegar Heights	1,528	523	1,154	116	0	70	27	34	0	0	3,452
Windermere	0	0	290	739	43	0	177	899	534	776	3,458
TOTAL	2,471	783	1,766	1,197	61	1,058	810	1,297	1,235	1,645	12,323
SOUTHEAST											
Ellerslie	518	291	520	326	0	567	465	268	310	498	3,763
Southeast	0	0	332	579	106	517	566	536	233	494	3,363
The Meadows	401	363	266	486	66	820	549	655	264	642	4,512
TOTAL	919	654	1,118	1,391	172	1,904	1,580	1,459	807	1,634	11,638
TOTAL	5,922	2,700	4,945	3,128	595	4,576	3,658	4,539	4,430	5,889	40,382

* Prior to 2008 the low density lot servicing excluded semi-detached units

** The Northwest subsector was separated out in 2010

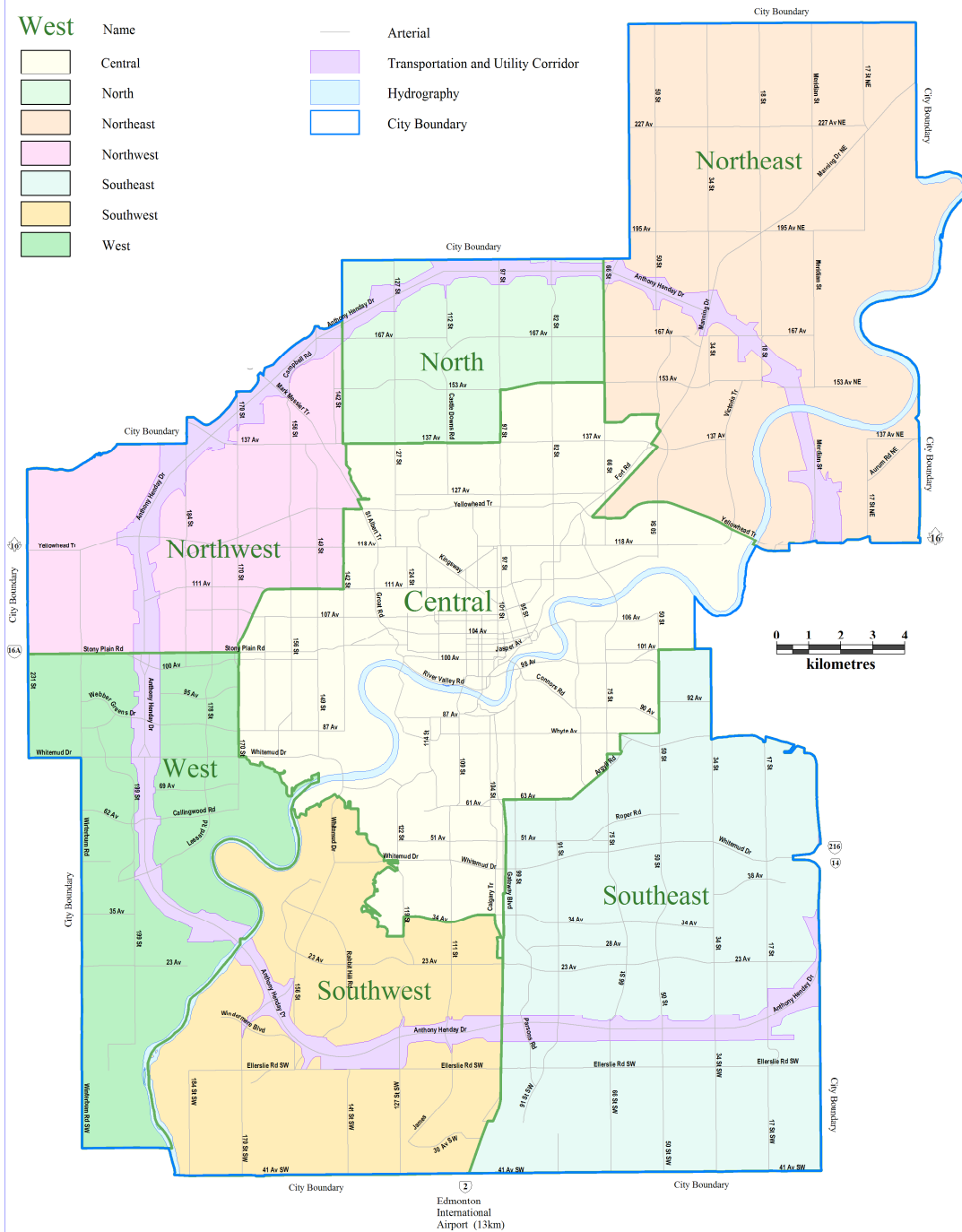
City of Edmonton City Subsectors



West

- Central
- North
- Northeast
- Northwest
- Southeast
- Southwest
- West

- Arterial
- Transportation and Utility Corridor
- Hydrography
- City Boundary



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Figure 1: Number of Low Density Residential Lots Serviced, 2005-2014

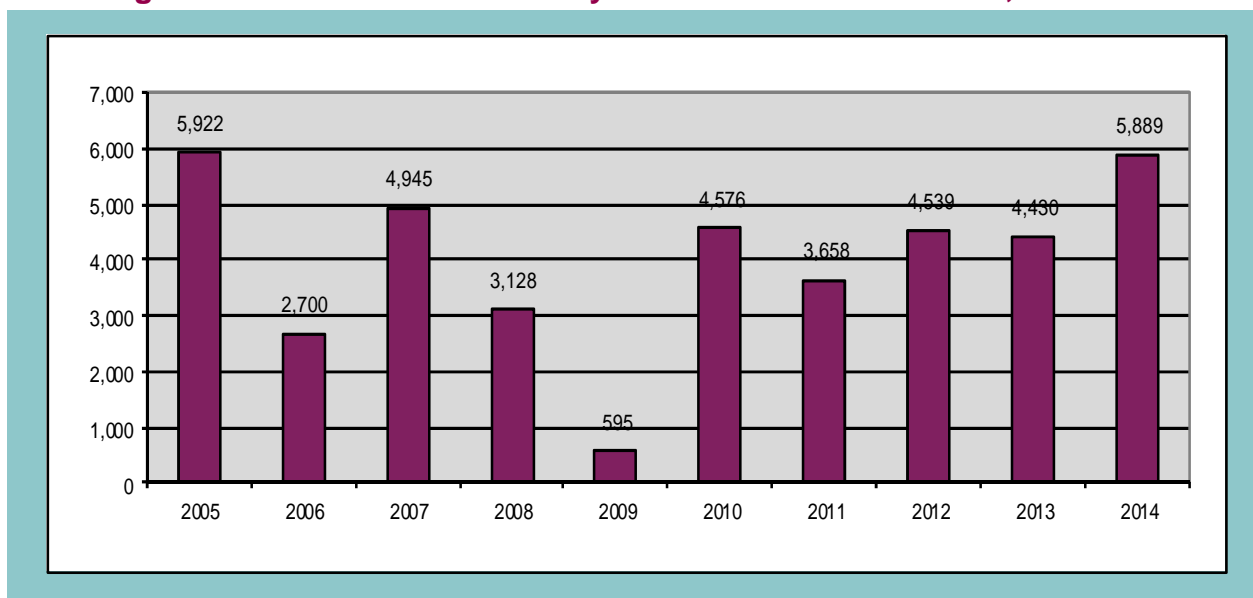


Table 2:

Percent of Low Density Residential Lot Servicing Share by Subsector, 2005-2014

City Subsector	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
North	13%	14%	10%	2%	11%	6%	16%	14%	24%	8%
Northeast	18%	11%	7%	8%	6%	9%	5%	10%	10%	11%
Northwest*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	0%	2%	2%	3%
West	12%	21%	25%	7%	43%	15%	13%	16%	18%	22%
Southwest	42%	29%	36%	38%	10%	23%	22%	30%	28%	28%
Southeast	16%	24%	23%	44%	29%	42%	43%	28%	18%	28%
Total Lots	5,922	2,700	4,945	3,128	595	4,576	3,658	4,539	4,430	5,889

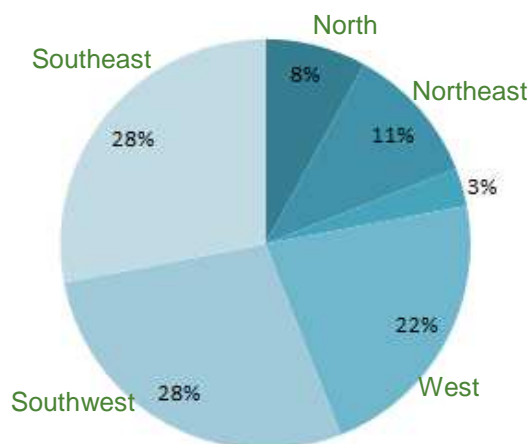
* Northwest Subsector was separated out in 2010

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Table 3
2014 Low Density Residential Lot Servicing
by City Subsector and Area Structure Plan

2014 Low Density Residential Lot Servicing

The number of low density residential lots serviced in Edmonton's developing neighbourhoods in 2014 was 5,889. This is much higher (46%) than the 10 year average (4,038). In 2014, the percentage share of development continues to be strong in the South. South Edmonton (Southwest and Southeast combined) accounted for fifty-six percent of the servicing in 2014. North Edmonton (North and Northeast combined) accounted for nineteen percent. West Edmonton (Northwest and West combined) has the second highest lot servicing at twenty-five percent. Table 3 shows the 2014 low density residential servicing by city subsector and Area Structure Plans.



Subsector	Area Structure Plan	Lots Serviced	Percent Share
NORTH	Castle Downs Extension	192	3%
	Edmonton North	169	3%
	Goodridge Corners	0	0%
	Greisbach	123	2%
	Palisades	0	0%
	TOTAL	484	8%
NORTHEAST	Clareview	0	0%
	Ebbers	93	2%
	Horse Hills	0	0%
	Pilot Sound	546	9%
	TOTAL	639	11%
NORTHWEST**	Big Lake	167	3%
	TOTAL	167	3%
WEST	Cameron Heights	117	2%
	Edgemont	92	2%
	Lewis Farms	1,038	18%
	Riverview	0	0%
	The Grange	73	1%
	TOTAL	1,320	22%
SOUTHWEST	Heritage Valley	869	15%
	Terwillegar Heights	0	0%
	Windermere	776	13%
	TOTAL	1,645	28%
SOUTHEAST	Ellerslie	498	8%
	Southeast	494	8%
	The Meadows	642	11%
	TOTAL	1,634	28%
TOTAL		5,889	100%

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Low Density Residential Servicing Forecast, 2015-2020

Accurate forecasting of land servicing activity for small areas of the city is a difficult exercise. The intentions and capabilities of the development industry, potential servicing limitations, marketing successes in particular geographic areas, and the underlying economic outlook on the local, regional and global scales are all important factors that influence the accuracy of the forecasts. This report makes what are considered reasonable forecasts for the upcoming six year period.

In the spring of each year the City of Edmonton's Sustainable Development Department and the Urban Development Institute (UDI) Greater Edmonton Chapter independently prepare low density residential lot servicing forecasts for a six year timeframe from 2015 to 2020. UDI canvasses its membership on their development intentions over the next six years. Sustainable Development reviews land development applications and servicing agreements in light of expected population growth, knowledge of potential servicing constraints, and the overall economic climate. Taken together, the Sustainable Development and Urban Development Institute forecasts provide a range of expected servicing activity in Edmonton's developing neighbourhoods.

Sustainable Development anticipates the servicing activity to start slow in 2015-2016, due to current oil prices slowing the economy, and a slight growth in the forecast over the next 4 years from 2017-2020. The Urban Development Institute forecasts sustained servicing activity over the next three years and then slowing down from 2019 to 2020 (Table 5). The Sustainable Development forecast for the 2015-2020 timeframe indicates an average annual lot servicing of about 5,100 low density residential lots per year. The UDI forecast estimates an average of about 4,800 low density lots serviced per year for 2015-2020.

Sustainable Development and the Urban Development Institute have a similar forecast that the South and West subsectors will account for a majority of all lot servicing activity. Sustainable Development has the Northeast having a slightly higher percentage share of the growth than the amount the Urban Development Institute has projected. Horse Hills ASP is a new development with a lot of potential. Over the forecast period, both organizations suggest the combined Southeast and Southwest subsectors will experience over 50% of new low density residential lot servicing. The Decoteau Area ASP will likely be approved over the forecast period providing for future growth in the Southeast. Urban Development Institute forecasts stronger growth in the West subsector.

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Servicing Activity Methodology

“Servicing activity” refers to low density lots for which complete underground servicing has been constructed, including: storm and sanitary sewers, water mains, and shallow utilities (i.e. gas and power). To determine the actual number of serviced lots, Sustainable Development has partnered with EPCOR Water Services to establish the date from which water mains for stages of development within new neighbourhoods were “in service.” This means that the mains have been charged with water, a new home could readily be connected with this infrastructure, and a building permit could be issued immediately. The “in service” date, sometimes referred to as the “commission date,” is used as guide to servicing completion because water mains are a shallower utility than storm and sanitary sewers, meaning that storm and sanitary construction would necessarily precede it. Functioning shallow utilities (gas and power) are required to ensure that the water service can flow into new homes without the risk of freezing as they emerge from underground. Functioning water service is also required for fire protection purposes prior to the construction of the first show home in a new neighbourhood.

Prepared by the Growth Analysis Unit, Sustainable Development
For more information, contact the City of Edmonton at: 311 (in Edmonton) or 780-442-5311

Table 4: Low Density Residential Lot Servicing Forecasts, 2015-2020

		Low Density Residential Lot Servicing Forecasts, 2015-2020												Forecast Average (lots/ year)		Forecast Average (% share)	
Subsector	Area Structure Plan	SD 2015	UDI 2015	SD 2016	UDI 2016	SD 2017	UDI 2017	SD 2018	UDI 2018	SD 2019	UDI 2019	SD 2020	UDI 2020	SD 15-20	UDI 15-20	SD 15-20	UDI 15-20
NORTH	Castle Downs Extension	85	231	80	75	75	75	70	0	50	0	30	0	65	64	1.3%	1.3%
	Edmonton North	90	90	101	235	93	84	90	267	90	100	80	67	91	141	1.8%	2.9%
	Goodridge Corners	0		0		121	121	117	117	110	110	101	101	75	75	1.5%	1.6%
	Greisbach	125	32	220	137	135	202	180	130	200	150	220	150	180	134	3.5%	2.8%
	Palisades	18		16		15		15		12		15		15	0	0.3%	0.0%
	North TOTAL	318	353	417	447	439	482	472	514	462	360	446	318	426	412	8.3%	8.6%
NORTHEAST	Clareview	91	357	71	27	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	64	0.6%	1.3%
	Ebbers	30	30	60	30	60	30	40	30	40	30	40	30	45	30	0.9%	0.6%
	Horse Hills	50		300	400	350		400	300	400		400	300	317	167	6.2%	3.5%
	Pilot Sound	253	212	215	319	172	330	172		120		90		170	144	3.3%	3.0%
	Northeast TOTAL	424	599	646	776	602	360	612	330	560	30	530	330	562	404	11.0%	8.5%
NORTHWEST	Big Lake	153	220	161	250	167	205	197	100	200	55	200	55	180	148	3.5%	3.1%
	Northwest TOTAL	153	220	161	250	167	205	197	100	200	55	200	55	180	148	3.5%	3.1%
WEST	Cameron Heights	60	60	30	30	30	0	10	0	20	0	10	0	27	15	0.5%	0.3%
	Edgemont	329	336	208	721	205	632	239	750	236	500	230	500	241	573	4.7%	12.0%
	Lewis Farms	264	173	356	300	414	150	478	320	481	100	460	100	409	191	8.0%	4.0%
	The Grange	50	60	60	80	72	75	20	70	10	70	0	70	35	71	0.7%	1.5%
	Riverview	251	325	326	550	312	550	299	550	350	550	400	550	323	513	6.3%	10.7%
	West TOTAL	954	954	980	1,681	1,033	1,407	1,046	1,690	1,097	1,220	1,100	1,220	1,035	1,362	20.2%	28.6%
SOUTHWEST	Heritage Valley	860	989	947	1,081	995	927	950	650	900	480	900	430	925	760	18.0%	15.9%
	Windermere	632	579	599	468	569	576	575	532	590	428	580	226	591	468	11.5%	9.8%
	Southwest TOTAL	1,492	1,568	1,546	1,549	1,564	1,503	1,525	1,182	1,490	908	1,480	656	1,516	1,228	29.6%	25.7%
SOUTHEAST	Ellerslie	500	320	546	450	580	325	600	527	589	400	545	400	560	404	10.9%	8.5%
	Southeast	101	200	90	148	125	125	145	215	135	275	125	275	120	206	2.3%	4.3%
	The Meadows	671	694	661	651	650	462	625	462	620	462	520	300	625	505	12.2%	10.6%
	Decoteau Area*	0		0		0		100	165	200	220	325	220	104	101	2.0%	2.1%
	Southeast TOTAL	1,272	1,214	1,297	1,249	1,355	912	1,470	1,369	1,544	1,357	1,515	1,195	1,409	1,216	27.5%	25.5%
TOTAL		4,613	4,908	5,047	5,952	5,160	4,869	5,322	5,185	5,353	3,930	5,271	3,774	5,128	4,770	100.0%	100.0%