

# River Access Strategy

## River Usage and Draft River Use Plan June 2017 Surveys Summary Report





## Table of Contents

<b>Background</b> .....	2
<b>Survey Methodology</b> .....	3
<b>Survey Results</b> .....	5
Use of the River.....	5
Barriers to Using the River.....	10
Encouragement to Use the River More .....	17
Feedback on the Draft River Use Plan.....	22
Feedback on River Access Sites .....	24
Ranking of Sites by Support or Opposition to the Recommendations .....	25
Sites.....	27
Terwillegar #1.....	27
Terwillegar #2 (future) .....	29
Fort Edmonton Park.....	31
Whitemud.....	33
Laurier.....	35
Buena Vista #1(Edmonton Rowing Club) .....	37
Buena Vista #2 (Edmonton Whitewater Paddlers) .....	39
Hawrelak.....	41
Emily Murphy.....	43
Rossdale (future).....	45
Louise McKinney .....	48
Rafter’s Landing (Edmonton River Queen, Edmonton Dragon Boat Festival Association).....	50
Dawson #1 (Edmonton Dragon Boat Racing Club) .....	52
Dawson #2.....	54
Capilano .....	56
Rundle (future).....	58
Prioritization.....	60
Sites Not Recommended .....	61

# River Access Strategy

## River Usage and Draft River Use Plan June 2017 Surveys Summary Report

### *Background*

The River Access Strategy will inform future programming, operation and infrastructure improvements that support access to the river and activities associated with the river. From 2013 to 2017, extensive consultation included discussions and workshops with internal and external stakeholders, and the following surveys:

Timeframe	Survey	Responses	Further Actions
<b>March 2014</b>	Leger Web Omnibus	418	
<b>April to May 2014</b>	River Usage and Attitudes Baseline Online Survey	1,930	5 principles were developed
<b>June to July 2014</b>	Guiding Principles Survey	231	Expanded the 5 principles to 7 guiding principles
<b>May to June 2015</b>	Strategies Online Survey	702	City Council approved the River Access Guiding Principles C586

...

The City of Edmonton is developing a 10-year plan referred to as the River Access Strategy. This strategy will inform future programming, operations and infrastructure improvements related to access and activities associated with the river. It will also define locations, regulations and user guidelines for development of river-based amenities.

...

## Where we are in the process



## Survey Methodology

In 2017, a survey was developed to further understand how the public uses the river and to obtain feedback on recommendations for various sites that have been evaluated in the draft River Use Plan. The survey was available online from June 10 to 30, 2017. The June 13 to 20, 2017 mixed topic survey to the Edmonton Insight Community, the City's online citizen panel also included questions about use of the river, whether citizens are accessing the river as much as they'd like to, what barriers there are to using the river, what would encourage them to use the river more, and whether they would like to opt-in to receiving a more in-depth survey for feedback on the draft River Use Plan. Of the 878 Edmonton Insight Community (EIC) members who opted-in to receive a link to access the in-depth survey that had future use recommendations for new and established river access sites, as well as prioritization for improvement areas; 347 completed this additional survey that was available from June 21 to 30, 2017. Note: These EIC members were skipped over the initial questions on the in-depth survey as these were the same questions asked on the EIC June mixed topic survey.

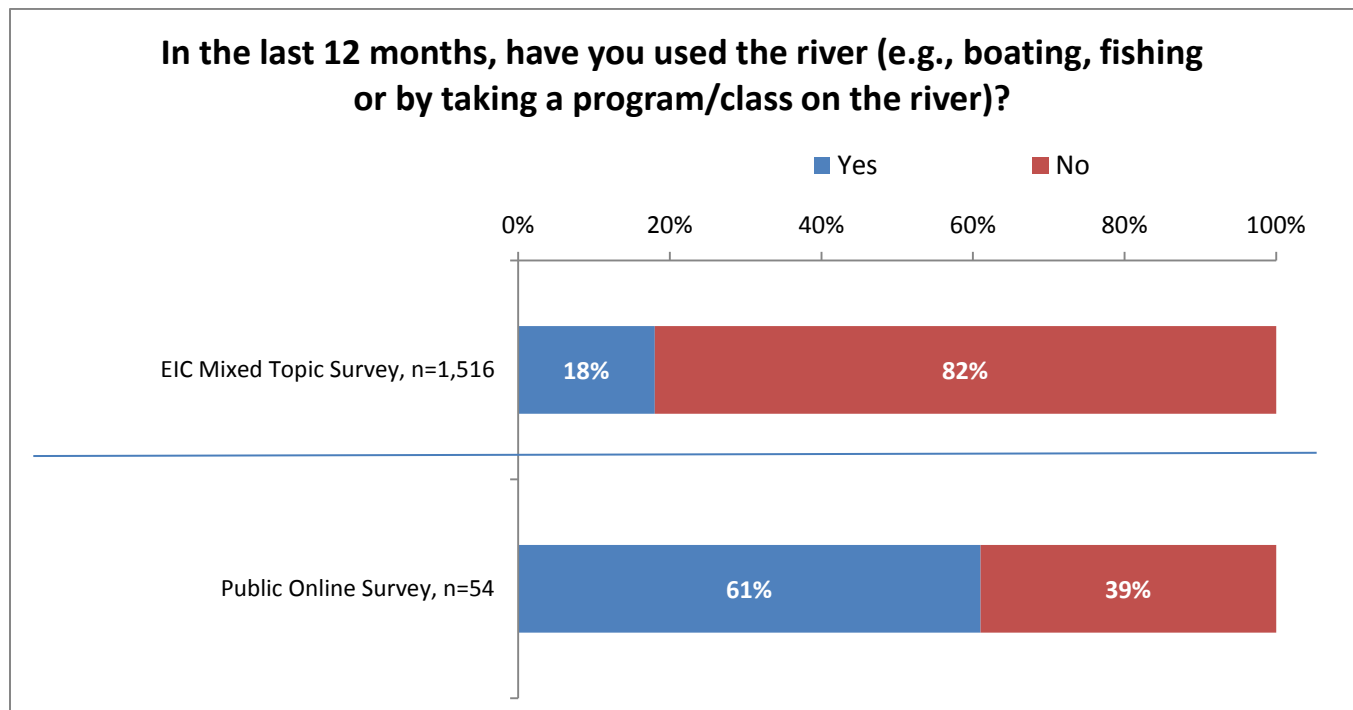


Timeframe	Survey	Responses
<b>June 13 to 20, 2017</b>	Edmonton Insight Community (EIC) June 2017 Mixed Topic Survey River Usage Questions	1,516  (Of the 11 responses from edmonton.ca/surveys, 18 “Call to Action” button on edmonton.ca, and 1,749 EIC members who answered the June 2017 mixed topic survey, 1,516 provided responses for the River Access Strategy questions)
<b>May 30 to June 30, 2017</b>	River Access Strategy  River Usage and Draft River Use Plan Online Survey	401  (347 from EIC, 50 from the River Access Strategy website, and 4 from edmonton.ca/surveys)

## Survey Results

### Use of the River

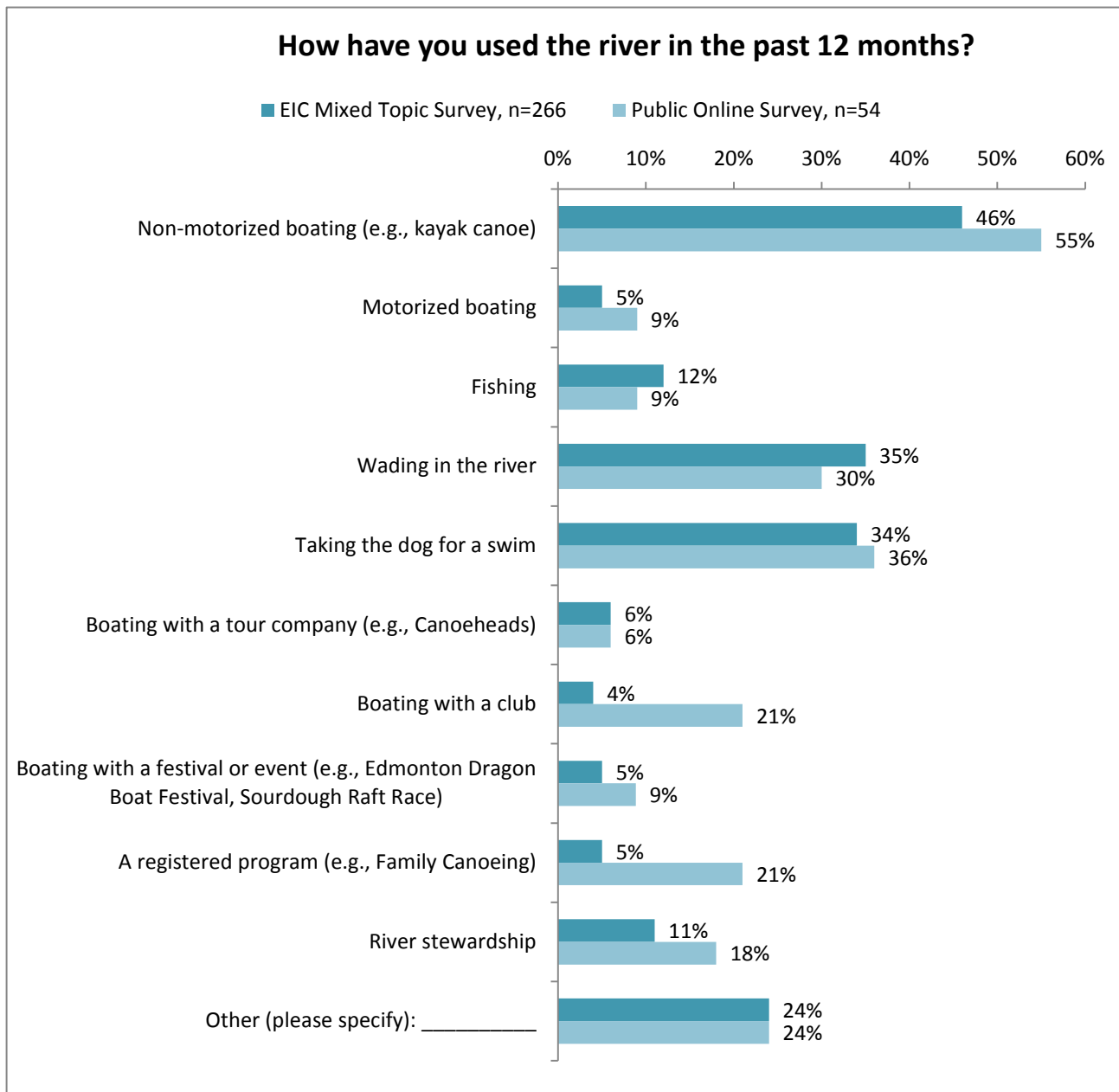
Respondents were asked if they had used the river in the last 12 months. There was a larger proportion of the respondents from the public online survey (61%) that used the river compared to the Edmonton Insight Community members in the June 2017 mixed topic survey (18%).





The top three most frequently mentioned uses of the river were:

1. Non-motorized boating (e.g., kayak, canoe)
2. Wading in the river
3. Taking the dog for a swim





## Other

## EIC Mixed Topic Survey:

Q1a_River_Access_Strategy - Other (please specify)
SUP-ing
When the water is low I swim in some parts (very carefully, where it's shallow)
Going for walks
Walking beside
Walking/cycling along river trails.
walking down to the river and sitting there, and walking up on the river bank
Just walking and sitting and looking at it and listening to the wildlife.
picnicing near the river
walking in the river valley near water which i value
Sitting beside the river admiring it.
walking the dog along the river
Used the trails for walking and cycling. I would not enter the river as I have not been convinced of it's health.
Photography
No, not the river itself.
rock hunting
hiking nearby to enjoy nature
enjoying the solitude of being by the water
Paddleboarding
Walking by the river, going down to the river's edge
Non-,motorized boating with a club
Walking by and enjoying the water.
walk along
Walking along the river banks, collecting rocks, taking pictures. and some wading
Waking along the river
Nude Beach near Devon
Had to pee
walking along the river
Sampling for aquatic invertebrates
Photoagrahy
sitting at edge, playing in sand, enjoying the view
Observed and appreciated the river as I passed by on a hiking trail - the kind of low/no impact that should be maintained.
I used the river for my family's and my visual enjoyment
enjoying it from the walking and biking trails on the banks and nearby
Hiking along the river, cycling, BBQ at the shore line,
Simply walking by and enjoying the sites and smells
Walk along the river
swimming
Hiking along the river





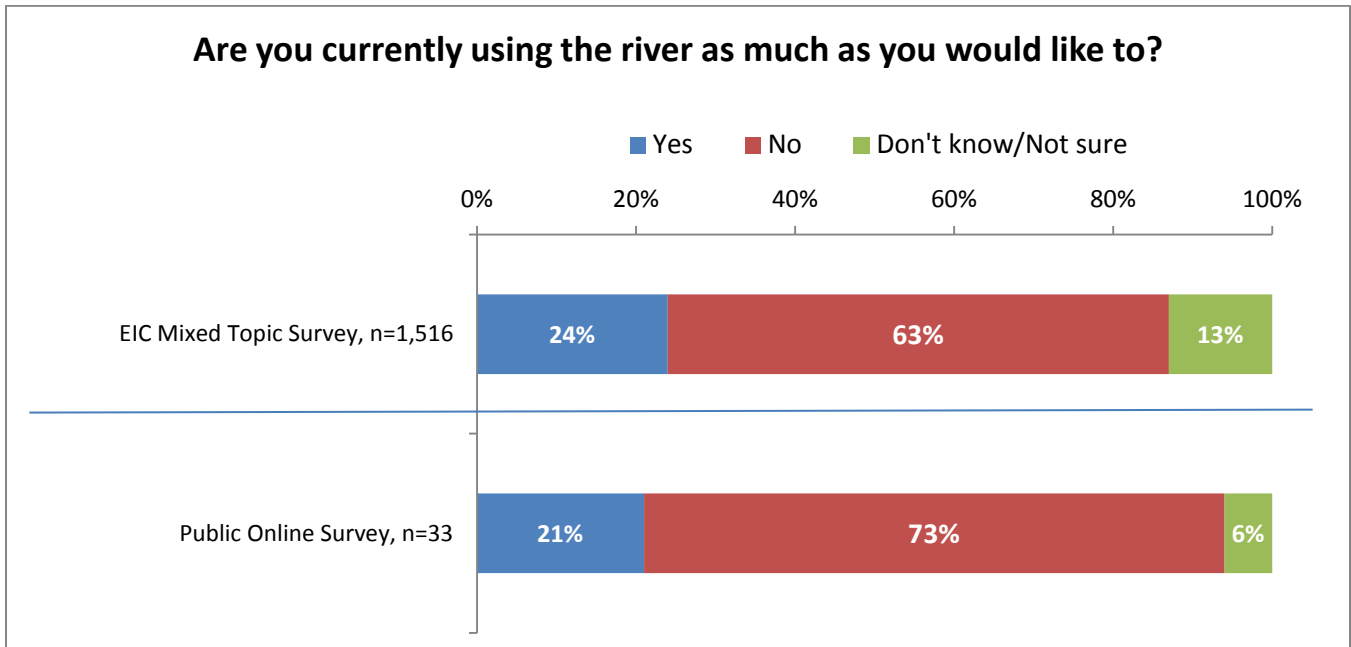
Walking beside the river, and admiring the view
River Watch Program for students in school.
Walking along the trails.
Walking
walking jogging
walking along the beach
walking in the river valley
Walking along the river
Use of trails
sitting by the river
Walking with friends on the river valley trails
Walking, taking children to Louise McKinney Park
relaxing and picnicing by the river
Walking the dog next to the river is one of my very favorite things about the city. Without the water access, my quality of life would be significantly less.
Mountain bike close to the water 3-5 times per week
cycling
Walking/cycling along the river
Enjoyed the running trails next to the river
Swimming, stand up paddleboard
photographing
walking the trails
walking and running
Walking along the river
Enjoying the view of the river in the river valley
Took the dog for a walk in the river valley

## Public Online Survey:

Other (please specify):
Watching wildlife, walking the bank with the dog at Terwillegar when the water level allows
taking photographs of the river
Hiking
Observing sewage flowing into the river
Swimming
have not used the river
Walks along the rivers edge
Walking and cycling along the bike paths through out the river valley. Mainly enjoying the beauty and quiet of nature in it's purest form.



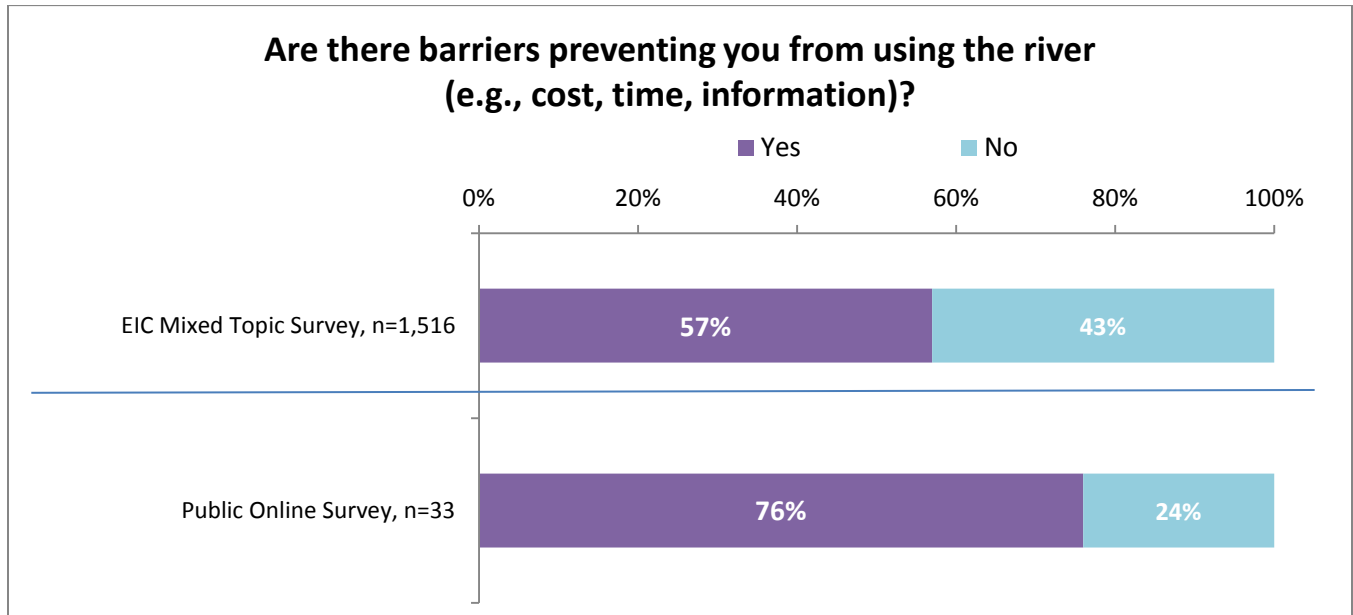
The majority of respondents are not using the river as much as they would like to; results were similar between the EIC mixed topic survey and the public online survey (63% EIC members said “no” to “Are you currently using the river as much as you would like to?” and 73% from the public online survey said “no”).





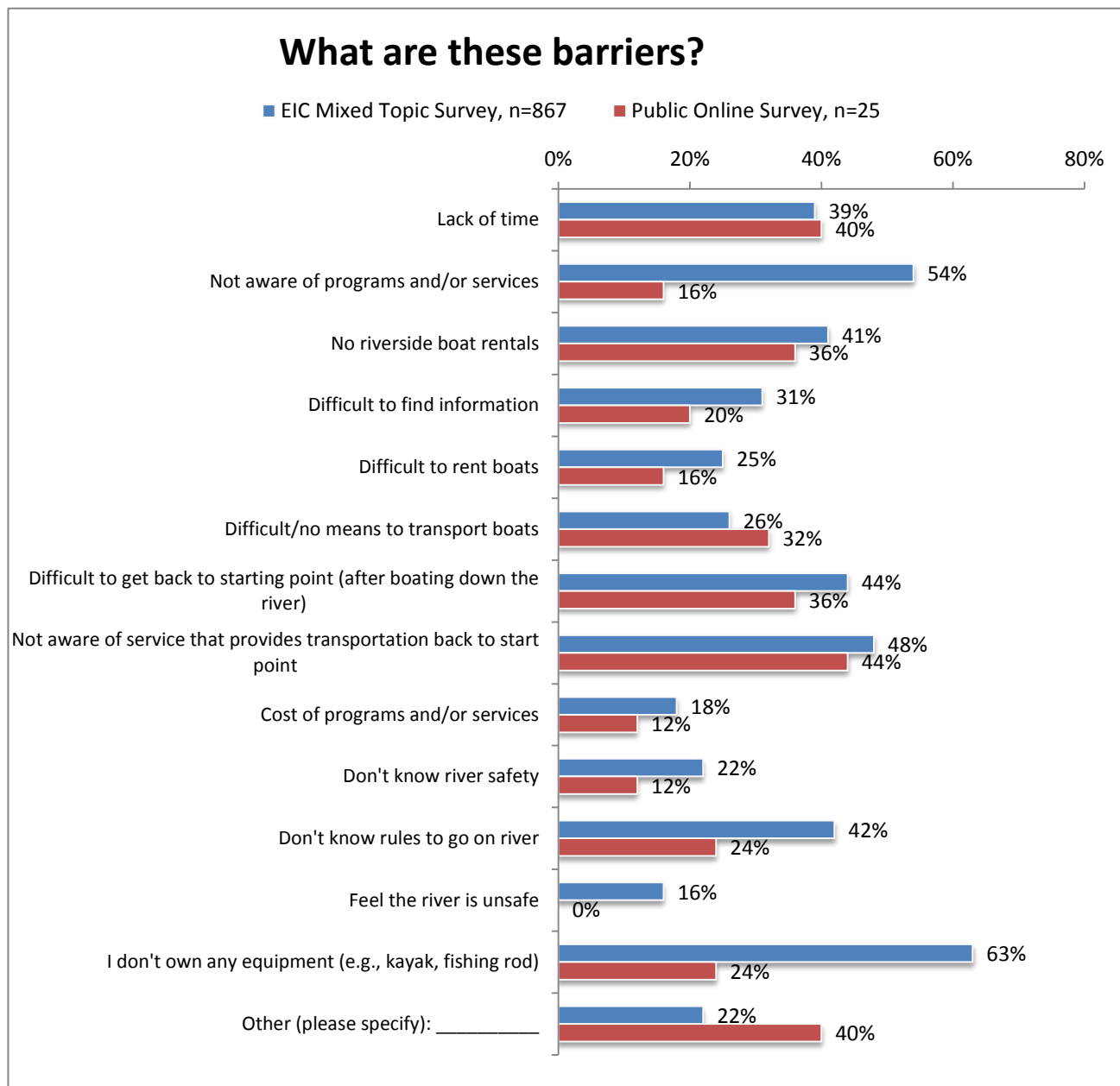
## Barriers to Using the River

The majority of respondents said there were barriers preventing them from using the river (e.g., cost, time, information). There was a larger proportion from the public online survey who said there were barriers compared to respondents from the EIC mixed topic survey (76% from the public online survey and 57% from the EIC mixed topic survey).



Frequently mentioned barriers (see next page) included:

- No ownership of equipment (e.g., kayak, fishing rod) - this was more frequently selected from the EIC mixed topic survey
- Lack of awareness of programs and services
- Lack of awareness of services providing transportation back to start point
- Difficulty getting back to the starting/launch point
- Don't know the rules to go on the river
- No riverside boat rentals
- Lack of time



## Other

### EIC Mixed Topic Survey:

Q3a_River_Access_Strategy - Other (please specify)
Not super accessible to get on and off the river in all cases
insufficient facilities available along the river for services like food, activities and moorings to use toilets. Just having a boat launches doesn't make the river accessible.
I don't drive so it's hard to access
I live 30min drive away from the river (and river valley) so for the effort required to access the river, I would rather go to a nearby recreational lake, etc.
The river smells bad and looks unwelcoming



Canoe launches with huge portages (a la Terwillegar...)
Fear of motorized craft sporting on river
agility to get down to the river
Fear of water
The river has been too dangerous to use for fishing so far this spring.
The river is polluted with raw sewage dumped by the city.
Cleanliness of river water should I fall in.
Lack of good access/open area for fishing or sitting. No benches at river side. No real drivable access
At my advanced age I do not have the ability to move around easily. I do not have any desire to access the river valley.
I'm temporarily living quite north, far from the river (normally I live a lot closer)
Poor connections via public transit. I am also worried about the impact of my activities on the health of the river.
very limited number of access points with adequate vehicle parking
Parking
Have low vision so would have to be programs that included a buddy system as can't go alone.
Too far from where I live
Once took a york boat down the river COE Parks and Rec. Fantastic! However, no longer offered to just folks...just for schools is my understanding. A big miss. Couple that with someone who knows the history of Edmonton and you would have a winning tourist attraction
Age and disability
New baby
The river seems dirty...not water I'd want to directly interact with.
Limited access points for kayaks
I'm a disabled senior and travel by bus. I don't have enough access to the river valley.
High risk- am not a good swimmer and have some health issues
Lack of initiative. Everything the city is doing to provide access is great, I just need to get going.
noisy users
Don't know how clean or safe the water is to swim in, or where good swimming areas are located.
I live near the river but there is currently no access - Keswick
Not aware of access points.
Lack of separation between motor boats and non-motorized options
Doubts about accessibility of programs for my disability
Access limited
insufficient boat launches
Unaware of riverside amenities
too far and not interested
Sometimes hard to get to.
Lack of boat launch choices
accessibility, eg wheelchair
I don't own a car to get to a location that you can rent and have to rely on others
Lack of anyone interested in exploring with me
limited launch zones / parking / ease of access
lack of water access points
Access sites are not well maintained
accessibility for people in walkers
Limited mobility and no transportation
Access to boat launches
Physically unable
Our boats are all at our cottage (in NW Ontario). Also, not convinced the river is clean.
I grew up on the Allegheny/Mpnonahela/Ohio rivers used for commercial transport and polluted by industry. If we wanted to boat or swim, we went to Lake Erie or Pymatuning reservoir, and at cottages on the St Lawrence "the current" was enough to keep families close to the docks. So rivers, in my experience, are dangerous.
Not sure about the currents
I'd love to go walking around there but won't walk alone. It's hard to find someone else who is available.
Loud motorboats with belligerent drivers.
Lack of automated booking. Agents are slow and cumbersome.
Health at present. Use the bridges at ft. Edmonton & Terwillegar. Concerned no boat launch considered for Terwillegar.



limited car access points for launching- impossible to do a trip with less than 4 hours total but with car shuttle means less than 2 hrs on the water
Medical problems do not permit activities for the river.
Not nearly enough access points for non-motorized boaters.
difficult to find updated information on river levels, speed, debris. general safety information
Cleanliness (water and shore)
the banks of the river are not always very accessible. Also, coyotes.
Riverbank area may not be safe if not with a partner - & maybe not even then.
disabled & unable to reach river.
Poor access to the water for recreational use in my area
We need more access points where we can drive to the water to unload a boat
am disabled, loads of barriers
small children
I have other hobbies and the river looks kinda icky. The high speed boaters on the river sometimes drive like jerks
I have a physical disability which can make it a challenge to get in and out of a boat.
It's not something I've thought about - while I LOVE the river valley, and it is arguably Edmonton's most fabulous asset, it never occurs to me to use it for anything other than admiring!
Don't feel very safe in the River Valley.
Physical limitations
River is not suitable for operation of most propeller-driven boats. Accesses are limited.
There is a lack of convenient access to launch boats/canoes/kayaks and park after launching them.
it looks so gross and dirty
Lack of knowledge regarding accesspoints.
River is far from home and busy.
Concerned with water quality and unpredictability. Don't know anyone who would want to go boating with me.
not want to add to harm of riparian eco-system
cleanliness of river
access to good fishing spots
I don't actually know how to get to the river. The River Recreation map shows you locations, but it would be great if it was "zoomable" so you could know the path before driving all way to the location.
Do not want the ecology, fish, birds, animals and vegetation disturbed by powered craft on the river.
medical condition requiring surgery
I always want to rent a canoe, but i am not familiar with how to do it... and also summer is just so short. :(
Basically unaware of services and access to river
River is only interesting at high water, there are no interesting eddies, rapids or other whitewater to play in.
Is there any activities that are promoted to the public on the river? We lost our riverboat. What else is there?
There are few boat launches or amenities such as piers,coffee shops,washrooms close to the river.
I am disabled and feel very uncertain on the water.
I have a slight disability with my knees. this makes me hesitant to spend time at, on, or near the river.
Too many loud and fast powerboats on the river so that I feel unsafe in my non-motorized vessel. Ban powerboats of all kinds.
Want a kick ass river boat
Accessible parking
Loading and unloading safe spaces
The river is a disgusting cesspool of disease.
Too old and have no desire to do anything on the river. Just watching the water flow by would be the extent of my use of the river.
Too many mosquitos. Spray those damn things!!!
River conditions
don't know river access points where we can bring our own canoe
I have mobility issues and don't drive - access to the river is difficult even though I'm an avid angler.
Recently diagnosed with MS; walking is a challenge.
cleanliness of river
beach access
Poor access to the river. And, limited amenities on or near the river.
water depths are a factor in my usage.
Transport with my dog to the river and back
Access for canoeing, difficult to find info on where to exit/enter
Health problems.

## River Access Strategy River Usage and Draft River Use Plan Surveys – June 2017



the river is dirty not really sure how safe the water is to be in
I can't drive yet to the river. I could take transit however I hat public transit. Yet, I believe in expanding our transit system.
inadequate launch and take out facilities
my own mobility limitations
Just our health - we're in our 80's and having mobility troubles. The Mosquitos don't help either!
river not deep enough for tour boat
Get Hasseled with my jet boat
motivation!
age
Access for non motorized craft is extremely poor in Edmonton. There is no parking near thedesignated take outs so you have to leave your gear, walk to wherever you found a place to park and hope none of the river valley denizens have stolen your stuff while you were gone. Edmonton sucks large unless you are willing to go motorized. then, you can park by the ramp for as long as you want. for my first love, canoeing, I skip Edmonton entirely and paddle elsewhere. I cannot haul my canoe up the concrete ramp near Fort Edmonton unless I want to drag itand damage the hull. The City of Edmonton has been totally unresponsive to my concerns when I contacted them. They took out the nice natural take out at the mouth of Whitemud creek and cut off vehicle access. This necessitated a long carry or a drag up a steep bank on Whitemud creek. My opinion of the idiots who did this is very low. The designer of the whitemud Creek parking situation is either young and stupid or just stupid. Apparently in Edmonton, family picnics in a spot traditionally used for canoes takes precedence and canoeists can go to some other river.
Lack of proper access
I have heard that the river is too dirty for recreational use
The water levels can be quite hazardous at times.
it would be great if there were tour boats that took individuals up & down the river or even used as transportation: i.e. Amsterdam, London & the Thames as it gives a great perspective of the city
Age related access and facilities not available.
I don't necessarily want to use the water exclusively, but I would like more access to the edge surrounding the water. Instead of having large skyscraper along the walkways boradering the river valley, this area should be more accessible to the public and have small shops/restaurants to encourage people to come out and enjoy the river
I used the river in the past but due to my advanced age I no longer desire to.
Getting my family on board to do outdoor activities with me
Access down to the river due to being older not as physically fit
River access points
I don't know what I could do-lack of info—I go by the river every day - I like it but I don't use it
not many places to access river for wading (beach like access)
I want to lay or float by river like beach setting, not boat.
Rivers dirty and waters unsafe
The river bottom is very unpredictable, there are super shallow areas, as well as submersed obstacles that can be damaging to a motor boat.
feel the river is not clean enough to use.
I do not believe that there is any commercial boat trips for the public to take.
I want to use the trails by the river which is presently prevented by endless construction.
boating alone is a bit of an obstacle.
Load jet boats increasingly on the river. It's like motorcycles on Whyte but worse - echoes down the valley for miles
Access points are few
Physical limitations
I don't have people to go with. I don't have room to store a boat.
I love the gravel path along the river by Fort Edmonton, but I'm afraid of the racing cyclists
Water levels have been high the last few times I wanted to use it. So I choose not to use it. I don't feel it is unsafe all the time.
Trails along river, especially next to Riverside golf course, are poorly maintained where the trail has been eroded and is still (after 2 years) displaying Do Not Enter signs. What a waste.
Few access points for dog swim
River cleanliness
Limited number of boat launches for motorized boats, congestion at existing boat launches, lack of parking enforcement for "trucks with boat trailers only", city often closes boat launches
waiting for City to finish walking trail from Saskatchewan Drive to Walterdale Bridge





Would like to ride my bike with my child to get there, but there are no dedicated bike lanes from the north end to link up with bike lanes to river valley. (97 St. & Yellowhead intersection very dangerous to be on road).
Parking at boat launches
ease of access and number of access points
weather conditions; access to whether the river is safe to use due to current conditions; knowledge of where I can put my kayak in.
concern over too much motorized boat traffic
Development and legal barriers render the river dangerous or inaccessible
mosquitos are HORRENDOUS.
Lack of amenities to make a day of it
Proximity to the river
I live in a part of the city that is far away from the river. Access points for places such as the pedestrian area at Henday crossing in SW are not easy to find out about.
River is dirty
Lack of access points for dogs.
I don't know very well how to swim.
First I hear of this is via your survey. On the other hand, I'm not a swimmer. What to do?
Acess gates to the river are often locked making it hard to get there.
Too few places so it is very difficult to find a quieter area to enjoy
River is polluted
lots of construction along river in my neighborhood of cloverdale.
outside of segway, it's challenging to find experience services in and around the river. Including bikes, blades, pop-up stands for cold drinks or maps, etc.
Age and ability to enjoy play a role in this decision....senior.
lack of rescue response
no in city access to beaches/designated swimming.
Better programs and services along the river might be more useful.
Don't have any desire to do things on or near the river. It's nice to look at when driving over the bridges or coming down a hill.
At 87 I am without transportation and depend on my children grandchildren and friends
Not enough access to the river
my health
The river is too dirty. It needs to be cleaned upstream
No clear access points to the river that are developed to allow users to access.
Don't know how to boat
I want to rent a canoe but I don't have a roof rack!
we need more boat launches, especially for Queen Elizabeth Park
Have children, not sure if it is safe/child appropriate
So much of the river is inaccessible that it is difficult to enjoy it. The few places that are accessible (e.g. Buena Vista Park) have no services.
I haven't heard anything about people going in the river. If it's possible, sign me up!
current river conditions are unsafe for recreating
Not very interested in boating type activities
Not easy to get up the banks of the river with a canoe at takeout areas. Also, would be nice to sit beside the edge of the river and have a picnic.
The river appears to be filthy.
is the river safe from a water purity level? is wastewater being dumped into the river? sewage and or industrial?
The programs seems to be designed for the rich who own equipment's, and not meant for the middle class with developed areas along the riverfront like in Dubai or other developed parts of the world with developed areas accessible free; with activities to do and with food place or entertainments where families can come together and spend their time and with public transport options like a tram service to the river front from any of the major LRT hubs.
Would love to see more facilities and restaurants on the riverside.
Distance to the River from home.



## Public Online Survey:

Other (please specify):
In some cases safety, personal & public; others access, bank stability, traffic, other users, garbage
Jet Boats present a danger to canoes and kayaks and should NOT BE ALLOWED on the river. Jet Boats also cause damage to the Whitemud junction area with the North Saskatchewan River.
Land owners preventing access
high ecoli levels going into the river, not safe for human use
Don't know about the water quality and if safe to go into the river
sometimes the boat launches are locked shut
There is no man-made waves or rapids. I am a member of a large whitewater kayaking club(UAPS) and have to drive over 2hrs each way to get to the nearest rapids of any significance. If Edmonton had even one or two man made waves it would attract a large number of regular users. :)
No Kayak Slalom Gates (used to be at Quesnel until the city took them down replacing the bridge)
Concerned about cleanliness (water quality). Concerned about river safety (boat damage, etc.). Not familiar with launching locations or good areas of the river to use/access.
few, crowded, sometimes closed (no way to know before you go) motorized boat launches



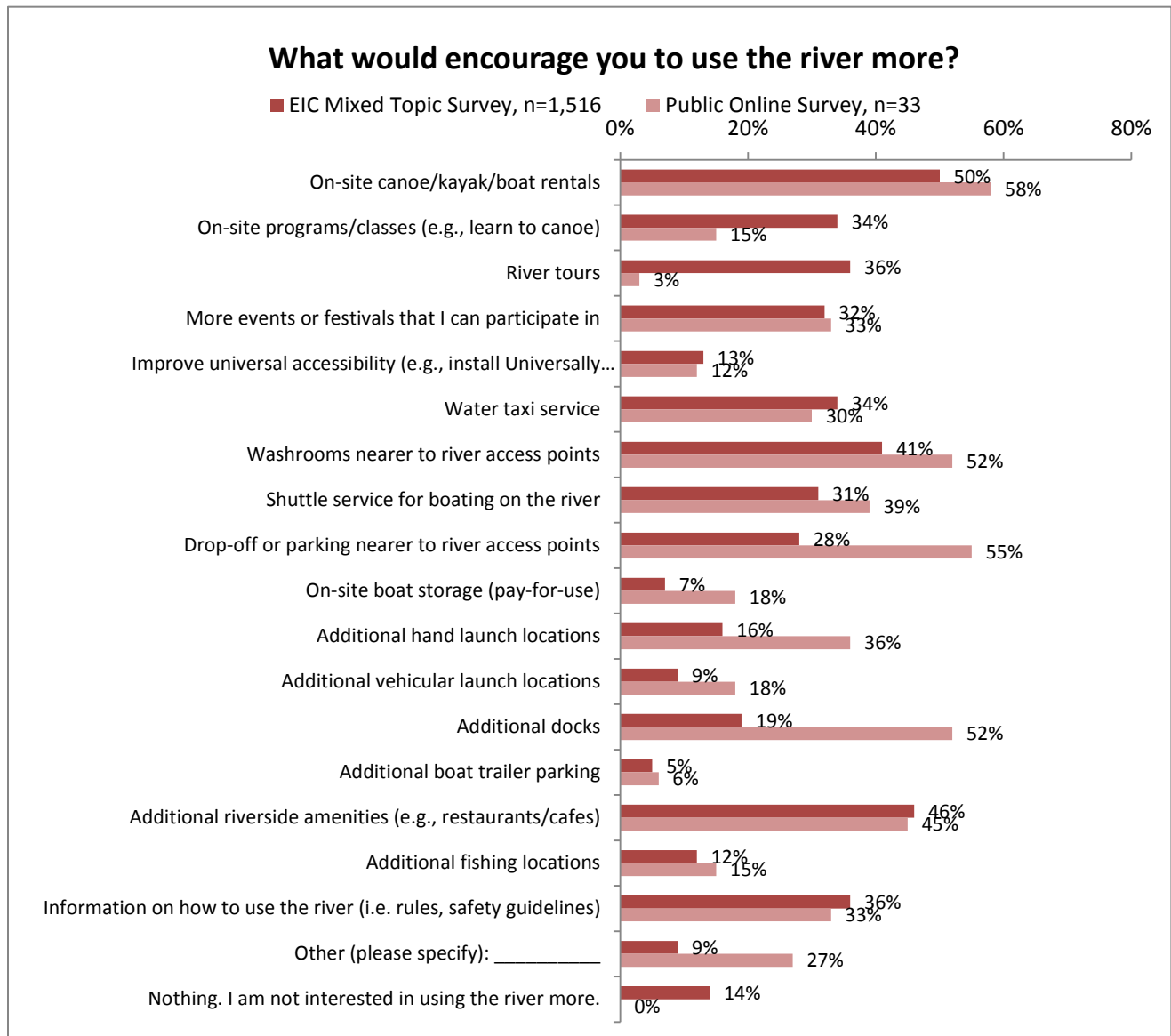
## Encouragement to Use the River More

When asked what would encourage them to use the river more, the most frequent responses were:

1. On-site canoe/kayak/boat rentals
2. Additional riverside amenities (e.g., restaurants/cafes)
3. Washrooms nearer to river access points
4. River tours
5. Information on how to use the river (i.e. rules, safety guidelines)

From the public online survey, in addition to the above, other top mentions included:

- Drop-off or parking areas nearer to river access points, and
- Additional docks





## Other

### EIC Mixed Topic Survey:

Q4_River_Access_Strategy - Other (please specify)
day use mooring at parks and other amenities
More riverboats please, let's get the Edmonton Queen back in business.
More information should be made available about catch and release. It's fun to fish, but not safe to eat the fish.
The sewage treatment plant needs to be relocated away from recreational areas on the river
Its fine the way it is.
More off leash areas
The city to stop dumping raw sewage. public beach
Better and MORE well maintained trails along the river- within spitting distance.
safe trails down to the river's edge
Accessible boating programs and shuttles for blind people.
river valley trails and river access should be accessible to people with mobility challenges other than a certified disability. Many trails & access points are difficult for older people nd those who find long walks difficult -
Leave the river to nature - the City has messed up its banks enough already
more hours in the day. I walk by a creek. The river takes more organization.
Good access for mobility problems
River water quality results regularly available to ensure we are safe going into the water or eating fish we may catch.
No additional facility is required.
Eco-friendly infrastructure, more rules to preserve river frontage and creeks
cleaner water
owning a boat
umm - how about something really "low tech" - like going for a nice walk on a nice trail by the river and being safe while on the trail (safe from bankslides, predators - both animal and human)
Rowboats for rent
More free time!
NO MORE DEVELOPING THE RIVER VALLEY
maintained cycling trails in river valley.
Lower costs
I would love to try "Boarding" where you stand on a giant surf board. Have no idea where you would go for this.
I'd like to canoe or kayak on the river but people using powered boats and sea-doo's on the river make it scary and intimidating to use a non-powered boat.
Have to check out maps for access points and trail lengths/times
Nothing would encouragr me to use river more. I use it lots as is. I dont need more useless services to get me to do my thing.
More time
Better, frequently updated safety information - flow rates, debris levels, pollution/contaminate/cleanliness, water levels. Better, frequently updated general usage data e.g. approx travel times between access points based on current flow rates
Increased safety patrols.
I like the river to be natural and allow fish to live there and not noise from motor boats.
WATER FOUNTAINS are very sorely lacking close to the river. This MUST be rectified ... for users of both the river and the river valley generally.
Additional information about what is available and how I can use the river.
I just need to prioritize use of the river as part of my recreational pursuits.
None of the above as I do not believe we need a higher level of enhancement to use the river. A few docks washrooms fro canoeing or kayaking or fishing not river boats, taxis, or power boats. The amount of time to be able to use the later on the river is limited due to water levels and putting money into these types of developments are not cost effective
Water taxi from downtown to other neighbourhoods!
Transportation to the spot would be essential since I don't drive.
A ban on motorboats using the river.
Or automated booking rentals
Weather and high water levels are the biggest issues as to why we are not using the river.

Limited access for motorized boats.
We as a family use the river by walking / wading along the edge and letting our dogs play in the water
A simple picnic space or rest space connected to bike path network. Bike access only just to enjoy riverside.
Easy access to takeout points for transit and/or cycling so that a multi-car shuttle isn't necessary. Should be more access point in the city centre (Rafter's Landing, especially, as well as Dawson Park.
Overnight parking in parks so multi day river trips are easier
life jacket rentals for children
I like the river valley to be as natural, pristine and undeveloped as possible.
Waiting for the gondola to be built, also shuttles down to river paths.
child and family friend activities
I did not check off the "cafes, restaurants" box because I fear that an inch would lead to a mile. I would hate for our pristine valley to lose it's rawness - at the moment, it's possible to walk 10 minutes into the forest and forget you're in a city. I would NOT want to lose that ability.
dining with good access for public transport and public vehicles.
A small hydroelectric project near Clover Bar would produce a deeper area of the river suitable for all boats in addition to providing carbon-free electricity. A partial bypass resembling Calgary's Harvie Passage would also provide an area for whitewater kayaking in spring and early summer.
Information on gold prospecting locations with in Edmonton's river valley along with related civic and provincial regulations regarding such activities.
cleaner river
connected with other jurisdictions along the river for longer boating trips
clean it up!
an area to go in to swim/wade/catch some sun
Keep rental cost very low
Education about programs offered on the river or clearly communicated location to safely assess the river
Self driving car that comes to pick me up!
A shuttle that goes between boat launches / landings so or be great. That way a boating party needs only one vehicle
actually getting off my butt to do it.
The invention of 26 HR days
Well appointed bars and restaurants would help, provided the dank odor of the river isn't overwhelming on the day
creation of white-water features.
keeping the river clean and disease proof.
more nature, less amenities for people to destroy the environment.
stand up paddle board rental.
I just don't have the time
Speed and noise limits on motorised boats - or no motor boats
I'd like to see the river remain mostly untouched. To me that means no restaurants or amenities, no events or festivals, no water taxis or tours, no on-site boat rentals or storage. Leave it the way it is. Beautiful and as pristine as we can make it. Having a runner pathway or cross-county skiing pathway is all the development that should take place.
I love the idea of a water taxi service.
Most of these things would keep me away from the river. Sounds to me like they would ruin it.
swimming
I need more time to be able to devote to river activities.
Boat rental
fewer power boats
Information on water quality for wading/ swimming, wading/ swimming locations
More pest control
I wouldn't eat anything that came out of the North Sask. River and I sure can't see anyone in their right mind wanting to swim in it!
The river should be kept in its natural state, higher utilization will detract from the natural state
Better connections between river valley trails and river valley parks to the river.
Transport to the river valley with dogs allowed
I think rental should only be for non motorized
Keep the river area natural
equipment rentals including life jackets. equipment being canoes kayaks paddleboards and fishing equipment tubes multiple user tubes
More hours in the day

## River Access Strategy River Usage and Draft River Use Plan Surveys – June 2017



ramps and other amenities to help facilitate those persons who have difficulty walking on slopes, etc.
Give me more spare time
more time
Not allowing motorized vehicles (other than emergency of course) on the river.
I generally am not too interested in using the river, in terms of purchasing a boat, etc., But canoe/kayak rental would be cool and I could see myself using that occasionally
confidence that river water is clean for dog to swim in and notices when not (eg spring run off)
Parking where I can access my vehicle without having to take a taxi while leaving my expensive gear for any wandering thief to help himself. At present the canoe Kayak access is nothing short of pathetic. I am a senior who can no longer do a hundred pound plus portage to get back to my vehicle. In addition, your 2 hour parking limit near the river completely cuts off a paddle from Devon or anywhere longer. The City of Edmonton Council needs to go for a paddle and then struggle with their gear the way they have made us struggle. They are short sighted, unimaginative and in some cases, downright stupid as pertains to traditional river usage.
Better trails along the rivrt
It has to be accessible to pedestrians who do not drive; there are walks at points; however to walk down the stairs at steep points eliminates anyone with disabilities or seniors because what does one do at the bottom
free access
info on how long it takes to get from boat launch to boat launch..
Additional family friendly bike paths
Social groups that use the river
more beach like locations where we can enjoy the river for wading or fishing
beachy areas
Campgrounds
If it is peaceful you will find more people on the water in canoes, stand up paddle boards and wadding. More motor boats will discourage all of this. Boats are expensive and not accessible to average Edmontonian. We would never build a motocross track in the centre of the city - why on earth would we encourage motorized boat use?
River access is excellent
We need a well maintained river access system (including trails, washout bridges, properly maintained) that actually also lead to family friendly amenities, such as family licensed cafes or restaurants, fishing and canoeing lessons/ opportunities, and playgrounds.
Dog swim areas
A boardwalk/ seawall downtown would be FANTASTIC
Better bike access to river from the north end.
Limitations arise from the level of water and flow rate. It is not related to facilities or infrastructure.
No motorized users.
I would like to have a river walk... like the Vancouver Seawall.
more rules and restrictions on motorized boats
Better maps and information on using the paths along the river valley.
More affordable housing in the vicinity of the river valley
Better communication of how people can access the river. Where are the access points and how do we get there?
Having more time in my life.
Dog Access points
Areas for quite enjoyment, such as a park
more rescue support
Better designed spaces and enhanced amenities along the river and all along edmonton, not just in the core of the city. A summer beach area that's cleared - filled with sand and usable would be nice.
The river is too high right now. I kayak and float. I do not want many idiot motor boats!
safety issues. The river area is a secluded area
connection to a community of users, e.g. friends with boats, or a canoe club
Location to rent and use stand-up paddle boards
Nothing, just hard to find the time that all. Its a beautiful feature for the city
Lots of parks are near the river, but you have to climb down a steep bank to get to the water. Just a simple trail would be excellent



If the river looked more attractive; aqua colored as opposed to mucky.
Knowing the river is safe from pollutants.
more information about safety of the water quality
Developed areas along the riverfront where families can sit and relax or walk along the river front with out the fear of children getting into the river( low fencing or barricades or half walls along some tree lined stretches or so.

## Public Online Survey:

Other (please specify):
I would like to be able to expose my grandchildren to river related activities safely. I like the idea of an area along the river being a social gathering place with ammenities, I think the city would benefit from such development as would the businesses that participate. I enjoy my time with the dog, year round by and along the river and would enjoy more locations and situations for that
more fulsome and sensitive conservation of the river valley lands
This is NOT asurvey it is a Busines Developement Plan! You seem to forget this is a park for everyone to enjoy and business has no place in it.
There is limited parking at Emily Murphy Park, which is a great canoe launch place. Most of the long-term (2 hour) parking is taken up by people who work at the U of A and park there all day. The 2-hour parking is too short for those of us wanting to paddle for a day on the water.
the city protecting the river and stopping sewage from entering the river IE* Outfalls with high ecoil counts
Stabilization. Less seeping water causing off camber ice on trails
would love to see motor boats banned, as a canoeist and picnicker and resident, the noise and disruption is a danger and annoyance, and the wake of speed boats erodes the river bank and damages the ecosystem.
See answer to previous question.
Slalom Kayak gates



## Feedback on the Draft River Use Plan

From the EIC June 2017 mixed topic survey, members were asked if they would like to provide feedback on the draft River Use Plan, which includes future use recommendations for new and established river access sites, as well as site improvement prioritization. Findings will help the City to refine site recommendations, inform planning prioritization, and help to further understand the public's priorities and preferences pertaining to use and enjoyment of the river. There were 878 members who opted-in to receive this survey, and of these, 347 members answered this more in-depth survey. The following results include the combined results (total of 401) from those that completed the public online survey and the EIC members who were sent the link (Note: EIC members were skipped over the questions they already answered in the June 2017 mixed topic survey). Survey respondents were provided the following information and [interactive map](#) (when the interactive markers were clicked on, information was provided on the current state and whether there were future plans or for the site):

A number of suitable river access sites have been identified along the North Saskatchewan River between Terwillegar and Rundle parks. The following map shows these existing and future (planned or potential) sites. **Click on the interactive markers on the map to review the recommendations for each site.** **Blue=Existing; Red=Future (planned/potential)**

### Glossary

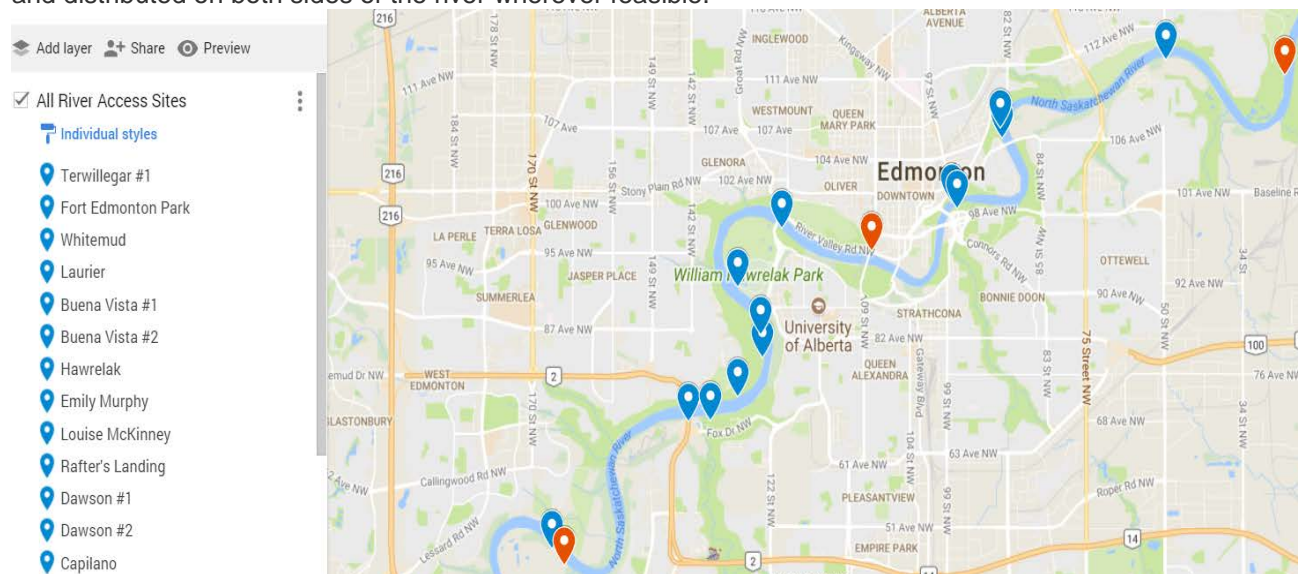
**Hand launch:** A site at the river's edge from where a boat (i.e. kayak or canoe) can be launched by hand into the river. No hard infrastructure required other than the trail access.

**Vehicular launch:** A ramp at the river's edge which allows boats to be launched or hauled out of the river from a boat trailer attached to a vehicle.

**Future (planned):** Improvements that have been approved. Stages of implementation vary.

**Future (potential):** Improvements that have not been approved or funded, but may be considered at future planning stages.

**Priority site for universal accessibility:** River access sites that could support universal accessibility improvements. It is recommended these sites be located within two hours boating distance from one another and distributed on both sides of the river wherever feasible.





When respondents were asked which locations they would like to provide feedback on, the most frequently chosen locations to provide feedback on were: Rossdale (future), Hawrelak, Emily Murphy, Terwillegar #2 (future) and Fort Edmonton Park.

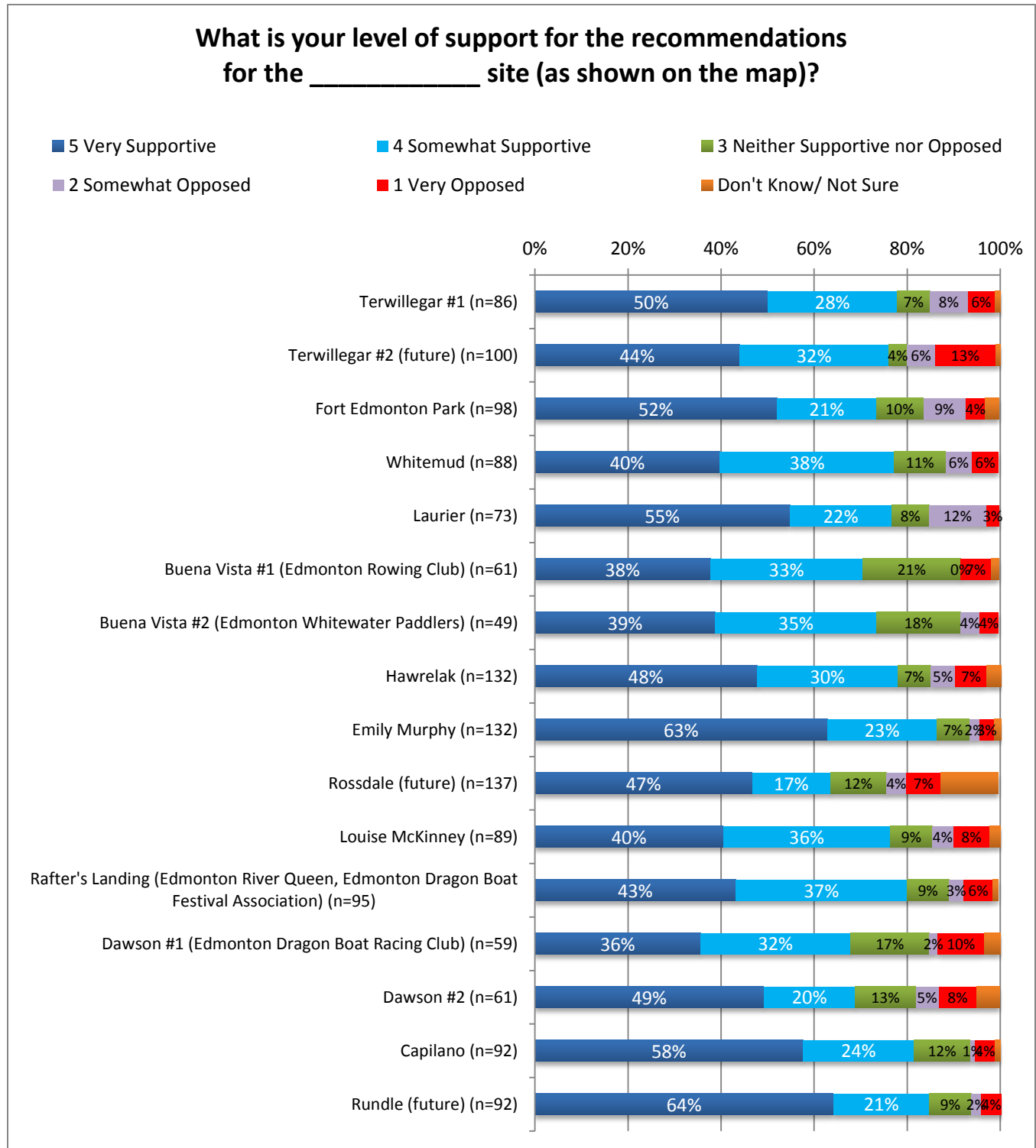
### Which river access site(s) are you interested in providing feedback on?

	Total	401	%
<b>1</b>	<b>Rossdale (future)</b>	137	34%
<b>2*</b>	<b>Hawrelak</b>	132	33%
<b>3*</b>	<b>Emily Murphy</b>	132	33%
<b>4</b>	<b>Terwillegar #2 (future)</b>	100	25%
<b>5</b>	<b>Fort Edmonton Park</b>	98	24%
6	Rafter's Landing (Edmonton River Queen, Edmonton Dragon Boat Festival Association)	95	24%
7*	Capilano	92	23%
8*	Rundle (future)	92	23%
9	Louise McKinney	89	22%
10	Whitemud	88	22%
11	Terwillegar #1	86	21%
12	Laurier	73	18%
13*	Buena Vista #1 (Edmonton Rowing Club)	61	15%
14*	Dawson #2	61	15%
15	Dawson #1 (Edmonton Dragon Boat Racing Club)	59	15%
16	Buena Vista #2 (Edmonton Whitewater Paddlers)	49	12%
	None	75	19%

*\*These sites were equally chosen to provide feedback on: Hawrelak & Emily Murphy, Capilano & Rundle, and Buena Vista #1 & Dawson #2.*

## Feedback on River Access Sites

For the river sites that respondents self-selected to provide feedback on, they were asked for their level of support or opposition for the recommendations (as shown on the interactive map) for that site.





## Ranking of Sites by Support or Opposition to the Recommendations

The sites that received the highest levels of support for the recommendations were:

1. Emily Murphy (86% supportive)
2. Rundle (future) (85% supportive)
3. Capilano (82% supportive)

### Support or Opposition to the Recommendations (Ranked by Highest Support)

		<b>Supportive</b> (Very Supportive and Somewhat Supportive)	Neither Supportive nor Opposed	<b>Opposed</b> (Very Opposed and Somewhat Opposed)	Don't Know/ Not Sure
<b>1</b>	<b>Emily Murphy (n=132)</b>	<b>86%</b>	7%	5%	2%
<b>2</b>	<b>Rundle (future) (n=92)</b>	<b>85%</b>	9%	7%	0%
<b>3</b>	<b>Capilano (n=92)</b>	<b>82%</b>	12%	5%	1%
4	Rafter's Landing (Edmonton River Queen, Edmonton Dragon Boat Festival Association) (n=95)	80%	9%	9%	1%
5	Hawrelak (n=132)	78%	7%	12%	3%
6	Terwillegar #1 (n=86)	78%	7%	14%	1%
7	Whitemud (n=88)	77%	11%	11%	0%
8	Laurier (n=73)	77%	8%	15%	0%
9	Louise McKinney (n=89)	76%	9%	12%	2%
10	Terwillegar #2 (future) (n=100)	76%	4%	19%	1%
11	Fort Edmonton Park (n=98)	73%	10%	13%	3%
12	Buena Vista #2 (Edmonton Whitewater Paddlers) (n=49)	73%	18%	8%	0%
13	Buena Vista #1 (Edmonton Rowing Club) (n=61)	70%	21%	7%	2%
14	Dawson #2 (n=61)	69%	13%	13%	5%
15	Dawson #1 (Edmonton Dragon Boat Racing Club) (n=59)	68%	17%	12%	3%
16	Rosssdale (future) (n=137)	64%	12%	12%	12%



The sites that received the highest levels of opposition to the recommendations were:

1. Terwillegar #2 (future) (19% opposed)
2. Laurier (15% opposed)
3. Terwillegar #1 (14% opposed)

### Support or Opposition to the Recommendations (Ranked by Highest Opposition)

		<b>Supportive</b> (Very Supportive and Somewhat Supportive)	Neither Supportive nor Opposed	<b>Opposed</b> (Very Opposed and Somewhat Opposed)	Don't Know/ Not Sure
<b>1</b>	<b>Terwillegar #2 (future) (n=100)</b>	76%	4%	<b>19%</b>	1%
<b>2</b>	<b>Laurier (n=73)</b>	77%	8%	<b>15%</b>	0%
<b>3</b>	<b>Terwillegar #1 (n=86)</b>	78%	7%	<b>14%</b>	1%
4	Fort Edmonton Park (n=98)	73%	10%	13%	3%
5	Dawson #2 (n=61)	69%	13%	13%	5%
6	Louise McKinney (n=89)	76%	9%	12%	2%
7	Hawrelak (n=132)	78%	7%	12%	3%
8	Dawson #1 (Edmonton Dragon Boat Racing Club) (n=59)	68%	17%	12%	3%
9	Rossdale (future) (n=137)	64%	12%	12%	12%
10	Whitemud (n=88)	77%	11%	11%	0%
11	Rafter's Landing (Edmonton River Queen, Edmonton Dragon Boat Festival Association) (n=95)	80%	9%	9%	1%
12	Buena Vista #2 (Edmonton Whitewater Paddlers) (n=49)	73%	18%	8%	0%
13	Buena Vista #1 (Edmonton Rowing Club) (n=61)	70%	21%	7%	2%
14	Rundle (future) (n=92)	85%	9%	7%	0%
15	Capilano (n=92)	82%	12%	5%	1%
16	Emily Murphy (n=132)	86%	7%	5%	2%

## Sites

The support and opposition to the recommendations about the sites are detailed following each of the sites in the remainder of this report.

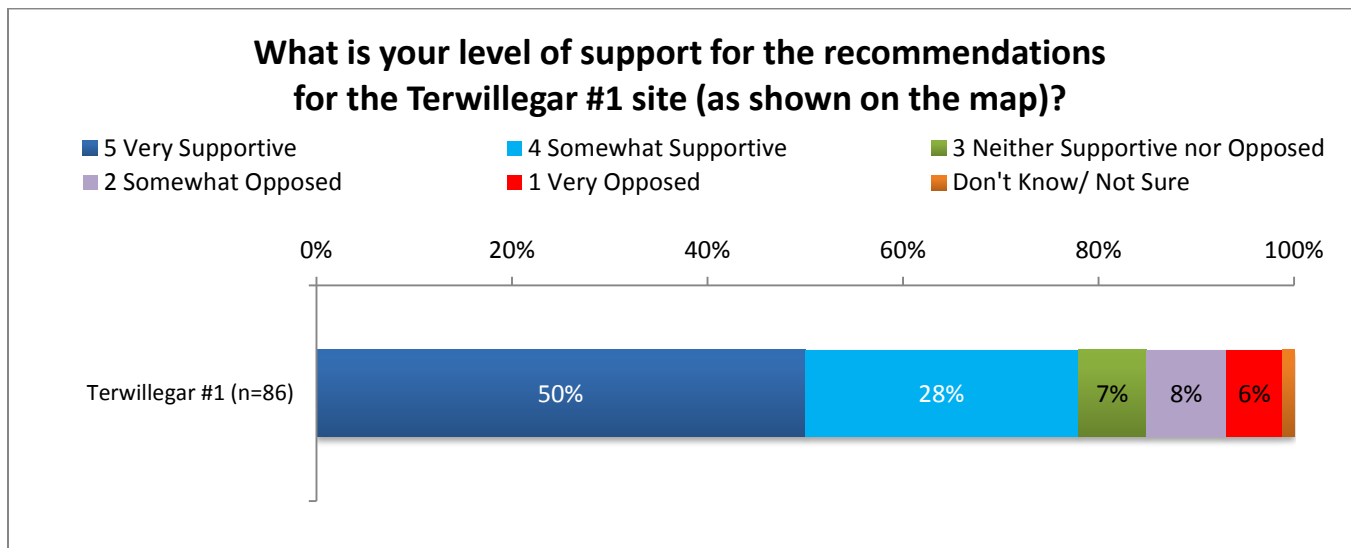
### Terwillegar #1

#### Terwillegar #1

**Current State:** This site includes an informal hand launch shared with an informal "dog beach" and functions as a staging area for select river based events (eg. Sourdough Raft Race). Parking is located within 200m from the site.

**Future (planned):** No changes are recommended for this site.

Respondents were 78% supportive (50% very supportive and 28% somewhat supportive) and 14% opposed (6% very opposed and 8% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Terwillegar #1 site.



### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
Works well as is.
Stop developing in this area as it is close to Terwillegar #1. Same side of the river and is a hand launch site as well. Do the improvements for Terwillegar #1 and do not develop #2.
If more vehicles are going to be going down at Terwillegar, the roadway has to be paved because it was pretty difficult to drive this year because of all the potholes. A washroom would be lovely. Laurier, I like your plan.
Site is good as it is. We don't need all sites to be "full service" with amenities.
No changes planned for this site? The current "beach access" is somewhat unsafe because of the condition of the bank. Some assessment should be done as to minimal improvements for safety of dog park users.



In its current state, this shouldn't be considered an actual effective hand launch location. It's more suited for people accessing with dogs or just wading. As a boat launch it's not convenient since you have to carry your boat across the park and negotiate a steep bank just before the flatter area where you access the river
Would love some promotion of river access sites for various activities. Fishing, Boating/canoeing etc.
I think the site there is fine as is.
There are many kids including mine that are uncomfortable around dogs, so having this launch in an area where there are unleashed dogs makes it almost inaccessible for kids.
Site should be decommissioned and used only as an off-leash swimming area.
If there will be better parking access at the proposed new Terwillegar #2 site, I don't think it is necessary to add anything to the current site.
Would like to see this beach area better stabilized as part of the planned Terwillegar redevelopment. The bank at this location is currently unstable, especially when during high water periods.
I agree that there is no need for further changes to the existing launch site
Awe don't need a dog beach. The dog owners in this city are pigs and don't clean up after their dogs and have this unrealistic sense of ownership. There are a lot of dangerous dogs in this park they don't need a beach. Build a fishing deck or cosway so people can fish in the river.
I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
It's important to keep this beautiful amenity as natural as possible. The beach area and surrounding trail system makes users feel one with nature.
This site is great as is. It is not far to carry a canoe or kayak from the existing parking lot to the water
One launch area is enough for Terwillegar Park. Develop a new launch and close the existing one.
If this is a staging area for events, then it should be revitalized to accommodate this. Light or moderate infrastructure so the natural area doesn't get beaten up due to the informality of the area.
I would move the launch site a bit farther east. This will be closer to new parking developments, as well as the new foot bridge.
From the Google Map Terwillegar 1 & 2 appear to be the same location. I know from use that the access to the river between Terwillegar 1 and the new foot bridge has a steep bank; often unstable in spring run off; area is prone to possible flooding and the top of bank is treed and well forested. So I assume the improvement will be on the eastern edge of the existing location and am concerned for the potential of conflict in use and heavier traffic. Should the intent be to develop the access closer to the trees or within them I have concern over wildlife impact. Fort Edmonton - I need to visit Whitemud - Would like to see increase use of off lead for dogs. Perhaps as specific multi use parks evolve, dogs can have the privilege of being off lead in those areas through education, certification or qualification overseen by the city. The activity is good for the health of the animal, but more important the owner; proper social interaction with children, elderly and community adds to the pleasure of park use. Laurier - Safe Washroom access is very important through out the river valley. I would limit the vehicular trailer storage and encourage drop off with down stream pickup, or a limited number of start and stop locations with transportation available back to point of origin. Buena Vista #1 - This is a long established location and any improvement an enhancement. As a younger man I developed an interest in sculling, but never took it up as there was a lack of both time and opportunity to do so; it is a choice that I regret because I think it would have been beneficial and fun. Buena Vista #2 - I have noticed an increase in Kayak use. Hawrelak - Is this for motorized boats? If so is there a size and speed limit? Emily Murphy - This is a nice under utilized park. It is a nice meeting place, intimate, quiet, well treed - whatever improvements need maintain its quaint, vs. Hawrelak's bustle, quality. Rosedale - Access and connectivity along both banks of the river
I don't want any new boat launches on the river. Enough exist already. People have been canoeing and kayaking on the river for years, and the current traffic is sufficient. The river exists for the animals first, people second.
The dog beach area is rapidly eroding with the high use. It is also somewhat difficult to access with fairly high banks along much of the beach area. While it may not require improvements related to a hand launch area, it needs improvements to make it easier to access and use for the rest of the users of the park.
All looks good... My recommendations have been included already
The boat launch is very steep and makes it dangerous to be trying to put canoes/voyageurs into the water. It is also very slippery if the water has been high. It does not look good when boats are being hoisted off land 6 feet in the air off the drop and being lowered into the water.
Better accessibility would be good. A bit of a long haul for carrying canoes right now.





### Terwillegar #2 (future)

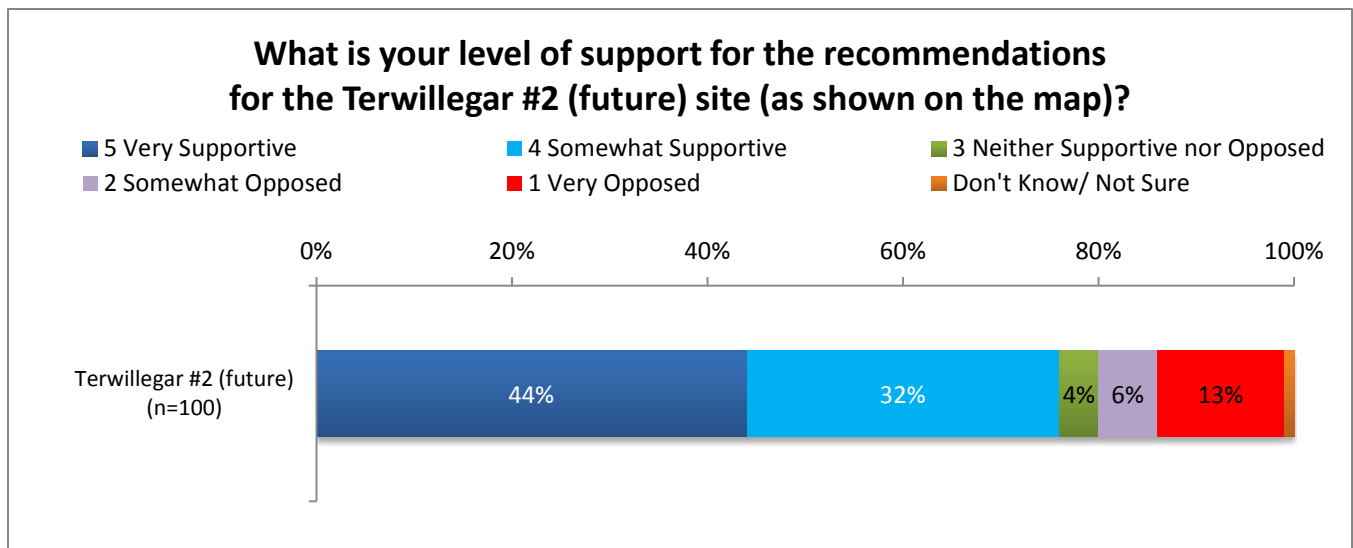
#### Terwillegar #2

**Current State:** This river access site is currently undeveloped.

**Future (planned):** The Terwillegar Park Concept Plan includes a new hand launch located downstream from the current informal hand launch/dog beach. This launch will be supported with a dock, access road, parking area and other amenities that support boating. Implementation of the Terwillegar Park Concept Plan is currently unfunded.

Priority site for universal accessibility

Respondents were 76% supportive (44% very supportive and 32% somewhat supportive) and 19% opposed (13% very opposed and 6% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Terwillegar #2 (future) site.



### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
It's a hand launch, so it's not terrible, but seriously: access roads? parking? euphamistic "other amenities"? Haven't we paved enough of the river valley yet?
I love the dog beach as it is currently, and hope that any impact to the beach for this dock in minimal.
It seems pointless to have two hand launch sites so close together. Drop it, particularly since it's unfunded.
Develop Terwillegar #1 to include the dock, parking etc. and leave #2 site alone. Do not destroy more river bank for no reason. This is the same side of the river as #1 and is in close proximity of #1.
Like that it is priority for universal accessibility and would be supported with a parking area and other amenities but unclear if it would replace existing Terwillegar site and is problematic if unfunded. What would be plans to continue maintenance? Is this expected to address some of the issues with informal, unmonitored, potentially illegal launches from the Henday bridge area (near Cameron Heights and E.L. Smith)?

Such a level of access will mean more access for noise makers in motorized boats. The city is noisy enough, give us a break!
There is already a hand launch here and building another launch downstream seems an unnecessary incursion onto the river as well more parking and roads to access the area. Terwilligar park is going to be erode even more with roads and parking. as stated in the reason why Hermitage does not qualify it also fits here {Competing uses (eg. heavily used dogs-off leash park) } Why does this apply to one area but not not another?
unfunded and opposed to any tax dollars being used on this!
This will make an excellent hand launch site. Please do not ignore the parking needs of hand launch sites. Many of us park our vehicles for extended periods as we park a vehicle at our destinations so we can load up when our trip is over. As this site is close to the edge of the city it is a common one for this purpose.
Supportive of this site moving forward. To remain as natural as possible, while allowing for access, launching... maybe fishing?
nice to have a more formal beach for people and dog use.
Keep the area off leash if possible or provide barrier. Keep low maintenance. Allow food truck access. Provide toilets?
This site should also have a power boat launch. There is ample room for vehicle and trailer parking and far enough from the Laurier boat launch to make it feasible. To NOT have a power boat launch put in at Terwilligar when changes are being made is a travesty.
I support the concept. I do have concerns about the impact to wildlife in this area.
Site appears suitable for use, providing minimal impact to off-leash area.
This will be an excellent hand launch site as long as parking is reasonably close. Need to have a flat staging area for those of us that use paddle boards, foldable kayaks and inflatable kayaks that require assembly close to the water's edge to prep for a float.
The plans for Terwilligar #2 sound good - as long as the development is well contained and does not result in a significant footprint on what is currently a well enjoyed 'wilderness-like' area. I do wonder if the markers on the map are positioned correctly? The location of Terwilligar #2 seems to be more in line to where #1 currently is?
Future developmentment will require a lot more parking. Since opening the foot bridge, parking has tripled at least.
Dog owners in this park are horrible. Sense of entitlement. Move away from the dog accommodations. More fishing opportunities and structures.
I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
I think a boat access point is important for this end of the city/river. However it should be as minimally invasive as possible, staying in line with the natural feel of Terwilligar #1. Keep it simple.
I like this idea. There needs to be more parking at the park anyway. The proposed development will promote more use of the river.
This would be a wonderful improvement over the current hand launch area.
This vehicular boat launch should be made a priority.
Please leave this park as natural as possible. We do not need another developed park like Hawrelak
Farther East would be a better location, due to parking and the foot bridge. We also don't need access points so close together.
Edmonton has pretty much ignored the southwest side. It is about time that some amenities be provided for the southwest side.
would keep the informal hand launch of Terwilligar 1; Plans for Terwilligar 2 sound way too infrastructure heavy (i.e. access road, parking lot, dock); cost of maintaining expensive; destruction of landscape will degrade Edmonton's river valley.
There do NOT need to be any amenities other than the boat launch and toilets. Power boats should NOT be allowed on the river as they cause environmental damage and present a danger to non motorized boats. I have noted drinking of alcohol on several of the Jet Boats and motor boats. Enforcement on the river is NON EXISTANT!
Surely one site at Terwilligar is enough? Improve Terwilligar # 1 to accommodate all uses.
Has this proposal been reviewed alongside the existing upgrades that are occurring in the park? So that the two developments would seamlessly integrate and you won't be changing something that is just being installed now (like has happened with the parking lot - digging up landscaping and paving that was just installed last year). If not, then it should be.
I don't agree with any further development in the river valley.
creating seperate access and parking near the water will make this a nice site to use, as the current parking is somewhat limited, and the people who hand out parking tickets are often ambitious in the current parking lot.

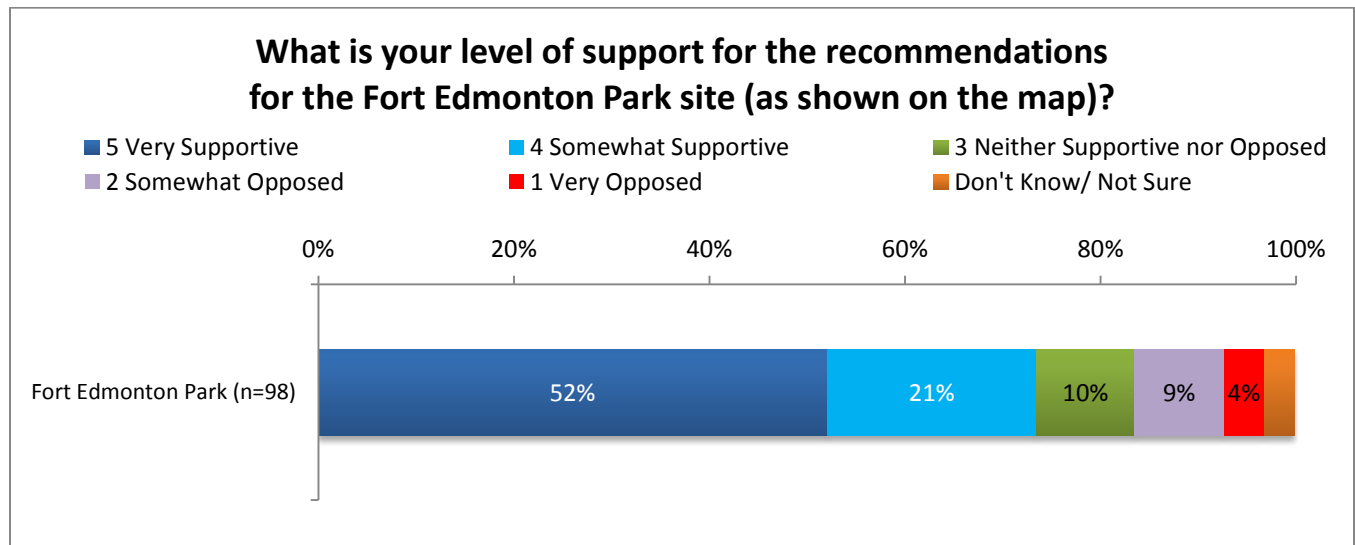
## Fort Edmonton Park

### Fort Edmonton Park

**Current State:** This site has an informal gravel hand launch which is accessed via a steep gravel path. It also includes a drop-off location adjacent to the road at the top of the gravel path and parking (within 130m).

**Future (planned)** No changes are recommended for this site.

Respondents were 73% supportive (52% very supportive and 21% somewhat supportive) and 13% opposed (4% very opposed and 9% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Fort Edmonton Park site.



## Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
Looks great. Informal hand launches are appropriate and desirable.
The problem is cars parking along the side of the road after they've launched. Nobody seems to want to park and walk 130m. It only takes a couple of cars parked there to block access. I'd suggest blocking access to the river here and directing people to the Whitemud river access point.
there are no recommendations to comment on.
I support the current plan (i.e., no changes)
The experience at Fort Edmonton could be enhanced by adding better access to the river here. Ideas: A group of "voyageurs" acting out their arrival by river to the fort (hauling goods up to the Fort, loading furs from the Fort, etc.). The opportunity to park at Tewilligar or some other access and arrive at Fort Edmonton via a portage canoe. Some picnic areas by the water. Canoe rentals.
What are the recommendations, nothing? I've hand launched from under the quesnell bridge, which is ok but the large stones under the bridge are falling down and are difficult to walk on. A better trail to the space under the bridge would be useful.
I believe this is the site immediately below the Quesnel bridge. The is a great site and easily accessible. My only comment is need for more parking, as currently limited to 3-4 cars in parking bay under the bridge.
A wider, flatter path would be beneficial.



Like Terwillegar #1, this should not be considered a suitable hand launch location. People use it because it is gravel/concrete down to the river, and distance between the road and river is quite short. By this definition of a hand launch, any spot on the river where there are few trees and bushes blocking access is a hand launch.
- This site would be better if the path was not steep. It is not a good thing to have when trying to herd a canoe to and from the water. It seems that it would not be that difficult or expensive to maybe change this.
Support access at Rosedale.
I'm glad you're keeping it the way it is. I do NOT support at all any of the changes that are proposed for the river valley. We have one of the most beautiful river valleys ever and I think other than running/walking trails in the summer and cross country skiing trails in the winter, the river valley should be left alone.
These sites are not clearly marked and need more parking
The access is steep and parking is limited
I think that it would be valuable for a boat launch that has parking reasonably close here. Whitemud is the next closest but has a long portage to the water. Fort Edmonton has better opportunities.
This site requires attention. It is inadequate as either a put in or take out site. The site is currently contaminated with broken glass on the river bottom that cannot be seen due to river runoff content. This poses a danger to users. It should have a dock facility that can be pulled out during winter months.
great to have water access and have boat rentals
I know there is a concern to retain the natural beauty of the river valley uninterrupted by access & the footprint people leave; however no one hears a tree in the forrest if no one is there & no one experience the river valley if they can't be there - one can just look at pictures. So as a careful individual in natural i.e.:care in carry out however, one has to answer a survey that is serious about creating an experience for citizens & tourists alike & I question the integrity of thus survey.
I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
If this is the site where the Ft longboat is launched, I think the site is appropriate for the planned use.
The path is too steep for most people who like to boat. 130 M is a long carry.
The steep path is not optimal for hauling a canoe, and needs to be addressed.
There should be slalom gates back up under Quesnel Bridge since the city vandalized (removed) them
Difficult hand-launch area now. Very steep for taking canoes down.

## Whitemud

### Whitemud

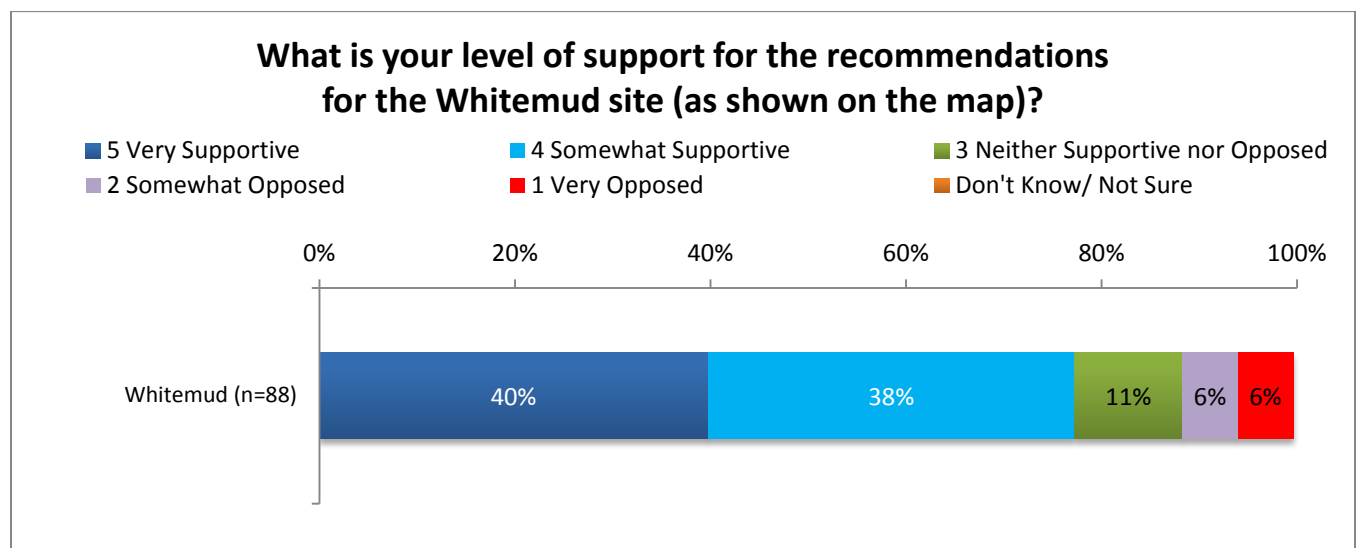
**Current State:** This site has an informal hand launch and includes:

- Trailer turn-around and parking within 200m
- Washroom within 360m

**Future (planned):** No changes are recommend for this site.

**Future (potential):** The City is currently reviewing alternate nearby locations for a proposed River Valley Alliance dock.

Respondents were 78% supportive (40% very supportive and 38% somewhat supportive) and 12% opposed (6% very opposed and 6% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Whitemud site.



### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
Another informal hand launch that we're keeping as is. Excellent choice.
Follow the recommendation of the River Valley alliance. Until reading about I did not realize what part Whitemud Creek and how special it is environmentally in the city. This should be protected and preserved. Even enhanced if possible.
This site should have a dock and a set of washrooms that are closer than the ones currently available.
Enough already, you don't have to develop every inch of the bloody city. Whatever happened to preserving Edmonton's greatest asset for future generations. This City Council never saw a project or development they didn't like.
This site needs more parking as currently parking is used by picnickers in a heavily used park. Canoeists need to drive their canoes to the river, but can't use the river if no place to park.
This site should have a hand launch with a dock.



The initial dock proposed right at the mouth was total lack of planning and using knowledge of the Whitemud creek as a spawning area. I don't think any launch should be at this point. The one from the Fort should be utilized and made more accessible it is close enough to Whitemud creek.
I approve of there being no changes are recommend for this site. I do not think this site should include a River Valley Alliance dock.
Building a dock in the Whitemud area would improve the number of visitors to this location.
I agree that a dock here to make this a true hand launch would be great, as long as it doesn't interfere with aquatic life around whitemud creek
Supportive of future potential as long as it is not funded through tax dollars but instead by voluntary donations.
Interested in the River Valley Alliance Dock idea??
I have a patent pending (design and utility) on a portable services unit that can supply food and other amenities (retail, rental, restrooms) -- I feel that this would be a good site (among others) to introduce the concept. I need to get feedback from various city agencies before proceeding with a serious investment.
If a suitable hand launch site is not developed in Fort Edmonton, consider improving the parking accessibility in Whitemud. Either way, one of the two mentioned sites needs to be better accessible for hand launch boats.
Potential for a RVA dock sounds good.
Make more structure for fishing.
I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
It's important to relocate this site to not disturb the fish. A dock further upstream would be nice.
Again, the boat ramp is too far to carry anything but the lightest kyack.
I was led to believe rafters landing and the river viewing area were to be closed in the "Master Plan". This is a favourite contemplation spot for a lot of older edmontonians who remember a much more open white mud Creek.
Whitemud Creek is a natural area, and currently the only creek in Edmonton with a spawning channel. Reports of motorboats ascending the creek shocking to even the least environmentally inclined citizens. Would skip the dock business.
The "informal" nature of the existing hand launch should be made "formal" at a somewhat different site to the north just beyond the new footbridge across Whitemud Creek. (I presume "informal" refers to launching under Campbell Bridge?). There is no need for a second dock. I believe all motorized traffic on the river should be banned except for emergency vehicles.
Allow vehicles to get closer to the water. Right now, it's a bit of a haul to get canoes down to the river. When there's been no one else around, we've actually driven over the barrier to get the vehicle closer to the slope to take the canoe down. We don't do that if there are other people around, though. We've seen others do it, too. Don't punish people for this behaviour. Acknowledge that's it's happening and make it safe for everyone (canoers and other park users).
This is a popular multiuse area, and would be a good location for additional amenities.

## Laurier

### Laurier

**Current State:** This site has a combined vehicular and hand launch and includes:

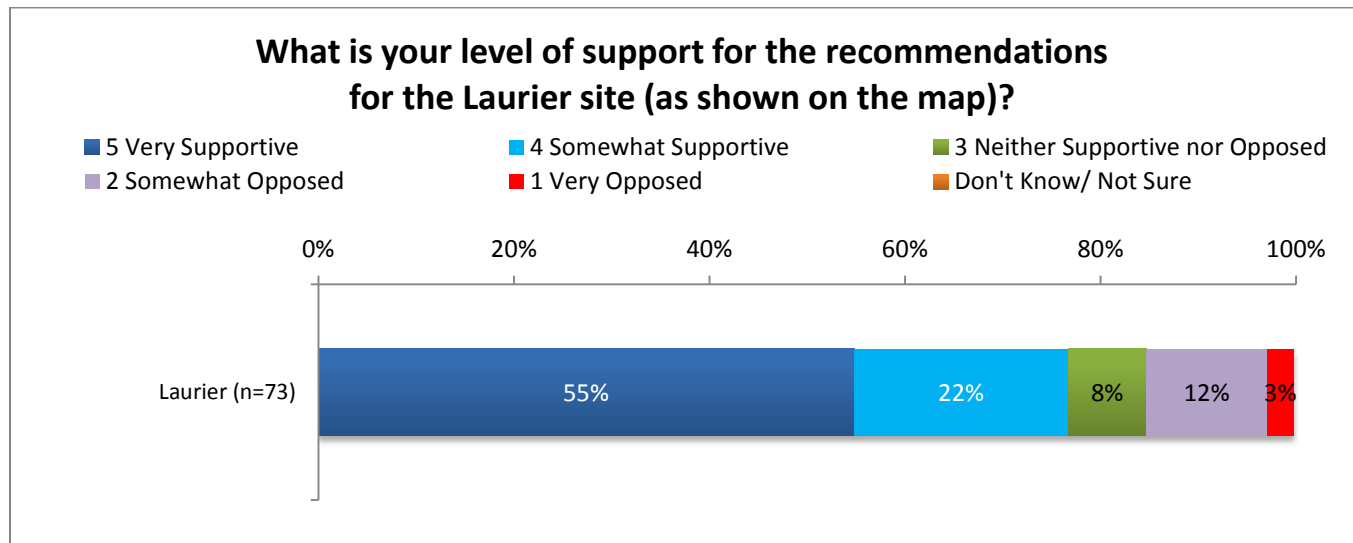
- Vehicular and trailer parking adjacent to the site
- Washroom located 280m from the site

**Future (planned):** Construction of a viewing deck and dock (approx 20m downstream) and improvements to the hand launch is underway as part of the River Valley Alliance docks and launches project.

**Future (potential):** A new washroom building adjacent to the launch site is approved in the Buena Vista/Laurier Park Master Plan however this improvement is currently unfunded.

Priority site for universal accessibility.

Respondents were 77% supportive (55% very supportive and 22% somewhat supportive) and 15% opposed (3% very opposed and 12% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Laurier site.



### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
Still a hand launch, but looks like it's another drive into overdevelopment. There are washrooms already. There's parking already. Leave it be or naturlize it.
I like your plans
Site is currently good for disabled users so ensuring it remains with universal accessibility is important. Viewing deck will be a nice addition for enjoying river views.





A washroom at the site seems unnecessary. There are washrooms in nearby Laurier Park, and at the zoo.
From what I remember (it has been many years) the boat launch was in pretty rough shape. Maybe just some upgrade maintenance?
What is the point in asking questions regarding this launch as it is already underway and it will not be stopped. The RVA has proposed no less than 8 river access point within the city limits! How much access do we need on our river this will not keep the natural views of the river valley from the river as very aesthetic with all these launches, parking and washrooms close to the river.
unfunded and opposed to any tax dollars being used on this!
too much development on river
Good put location for kayaks. Appreciate lighting
I have a patent pending (design and utility) on a portable services unit that can supply food and other amenities (retail, rental, restrooms) -- I feel that this would be a good site (among others) to introduce the concept. I need to get feedback from various city agencies before proceeding with a serious investment.
Better road access to the launch pads the roads are too narrow
I am supportive of the Washroom Building (you have to have facilities if you want people to use the area). I am Somewhat Supportive of the viewing deck and dock, I need more info about the size and potential impact it might have on the area, before I could say I am Very Supportive.
For all of these planned docks, etc, it is not necessary to have any improvements in these areas. There are enough places to launch boats and view the river without further development
I believe we should study cities who already have developed their rivers & made them available to human beings; rather than diddling around with deck here washroom there. Even the Rhine has wonderful cruises where people can land, or view scenic country side or visit cities. I recommend not reinventing the wheel but having the best wheel yet.
Viewing dock/deck, OK. Not sure about the washroom facilities considering there is already one nearby.
This site should have the vehicle launch removed or use limited by locked barriers for emergency watercraft only. I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
As this is the only upstream vehicular boat launch currently in the city, it is important and well used. The washroom building is a needed asset. The hand launch could be incorporated with the dock and viewing station. Launching canoes and rowboats on the concrete vehicular ramp is hard on the boats, they get scratched by the concrete and rocks. Somewhere near this site in the park might be a good place for snack bar / coffee kiosk as there are a lot of people using the river and the park in this area.
Having a dock at this site would be very helpful. The hand launch is routinely very muddy and shallow. It would also be very nice to have a washroom closer to the launch.
Are the docks permanent structures or are they lifted from the water in the winter? Signage from the Zoo side of the park could be improved so you know where the parking and launch are and how to get to them).
A bathroom is an excellent idea for this site.
Due to the changes in water level and current of the river during the year, the construction of docks seems to be a futile and very maintenance expensive project. Instead of adding more trailer parking enforce the no parking for vehicles without trailers. Adding a substantial break water barrier upstream of the boat launch would lessen the maintenance required in the future.
This is a great site, but with limited parking. Expanding nearby parking would be nice with the other proposed changes. A Dock 20m downstream could potentially interfere with vehicular boat launches, and care and attention should be paid to that detail of the dock location.

### Buena Vista #1(Edmonton Rowing Club)

#### Buena Vista #1

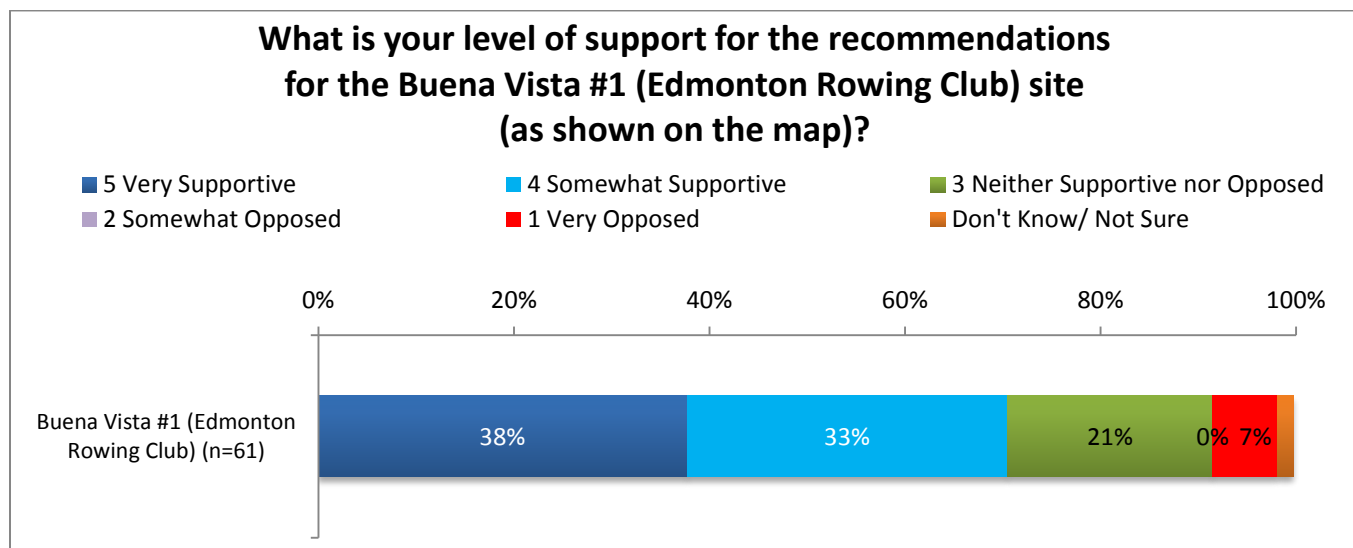
**Current State:** This site is primarily utilized by the Edmonton Rowing Club and includes:

- Concrete approach ramp and dock
- Storage structures
- Seasonal washroom for club members
- Parking and a training facility (within 220m)

**Future (planned):** Construction of a new washroom (within 180m of the site) is underway as part of Buena Vista/Laurier Park Master Plan implementation.

**Future (potential):** This site has opportunity for partner-led site improvements.

Respondents were 71% supportive (38% very supportive and 33% somewhat supportive) and 7% opposed (7% very opposed and 0% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Buena Vista #1 site, in addition to the one-fifth (21%) who were neither supportive nor opposed.



#### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
I'm really torn on this. I use it, so I like having onsite boat storage. Super handy. But I'm not sure it a good thing for the larger river valley. Certainly no additional "partner-led development."
What does partner-led mean? More privatization? Not if I can help it.
All washroom facilities should be public access
No tax dollars should be used on this until everyone is able to use it not just club members! Partner led site improvements are a good idea but needs to be available to everyone not just private clubs and members.



- This launch site is not very welcoming to people not belonging.
Is this a washroom that everyone can use? There are washrooms there but they are for the rowing club.
I have a patent pending (design and utility) on a portable services unit that can supply food and other amenities (retail, rental, restrooms) -- I feel that this would be a good site (among others) to introduce the concept. I need to get feedback from various city agencies before proceeding with a serious investment.
It sounds like it is still primarily for club members
This would be acceptable if the general public were permitted to park nearby and use this boat launch for kayaks and paddle boards. I think it should be universal so all can use.
This site should have the vehicle launch removed or use limited by locked barriers for emergency watercraft only. Special launches for rowing water craft (if required) are okay provided they limit access by motorized water craft by physical means. I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
Partner used of the site would be good. Does the Edmonton Rowing Club pay a lease on this site that allows them to have private structures on city parkland?
enough infrastructure; if washroom is already on site, what is case for an additional one in this area? Maintaining the greenery can never be a bad option. This goes for Buena Vista 2 as well.
The rowing club made improvements to their boat launch and at least one of the structures last year. They do lift their floating dock during the winter. It is not clear whether just anyone can make use of their dock, or whether it is reserved for their use only. Again, there seems to be a lack of signage. With the work going on in the rest of the park this year, I would expect changes here don't need to necessarily be 'led' by the rowing club, the City and the rowing club together should be able to identify improvements that would benefit both parties.

## Buena Vista #2 (Edmonton Whitewater Paddlers)

### Buena Vista #2

**Current State:** This site is primarily utilized by the Edmonton Whitewater Paddlers and includes:

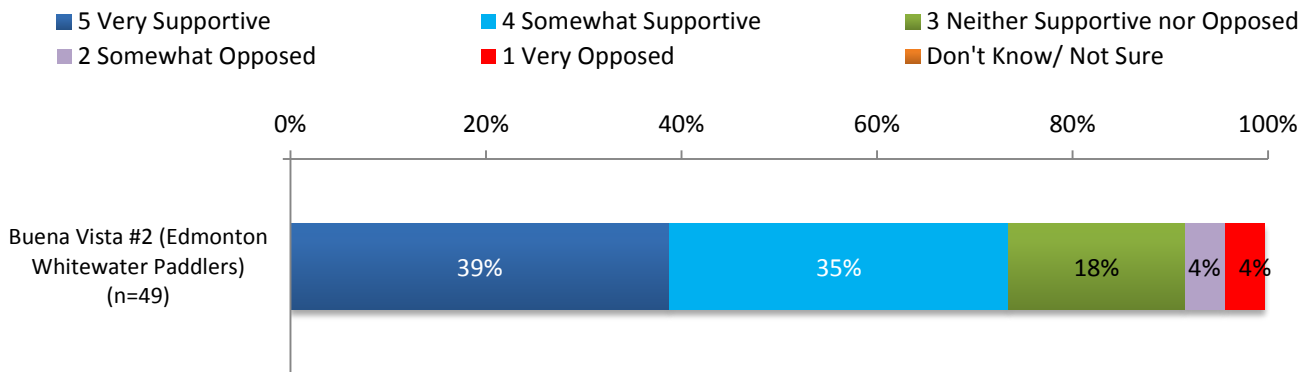
- Gravel trail and stairs to hand launch
- Storage structure and fenced compound

**Future (planned):** Construction of a new washroom (within 200m of the site) is underway as part of Buena Vista/Laurier Park Master Plan implementation.

**Future (potential):** This site has opportunity for partner-led site improvements.

Respondents were 74% supportive (39% very supportive and 35% somewhat supportive) and 8% opposed (4% very opposed and 4% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Buena Vista #2 site, in addition to the 18% who were neither supportive nor opposed.

### What is your level of support for the recommendations for the Buena Vista #2 site (as shown on the map)?



### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
Although I don't use this one, it's basically the same deal as ERC's site that I do use and like. Except the fenced compound: lose that, it's a park. Like with ERC, I don't think it's appropriate for any additional development to be done at this location.
No further development than a washroom, Quit with the partner-led nonsense.
Washrooms should have public access
No tax dollars should be used on this until everyone is able to use it not just club members! Partner led site improvements are a good idea but needs to be available to everyone not just private clubs and members.
I have a patent pending (design and utility) on a portable services unit that can supply food and other amenities (retail, rental, restrooms) -- I feel that this would be a good site (among others) to introduce the concept. I need to get feedback from various city agencies before proceeding with a serious investment.
This one also sounds like it is mostly for club members. Public parking in the area is lacking



This site should be accessible to all instead of just the Whitewater paddlers.
I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
I have never seen anyone use this site, and I walk by there probably five times a week. The rowing club dock is a short distance away and closer to parking. I am not sure what development of this site would accomplish.
Partner use with this site would also be good, since all three Laurier / Beuna Vista sites will use the same new washroom structure. Do the Edmonton Whitewater Paddlers pay a lease on the site that allows them a fenced compound?
That is quite the distance for people who are portaging a larger craft such as a kayak or canoe, from any for of road way. I think a launch here would merely provide a good access point for dogs.
I'm a regular walker on the paths in this area and I can't say I know where this trail and stairs are located. Is there signage? I don't know about this particular hand launch, but certainly the one in Emily Murphy seems to attract a lot of 'non-river' users - I expect some of it to get access to the river bank area for drug/alcohol activity. These hand launch access trails need to be better maintained so that they aren't simply mud banks that erode away. And better sight lines where possible so that you don't have people lurking around them for other activities. Otherwise similar comments re: partner led developments in BV#1.

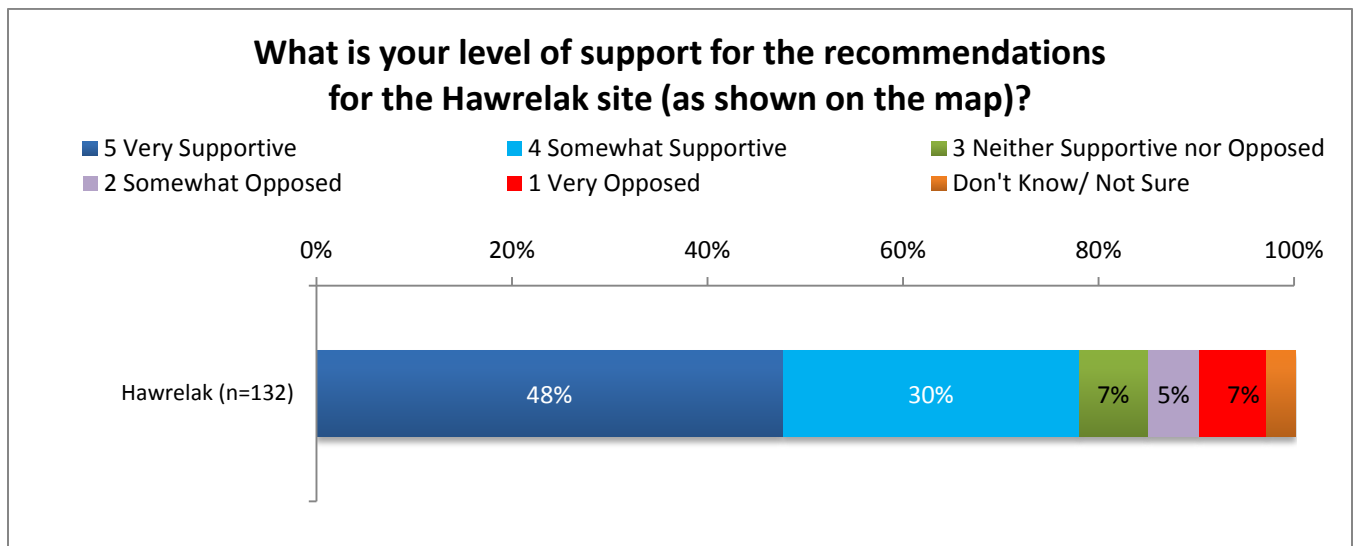
## Hawrelak

### Hawrelak

**Current State:** This river access site is currently undeveloped.

**Future (planned):** Plans for the installation of a dock are underway as part of the River Valley Alliance docks and launches project.

Respondents were 78% supportive (48% very supportive and 30% somewhat supportive) and 12% opposed (7% very opposed and 5% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Hawrelak site.



### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
There should also be a riverside promenade for the entire length of Hawrelak Park c/w separation of pedestrian and bike paths. This can open up more recreational and park activities, including expansion of the Heritage Festival.
The informaton is lacking. Hand launch? Vehical accessible? I can't tell if this is okay or not based on the information. A hand launch is fine. Don't build any more roads or parking nearby.
This comment applies to every launch on the river. Please, please, please avoid providing launches for powerboats. The noise of powerboats already disturbs the quiet of the river valley, and more launch opportunities will mean more noise, disturbance, danger to paddle craft, and danger to powerboat users. Enjoyment of many quiet bodies of water across Canada has been destroyed by powerboats. Avoid this!! Thanks.
It says Hawrelak is undeveloped.
There ought to be far more river access downtown, between Groat bridge & Riverdale. That's hardly a "natural" area. Rather, it's one that's been used for intense heavy exploitation & industry since people first settled there. As such it ought to be opened up & made accessible to the inhabitants of the inner city — as is the case with pretty much every other "world class" city.
not enough information about what is planned. what do you mean by a dock? a floating dock? how will it be used?



River access is not crucial for this location as Emily Murphy is just around the bend and has good access. If the dock planned for Hawrelak is simple and not elaborate it might be a nice to have but is not a need to have.
Parking is always the issue at this park. Ltd. transportation options to access the site.
This area should be fully developed as this is a convenient location to access the core of the river.
We do not need another access to the river at this point there is three sites from Laurier Park to Buena Vista and then another at Emily Murphy just on the other side of Hawrelak Park. This whole concept of so many launches and docks is total unreasonable.
May require sight specific parking as Hawrelak in the summer is very busy and hard to find parking.
as long as no tax dollars are used i am supportive of this
- Another excellent site. I will be glad to see it developed. I am assuming that along with the dock comes parking and hand launching ability?
As long as the running trails along side the launch site are improved as well!
Hawrelak Park is such a prime location in the valley, and a boat launch here makes sense. The plans are very unclear at this point, however.
Lovely view site. Would be nice to have kayak access but a bit steep.
I definitely would make use of a dock at Hawrelak. Would be nice if this dock included benches and enough space for people to relax on.
Would make a good rest stop off of the trails that run in this area.
There are very few details for Hawrelak but I support making the river accessible from this location.
There needs to be public parking available if people are going to launch kayaks and canoes
I am supportive of this as long as this includes a hand launch location with parking relatively close by and an area for us to assemble or inflate our kayaks and paddle boards.
Unfortunately, I do not have familiarity with the dock plan. I do support the idea of a dock.
another place where boat rentals would be fun
BUS THAT RUN EVERY HOUR TO GET THERE.
More fishing structures.
This site should have the vehicle launch removed or use limited by locked barriers for emergency watercraft only. I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
Given the competing uses of the Park - particularly in the summer parking for boat drop off will be a challenge.
Adding another hand launch access point on the south side of the river is needed. More access points gives non motorized boaters more day trip options.
A dock at this location would be a great addition.
This would be a very good location for a dock with stairs (or ramps) up to the park providing access to the facilities in Hawrelak Park (washrooms, picnic sites, parking). Hawrelak Park might also be a good location for a tea house or coffee bar.
I do not feel this development is necessary.
Should have a hand launch as well
Why not create more in Hawrelak? It seems like a great space to really encourage outdoor recreation.
It would depend on where exactly the access point is from the park--there would be an impact to the traffic volume and flow, parking, and to pedestrians. Any area developed would need to recognize the multi-use nature of the park and be very clear on access rules.
heavy infrastructure and removal of vegetation to accommodate a hand launch is overkill; also costly to maintain and service dock and pathways.
manage with other park uses - how will access be maintained during festivals or park closures?
I love the natural river banks of Hawrelak Park. Please don't build anything there!
A dock for non-motorized boats please.
In order to be supportive I would really need to know more about the dock as it would also involve parking for vehicles that are bringing the boats to the docks and unless there is limited use of the dock this will prove to be a real problem.
I don't agree with any further development in the river valley.
This could potentially be used for a vehicular boat launch site, which Edmonton could use more of

## Emily Murphy

### Emily Murphy

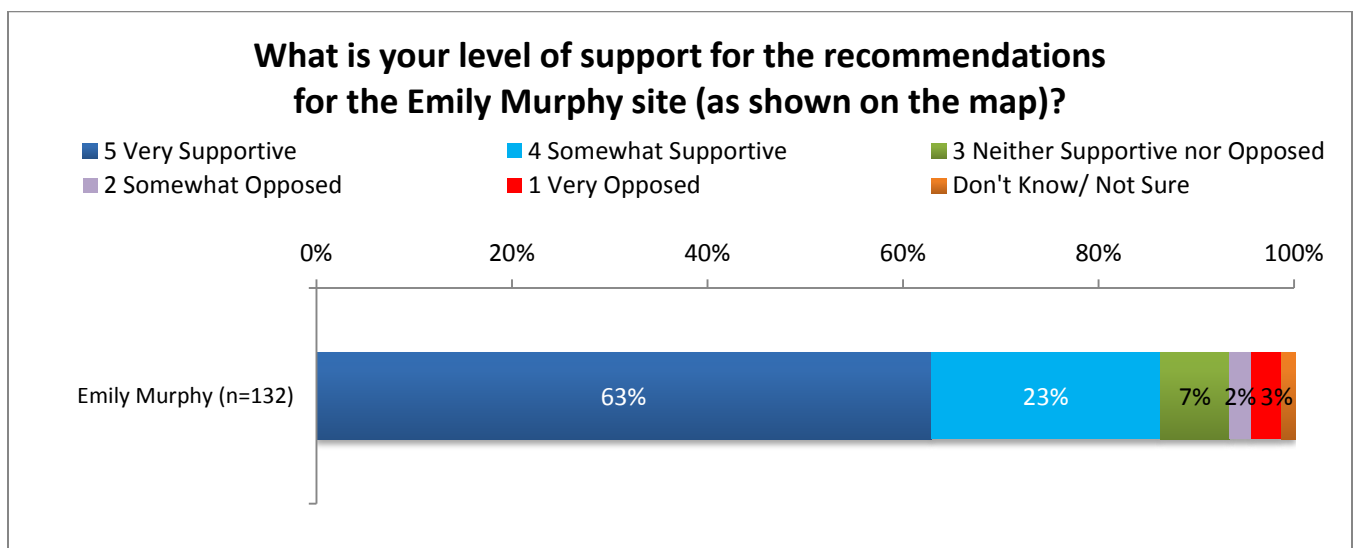
**Current State:** This site has a gravel hand launch and includes parking (within 60m) and space for trailer turn-around. This site is a staging area for river-based events (e.g. Mountain Man).

**Future (planned):** Improvements to the hand launch and installation of a dock is planned as part of the River Valley Alliance docks and launches project. Note: Installation will occur after Groat Road Bridge rehabilitation.

**Future (potential):** Given the central location, existing supporting amenities and limited competing uses at this site, expanded use of this site is supported.

Priority site for universal accessibility

Respondents were 86% supportive (63% very supportive and 23% somewhat supportive) and 5% opposed (3% very opposed and 2% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Emily Murphy site.



## Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
I would like to see a riverside multi-use path from Kinsman to Emily Murphy Park that parallels the multi-use path next to River Valley Rd.
Too much development. Too much ability to get heavy, motorized boats to the river. The river valley is a park. Stop building so much crap in it.
Don't overdo the amenities and put too much in there..
I agree this is a priority site. what do you mean by a "dock"
Well used location. Dock will be a good addition as well as maintaining universal accessibility.





I would suggest that any future improvements to this site should be sympathetic to the rustic character of Emily Murphy Park. I belong to a scouting organization that often uses Emily Murphy Park for orienteering and other scout activities because it is a slice of wilderness within the city. During the school year it is often not feasible to rent buses to get the kids into "the outdoors" beyond city limits. It's very useful to have a wilderness park within city limits - makes it easier to plan 1 day wilderness activities without having to travel far. It would be nice to be able to have group canoeing and kayaking activities launched from Emily Murphy Park.
Great choice for universal accessibility.
I have no use for a dock but would love to see the area more kid/activity friendly
Consider start improvements before Groat Road project.
There is already a launch here and enhancing it should mean that you would not need one at Hawrelak Park! Really six launches from Whitemud to Emily Murphy.
Don't need a dock but need better access for hand launching. Also need washroom facilities.
This area is already popular but it would be nice to see small kiosks, tables etc some how placed near to the water or walking paths so people could enjoy the park and river.
This location appears to be well used now so seems logical to expand and make it easier and more accesible.
I would like to see information on gold panning at this site particularly as the city is planning a universally accessible location.
As long as no tax dollars are used on the developments i am supportive of this
No supporting amenities.
I am especially in favour of universal accessibility at this site.
Same note as per previous sections but here I would also like to develop a zip line from Jasper Avenue between 96th and 97th streets that would end up adjacent to the lookout at the base of the new funicular structure.
Agree that there is a lot of potential in this location Emily Murphy park in general seems underutilized, and the existing launch is the one that first comes to mind. Feel future expansions to this site should include better connections to the trails to the east. Currently the trail makes you walk through the parking lot.
Agreed with improvements as this is an ideal location for river access.
This one has great potential for development. Parking is available too. Good launch site
The map doesn't show me the site?
This site should have the vehicle launch removed or use limited by locked barriers for emergency watercraft only. I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
This is currently my main river access site. The slope to the river is very steep and are often muddy. When carrying a canoe, paddleboard, or kayak it becomes difficult to access the river at this point. A dock would be very nice, but permanent stairs leading down to the dock are equally important.
I am fully supportive of improvements to this site including an improved hand launch and a dock.
I support the limited improvement proposed but am not in favour of further development other than to complement accessibility requirements.
The space for "turnaround" is very limited, and I can see problems with people bringing their crafts into that area. Plus, as a runner, I often use the trail that exits Hawrelak, goes through Emily Murphy, and continues on to the east. IT is already difficult to negotiate the traffic. Safety would need to be considered from a pedestrian's point of view.
would keep hand launch operational while limiting removal of trees and shrubs
Excellent suggestions. It would also be good to have several parking stalls redesignated for people who want to leave a car for 4-6 hours. 2 hours is too short for canoers, and the other stalls are taken up for the day most likely by people working up at the U of A.
This docking station is very dangerous. When the water levels are high there is nearly little to no dock/beach. hoisting heavy canoes and voyageurs is very difficult as the slop is very slippery and steep. it makes it very dangerous for participants not only trying to dock but trying to get out of the water once docked
Once again this is one of the best areas to pan for gold and gems in the river. If a dock is installed where would it be installed and once again parking for boaters will be a problem as this area is so well used as an area to picnic and walk and wade in the river. I think there are enough other places that a dock can be installed that this park should be left as it is. A place in the centre of the city for Edmontonians to visit, walk and enjoy the natural beauty of our river valley. If anything make sure Edmontonians are aware of how special this park is just as it is.
I don't agree with any further development in the river valley, particularly if this development disrupts access to the gravel trail that connects Emily Murphy to Hawrelak.

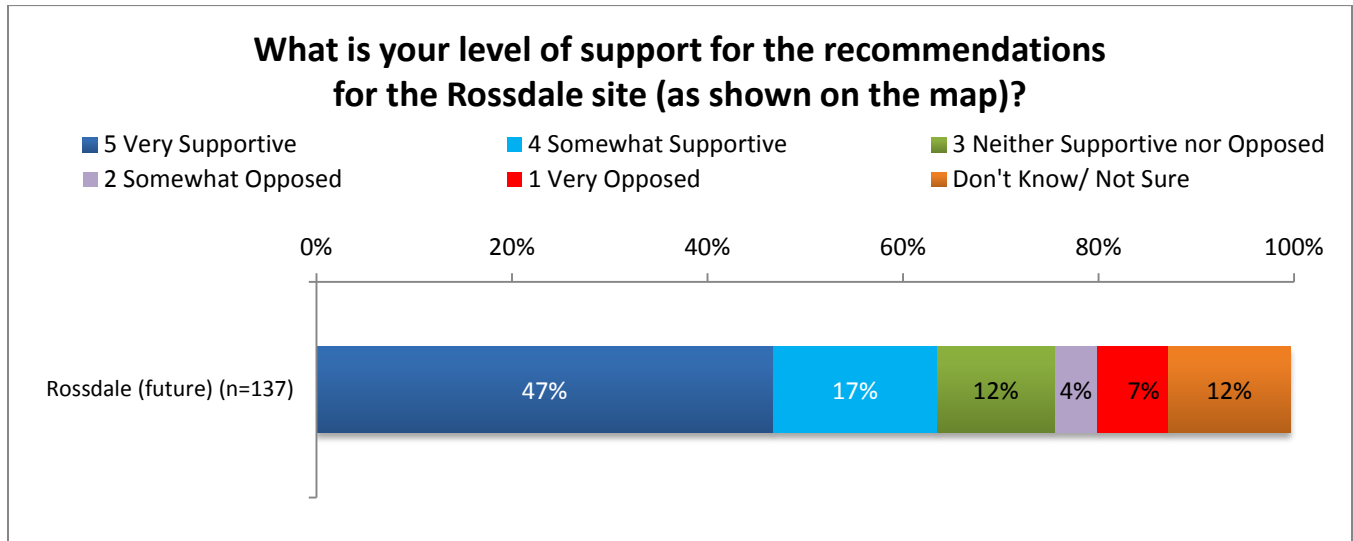
## Rossdale (future)

### Rossdale

**Current State:** This site is currently undeveloped.

**Future (potential):** As part of the River Valley Alliance docks and launches project, an opportunity to engage with the river is intended for this location. Plans are still in development.

Respondents were 64% supportive (47% very supportive and 17% somewhat supportive) and 11% opposed (7% very opposed and 4% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Rossdale site, in addition to 12% who were neither supportive nor opposed, and 12% who didn't know or weren't sure.



## Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
No details provided
still in development
I'm not sure exactly what I'm being asked.
This needs to be Edmonton's version of Coal Harbour, anchored by a Rossdale Plant that is repurposed for something beneficial. I want to see riverside cafes here, and Lower Rossdale developed.
What does "engage with the river" mean. Pedestrian access to the waterfront would be excellent. The ability to carry a boat onto the river would be fine. But no roads, no access for motorized vehicles or boats, please.
With a central location, developed area, make the river accessible to all.



A burial ground is located at Rosssdale. This sacred burial site was historically used to bury First Nations & Metis peoples, fur traders & settlers. Remains have been interned to the burial site, and roadways have been diverted because of the burial site. For the last couple of years, the bridge construction has visually impacted the site, but this will soon be over. And then, there should be NO interference with or near this site, and NO recreational development that would impact the site. The only thing that should happen at Rosssdale is that the burial site be properly honoured and interpreted. P.S. And that bizarre circular steel sculpture & poles do not belong on a sacred site, and do not accurately represent the diversity of peoples buried/interned there. It should be removed & you can take it somewhere else if you want to.
I would like to see some kind of river taxi service from high profile sites along the river - hawrelak park, the zoo, louis mckinney, the edmonton queen, rundle (to name some off the top of my head)
This area has been under construction for a couple years. Great tie in with a parks area/public space for families/visitors to enjoy the river valley.
I am opposed to the use of power boats on the river, especially high speed power boats.
I like the idea of an access point here.
ancient indigenous burial ground...has that been taken into account
There are no plans proposed. However, a boat dock and launch seems appropriate at this site.
The QEII park redevelopment and new Walterdale shared use path access need to be complete before real assessment of use is possible. Take your time on this one. Need to get it right the first time.
Consultation with Indigenous community members would need to be in depth and meaningful. I don't see the need for further development in this area unless it is desired by Indigenous community members.
I hear a lot of nonsense in the press with respect to Rosssdale, including concrete trenches filled with water as a "reflecting pool" as if those didn't exist just above on the Legislature grounds. Nonsense like this (and removal of the baseball park) make me worried about white elephants in Rosssdale.
There are no details included in this plan. There should be a launch area here.
Would like to see a hand launch area, but no motorized boat launch.
Interaction with the river is very needed here.
Consider further pushing up this development area.
The Plans for Rosssdale by the RVA are over the top and adding a launch is redundant.
No plans so can't comment but may not need this site if others are improved.
I would like to see docks etc at Rosssdale but to add to the area, rather than demolish the old bridge make it a market in summer with small food kiosks,vendors selling fresh fruit etc, benches to sit on, entertainment, a great place to stop while bike riding or walking our city trails.
Have always felt that this sight should be developed and include the opportunity for sales of beverages and some foods both during the summer and winter. Make it accessible for both bikes and pedestrians and maybe even skaters in the winter.
It seems like the plans are underdeveloped and I can't give articulate feedback.
No plans given so far
As long as no tax dollars are used on the developments i am supportive of this
- This would be a major plus to river use. It would encourage a new summer playground close to downtown where people could tie off and enjoy shore time pleasures as well as the water, like the docks close to downtown do in Saskatoon.
Nice to have an area developed to enjoy the river edge, launch or bring in boats
This site is literally an Aboriginal burial ground. Sacred space. Leave it undisturbed. The development there is already a travesty.
Plans are very unclear at this point. It would be more helpful to me if this survey had more specific details about what was being planned.
Festival amenities and food services to broad the historical and cultural importance of the study area.
I would like to see this whole area treated as an entrie entity. However the history of the area and the semetary/burial ground, needs to be considred.
Should be accessible. Nice spot for kayaks. On bike route. Good for social
I believe that this area begs for an intense development of river uses -- connected to downtown and to Old Strathcona.
Rosssdale would be a good central location
Love this location - worried about parking. Hope it will eventually include other amenities (café, additional picnic sites etc.)
The river is strong in this area; it should be left untouched
More details are necessary though I support creating river access at this location. Creating space for river-based businesses (e.g. canoe rentals) and supporting amenities would be great.
Good location as long as there is parking
A universal accessible hand launch site would be valuable here as there is really nowhere close by to take out if coming from Devon. Next hand launch is far when restricted by daylight and warm weather in shoulder season.
Once plans are available I will be better able to respond on this site. I do not know what "engage with the river" means.
Map does not show me the site?
Depends what the plans will be.
No recommendations are given, but hopefully whatever develops will be well-integrated with planning for the future of the old low-pressure building and river water pumphouse.
This site should not have a vehicle launch or if it does, should have use limited by locked barriers for emergency watercraft only. I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?



This area of the river has a lot of pedestrian traffic. Opening up access to the water would greatly improve the area.
This is a great location for a fully developed boat launch with a vehicular ramp, washrooms, coffee / tea house, dock, viewing platform, interpretive centre (indigenous burial grounds, power plant history, Rosssdale history). Thus it could be also be a tourist / visitor experience.
Great care needs to be taken in this area where First Nations burial sites have been historically damaged, disregarded, and unacknowledged. If changes need to be made, it has to be a reduction of traffic through an area where it doesn't belong.
Plans appear to still be under discuss. I liked the canal idea for this location, which, if coupled with canal-side commercial development (restaurants, coffee shops, a civic museum, etc.) could transform this most urban portion of the river valley. I think we need something more here than just another dock.
would be a great location for a waterfront promenade. Benches, lights, planters with flowers, trees, fountains, cafes, shops, entertainment, this area could thrive with something like this. And the city in view with the sunset - the potential could be absolutely stunning. And also something water interactive - docks, light launch, ability to walk out on sand, in water if possible. (not sure of the depth here)
Without specific recommendations developed , Cant really comment...
Should be hand launch only. Needs to be flood sensitive.
Would like to see this central site include commercial and retail uses as well, including cafes and restaurants.
With how central this site is located, I suggest do as much as possible. Coffee shop? Snacks? Convenience store that sells sunblock?
Rosssdale is already squeezed with buildings on the north side of river (power plants); wildlife corridor on north side of river must be maintained; adding launch and docks will compromise wildlife corridor.
Putting a boat launch here is a mistake as there are no parking facilities other than at the baseball stadium. Placing a dock here would be a big mistake. The docks are better placed FOR NON MOTORIZED CRAFT in Rundle and Terwillegar #1.
Sure. Hand launch sites would be great from that location.
Rosssdale: A lot more information is required. What is the "plan in development"? In general though, I support the idea of this location being an access point. Would also support opportunities for restaurants to be built along/by the river in this area.
Group I work for currently uses the Capilano boat launch with 3rd party contractor for water monitoring and sampling of the outfall inventory controlled by the City of Edmonton. A more central boat launch would provide benefit to this work by cutting down travelling time to locations on the river.
A Rosssdale launch would be unnecessary if there is a new launch at Hawrelak and upgrades at Rafters Landing.
Really need more information before I would be able to offer a valid opinion for this location. I see some opportunities for something special, but also realize that we have a ball park there (a value access to Edmonton), a beautiful building that needs to be utilize (once again while maintaining the beauty of this facility) and we are a winter city
This site demands access. It is a natural place for development.
I don't agree with any further development in the river valley.
This is a prime location that could benefit from as much development as people see fit. A sea-walk / boardwalk in this area would be an incredible addition.

## Louise McKinney

### Louise McKinney

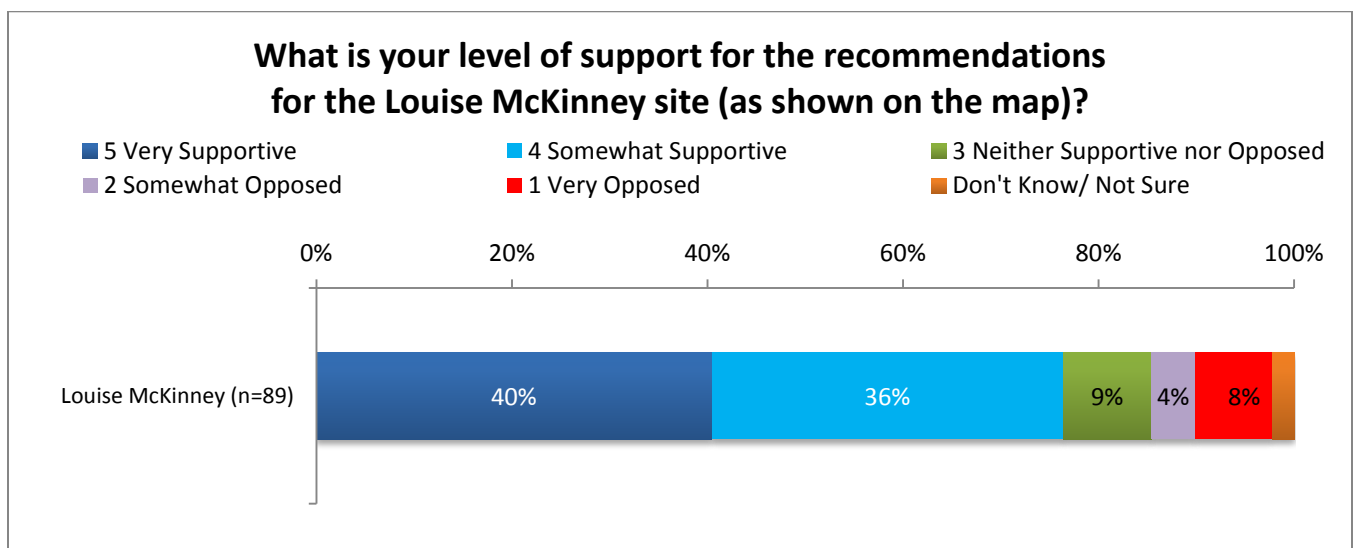
**Current State:** This site is a staging area for river-based events (e.g., Edmonton Dragon Boat Festival) and is equipped with a gangway attached to a metal dock. The site includes:

- Nearby vehicular turn-around
- Parking within 300m

**Future (planned):** An accessible switchback trail from the upper parking lot to the lower promenade is currently under construction. This will improve the overall park accessibility.

**Future (potential):** In order to decrease the distance between the vehicular turn-around and the dock, future planning should consider relocating the dock, if feasible.

Respondents were 76% supportive (40% very supportive and 36% somewhat supportive) and 12% opposed (8% very opposed and 4% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Louise McKinney site.



## Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
Extend the riverside promenade to the new LRT bridge.
I read the first section and was thinking "excellent choice, improving accessibility by building a switchback trail." Then I got the potential section. It's atrocious. Keep vehicles as far away from the river as possible.
Pedestrian access to Louise McKinney could be way better - it can be very difficult to get across Grierson Hill Rd. when there is an event at the park.
New switchback trail should make it easier to access the promenade.
This would be a great location for boat rentals

This is not a good canoe launch, as no shallow water and no eddy. Would require modifications to make it useful.
The dock is not appropriate for kayaks and canoes. We need a better hand launch.
T majority of users are on north side of river between 105 and 97 st. They will use the river facility 7 days a week. Downtown residential growth is growing and apt / condo based. They will use the river facilities. The LRT plans will bring users from further away. If I were King of Edmonton, I would suggest north side of river between 104 and 109 st and include an eddied beach.
As long as no tax dollars are used on the developments and everything is fully accessible to all members of the public, at all times, i am supportive of this.
already has lots of development - leave as is
I am concerned that the Valley LRT Line/Tawatina Bridge will negatively impact my use of Louise McKinney park, including this boat launch site.
I support festival amenities and food services to broaden the cultural importance of the study area.
Not good for boats. Dock not accessible from river from kayaks. Need better river access or keep it for pedestrians and bikes.
Louise McKinney is also a great place to have a boat launch
I think there's a lot of potential for some tourist / recreation amenities in this area, such as water taxis, restaurants, performance spaces, etc. Given the proximity to downtown, it makes a prime location. Realize the economics may not be viable for some time, but I think future planning should consider these uses.
The developments seem limited and I wouldn't rate them as a high priority compared to other locations.
If Rafter's landing is developed into an appropriate hand launch location, then I don't think it is good value to develop Louise McKinney because it is a difficult location to drive to anywhere from the city
Map does not show me the site. Very poor survey!
Just wondering on how the big tower of 80 or more floors is going to affect the Lousie McKinnon area?
Trail, OK. Don't feel that potential moving of dock is necessary. I don't see much increase in the number of people using it as a boat put-in by moving it marginally closer to the turnaround point to justify the cost.
This site should have the vehicle launch removed or use limited by locked barriers for emergency watercraft only. I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
Yes, the dock is a great idea here as there are washrooms and snack bar, picnic tables and parking. It is not a good location for a boat launch as it is on the fast side of the river.
It would be ideal if there were more amenities in this space, like coffee shops and restaurants. This is the most urbanized portion of the river valley and has been nicely terraced, but the space is poorly used. Make it more than "just another dock". It would be nice to canoe down here from Laurier and stop for a coffee or ice cream before continuing to Gold Bar.
Can't find Louise McKinney
Part of the charm of the McKinney area now is that it isn't actually accessible directly by car and apart from accessibility requirements it should remain as it is. We don't need to cater to car drivers even down to the rivers' edge...Bad enough we have a full parking lot, and now the funicular
If you are putting a device in for disabled people to get to, you need to make things available for them to do down there, other than a stroll in the park.
This central site should also include adjacent pedestrian-oriented commercial and retail uses, including cafes and restaurants.
Great suggestions
moving the dock closer to main pathway and access will provide ability to use space better. Rental opportunities?
Louise McKinney: Support the future plan with the understanding that it won't disturb the park and trees in the area.
This dock should be a terminus for a ferry service linked to a new dock at Rafter's Landing and possibly other upstream and downstream locations.
Would like more information on what is actually being done in this area. I know that you are building something to provide access from the area on the top of the bank to the area by the river, but feel that as usual plans are being implemented before the actual plan is put in place OR you are now asking for input when you already have decided what is going to be done. You are now talking about increasing the dock for boats which doesn't make much sense if you have access for walker and other that won't be boating unless you are now thinking of having water taxis that will be polluting our river and encouraging more commercial building in the river valley.
Louise McKinney site has easy road access now. This could be a brilliant place to build out service concessions that support the dockage.
I don't agree with any further development in the river valley. Park accessibility was destroyed by removing the footbridge, and I don't get why the vehicular would need to be close to the dock. The river isn't wide enough to warrant river taxis for commuting across the river, so creating a linked vehicular/dock is in no way an issue of accessibility to the river valley trails and parks.

### Rafter's Landing (Edmonton River Queen, Edmonton Dragon Boat Festival Association)

#### Rafter's Landing

**Current State:** This site is home to the Edmonton Dragon Boat Festival and the Edmonton River Queen and includes:

- Hand launch and seasonal dock
- Gangway and docking structure to support the Edmonton River Queen tour boat
- Parking (within 130m)

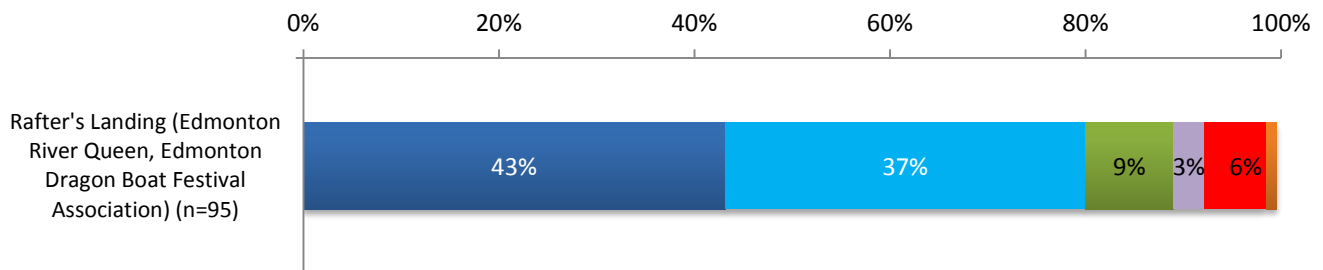
**Future (potential):** The central location and available space support expanded use at this site. This site has opportunity for partner-led site improvements.

Priority site for universal accessibility

Respondents were 80% supportive (43% very supportive and 37% somewhat supportive) and 9% opposed (6% very opposed and 3% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Rafter's Landing site.

#### What is your level of support for the recommendations for the Rafter's Landing site (as shown on the map)?

- 5 Very Supportive
- 4 Somewhat Supportive
- 3 Neither Supportive nor Opposed
- 2 Somewhat Opposed
- 1 Very Opposed
- Don't Know/ Not Sure



#### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
Depends on partner-led "improvements." The docks for the Queen already make this a pretty nasty bit of waterfront. Further development will make it worse. This would be a great site for increased naturalization, more trails, less parking, and PLEASE get rid of that riverboat.
Would like to see this site development for citizen use. The River Queen is not operating any longer and hasn't since 2015. Perfect place for a river beach area, parking, parks, accessibility all here.
Site currently has good access, don't really need more. Good to continue the universal accessibility.
Seems like the focus should be for either Rafter's landing or Louise McKinney rather than both (across the river from each other, no?)
No improvements are suggested but I'm generally supportive of the expanded usage of this site.





The use by Edmonton Queen, with cables to shore makes it hazardous for canoes. Not safely usable in current state. Too bad as it was originally developed for use other than just Edmonton Queen. Good central location.
They should be city led improvements. With all the LRT construction, a launch / dock should be incorporated
Make it appropriate for hand launching of canoes and kayaks. Need washrooms and better parking access.
As long as no tax dollars are used on the developments and everything is fully accessible to all members of the public, at all times, I am supportive of this.
This area is already getting incredibly disturbed due to the LRT expansion. Leave it alone. Wildlife and plant life is being decimated.
Also not accessible for kayaks - looks like scramble up the rocks. And Louise McKinley not accessible. So suggest make a path over here for water users.
I have a patent pending (design and utility) on a portable services unit that can supply food and other amenities (retail, rental, restrooms) -- I feel that this would be a good site (among others) to introduce the concept. I need to get feedback from various city agencies before proceeding with a serious investment.
I think the potential recommendation for partner-led site improvements is key. This area has a lot of potential for increased river access, especially with more business involvement.
Would be a great location to have canoe and kayak rentals
I'd like to see a permanent dock installed and safer path/stair access from the multiuse trail to the water for public and EDBFA use. Having to navigate the giant wooden stairs and stepping over rocks to access the seasonal docks is a pain.
Hard launch should be limited for events like the dragon boat festival and should be physically locked to prevent non-emergency use of motorized water craft. I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like load motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
I think commercial development with some waterfront facilities, cafe, coffee shops, bakery etc. would draw people to the area in the summer and if done right potentially in the winter too. Public washrooms would be a must.
This site is great right now. I would be very interested in seeing some potential designs and ideas for expansion.
This is a very good location for a boat launch (I would like to see a vehicular ramp here also) because the current is slower on this side of the river. It is also a very lovely part of the river valley. Improvements here could dovetail with improvements to the future daylighted Mill Creek.
This is City property. I do not support "partner-led site improvements" in this site. The existing facilities support current uses (though I'm curious about the status of the River Queen) and require maintenance. This is a central site that could support other boaters' use of the river, too, and the surrounding infrastructure lends itself to greater activity here. However, there are some strongly vocal residents in this area who have interfered with the historic character of the neighbourhood. I do not want to see development in this area that caters mainly to residents' concerns about their property values.
If anything, the river valley is overdeveloped. It does not need expanded parking
agree with designation as priority for accessibility - not much detail otherwise to comment on. How does this site fit with plans for northern end of Mill Creek 're-wilding' for example. Can't really have pristine fish ponds etc if you then build a car park close by...
need to manage current Edmonton Queen with public users. Great location and close to LRT system - rental location?
Rafter's Landing: Any future changes to this area will greatly impact the Cloverdale Community. Important to consult with Cloverdale residents and ensure any future growth doesn't negatively impact local residents. Cloverdale already experiences traffic congestion issues due to 98ave and extremely poor ingress and egress. E.g. The Capilano boat dock draws a lot of traffic, and wouldn't support any initiative that further isolates Cloverdale.
Rafters Landing should be the central marina for paddle and power boats in the downtown parklands. If the Edmonton Queen business fails again and the boat is moved or decommissioned the Landing should be redeveloped to include a restaurant and patio on top. A swimming area could also be created in the calm shallows nearby.
before supporting expanded use at this site with partner-led site improvements. I would really like to know what you have in mind for Partner-led site improvements?????
With parking and access already existing this is another excellent resource. Priority should be given to existing potential such as the River Queen. Despite years of neglect, visitors to Edmonton always appreciated the chance to get out on the water on the Queen. Now someone has stepped up to restore the class of the Queen, it should be given a proper berth.
I don't agree with any further development in the river valley.



### Dawson #1 (Edmonton Dragon Boat Racing Club)

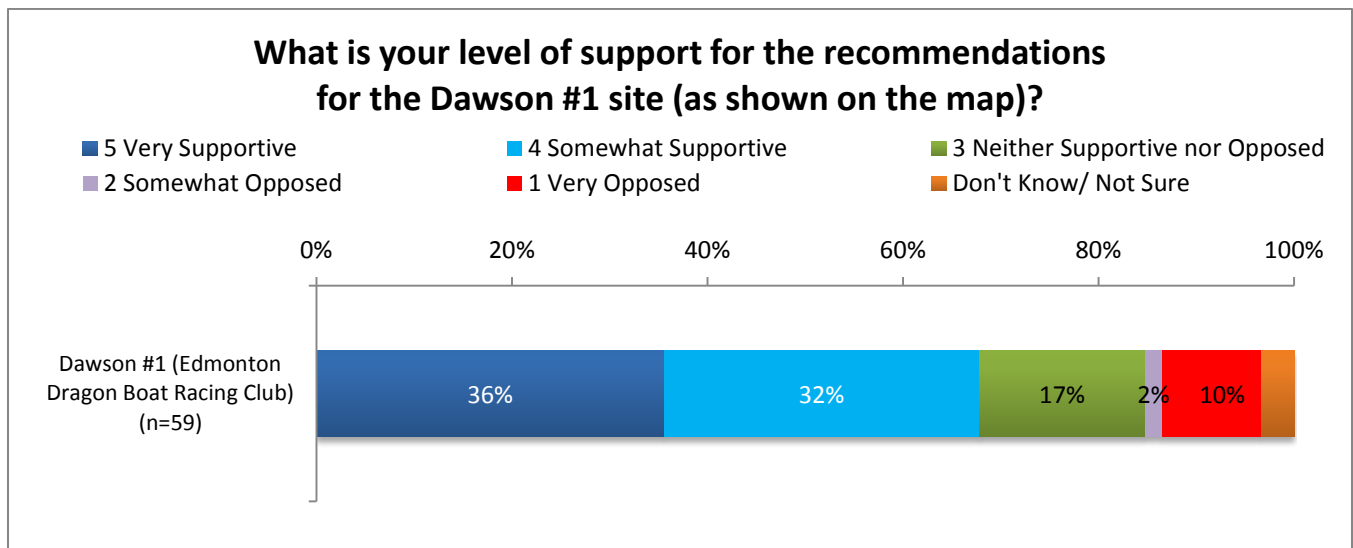
#### Dawson #1

**Current State:** This site is primarily used by the Edmonton Dragon Boat Racing Club and includes:

- Gravel trail to seasonal dock
- Parking (within 200m)

**Future (potential):** Recommendations for this site may be developed through the Dawson Park Master Plan, currently under development. This site also has opportunity for partner-led site improvements.

Respondents were 68% supportive (36% very supportive and 32% somewhat supportive) and 12% opposed (10% very opposed and 2% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Dawson #1 site, in addition to the 17% who were neither supportive nor opposed.



### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
No information to be supportive or unsupportive of. Current use seems like a positive thing, wouldn't want anything that would attract any motorized boats onto the river.
should definitely be developed through the master plan. strongly opposed to partner-led site improvements as they may also impose restrictions on use (ie. fee for use, patron priority, etc) ally citizens should have equal access
As long as no tax dollars are used on the developments and everything is fully accessible to all members of the public, at all times, i am supportive of this.
I have a patent pending (design and utility) on a portable services unit that can supply food and other amenities (retail, rental, restrooms) -- I feel that this would be a good site (among others) to introduce the concept. I need to get feedback from various city agencies before proceeding with a serious investment.
Good location a for rentals and other water recreation activities
From a hand launch perspective, I think Rafter's 2 is a better investment as it will allow for universal accessibility and the parking is better there.
Poor survey!



<p>Providing same comment for both Dawson locations: Hopefully better (more) parking is included in the Dawson master plan. The paved lot is WAY too small considering the park is used by EDBRC, dog walkers, hikers, picnic/BBQ shelter users, and potentially more paddlers if a new dock/launch is in progress. And neighbours get understandably miffed if non-residents take up all the street parking.</p>
<p>I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like loud motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?</p>
<p>Need better public boat access as this could be a nice place to stop while boating with washrooms and parking nearby. Partner with Edmonton Dragon Boat Racing Club would give the public access to the launch and might boost the public profile of the Club.</p>
<p>premature question as there is no future development noted</p>
<p>currently facilities adequate; wildlife corridor already squeezed by residential development in Riverdale; narrow band of trees between 87 Street and river important to maintain for wildlife habitat and movement.</p>
<p>Would really like to see the City partner with EDBRC to develop and/or enhance docks and club house. Great Location!</p>
<p>Should be a dock for any small, hand-propelled boat.</p>
<p>I'm having a real problem with boat docks being developed through-out the river valley especially in the center of the city. Once again the only types of boats that would maintain the beauty of our river and river valley are canoes and kayaks. with docks being build in every location along the river valley it makes me feel that you are planning on having river tours and river taxis access at every location??? If this is so you are DEFINITELY going to be changing our river and valley to commercial enterprise. This is not our river or river valley.</p>

## Dawson #2

### Dawson #2

**Current State:** Utilized by RiverWatch as a staging area for educational tours along the river. This gravel hand launch includes:

- Parking and drop-off areas (within 110m)
- Washroom (within 60m)

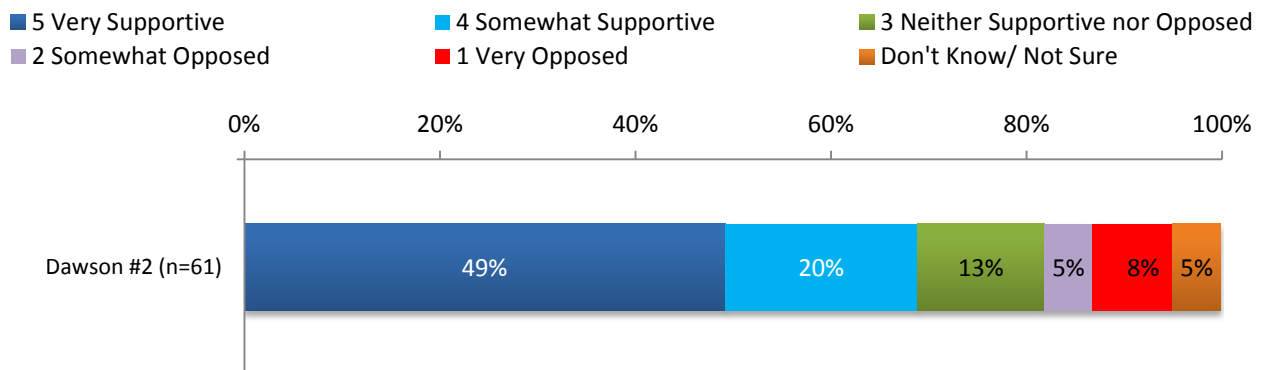
**Future (planned):** Installation of a new dock is underway as part of River Valley Alliance docks and launches project.

**Future (potential):** Given the central location, existing supporting amenities and available space at this site, expanded use of this site is supported. Recommendations for this site are being considered through the Dawson Park Master Plan, currently under development.

Priority site for universal accessibility

Respondents were 69% supportive (49% very supportive and 20% somewhat supportive) and 13% opposed (8% very opposed and 5% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Dawson #2 site, in addition to the 13% who were neither supportive nor opposed.

### What is your level of support for the recommendations for the Dawson #2 site (as shown on the map)?



### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
Still no information on what's planned. Again same advice: no motorized access.
The future potential is so vague how can anyone comment or support/oppose. Leave it alone.
This area is used for Riverwatch and school programs and a better launch would probably be warranted but also in this area the COE had already in years past put markers near the area as fish habitat protection. Is this not a consideration now or are the areas separated enough to allow for both?



As long as no tax dollars are used on the developments and everything is fully accessible to all members of the public, at all times, i am supportive of this.
lots of development in area already
I really look forward to swimming and launching my kayak from the new dock.
I like the fact that it will be universally accessible
Map does not show the site. Poor survey!
Providing same comment for both Dawson locations: Hopefully better (more) parking is included in the Dawson master plan. The paved lot is WAY too small considering the park is used by EDBRC, dog walkers, hikers, picnic/BBQ shelter users, and potentially more paddlers if a new dock/launch is in progress. And neighbours get understandably miffed if non-residents take up all the street parking.
I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like loud motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
Fully supportive of improvements to this site.
Dawson
premature question, no future plan yet developed
keep hand launch with slight improvements to access; scrap the dock idea (just upstream from the sturgeon spawning grounds; dock already currently upstream (Dragon Boat, Dawson 1); one dock in this area is enough; keep in mind riverside lands important habitat and corridor functions.
Why do you plan two docks so close to each other? One is enough. Boat rental here would be nice.
There is mention for almost all location I am being asked to provide additional comments or recommendations when no real information is being provided. Recommendations for this site are being considered through the Dawson Park Master Plan, currently under development. Priority site for universal accessibility - this doesn't provide anything information to discuss. it is vague and general with no details. NOT ACCEPTABLE!

## Capilano

### Capilano

**Current State:** This popular site has a concrete vehicular launch and hand launch. In close proximity to the launch site, there is space for parking (within 40m) and for trailers to turn-around. A public washroom is located in Capilano Park, approx 500m from the site.

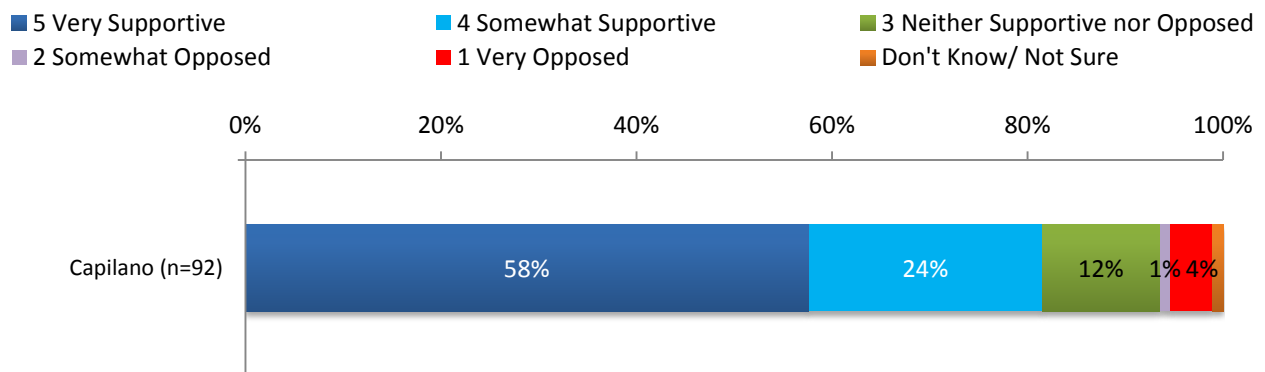
**Future (planned):** Improvements to vehicular and hand launches, and installation of a new dock as part of the River Valley Alliance docks and launches project.

**Future (potential):** To support river-based activities at this site, the City will consider reconfiguration of the Capilano Park parking lot to accommodate trailer parking.

Priority site for universal accessibility

Respondents were 82% supportive (58% very supportive and 24% somewhat supportive) and 5% opposed (5% very opposed and 1% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Capilano site, in addition to the 12% who were neither supportive nor opposed.

### What is your level of support for the recommendations for the Capilano site (as shown on the map)?



### Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
Dear god no. These vehicular launches are terrible impositions on our river valley and should be removed. Hand launch only. NO MOTORS. Less parking.
I would like to see this site expanded to a full boat launch not just a hand launch.
I really do not want to see power boats on the river in the city. One jet ski can wreck the enjoyment of a park outing for a lot of people. Personally I would prefer to see the trailer access closed rather than be enhanced.
Access for vehicle launch?
Put the washroom closer.



As long as no tax dollars are used on the developments and everything is fully accessible to all members of the public, at all times, i am supportive of this.
As a resident of this neighbourhood, I would very much appreciate having more of an area to wade in the river without having to be on the industrial-feeling boat launch where the trucks go. Rather than building a new dock, I would love the city to expand a sort of silt "beach" to walk on here (where we could also launch canoes).
Most frequently used hand launch place for kayaks and canoes. Maintain pick up, clear beach.
I have a patent pending (design and utility) on a portable services unit that can supply food and other amenities (retail, rental, restrooms) -- I feel that this would be a good site (among others) to introduce the concept. I need to get feedback from various city agencies before proceeding with a serious investment.
Would be nice to have some sort of washroom facility (even portapotties) closer than 500 meters
Has there ever been consideration for a actual campground?
POOR SURVEY.
Need public washroom closer that just Capilano park
Motorized watercraft launching should be limited to emergency use only by physical locked means. This site should have the vehicle launch removed or use limited by locked barriers for emergency watercraft only. I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like loud motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
The space and plans support the proposals.
As this is one of the most popular launch sites in the city improvements are in order. The hand launch area beside the concrete ramp needs improvements. Often the hand launch area is nothing but mud. A little more turn-around area for trailers would be appreciated. At this site especially, but at all river access sites, the City should take steps to inform boaters of the rules and safety measures of boating. Bylaw and peace officers should be ticketing boats that speed, stunt and create large, unnecessary wakes. Smaller craft and novice canoeists are easily swamped by the wakes created by speed boats and sea doos. Other educational opportunities could focus on interpretive signs about flora, fauna, and the history of the North Saskatchewan River.
This is a site I visited one or two times a year and agree with the assessment, although I'm not sure there's an urgent need to expand the facilities here.
A dock and an improved hand launch area would be REALLY nice here. Landing is a tricky and muddy affair right now. Also, could some of the concrete objects (along south bank) upstream from this site be cleaned up? Not sure if they are still serving some useful function, but they are a bit of a blight when coming into the park.
Hopefully this will not remove the Edmonton Queen from being in the same location
Sometimes entry and exit from this launch is difficult based on the competing activities at this location and high levels of foot traffic. As long as future development is mindful of the recent noticeable increase in use and activity in this area very supportive of the plan.
i WOULD REALLY LIKE TO KNOW MORE SPECIFICALLY WHAT IS MEANT BY RIVER BASED ACTIVITIES????
This site is great but could certainly benefit from improvements. cars without trailers often park to "hang out" by the water. This is great, but obstructs boaters from launching. Turning around is often very difficult at this site. Enforcement of the "Trucks with Trailers Only" parking would be great! Possibly providing a similar parking area near the water away from the boat launch may help with this as well.



## Rundle (future)

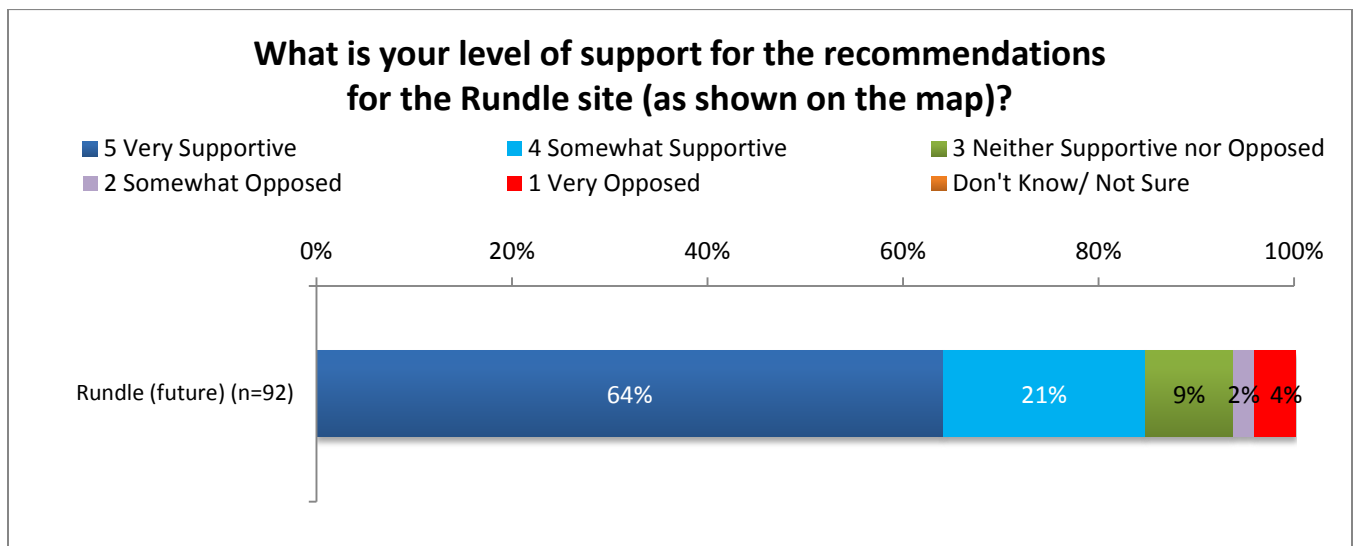
### Rundle

**Current State:** This river access site is currently undeveloped. The site currently functions as an informal 'look out' point along the river's edge.

**Future (potential):** Existing supporting amenities, available space and limited competing uses support development of a hand launch at this site.

Given that Rundle Park contains many universally accessible amenities, this site has been identified as a priority site for universal accessibility.

Respondents were 85% supportive (64% very supportive and 21% somewhat supportive) and 6% opposed (4% very opposed and 2% somewhat opposed) to the recommendations for the Rundle site.



## Additional Comments or Recommendations for This Site

Comments
A hand launch should be fine. Universal accessibility is good.
Leave it alone and expand the Capilano site instead.
I am opposed to the use and encouragement of power boats on the river, especially high power boats.
This could/should become the new stop for canoers and kayakers who are doing a day trip through the city. A pick up shuttle service to get people back to the launch point in Tewillegar so they can get their vehicles should be part of these plans.
They should add an off leash area and Hermitage part should also be reviewed. Yes Rundle is underdeveloped. I fully support more development.
Seeing as this area already has programs for accessibility this make sense to develop a properly accessible area for river access. The other infrastructure for these purposes is already there.
Vehicle access?



A hand launch at this site is probably all that's possible, considering all of the uses happening already between the parking lot and the river. Would need to consider a more direct path from the parking lot, that doesn't cut through the park area.
Good boat launch with lots of parking
Consider incorporating some sort of bird blind here as this location is right across from a good gravel bar that can attract ducks and shore birds.
As long as no tax dollars are used on the developments and everything is fully accessible to all members of the public, at all times, i am supportive of this.
- Again, an excellent choice for development, especially for canoes and kayaks. It will be nice to float from Terwilliger #2 to Rundle on a nice sunny summer day.
It is a nice park and used to walk dogs. Would be nice to be able to walk down to the river on a path and actually enjoy the area more
I am strongly in favour of a river access point in Rundle Park as a natural endpoint in the East of the city for canoe trips from Terwilligar.
The launch is close to parking but a bit far from other amenities
Why is a site needed at Rundle Park when 50st is just a few blocks to the west?!
Hand launch spot would be great - pull out spot - extend use of river.
I have a patent pending (design and utility) on a portable services unit that can supply food and other amenities (retail, rental, restrooms) -- I feel that this would be a good site (among others) to introduce the concept. I need to get feedback from various city agencies before proceeding with a serious investment.
This would be a nice relaxing drift to Fort Saskatchewan
This is an ideal location for rentals and for ending a trip down the river. It should definitely be developed
Rundle needs an accessible hand launch, this would make a nice day trip for kayakers and paddleboarders from Terwilligar #2 to Rundle. It would be a really good 5.5 hour float. This one is much needed.
Map does not show me the site. Poor survey.
With the expanded city development of residential areas feel Rundle site should get quicker priority and development of boat launching.
I support human powered watercraft in the city. I am opposed to motorized watercraft in the city. Lately I've noticed jet boats on the water - they sound like loud motor cycles on Whyte Ave - and I can hear them echo through the valley for kilometres away as they approach and kilometres away as they pass. I've seen them disturb people being active on SUP, canoes, etc. We would never build a motocross track or a drag strip in the river valley, why on earth would we encourage motor boat use?
Good potential at this site for a variety of amenities.
I would locate this a bit closer to the foot bridge connecting with Strathcona Science Park. This gives easier access from more parks.
already developed area that has many amenities, maybe a dock for visitors to enjoy the park from the water. Needs more parking if you are going to allow more vehicles & boat trailers
ONCE AGAIN WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY?????
I don't agree with any further development in the river valley.





## Prioritization

Possible sites for improvements and/or development have been identified. Respondents were asked for their opinion of which site(s) should be prioritized for future planning. This information will be used, in addition to other factors (e.g., physical condition, capacity and demand, etc.), to decide which sites to prioritize. Respondents were asked to select up to 3 sites. One third of the respondents (33%) had no opinion on which sites should be prioritized. Following that, the top 3 sites selected by around a quarter of the respondents (24% to 27%) were:

1. Rossdale
2. Emily Murphy\*
3. Rundle\*

*\*Note: Emily Murphy and Rundle were equally selected*

**The following sites have been identified as possible locations for improvements and/or development. Which of the following site(s) do you think should be prioritized for future planning?**

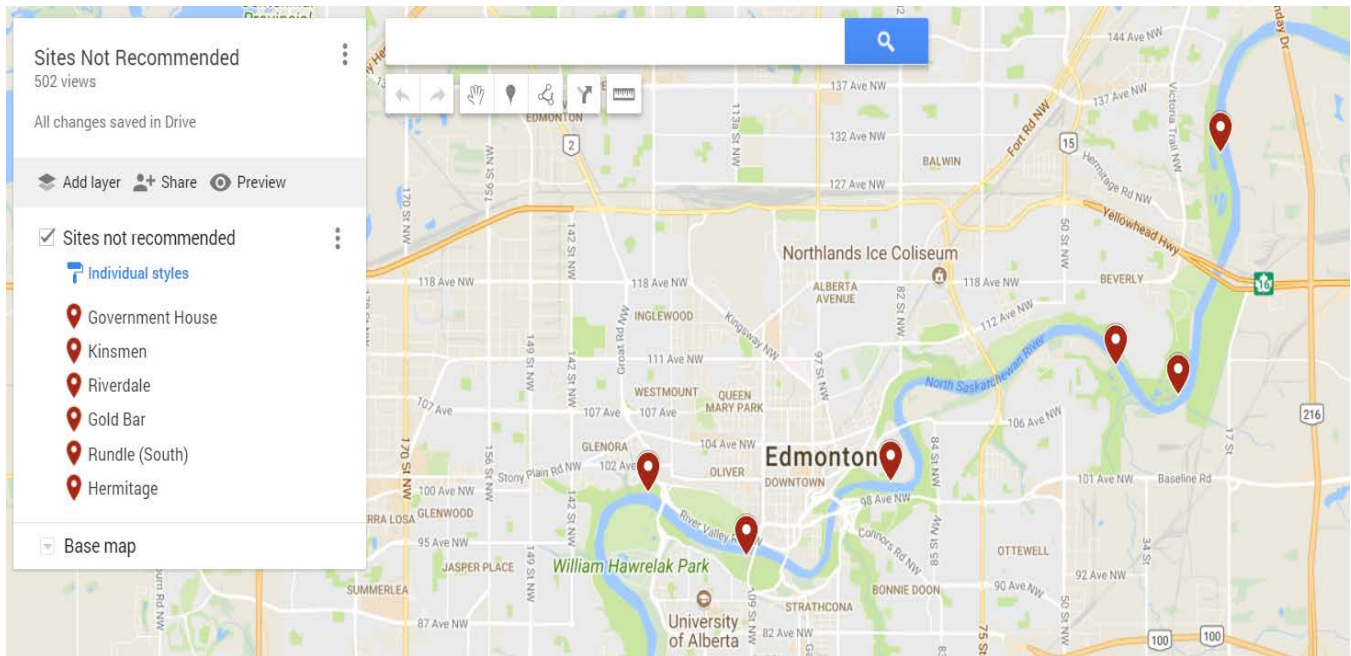
**\*Note: In addition to other factors (e.g., physical condition, capacity and demand, etc.), the City will use this information in deciding which sites to prioritize planning for. Select up to 3 sites.**

	Total	401
	I have no opinion on which sites should be prioritized	33%
1	Rossdale	27%
2	Emily Murphy	24%
3	Rundle	24%
4	Terwillegar #2	22%
5	Rafter's Landing	16%
6	Louise McKinney	15%
7	Capilano	13%
8	Laurier	13%
9	Dawson #2	7%



## Sites Not Recommended

A number of sites have been evaluated and are not recommended for river access as they do not meet the [Site Criteria](#) for river access sites. The survey provided a [map of these six sites that are not recommended](#). When the interactive markers were clicked on, information was provided on the reasons why these sites are not recommended.





### **Government House**

This site is not recommended for the following reasons:

- Located on the outside bend of the river therefore susceptible to scouring
- High water velocity
- Steep banks
- Competing uses (eg. heavily used trail)

### **Kinsmen**

This site is not recommended for the following reasons:

- Poor access
- Lack of space for supporting amenities
- Competing uses (eg. heavily used parking lot)

### **Riverdale**

Although originally contemplated in the Capital City Recreation Park Plan (1974), this site is not recommended for the following reasons:

- Residential development has since occurred in close proximity to the site leaving insufficient space to support a river access site.

### **Gold Bar**

Although originally contemplated in the Capital City Recreation Park Plan (1974), this site is not recommended for the following reasons:

- Level of disturbance that would be required to accommodate river access
- Distance to supporting amenities
- Proximity of upstream water treatment plant

### **Rundle (South)**

This site is not recommended for the following reasons:

- Proximity to outfall infrastructure
- Distance to supporting amenities

### **Hermitage**

This site is not recommended for the following reasons:

- Located within a high pressure gas line right-of-way
- Distance to supporting amenities (parking, road access)
- Competing uses (eg. heavily used dogs-off leash park)

## Comments About the Sites Not Recommended

Do you have any comments you would like to share about the sites not recommended?

Not at all not qualified to make comments

They seem like good spots for river access, but I do understand the concerns

With the new Waltherdale Bridge opening, it's a shame that riverside access can't be contemplated at Kinsman. Perhaps Kinsman needs a rethink of its site?

So one of the reasons that Hermitage was not selected was heavily used dog park. Terwilliger is a heavily used dog park, has next to no facilities (okay paved parking lot that is too small) probably requires huge investment

## River Access Strategy River Usage and Draft River Use Plan Surveys – June 2017



Is there an area north of Hermitage that would be good? I think the north side needs more access to the river valley. Fraser or Raven Crest.
No
It's too bad the Riverdale is not recommended. There are a lot of active people in that community who would utilize river access - and who do so now on walking trails. And there were a lot of people in Riverdale & Cloverdale among others, who utilized the bike bridge. River access does not have to be done on a large scale - in a historic community like Riverdale it could be done on a smaller neighbourhood scale. And please note, the reason there are so many residences close to the river, is because the city approved the brickyard development - even though the river park plan has been in place for decades. So don't cancel this site because of a decision made by the city to overdevelop the brickyard.
City shouldn't have let development expand in Riverdale - it's a flood plain.
It is important to provide the critical assessment based on Site Criteria and judge those areas not best suited to access. I support this assessment process.
As all of these are in the inner city area, they could be redeveloped to fit the proper criteria.
sounds reasonable.
I agree these should not be developed
I agree with reasons for why sites were not recommended for river access.
I understand all of the reasons given and they make sense to me. No issues of concern.
Agree with the logic outlined.
It seems like there are some compelling reasons why these sites are not recommended for development, so we should respect that.
You have presented good reasons for your decisions.
no
This site seems to lend itself to river access. Could it be reconsidered?
Stop developing the river valley
The decisions seem sound except for Hermitage park. Hermitage South does not have an off leash area and is used for City of Edmonton activities. I would like to see the site revisited. The off leash area in North Hermitage does have heavy use of off leash, runners, cyclists and walkers. It would be nice if it were considered for more development of sitting areas and improved walking paths.
Look reasonable. Glad to see fish habitat was considered.
no
Dog park use should NOT be used to exclude other uses. Too much river valley space has formally and informally been dedicated to dogs and their lazy owners already. They can share. I am disgusted that the Riverdale site is no longer available. The City in its ill-advised rush to build more housing on the flood plain has not only created a future liability for all City and Provincial taxpayers, but is now preventing recreational opportunities. The launch should be built anyway, as should the Gold Bar launch.
I agree with the conclusions regarding the Goldbar and Rundle sites, too close to outfall.
Hermitage is not recommended because of competing uses like increased dog off leash but Terwillegar is the same and very high use why does one warrant new roads and infrastructure but the other is not recommended!
I agree with the recommendations.
Glad to see distance to amenities a considered factor (we have mobility-challenged family members).
No...I agree with not recommending these.
Kinsmen parking lot near the bridge is always empty. Room to expand parking in Kinsmen anyway.
no
none
no
I agree with all of the reasons why they sites are not recommended.
Northside of river across from Kinsmen. Untouched but wide open to design.
Although I would have liked to see access at both Government House and Goldbar, the reasons you have provided against these sites are completely satisfactory.
It's too bad since they are central locations, but the reasons make sense.
What is outfall infrastructure? please clarify.
Although in close proximity to the wastewater treatment plant, it would be good to put a hand launch here as this would also allow for bird observation in the winter from the formalized access trail. This trail should be improved to the river bank as it is already used by dogs off leash and their owners.
No
kinsmen - should be considered due to levels of disturbance in area already and lots of parking lots and access already
- Makes sense to me.
I agree with the comments about these sites and makes sense not to develop
No
The Kinsmen site could do with some upgrading - similar to what Emily Murphy is now. Just a gravel/dirt trail from the park to the water. That site is still reasonably accessible and I would use it if it were more suited to that instead of always using Emily Murphy.
I would be personally in favour of a river access point at Kinsmen, but I don't have my heart set on it.
no
if they are not recommended, then don't
Environmental and public safety issues should be given top priority in future planning for these areas.



I highly disagree with the Kinsman space not being considered. This is a sports complex. Hand launch docks would be highly appropriate for this area. Motor boat launches would not be appropriate but hand launches would be highly appropriate for canoes and kayaks would be highly appropriate.
Makes sense
I think that the Kinsmen site is worth considering.
Reasons for the sites not being recommended make sense
The reasons why these sites are not recommended for upgrades make sense to me. I'm glad they will not be ruined by so-called "upgrades."
Hermitage Park should be better developed to and should have been among the recommended sites. High pressure gas lines are all over the city (and country for that matter) and they didn't stop development. Planners worked around the issue.
no
Agree with these recommendations, particularly Government House Park. I think any development there would significantly hurt the trails in that area.
Rationale provided seems reasonable to me.
Kinsmen would be a great spot as it is used heavily. There would be no need to build parking lots or extra buildings.
I agree that Kinsmen has no parking... Neither does Riverdale!
I agree with the reasons for not developing these sites.
The comments on these sites make sense. No further input.
I would agree with all of reasons stated
Criteria for exclusion seem reasonable
None.
No thanks
I accept these assessments
Agree
no
I do not agree
Agree.
No.
less development
Hermitage needs to have development of a washroom facility other than 1 outhouse. Heavily used by fishers and erosion along the river prevents access - needs to be assessed by risk management for the city and a plan developed to stop the erosion and increase access to the river. Lots of money was spent on a pond that attracts wildlife however, it needs attention or some type of communication of the plans to keep the pond clean. Is there not an accessible dock at Hermitage as well? That and the fact that the trail is paved makes it a priority for universal access.
no
All good reasons for non support
No
I agree with the reasons mentioned
Ya have any of you visited cities that have water running through it i.e.: Venice, Amsterdam, Venice beach, Dartmouth with it's many lakes - I suggest u decide if you really want to develop the river valley or just massaging the citizens' & tourists' wishes.
Kinsmen is still a good location for access to the river. Maybe a larger parking lot needs to be added to the site and remove some of the green space to accommodate the lot.
none
Re: comment about Hermitage being a heavily used offleash park. Same could be said for Laurier, impacting the Whitewater Paddler and ERC proposed sites.
Agree with assessments
There should be another site South of the river, down stream of downtown.
All denials are supported by sound reasons.
No interest in this topic
The reasoning seems appropriate for not recommending these sites.
Riverdale would be a great site for non-motorized launch. Even with the residential uses if it could be developed in conjunction with a water taxi or other amenities.
I agree with most of the reasons for not recommending these sites.
Look again at sites that were proposed in the development plans before
The idea that existing (higher income) housing should serve as an impediment to river access is ridiculous. If areas are to be developed near the river, they should be within those areas already developed rather than new or "underutilized" ones
Fair enough. I think Rosedale is the real opportunity here. We should think big on that one.
The reasons given sound about right.
good work !
The North end should have at least one area to be considered. Hermitage is a large park, much of it is not affected by a gas line right of way. Residents living in this area are constantly left out of lifestyle improvement plans, it's no wonder Clareview and Belvedere areas are in such a sorry state.
Kinsmen should have some sort of river access

## River Access Strategy River Usage and Draft River Use Plan Surveys – June 2017



Agree with logic of Government House and Riverdale, but not clear how parking needs should impede development at Kinsmen. Indeed well used parking lot, but not really right at the river, nor does it cover the whole of the area. Sports fields are maybe the more important consideration
All of the requirements cited sound reasonable, and if these locations do not comply, then they should not proceed
I support the rationale behind all the sites not recommended.
no
I think the recommendations make perfect sense.
No
do not need so many boat launches in the city
I am not sure why the Riverdale site is not recommended for hand launch or something that requires minimal room.
I agree with the recommendations.
There seems to be a lot of sites already in these areas. There seems to be a lack of sites on the southwest side.
There are plenty of options already - that these sites aren't making the cut is fine, we don't need them.
None
I think they should NOT be "developed." I furthermore find this entire survey to be leading. The last question used manipulative language (a boat launch is not necessarily an "improvement") and did not even allow the possibility for one to note a desire for NO infrastructure construction in the river valley. Our river valley is most valuable natural; why can't the city understand this?
THERE ARE NO NEEDS FOR AMMENITIES OTHER THAN TOILETS AND PICNIC TABLES!MOTOR BOATS AND JET BOATS SHOULD BE BANNED FROM THE RIVER AS THEY PRESENT A DANGER TO NON POWERED CRAFT. FURTHER ENFORCEMENT IS NOT PRESENT REGARDING MOTORIZED CRAFT SO GET YOUR DUCKS LINED UP BEFORE YOU TRY TO PLAY IN THE BIG LEAGUES!
Terwillegar and Laurier are heavily used dog off leash parks that you have recommended improvements for, can't see how that is a disadvantage. Other than parking needs to be sufficient for both, what is the issue? Or having a gas line right of way? There seem to be tons of trails and activities within the TUC in the SW of the city. Gas lines crossing trails and crossing the river. Distance to supporting amenities could be an issue, but could also mean there needs to be other improvements made to the park in general to make it more accessible. I think that lack of parking in general should not be a reason to ignore other improvements. The amount of parking should be increased to meet the demand. Look at Terwillegar and Laurier. It's not like you can take your dog on the bus to the offleash park.
No; these sound like good reasons
n/a
probably due to old land fills, coal mines, and unstable banks, but hey lets build 80 floor sky scrapers there...
Riverdale: I would agree and the same rationale would apply to the Rafter's landing location also, as the location is too close to Cloverdale.
No comments
No comment
I would agree with all descriptions
no
It would be wonderful to have canoe access - at least a clearing and path on the river.
It is nice to see that some sites due to natural cause will not be developed. My biggest concern is that we will over develop our river valley destroying the natural beauty that we have. The second issue with development of any site is the upkeep and maintaining the site once they have been provide. Please do not over develop our river as it is a great place to spend time walking, running, having a picnic and spending time in the middle of the city that is natural and quiet.
No comments.
Disagree with limiting Riverdale access.
No, I agree with all these reasons.
These sites seem to have gone through reasonable evaluation. Other Alternates could be near where the Henday crosses the river in the SW, here the Henday crosses the river in the NE and or where the Yellowhead crosses the river.