102 AVENUE PROTECTED BIKE LANE

APRIL 2015

About the Project

The City of Edmonton is planning a major bike route in central Edmonton. The Downtown bike route will connect the communities of Downtown, Oliver and Glenora, between 96 Street and 136 Street.

This route will be a high quality bike facility that will make cycling more comfortable for all types of cyclists, from novice riders and families to experienced commuters. This roadway has been identified as a major bike route because it has a high number of cyclists, serves major destinations, and the City receives frequent requests for an enhanced bicycle route in this area.

Background

In May and June 2014, public engagement for the Downtown bike route began by seeking input on route selection criteria and potential locations. Two potential locations were explored, 102 Avenue and 103 Avenue. Over 750 people participated in engagement activities that included in-person interviews, workshops, an online dialogue, and a pop-up display at the Downtown Farmers' Market.

In September 2014, 102 Avenue was revealed as the highest ranked route for the Downtown Bike Route.

Using 16 selection criteria and taking into account public feedback, the 102 Avenue bike route scored more favourably than 103 Avenue route, particularly when considering parking impacts, connectivity and route directness.

The next stage of the public engagement process reviewed two design options for the 102 Avenue route.

At the November 24, 2014 public meeting, City staff presented the route designed as a bike boulevard and as a cycle track. Public feedback was gathered at the meeting and through an online survey.

By reviewing the public's feedback, evaluating the two designs using nine evaluation criteria and conducting additional technical analysis; the project team has decided to move forward with a protected bike lane design for 102 Avenue.

Although the 102 Avenue route will eventually run from 96 Street to 136 Street, the team is currently looking at the route from 111 Street to 136 Street only. The design of the remainder of the route will be coordinated with the Valley Line LRT project.

Planning for a Protected Bike Lane

A protected bike lane, otherwise known as a cycle track, is a bike lane that is physically separated from motor vehicle traffic, parked cars and sidewalks. It creates a safe cycling environment and minimizes conflicts between cyclists, pedestrians and drivers.



This is a two-way cycle track in Calgary; however, there are many ways to create a cycle track.

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The above image shows a raised cycle track in Copenhagen, and below, artistically designed blue bollards separate the cycle track from the travel lanes in Seattle.



102 Avenue Protected Bike Route Design

A protected bike lane is envisioned for the north side of 102 Avenue from the Groat Road Bridge (currently under construction) to 111 Street. The bike route from east of 111 Street to 96 Street will be designed and installed in tandem with the Valley Line LRT.

102 Avenue west of Groat Road is a busy commuter roadway. For this portion, a Shared-Use Path (SUP) will extend the bike route for cyclists travelling to the west end of the City. SUPs are physically separated from the roadway, and resemble wide sidewalks. People who cycle and walk share this space.

102 Avenue Before and After 2-way Protected Bike Lane Installation



102 Avenue near 119 Street Before



102 Avenue near 119 Street After

Segment by Segment Design Overview

136 Street – Churchill Crescent & Wellington Bridge

The northside sidewalk is converted to a 4 metre wide Shared-Use Path.

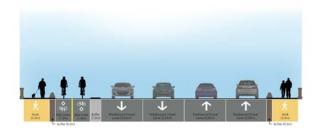


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The Bridges

Wellington Bridge is slated for replacement, until such time, cyclists should dismount and use the sidewalk to cross the bridge. An improved cycling facility will be part of the new Wellington Bridge design. The new Groat Road Bridge includes a 3 metre 2-way cycle track on the northside of 102 Avenue with buffers between the sidewalk and the travel lane.

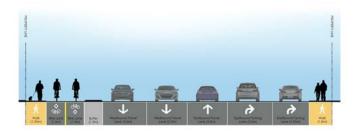


Clifton Place through High Street Area to 124 Street

A 2-way cycle track continues along this route on the northside of the street, directly beside the sidewalk and protected from the travel lane by a buffer.

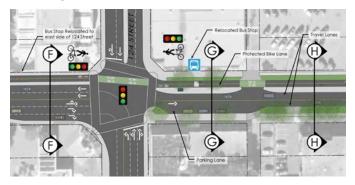
Impacts:

- 3 trees relocated or removed
- Sidewalk narrowed
- Two bus stops will be consolidated and moved near MEC on the eastside of 124 Street.



102 Avenue and 124 Street Intersection

2-way cycle track planned for the northside of the intersection. Motor vehicle traffic travelling along 102 Avenue or turning onto 124 Street is not impeded by this design.



Just East of 124 Street

A 2-way cycle track on northside runs between a treed boulevard and a buffer next to a travel lane.

- Existing parking on southside retained, parking on northside removed (5 spots)
- Trees on northside retained
- Bus stop pad added

Impact: travel lanes reduced to one lane of traffic in each direction.



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123 Street to 121 Street

A 2-way cycle track on northside runs between sidewalk and buffer next to a parking lane.



121 Street to 112 Street

A 2-way cycle track on northside runs between a treed boulevard and a buffer next to an eastbound travel lane.

Parking retained on southside

Impact: This section of 102 Avenue converts to one-way street travelling eastbound only.



112 Street to 111 Street

A 2-way cycle track on northside runs between a treed boulevard and a buffer next to a travel lane.



Impact: Conversion of parking on the boulevard into parallel parking on the street.

Next Steps

The project team will review comments from the April 2015 Open House and from the online survey which will be open until May 5, 2015 and then refine the cycle track design. This refined plan will be presented to the public in June along with landscaping options for the 102 Avenue protected bike lane.

For More Information

Visit: www.edmonton.ca/cycling Email: cycling@edmonton.ca