2024 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY INDUSTRIAL CONDOMINIUMS

A summary of the methods used by the City of Edmonton in determining the value of industrial condominium properties in Edmonton for assessment purposes.

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Scope

This guide explains how industrial condominium properties are valued for assessment purposes. The guide is intended as a tool and complements the assessor's judgment in the valuation process. **Valuation Date** refers to the legislated date of July 1, 2023.

Introduction

Property assessments in the City of Edmonton are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26, (hereinafter "MGA") and the *Matters Relating to Assessment and Taxation Regulation, 2018*, Alta Reg 203/17, (hereinafter "MRAT"). The *MRAT* regulation establishes the valuation standard to be used, defines the procedures to be applied, and proposes objectives for the quality to be achieved in the preparation of assessments. The legislation requires the municipality to prepare assessments that represent market value by application of the mass appraisal process. All assessments are expected to meet quality standards prescribed by the province in the MRAT regulation.

Property assessments represent:

- an estimate of the value;
- of the fee simple estate in the property;
- as the property existed on December 31, 2023;
- reflecting typical market conditions;
- as if the property had been sold on July 1, 2023;
- on the open market;
- from a willing seller to a willing buyer.

The assessment is an estimate of the value that would result when those specific, defined conditions are met.

The legislation requires the City of Edmonton to assess the fee simple estate.

"Fee simple interest [is] absolute ownership unencumbered by any other interest or estate... leased fee interest [is] the ownership interest held by the lessor, which includes the right to the contract rent specified in the lease plus the reversionary right when the lease expires... leasehold interest [is] the interest held by the lessee (the tenant or renter) through a lease conveying the rights of use and occupancy for a stated term under certain conditions." *Appraisal Institute of Canada, The Appraisal of Real Estate Third Canadian Edition, <i>Vancouver, Canada, 2010, page 6.4*

Both *market value* and *property*, along with additional terms are defined in *MGA* and *MRAT* :

s.284(1)(r) " property " means (i) a parcel of land (ii) an improvement, or (iii) a parcel of land and the improvements to it MGA .s.284(1)(r)
s.1(k)	 "regulated property" means (i) land in respect of which the valuation standard is agricultural use value, (ii) designated industrial property, or (iii) machinery and equipment
	the valuation standard for the land and improvements is market value unless ction (2) applies <i>MRAT</i> s.9(1)
	n) " market value " means the amount that a property, as defined in section 284(1)(r), be expected to realize if it is sold on the open market by a willing seller to a willing MGA s.1(1)(n)
s.5 Ar	assessment of property based on market value (a) must be prepared using mass appraisal, (b) must be an estimate of the value of the fee simple estate in the property, and (c) must reflect typical market conditions for properties similar to that property <i>MRAT</i> s.5
s.289(2) Each assessment must reflect (a) the characteristics and physical condition of the property on December 31 of the year prior to the year in which a tax is imposed MGA s.289(2)(a)
	ny assessment prepared in accordance with the Act must be an estimate of the value of berty on July 1 of the assessment year MRAT s.6
	" mass appraisal " means the process of preparing assessments for a group of rties using standard methods and common data and allowing for statistical testing MRAT s.1(g)

Mass Appraisal

Mass appraisal is the legislated methodology used by the City of Edmonton for valuing individual properties, and involves the following process:

- properties are stratified into groups of comparable properties
- common property characteristics are identified for the properties in each group
- a uniform valuation model is created for each property group
- 31(c) **"valuation model"** means the representation of the relationship between property characteristics and their value in the real estate marketplace using a mass appraisal process

MRAT s.31(c)

The following two quotations indicate how the International Association of Assessing Officers distinguishes between mass appraisal and single-property appraisal:

"... single-property appraisal is the valuation of a particular property as of a given date: mass appraisal is the valuation of many properties as of a given date, using standard procedures and statistical testing."

"Also, mass appraisal requires standardized procedures across many properties. Thus, valuation models developed for mass appraisal purposes must represent supply and demand patterns for groups of properties rather than a single property."

Property Appraisal and Assessment Administration, pg. 88-89

For both mass appraisal and single-property appraisal, the process consists of the following stages:

The client specifies the nature of the value to be estimated, including rights to be valued, effective date of valuation, and any limiting conditions		
is and e		
Market analysis includes the analysis of highest and best use		
Subject property is the focus of the valuation. The analysis of comparable properties is generally six or less		
у		
is an e us o vy		

Valuation Model

A valuation model creates an equation of variables, factors and coefficients that explains the relationship between estimated market value and property characteristics. An assessed value is then calculated by applying the appropriate valuation model to individual properties within a property type.

s31	(a) "coefficient" means a number that represents the quantified relationship of each variable to the assessed value of a property when derived through a mass appraisal process
	(b) "factor" means a property characteristic that contributes to a value of a property;
	(d) "variable" means a quantitative or qualitative representation of a property characteristic used in a valuation model
	MRAT , s.31 (a), (b) and (d)
s.33	Information prescribed does not include coefficients
	MRAT , s.33(3)

Valuation Model	 variables are created from property characteristics analysis of how variables affect market value factors and coefficients are determined the resulting valuation models are applied to property characteristics
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Property Groups

Industrial

A property is included in the industrial inventory based on zoning and highest and best use. Industrial buildings are typically configured with office and warehouse space with overhead doors. As well, based on the principles of urban economics, properties of similar use typically cluster together, as the cluster attracts more suppliers and customers than a single firm could achieve alone.

Sub-Group

The Industrial property group is divided into two sub-groups based on property characteristics which are industrial warehouses and industrial condominiums. This guide is for the industrial condominiums sub-group.

Industrial condominiums are legal condominium units within a warehouse building. Typically, the space is used for storage, light manufacturing and product distribution. They can be constructed of different materials such as wood, concrete, or metal.

Assessment of condominium unit 290.1(1) Each unit and the share in the common property that is assigned to the unit must be assessed (a) in the case of a bare land condominium, as if it is a parcel of land, or (b) in any other case, as if it is a parcel of land and the improvements to it. (2) In this section, "unit" and "share in the common property" have the meanings given to them in the Condominium Property Act. 1

MGA s.290.1(1) and (2)

Industrial warehouses primarily support uses of storage, light manufacturing, and product distribution. They can be constructed of different materials such as wood, concrete, or metal, and can be single or multiple tenants.

Special purpose properties typically have limited utility and marketability other than for its original use. Often these properties are purpose-built with limited alternative uses. Typically, a special purpose property needs significant investment to be converted to an alternative use, making most conversions financially infeasible. With special purpose properties, it is the property itself, not the use, that is typically unique. Special purpose properties may include churches, schools, hospitals, manufacturing

Approaches to Value

The approaches to determine market value are the direct comparison, income, and cost approaches.

Direct Comparison Approach	Typical market value (or some other characteristic) is determined by referencing comparable sales and other market data. It is often used when sufficient sales or market data is available. It may also be referred to as the Sales Comparison Approach.
lncome Approach	This approach considers the typical actions of renters, buyers and sellers when purchasing income-producing properties. This approach estimates the typical market value of a property by determining the present value of the projected income stream. Often used to value rental or leased property.
Cost Approach	Typical market value is calculated by adding the depreciated replacement cost of the improvements to the estimated value of land. It is often used for properties under construction or when there is limited market data available.

Direct Comparison Approach

For this property group, the assessment is determined using the direct comparison approach. It is the most appropriate method of valuation for Industrial Condominiums properties in the City of Edmonton because it mirrors the actions of buyers and sellers in the marketplace and there is sufficient sales data to derive reliable market estimates.

Support for the direct comparison approach comes from several reputable sources, for example:

This approach is usually the preferred approach for estimating values for residential and other property types with adequate sales.

IAAO, 2013, sec.4.3

The Direct Comparison approach provides the most credible indication of value for owner-occupied commercial and industrial properties, i.e., properties that are not purchased primarily for their income-producing characteristics. These types of properties are amenable to direct comparison because similar properties are commonly bought and sold in the same market. Appraisal Institute of Canada [AIC], 2010, p. 13.4

Appraisers should rely on several sold properties as comparable sales. Three to five comparables are usually adequate, but a larger number improves confidence in the final estimate, increases the awareness of patterns of value, and stabilizes assessments over time.

UBC, 2009, p. 7.2

Unit of Comparison

The most common unit of comparison for similar industrial warehouse properties is a \$/square foot rate.

For Industrial properties a \$/square foot rate that combines or "blends" both the \$/square foot rate of *total area* (which includes 2nd floor space), as well as the \$/square foot of *main floor area* only, is the most accurate way to compare the unit of value.

If instead the \$/square foot rate, calculated using the *total area*, was used on its own for comparison, the less valuable 2nd floor space would dilute the \$/square foot rate and result in a misleading comparison. Conversely, by relying on the \$/square foot rate using only the *main floor area* for comparison, the 2nd floor space is excluded entirely and inflates the \$/square foot rate resulting in an equally misleading comparison.

Only by blending the two \$/square foot rates described above is the unit of comparison useful for comparing properties with and without 2nd floor space.

The blended \$/square foot rate is therefore the most accurate unit of comparison to be used when comparing Industrial properties.

Blended \$/Square foot rate = the average of \$/square foot *main* rate and \$/square foot *total* rate.

Cost buildings

For parcels valued on using the direct sales approach containing multiple buildings that include one or more buildings valued on the cost approach, the size of the cost building(s) is not included in the \$/square foot calculation. This is due to the fact that cost buildings are typically worth less per square foot than buildings valued on the direct sales approach, and therefore including cost building sizes in the \$/square foot calculation would dilute the \$/square foot

For properties with very new and/or very large cost buildings that have a resulting large impact on the value however, the value of these cost buildings should be removed from the value of the parcel when producing a \$/square foot rate for comparison purposes to properties without high value cost buildings. If the value of these cost buildings are not removed from the value the \$/square foot for these properties will be inflated and misleading.

Sales

Sales information is received from Land Titles. Sales are validated. Validation may include site inspections, interviews with parties involved, a review of land title documents, corporate searches, third party information, and sale validation questionnaires. *Sale price reflects the condition of a property on the sale date and may not be equal to the assessed value.*

The City of Edmonton used 381 sales of industrial condominium properties occurring from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2023 for 2024 valuation. Time adjustments are applied to sale prices to account for any market fluctuations between the sale date and the legislated valuation date. Through the review of sales, the collective actions of buyers and sellers in the marketplace are analyzed to determine the contributory value of specific property characteristics on market value. Once these values have been determined through the mass appraisal process, they are applied to the inventory to estimate the market value. Value estimates were calculated using multiple regression analysis, which replicates the forces of supply and demand in the marketplace.

See the appendix for the Time Adjustment Chart for Industrial Condominiums.

Zoning

Zoning regulates the use and development of a property and is set by the Edmonton Zoning Bylaw No. 12800.

s.6.123 **zone:** a specific group of listed Uses and Development Regulations which regulate the Use and Development of land within specific geographic areas of the City... **Zoning Bylaw No. 12800**, 2017, s. 6.123

See the appendix for the Zone Summary. For further information see City of Edmonton Zoning Bylaw No. 12800 available online at <u>edmonton.ca</u>.

The actual zoning of a property may affect the property's classification; however, not all property conforms to the zoning set out in the Zoning Bylaw. In these cases, an effective zoning is applied to reflect the current use and development of the property. The effective zoning may differ from the actual zoning when the current use differs from the Zoning Bylaw (e.g., a legal nonconforming use).

643(1) If a development permit has been issued on or before the day on which a land use bylaw or a land use amendment bylaw comes into force in a municipality and the bylaw would make the development in respect of which the permit was issued a nonconforming use or nonconforming building, the development permit continues in effect in spite of the coming into force of the bylaw.

MGA, s.643(1)

In cases where a legal non-conforming use is discontinued for six (6) or more months, any future use must conform to the Zoning Bylaw.

643(2) A non-conforming use of land or a building may be continued but if that use is discontinued for a period of 6 consecutive months or more, any future use of the land or building must conform with the land use bylaw then in effect.

MGA, s.643(2)

The actual and effective zoning as of December 31, 2023 applies to the assessment for the 2024 tax year. The new Zoning Bylaw (Charter Bylaw 20001) and city-wide rezoning (Charter Bylaw 21001) will come into effect on January 1, 2024 and will be reflected in the assessment for the 2025 tax year.

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Variables

All of the below variables were found to affect the assessment value for 2024. The variables work together and although some variables are more significant than others, the significance of any of the above variables is relative to the characteristics of each property.

Main floor area	Main floor finished area
Effective year built	Upper floor finished area
Industrial market area	

• In addition to the variables found to affect value, the following variables were tested to determine their impact on value: traffic influence, condition, wall height, construction type, zoning, tenancy, and land use. These variables were not found to significantly affect value. For other variables, there is insufficient data to test their significance to affect value.

Main floor area

The City of Edmonton uses the size measurements from the condominium plan registered at the Land Titles Office as shown on the Detail Report.

Effective year built

The chronological age of a building, adjusted to reflect an addition or significant renovation that extends the improvement's remaining economic life. The exterior components that when replaced or extensively renovated affect the remaining economic life of a building including the roof, the building envelope (windows and doors, exterior siding, walls including insulation and vapor barrier, and other structural components), the foundation, and mechanical components (electrical, plumbing and HVAC). The effective age of a building can also be altered due to additions.

Industrial market area

Market areas are geographic areas defined using location boundaries. See enclosed maps entitled 2024 Industrial Condominium Market Area Groups. In sequence of desirability, the market areas are as follows:

- Market Area 1 Summerside
- Market Area 2 South Edmonton
- Market Area 3 North Edmonton
- Market Area 4 Yellowhead Corridor
- Market Area 5 Winterburn

Main floor finished area

Based on the exterior measurements of the finished area and generally consists of finished flooring, ceiling, forced air HVAC systems, and windows. This finished space is valued at a premium in relation to unfinished area.

Upper floor finished area

Typically based on the exterior measurements of an upper floor and generally consists of finished flooring, ceiling, forced air HVAC systems, and windows. The contributory value of the upper floor finished area is less than that of the main floor finished area.

Adjustments

Adjustments may be applied to properties with atypical influences on a property specific basis to recognize their effect on value. Adjustments include but are not limited to:

Complex adjustment

Where market evidence demonstrates that a condominium complex is trading differently from other similar complexes, a complex adjustment may be applied to ensure the assessment accurately reflects market value. A complex adjustment will also apply to atypical characteristics, such as no demising walls and lack of unit entrance doorways.

Contamination

Contamination refers to property that has been affected by environmental contamination which includes adverse conditions resulting from the release of hazardous substances into the air, surface water, groundwater, or soil.

Easement

A legal encumbrance registered against the title of the property allowing the right to use and/or enter onto the real property of another without possessing it. Easements may include easements for access, locating utilities, or otherwise limiting or precluding the use of the area subject to the easement.

Adjustment amounts

Adjustments may be made in the amount of (+/-):

- Minor 5%
- Moderate 10%
- Major 15%
- Extreme 20%

*Adjustments may also be made using percentages other than those identified above. For example a contamination adjustment may be based on a cost to cure amount set out in a phase 3 engineering report.

Definitions

Actual Zoning is set by the *Edmonton Zoning Bylaw 12800* and regulates the use and development of a parcel. This report can be found on the City of Edmonton website at <u>edmonton.ca</u>.

Effective Zoning: Effective zoning is an internal coding applied to reflect the current use and/or development potential of a property. Effective zoning will generally reflect the actual zoning of a property, but may differ on properties with a legal non-conforming use, Direct Control zoning or in other limited circumstances.

Property Use (Land Use Code) defines the use of a property. Property Use also includes a percentage representing the assessed value of the area for each use relative to the total assessed value of the property. Industrial Condominium properties may have the following LUC:

Description

Warehouse Condominium Common area in non-residential condominium complex

Sample Industrial Condominiums Assessment Detail Report

2024 Property Assessment Detail Report Assessment and Taxation

Account 88888888

Report Date	November 28, 2023
2024 Assessed Value	\$655,500
Date of Issue	January 16, 2024
Property Address	10000 100 AVENUE NW
Legal Description	Plan: 100000 Unit: 9
Zoning	IB - Industrial Business District
Effective Zoning	IM - Medium Industrial District
Neighbourhood	Rampart Industrial
Lot Size	7159.586
Assessment Class	NON-RESIDENTIAL
Property Use	100% Warehouse condominium
Taxable Status	January 1 - December 31, 2024; FULLY
Unit of Measurement	TAXABLE IMPERIAL (feet, square feet)

Factors Used to Calculate Your 2024 Assessed Value

		MARKET VALUE APPROACH DIRECT COMPARISON
VARIABLE	FACTOR	ТҮРЕ
Industrial market area	NORTH	Account
Main floor area	3,064	Building
Total unit area	3,064	Building
Effective year built	2015	Building
Complex adjustment	NO	Unit

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"Type" specifies whether the variable applies to the account, unit, site or a specific building:

- Account An adjustment that is applied to a property account. A property account includes the parcel of land and any improvements.
- Unit An adjustment that is applied to a condominium unit.
- Site An adjustment that is applied to the parcel of land only.
- Building An adjustment that is applied to the improvement only.

Methods to Adjust Comparables

There are two types of techniques for reconciliation: **quantitative** and **qualitative**.

Quantitative Adjustments

Each characteristic of a property can be measured or quantified by a mathematical expression and adjusted for.

Several techniques are available to quantify adjustments to the sale prices of comparable properties: data analysis techniques such as paired data analysis, grouped data analysis, and secondary data analysis, statistical analysis, including graphic analysis...

(AIC, 2010, p. 14.2)

In the direct comparison approach, the best comparables are those sales that require the least absolute adjustment.

(AIC, 1995, p. 245).

Quantitative adjustments involve adjusting a known value (sale price for example) by adding or subtracting an amount that a given characteristic adds to or subtracts from that value. A quantitative adjustment should be made for each characteristic that differs between the subject property and the comparable property.

Due to the legislative requirement to use mass appraisal, the City has used statistical analysis to determine annual assessments.

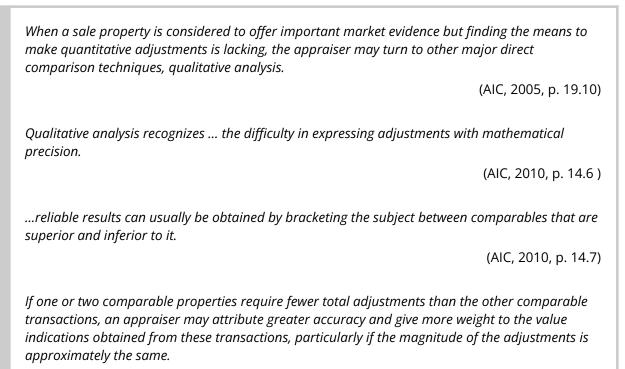
"coefficient" means a number that represents the quantified relationship of each variable to the assessed value of a property when derived through a mass appraisal process.

MRAT s.31(a)

The City is not required to disclose the coefficients. In the absence of quantitative adjustments, an alternative technique is qualitative analysis.

Qualitative Analysis

Each comparable property is compared with the subject property on an overall basis. In a qualitative analysis, comparable properties are identified as inferior, similar, or superior overall to the subject property in order to bracket the probable value range of the subject property.



(AIC, 2010, p. 13.16)

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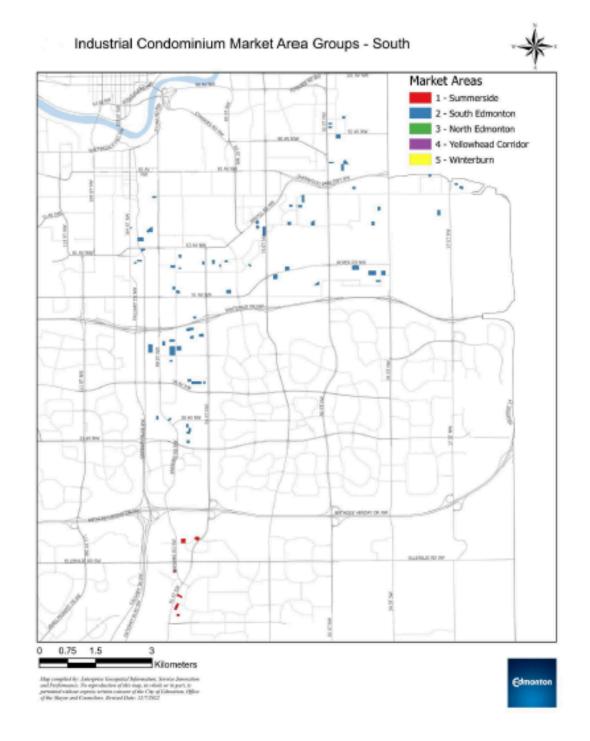
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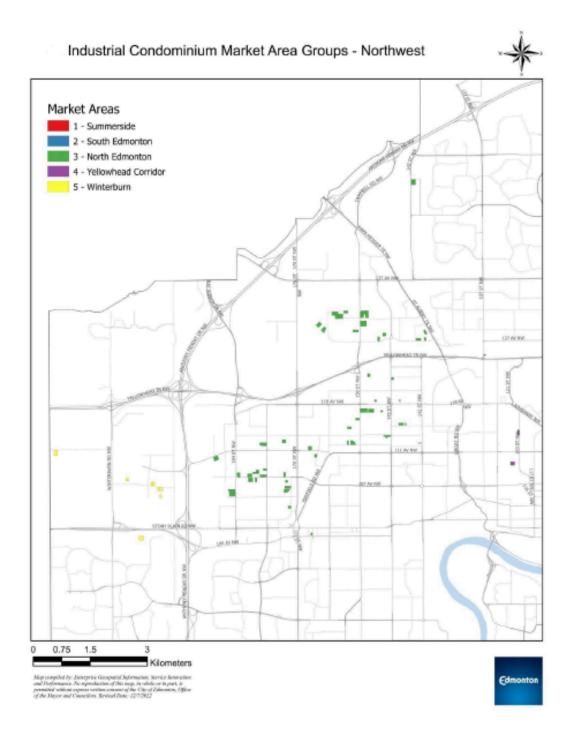
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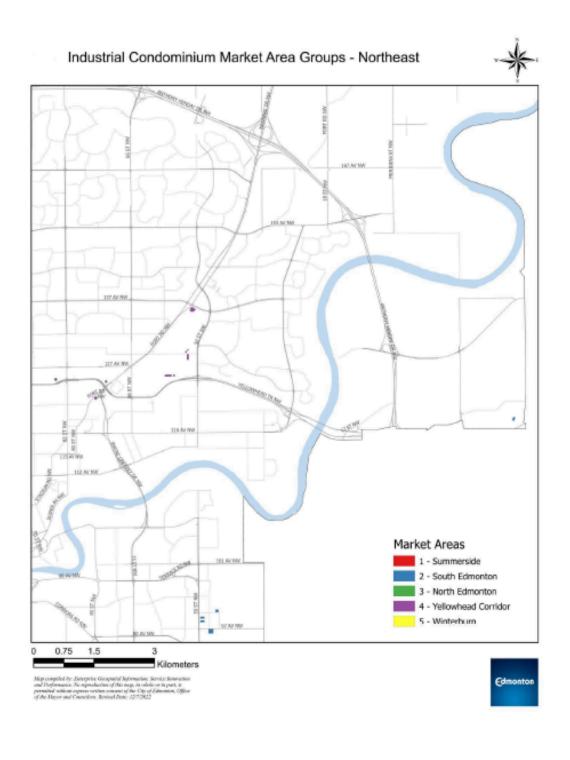
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Area Appendix

Industrial Condominium Market Area Group Maps







Time Adjustment Chart

2024 TIME ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE INDUSTRIAL CONDOMINIUM MODEL

YEAR	MONTH	ADJUSTMENT	YEAR	MONTH	ADJUSTMENT
2017	Jul	1.0691	2020	Jan	1.0691
2017	Aug	1.0691	2020	Feb	1.0691
2017	Sep	1.0691	2020	Mar	1.0691
2017	Oct	1.0691	2020	Apr	1.0691
2017	Nov	1.0691	2020	May	1.0691
2017	Dec	1.0691	2020	Jun	1.0691
2018	Jan	1.0691	2020	Jul	1.0691
2018	Feb	1.0691	2020	Aug	1.0691
2018	Mar	1.0691	2020	Sep	1.0691
2018	Apr	1.0691	2020	Oct	1.0691
2018	May	1.0691	2020	Nov	1.0691
2018	Jun	1.0691	2020	Dec	1.0691
2018	Jul	1.0691	2021	Jan	1.0691
2018	Aug	1.0691	2021	Feb	1.0691
2018	Sep	1.0691	2021	Mar	1.0646
2018	Oct	1.0691	2021	Apr	1.0602
2018	Nov	1.0691	2021	May	1.0558
2018	Dec	1.0691	2021	Jun	1.0514
2019	Jan	1.0691	2021	Jul	1.0470
2019	Feb	1.0691	2021	Aug	1.0426
2019	Mar	1.0691	2021	Sep	1.0383
2019	Apr	1.0691	2021	Oct	1.0340
2019	May	1.0691	2021	Nov	1.0296
2019	Jun	1.0691	2021	Dec	1.0254
2019	Jul	1.0691	2022	Jan	1.0211
2019	Aug	1.0691	2022	Feb	1.0168
2019	Sep	1.0691	2022	Mar	1.0126
2019	Oct	1.0691	2022	Apr	1.0084
2019	Nov	1.0691	2022	May	1.0042
2019	Dec	1.0691	2022	Jun	1.0000

Zone Summary

Industrial			
IB	Industrial Business Zone (s.400) is for industrial businesses that carry out their operations such that no nuisance is apparent outside an enclosed building		
IL	Light Industrial Zone (s.410) provides for high quality, light industrial developments, that operate with no nuisance factor apparent outside an enclosed building, limited outdoor activities		
ІМ	Medium Industrial Zone (s.420) provides for manufacturing, processing, assembly, distribution, services and repair uses that carry out a portion of their operations outdoors, any nuisance should not generally extend beyond the boundaries of the site		
ін	IH Heavy Industrial Zone (s.430) provides for industrial uses that, due to their appearance, noise, odour, risk of toxic emissions, or fire and explosion hazards are incompatible with residential, commercial, and other land uses. Normally located on the interior of industrial or agricultural areas.		
Agricultur	e and Reserve Zones		
AGI	Industrial Reserve Zone (s.630) is to allow for agricultural and rural land use activities that do not prejudice future use when the lands are required for industrial use		
Direct Cor	ntrol Provisions (s.700)		
DC1	 Direct Development Control (s.710) is to provide for detailed, sensitive control of the use, development, siting and design of buildings and disturbance of land where this is necessary to establish, preserve or enhance: a. areas of unique character or special environmental concern b. areas or sites of special historical, cultural, paleontological, archaeological, prehistoric, natural, scientific or aesthetic interest 		
DC2	DC2 Site Specific Development Control (s.720) is to provide for direct control over a specific proposed development where any other Zone would be inappropriate or inadequate.		

Through statistical analysis, it was determined that zoning does not affect value for 2024 assessments.

For additional zone details, please refer to the Zoning Bylaw 12800 found at edmonton.ca.