



What We Heard Report: Gariepy Neighbourhood & Alley Renewal

Exploring Options and
Tradeoffs

October 2022

| SHARE YOUR VOICE
| SHAPE OUR CITY

Edmonton

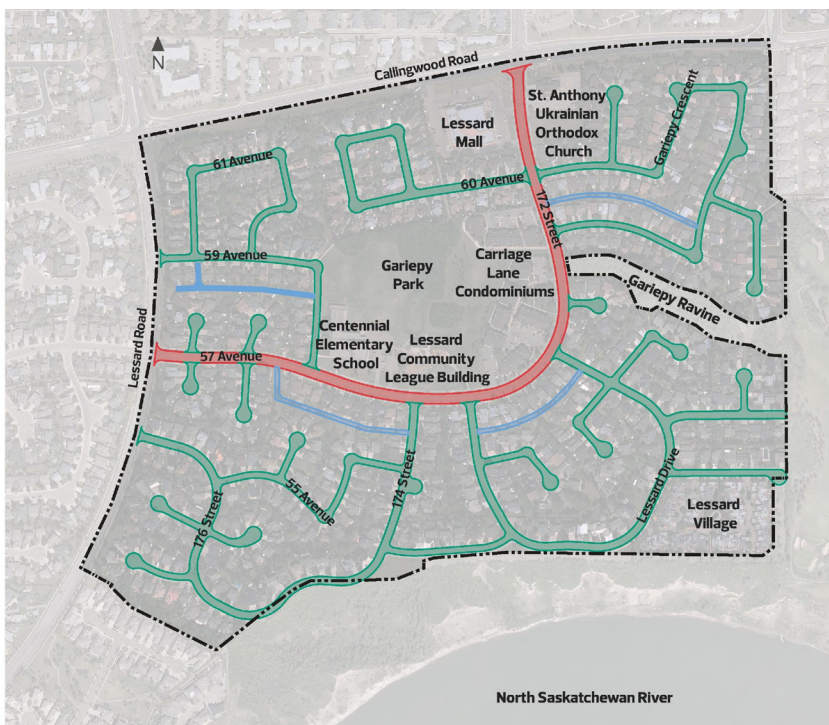
Project overview

Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal in Gariepy is anticipated to begin in spring 2024. Through the City's Neighbourhood Renewal Program, we will reconstruct roads, curbs, replace street lights, repair sidewalks and, where possible, address missing links to support people who bike, walk and roll. Alley Renewal will also be included and involves alley reconstruction and repaving, improvements to surface drainage where possible and upgrading of existing lighting to LED fixtures.

Cost-sharing opportunities will be made available through the Local Improvement process for sidewalk reconstruction and decorative street light upgrades in the neighbourhood. Other opportunities to improve City-owned parks and public spaces will also be explored.

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All roads and alleys to be reconstructed:
 Gariepy neighbourhood boundary
■ Collector road ■ Local road ■ Alley

Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal in Gariepy is expected to be a two-year construction process in the area shown in the map. The new infrastructure will provide enhancements to the neighbourhood for the next 30 to 50 years.



Roadmap to Building Great Neighbourhoods

The Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal program follows the roadmap below. At each step, the Project Team shares with you how your input will inform the decisions being made.

This report highlights the input received during the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** stage in October 2022.



LEGEND

- Public Engagement and Communications Opportunities
- Concept Phase
- Design Phase
- Build Phase
- Operate Phase

Public engagement spectrum

The City of Edmonton (the City) seeks input from residents to help guide the project. The City's public engagement spectrum, below, shows the four levels of influence the public can have on decisions made by the City throughout the project.

The public was invited to provide input that would help:

- + **REFINE** options for renewing Gariepy's roads, sidewalks, alleys, street lights and open spaces and the final vision of the renewal work

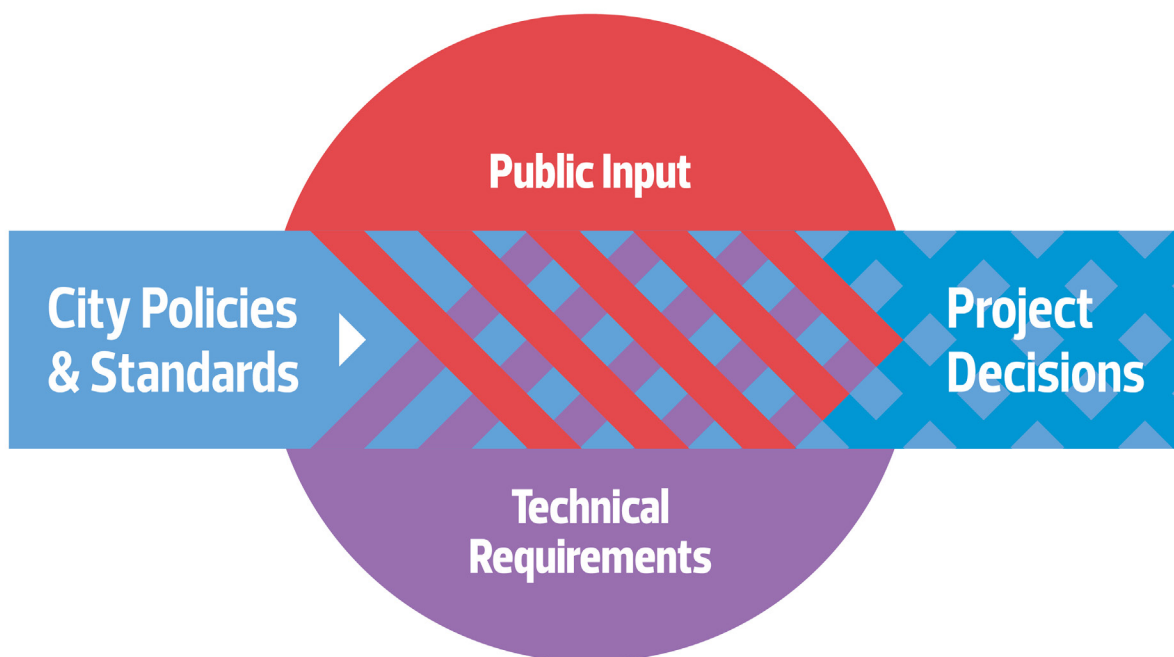
We commit to telling you how public input influences decisions according to the public engagement spectrum.



Decision making process

The City makes decisions using a combination of policy and program information, public engagement input, technical requirements and available funding. This process helps to ensure the decisions we make are fiscally responsible, align with best practices, consider the existing public and private infrastructure, land uses and activities in the neighbourhood and result in the best outcomes for our city.

City policies and programs such as the Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards, Safe Mobility Strategy and Winter City Strategy provide the overall direction for Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal designs. As each neighbourhood is unique, the Project Team asks for input from residents who live, work and play in the neighbourhood and considers technical aspects such as roadway widths and conflicts with utilities and trees to determine what will fit in the neighbourhood.



What we did & how we asked

The Gariepy Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal Project Team organized a number of opportunities during the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** stage. These opportunities were available for the public to share their thoughts on the most important considerations when looking at the design options presented. This input will help the Project Team **REFINE** the options into a draft design.



Surveys

- + An online survey was available from October 12-30, 2022. We shared specific ideas for Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal in Gariepy and asked the public questions to help the Project Team **REFINE** these options
- + Paper copies were made available upon request with a drop-off box near the Lessard Community League to return completed paper surveys

Over 130 completed surveys



Community Workshops

- + Online community workshops took place on October 19 and 22, 2022. Both events introduced the different options for Gariepy Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. Project Team members shared opportunities and tradeoffs associated with each option
- + Participants were encouraged to ask questions and complete the online survey following the event

28 participants



Community Conversations

- + Project Team members reached out to six community groups to share opportunities to participate. These included the Lessard Community League, Centennial Elementary School, Lessard Mall and Muslim Association of Canada Islamic Centre, St. Anthony's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Carriage Lane Condominiums and Lessard Village
- + The Gariepy Community Committee, made up of 10 community members, met in June and September of 2022. This group helped us draft the Vision and Guiding Principles as well as provided feedback to guide the engagement opportunities
- + Additional emails and phone calls from community members received by the Project Manager will also be included along with the overall feedback

18 conversations



Project Webpage

- + Overall there were 1,201 participants who visited the project webpage to view photos, review documents and read multiple project pages.

Over 1,200 visitors



Communication Tactics

- + 1,000 postcards were delivered to Gariepy addresses advertising engagement opportunities
- + Emails were sent to 113 subscribers and local stakeholders
- + Signage was located throughout the community, including a road sign on Callingwood Road, two A-frame signs near Gariepy Ravine and 20 lawn signs on public boulevards throughout the neighbourhood
- + Project information was shared online through the project web page and online by the Lessard Community League
- + A drop-off box was installed outside the Lessard Community Hall that was used to collect public feedback and share information about engagement opportunities

What we heard

The following sections include a summary of what we heard at the online workshops, in conversations and through the paper and online surveys. The summary has been developed to reflect the relevancy, frequency and diversity of the responses we received based on the questions that were asked to participants.

Confirmation of Vision and Guiding Principles

In the previous phase of engagement, **Building a Project Vision and Exploring Opportunities**, we worked with the community to **CO-CREATE** a neighbourhood Vision statement and a set of Guiding Principles. This Vision will be used to guide decision making for Neighbourhood Renewal. The Guiding Principles are ideas that inform how the Vision should be applied to the neighbourhood design.

During the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** phase of engagement, we presented the Vision and Guiding Principles to the community through the survey and during the online workshops. When asked, participants confirmed the Vision and Guiding Principles reflected the current and future needs of the community.

Vision

Gariepy is a welcoming, friendly, active and involved community that looks out for one another. Our neighbourhood is culturally and generationally diverse. Our residents are well connected to parks, ravines, schools, commercial services, neighbouring communities and the North Saskatchewan River Valley. We take pride in our community and value social gatherings with our neighbours. We enjoy actively experiencing the beautiful, safe, serene and peaceful surroundings that Gariepy has to offer.

Guiding Principles

Maintain the existing vibrancy and connection to nature that characterises the neighbourhood and makes it feel like a “hidden gem”

Ensure parks and open spaces are attractive, welcoming, safe and provide a range of recreational amenities that are usable for all ages and abilities

Ensure infrastructure like pathways, roads and sidewalks, consider year-round use, improving winter useability and visual appeal

Ensure parks and open spaces are attractive, welcoming, safe and provide a range of recreational amenities that are usable for all ages and abilities

Guiding Principles

Improve the condition, safety and accessibility of roadways, crossings and sidewalks for all users including people who walk, roll, bike and drive

Create spaces in parks and commercial areas for residents to gather with friends and family and each other to build a sense of community and maintain the friendliness of the neighbourhood

Protect existing natural spaces and improve neighbourhood sustainability and climate resiliency by adding vegetation, reducing hard surfacing and other innovations

Establish connections to destinations and amenities within and outside of the neighbourhood

Exploring Options and Tradeoffs

The following is a summary of what we heard during the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** stage. All feedback collected will be considered in the development of the draft design. The draft design will be shared for community feedback in spring 2023. All designs are subject to final approvals and funding.

Roadway redesign: How you travel around your neighbourhood (drive, bike, walk or roll)

Participants shared perspectives and feedback on a series of proposed changes to roadways in the neighbourhood, including new bike infrastructure, boulevards and traffic calming. What we heard in response to these options is included below.

Potential measures to slow traffic

Changes were proposed to address speeding or shortcutting traffic on roads within Gariepy and enhance safety for people biking, walking and rolling at road crossings.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Curb extensions (extending the curb to define the parking lane and provide additional space for people who cross at key locations either at the corners of a street or at a mid-block crossing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether traffic in the area necessitates curb extensions + Generally, people were comfortable with curb extensions in some locations and appreciated that curb extensions create additional visibility for those who walk + Some concerns were expressed about potential impact on snow removal and existing parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Including curb extensions in some locations to increase the visibility of people walking and rolling + Placing curb extensions in areas close to intersections where parking is currently not permitted

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Raised crosswalks (a marked crosswalk at an intersection which is constructed higher than the roadway surface and at the same level as the sidewalk surface) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether traffic in the area necessitates raised crosswalks + Some people indicated that they were only comfortable with using raised crosswalks in some locations to improve safety for those who walk and roll + Some concerns were expressed about the cost, potential impact on stormwater drainage and impact to vehicles of raised crosswalks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Including raised or continuous crossings in some locations to increase visibility and connectivity for people who walk, roll and bike + Providing standard signage and other features to ensure enhancements are visible in all seasons (particularly winter) + Reviewing stormwater drainage impacts and feasibility of adding new catch basins to ensure proper drainage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Raised medians (an island located along the centreline of a street and provides a two-stage crossing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether traffic in the area necessitates raised medians + Generally, people preferred other options to slow traffic in Gariepy, sharing that these should only be used in select locations + Concerns were expressed about potential reduction in road space, impact on winter driving, snow removal, cost and safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Raised medians are not being considered for the neighbourhood
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Speed tables (a raised section of the road with ramps on both sides. They are very similar to raised crosswalks but are not placed at crossings) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether traffic in the area necessitates speed tables + Generally, people preferred other options to slow traffic in Gariepy, sharing that speed tables should only be used in select locations + Some concerns were expressed about the cost, potential reduction in road space, impact on winter driving, snow removal and impact to parking of speed tables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Speed tables are not being considered for the neighbourhood

Collector roadway redesign 172 Street / 57 Avenue

Changes were proposed to the design of the collector roadway (172 Street) to slow traffic and enhance safety for people biking, walking and rolling at road crossings.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Shared pathway along 57 Avenue/172 Street</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Removing the existing sidewalk and adding curbside shared pathway on the north/west side + Widening the sidewalk on the south/east side + Enhancing crossings + Adding measures to slow traffic and/or enhance safety for people walking, biking, or rolling + Repurposing extra road space to accommodate a curbside shared pathway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need for a shared pathway in this area + Generally, people were comfortable with adding a shared pathway and appreciate improving connectivity in the area for those who walk, roll and bike + Some concerns were expressed about potential reduction in road width and impact to parking + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need for separate bike lanes in Gariepy + Generally, people preferred other options for bike use in the neighbourhood + Concerns were expressed about potential reduction in parking, impact to traffic and cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a shared pathway on the north / west side of the road that is curbside in some locations and separated from the curb with a grass strip and tree planting where possible in others + Widening the existing sidewalk on the south / east side to accommodate more people walking and rolling + Repurposing extra road width to add a shared pathway + Enhancing the existing no parking zones by adding grassed boulevards with absorbent landscaping (landscaping that captures additional rain water) and trees where possible + Aligning the centre line through the intersections at Callingwood Road and Lessard Road + Providing continuous or raised crossings where the shared pathway crosses vehicle accesses or intersections
<p>One-way bike lane on both sides of 57 Avenue/172 Street</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Creating raised one-way bike lanes on both sides of the road + Enhancing crosswalks + Widening the sidewalks on both sides of the road + Repurposing extra road space to accommodate raised bike lanes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need for separate bike lanes in Gariepy + Generally, people preferred other options for bike use in the neighbourhood + Concerns were expressed about potential reduction in parking, impact to traffic and cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Placing curb extensions at key crossings and bus stops

Local roadway redesign – south – 55 Avenue, 175 Street, 53 Avenue and Lessard Drive

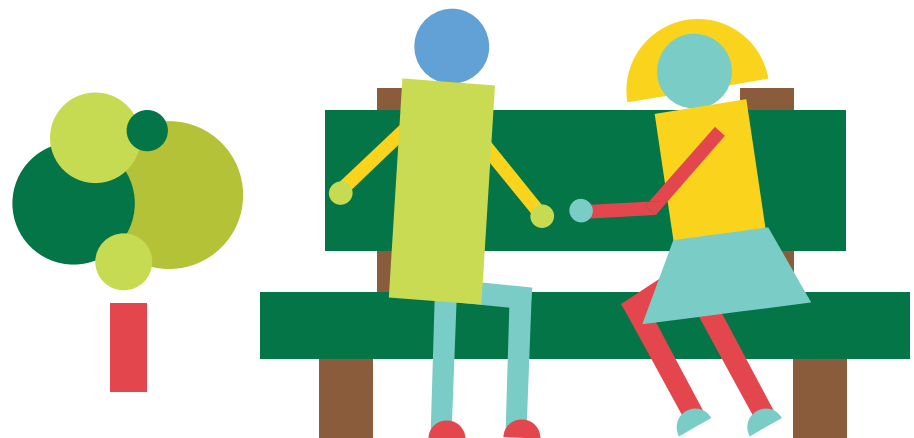
Changes were proposed to the design of the local roadway in south Gariepy to enhance safety for people biking, walking and rolling.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Shared pathway on the south side along 55 Avenue, 175 Street, 53 Avenue and Lessard Drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a shared pathway on the south side of the road + Replacing the sidewalk on the north side of the road + Enhancing crosswalks + Repurposing extra road space to accommodate a shared pathway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need for a shared pathway in this area + Generally, people appreciate improving connectivity in the area for those who walk, roll and bike + While people were more comfortable with this option, many suggested alternatives designs + Concerns were expressed about potential reduction in road width, impact to parking and those who drive, cost and safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Widening the sidewalks on one of the road to enhance the area for people walking and rolling + Adding a shared pathway on the other side of the road to enhance connectivity for people walking, rolling and biking + Aligning the road width to current standards, shortening the crossing distances and accommodating the shared pathway and wider sidewalks + Adding a new parking restriction on the south side of roads along the top of bank park to allow for additional green space
<p>Boulevard and shared roadway with measures to slow traffic along 55 Avenue, 175 Street, 53 Avenue and Lessard Drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a boulevard sidewalk with new trees on the south side of the roadway + Replacing the sidewalk on the north side of the road + Creating a shared road for people driving and biking with measures to slow traffic + Repurposing extra road space to accommodate a new boulevard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need for a boulevard and shared roadway in this area + Generally, people were more comfortable with other options for improving connectivity in the area for those who walk, roll and bike + Concerns were expressed about potential reduction in road width, impact to parking, cost, impacts to personal property, and safety for those who bike, walk, roll and drive 	

Centennial Elementary School drop-off (near 175 Street/57 Avenue) upgrades

Changes were proposed to the drop-off area at Centennial School (near 175 Street/57 Avenue) to enhance safety for people biking, walking and rolling.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Centennial Elementary School drop-off upgrades (near 175 Street/57 Avenue)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding measures to slow traffic such as curb extensions or raised crosswalks at 175 Street and 174 Street + Widening sidewalks + Addition of a shared pathway on the north side of 57 Avenue + Expanding the bus parking bay + Adding new trees where feasible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the proposed options to improve the drop-off area around Centennial Elementary School + Generally, people were comfortable with the proposed options to enhance safety for people biking, walking and rolling + Concerns were expressed about driver behaviour in the area, safety of students, impacts to parking and people who drive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding the proposed measures, such as curb extensions or raised crosswalks + Widening sidewalks + Adding a shared pathway on the north side of 57 Avenue + Expanding the bus parking bay + Adding trees or plantings where feasible



What We Heard Report: Gariepy Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal Exploring Options and Tradeoffs October 2022

Repurposing Local Road Space – 174 Street, Lessard Drive East and Lessard Drive West

Changes were proposed to use of local roads (174 Street, Lessard Drive East and Lessard Drive West) to enhance community aesthetics and safety for people biking, walking and rolling.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Boulevard on both sides, repurposing road space and shared roadway with measures to slow traffic along 174 Street and Lessard Drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a boulevard with new trees to both sides of the road + Creating a shared road for people driving and biking with measures to slow traffic + Repurposing extra road space to accommodate a boulevard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need to slow traffic along 174 Street and Lessard Drive + Generally, people preferred other ways to enhance community aesthetics and safety for people walking, biking and rolling + Some concerns were expressed about cost, impact to parking, potential traffic congestion, snow removal, reduced road width and safety for those who walk, roll and bike 	<p>On 174 Street:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a boulevard with new trees to both sides of the road + Creating a shared road for people driving and biking with measures to slow traffic <p>On Lessard Road:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Widening the sidewalks on one side of the road to enhance the area for people walking and rolling + Adding a shared pathway on the other side of the road to enhance connectivity for people walking, rolling and biking
<p>Boulevard and repurposing road space along 174 street and Lessard Drive and shared pathway along the west side of Lessard Drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a boulevard with new trees to both sides of the road on 174 Street and Lessard Drive (dead-end portion) + Adding a north-south shared pathway on the west side of Lessard Drive + Adding a boulevard with new trees on the east side of Lessard Drive + Creating a shared road for people driving and biking with measures to slow traffic on Lessard Drive (dead-end portion) and 174 Street + Repurposing extra road space to accommodate a boulevard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about adding a shared pathway along the west side of Lessard Drive + Generally, people preferred other ways to enhance community aesthetics and safety for people walking, biking and rolling + Concerns were expressed about potential reduction in roadwidth, safety for people who walk and drive, snow removal, impacts to parking and the need for a shared pathway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Aligning the road width to current standards, shortening the crossing distances and accommodating the shared pathway and wider sidewalks <p>On both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Continuing to accommodate two-way traffic + Continuing to provide parking on both sides of the road

Local roadway redesign – east – Lessard Drive and Gariepy Crescent

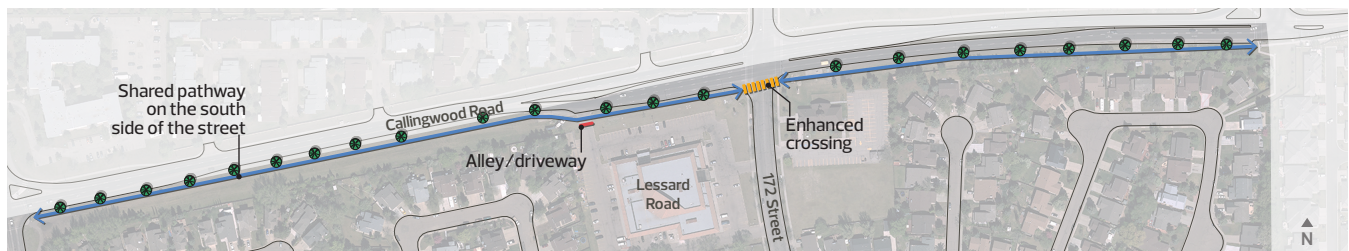
Changes were proposed to the design of the local roadway in east Gariepy to enhance safety for people biking, walking and rolling.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Shared roadway with measures to slow traffic along Lessard Drive and Gariepy Crescent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Creating a shared road for people driving and biking with measures to slow traffic + Widening sidewalks where feasible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need to slow traffic along Lessard Drive and Gariepy Crescent + Generally, people preferred other ways to enhance safety for people walking, biking and rolling + Concerns were expressed about the cost, speeding enforcement, safety of shared roadways for people who bike and drive and the volume of use for these measures 	<p>On Lessard Drive dead-end road:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Widening the sidewalks on both sides of the road to enhance the area for people walking and rolling + Adding curb and gutter to the dead end at the Edmonton Country Club fence to help with stormwater collection and drainage in the area + Aligning the road width to current standards. This will help to reduce the environmental impacts of hard surfaces, stress on the storm sewer system and crossing distances for people walking and rolling and while also slowing traffic
<p>Shared pathway on the east side of Lessard Drive and Gariepy Crescent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a shared pathway on the east side of the roadway + Repurposing extra road space to accommodate a shared pathway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need for a shared pathway on the east side of Lessard Drive and Gariepy Crescent + Generally, people preferred other ways to enhance safety for people walking, biking and rolling + Concerns were expressed about the volume of use for these measures, impact to parking, cost, snow removal, reduction of road width and safety for people walking, rolling and biking 	<p>On the Lessard Drive cul-de-sac and Gariepy Crescent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Widening the sidewalk on one side of the road to enhance the area for people walking and rolling to create a connection from the 170 Street breezeway to Lessard Drive

Callingwood Road redesign

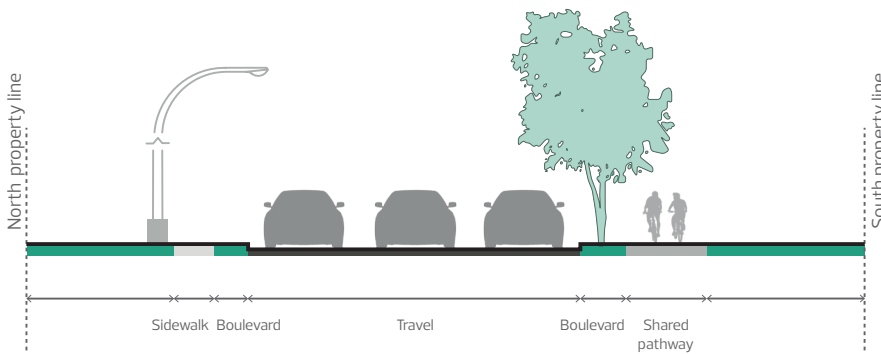
Changes were proposed to the design of Callingwood Road to enhance safety for people biking, walking and rolling at roadway crossings.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Shared pathway and new boulevard trees on the south side of the road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a shared pathway along the south side of Callingwood road that aligns with the City's Bike Plan + Creating a boulevard with new trees + Enhancing the crossing at 172 Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the addition of a shared pathway and boulevard trees along Callingwood road + Generally, people were comfortable with the proposed design to enhance safety for people walking, biking and rolling + Some concerns were expressed about the volume of use in the area, impacts to traffic flow, maintenance, and safety for those who walk, bike and roll through intersections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a new shared pathway on the south side of Callingwood Road from Lessard Road to 170 Street + Widening the existing sidewalk on the north side of Callingwood Road from 172 Street to 170 Street to a shared pathway + Enhancing the crossings over Callingwood Road at 172 Street and 170 Street to connect the shared pathways + Planting new trees + Adding absorbent landscaping where feasible

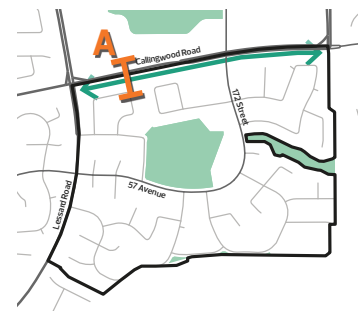


- Shared pathway
- Enhanced crossing
- Alley/driveway

Typical cross section 'A'



Key map



Enhanced connections: How you walk, bike, roll and move around your neighbourhood

Participants shared perspectives and feedback on a series of proposed changes to enhance connections within and to surrounding neighbourhoods as part of Neighbourhood Renewal. What we heard in response to these options is included below.

Breezeways

Changes were proposed to the design of breezeways throughout Gariepy to enhance accessibility and safety for people biking, walking and rolling.

What is a breezeway?

A breezeway is a public pathway that runs in-between two private properties. Wider breezeways and pathways make it easier for people who walk and bike to move around the neighbourhood. They enhance accessibility and connectivity within the neighbourhood.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Breezeways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Widening existing pathways + Adding new pathways where they are missing + Adding new lighting where feasible + Adding waste bins in high-traffic locations + Adding benches where feasible + Redesigning the bollards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need to enhance breezeways in Gariepy + Generally, people were comfortable with this option to enhance accessibility and safety of breezeways throughout Gariepy + Some concerns were expressed about cost, impact to greenspace, increased access to these areas and impact to private property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Widening breezeways as feasible + Including lighting where possible + Adding waste bins or benches at some locations + Adding bollards in select areas

Shared Street Connections

Changes were proposed to enhance shared use of the laneway between 175 Street and Lessard Road by people driving, biking, walking and rolling.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Enhance the alley for people walking, rolling and biking while maintaining use for people driving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Creating a shared street through the existing alley with enhanced surfacing or markings and signage + Adding new lights where feasible + Enhancing the crossing to Gariepy Park and Centennial Elementary School + Extending the pathway to connect to the Lessard Road shared pathway + Establishing a connection to a potential future park connection in Gariepy Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about adding a hard surfaced connection along the alleyway between 175 Street and Lessard Road + Generally, people preferred other ways to enhance use of this area for people driving, biking, walking and rolling + Concerns were expressed about the addition of new hard surfaces, cost, impact to residents who use this alleyway, impact to privacy for homes, increased access in the area 	<p>Option 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Cosing a section of the alley west of 175 Street between 59 Avenue and 57 Avenue to vehicles where no garage accesses are connected to the alley + Converting this section to a green alley (planted with naturalized turf, sod or other plantings) with bollards at both ends <p>Option 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Reconstructing the alley including a new gravel base and asphalt surface
<p>Prioritise people walking, rolling and biking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a shared pathway with bollards in the existing alley from 175 Street to the west alley intersection + Creating a shared street through the existing alley with enhanced surfacing or markings and signage from the alley intersection west to Lessard Road + Adding new lights where feasible + Enhancing the crossing to Gariepy Park and Centennial Elementary School + Creating a walking, rolling, and biking connection to the Lessard Road shared pathway + Establishing a connection to a potential future park connection in Gariepy Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about adding a new shared pathway in the alley and removing access for people who drive + Generally, people preferred other ways to enhance use of this area + Concerns were expressed about cost, impact to people who drive and potential reduction in access to homes 	

Green alley connections

Changes were proposed to enhance connectivity and accessibility of green alleys located throughout Gariepy by people biking, walking and rolling.

What is a green alley?

In the Gariepy neighbourhood there are three parcels of City-owned land (alley right-of-ways) between private properties with gas, sewer and other utilities. These spaces are currently grassed with no hard surfacing like a typical alley. For the purposes of engaging with the public they are being called “green alleys”.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Hard surfaced pathways located on the south side of the neighbourhood between 53 Avenue and Lessard Drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Creating a new hard-surfaced pathway connection + Adding lighting where feasible + Redesigning the bollards + Enhancing the connections across 174 Street and Lessard Drive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about adding hard-surfaced pathways in this area + Generally, people preferred other ways to enhance connectivity and accessibility of green alleys throughout Gariepy + Concerns were expressed about the addition of hard surfacing, snow removal, reduction of greenspace, impact to ecology, access to private property and cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Improving and replacing existing bollards where needed
<p>Naturalized pathways located on the south side of the neighbourhood between 53 Avenue and Lessard Drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Creating a new naturalized pathway connection + Adding lighting where feasible + Redesigning the bollards + Enhancing the connections across 174 Street and Lessard Drive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about adding naturalized pathways in this area + Generally, people preferred other ways to enhance connectivity and accessibility of green alleys throughout Gariepy + Concerns were expressed about cost, impact to privacy for residents in the area, drainage, increased traffic and impact to ecology and wildlife 	

Parks and open spaces: How you enjoy green spaces

Participants shared perspectives and feedback on a series of proposed improvements to parks and City-owned green spaces as a part of Neighbourhood Renewal. What we heard in response to these options is included below.

Gariepy Park

Changes were proposed to Gariepy park to provide more amenities to residents and enhance the functionality of the park.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Improvements to Gariepy Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a new north-to-south pathway connection along the east side of the park + Adding a new east-to-west pathway connection to 172 Street + Adding a new pathway connection between the sports fields and the playground + Enhancing the existing naturalized pathway in the Gariepy Park forested area + Adding new lighting along pathways and near gathering spaces + Adding new seating areas with benches and landscaping along the north-to-south pathway + Working with Centennial School to develop a potential outdoor classroom + Adding a potential community garden + Adding a new plaza space and gathering area + Considering new amenities, including: plaza space, waste bins, bike racks, new benches, lighting, restoration planting, new trees, edible landscaping, shelter, gazebo (pending community funding), bike pump track (pending community funding) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about changing Gariepy Park to increase amenities and enhance overall park function + Generally, people shared that Gariepy Park is valued for its greenspace and that any changes to the park should integrate into the natural surroundings + A wide variety of preferences for potential pathways in the area were shared, with people expressing support for the addition of lighting, waste bins, seating, trees and other plantings and plaza space + Concerns were expressed about increasing traffic in the area, safety for those who walk and roll, cost for these improvements and potential impacts to existing trees and greenspace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a new shared pathway connecting from 57 Avenue to the 60 Avenue breezeway + Widening existing sidewalks around the community league and playground as feasible + Adding the breezeway connection to 172 Street + Including a new shared pathway from 175 Street to the basketball courts + Creating a new central plaza with enhanced concrete surfacing, benches, waste bins, lighting and a raised platform area + Providing additional plantings including trees and planting beds with native species plants and boulders + Any community-led features would need to be pursued by members of the community with support from the Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator

Gariepy ravine – east connection

Changes were proposed to Gariepy ravine to enhance accessibility and safety for people who walk, bike and roll.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Hard-surfaced pathway on the east side of the ravine between Lessard Drive and Gariepy Crescent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a new hard-surfaced pathway + Option 1A: Regrading to work with existing topography or + Option 1B: Adding a culvert to maintain drainage and add a pathway above with handrails + Adding new lighting if feasible + Adding restoration planting + Adding new waste bins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether changes to Gariepy ravine are needed + Generally, people were comfortable with enhancing accessibility in Gariepy ravine + Some concerns were expressed about maintenance, cost, potential impacts to wildlife and plants, safety and snow removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding accessible crossings over the ravine such as timber walkways, regrading with culverts and paved pathways or other solutions
<p>Timber walkway on the east side of the ravine between Lessard Drive and Gariepy Crescent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a new hard-surfaced pathway + Adding a new timber bridge + Adding new lighting if feasible + Adding restoration planting + Adding new waste bins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether changes to Gariepy ravine are needed + Generally, people were comfortable with this option for enhancing accessibility in Gariepy Ravine + Concerns were expressed about maintenance, cost, safety, potential impact on ecosystem function in the area, and potential impact to those who bike in the area 	

Gariepy ravine – west connection

Changes were proposed to Gariepy ravine to enhance accessibility and safety for people who walk, bike and roll.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Restore the ravine on the west side between Lessard Drive and Gariepy Crescent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Restoring the ravine and remove all pathway connections + Adding restoration planting to enhance the biodiversity of the ravine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether changes to Gariepy ravine are needed + Generally, people preferred other options to enhance accessibility in Gariepy ravine, sharing a range of suggestions to accommodate specific users + Some concerns were expressed about aligning with the River Valley Bylaw (7188) and potential impacts to people who walk and bike through the ravine should this connection be closed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding accessible crossings over the ravine such as timber walkways, regrading with culverts and paved pathways or other solutions
<p>Naturalized seating area on the west side of the ravine between Lessard Drive and Gariepy Crescent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Converting the existing concrete sidewalk to a gravel pathway on the south side + Adding a seating area + Removing the existing pathway on the north side of the ravine + Closing the informal pathway through the ravine + Adding restoration planting to enhance the biodiversity of the ravine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether changes to Gariepy ravine are needed + Generally, people preferred other options to enhance accessibility in Gariepy ravine, sharing a range of suggestions to maintain connectivity and protect natural habitat in the area + Some concerns were expressed about cost, potential impact to those who currently use the trail to connect to neighbouring areas, potential increase in traffic and safety 	

Top-of-bank park

Changes were proposed to the top-of-bank park to provide more amenities to residents and enhance the functionality of the park.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Boulevard and shared pathway and repurposing road space on the south side of the roadway between 174 Street and Lessard Drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a shared pathway on the south side of the roadway to accommodate people walking, rolling and biking + Adding a boulevard with new trees on the south side of the roadway + Adding new trees and restoration planting to the top-of-bank park + Removing parking on the north side of the roadway + Repurposing road space along the south curb 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether changes to top-of-bank park are needed to enhance area function and whether a shared-use pathway is needed + Generally, people were fairly evenly split between those who were comfortable and those who were uncomfortable with this option to provide more amenities in top-of-bank park + Some concerns were expressed about cost, potential reduction in greenspace, stability of the riverbank, changes to the existing natural area, safety for those who bike, walk and roll in the area and potential reduction of the roadway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Replacing the existing curbside sidewalk with a new shared pathway as well as a new connection to Donsdale + Planting the boulevard with low maintenance native species
<p>Shared pathway through the park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a shared pathway through the park to accommodate people walking, rolling and biking + Adding new trees along a shared pathway + Adding new trees and restoration planting to the top-of-bank park + Maintaining existing travel and parking lanes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about whether changes to top-of-bank park are needed to enhance area function + Generally, people were more comfortable with this option to provide more amenities in top-of-bank park and were supportive of efforts to improve the area look and feel + Some concerns were expressed about potential impacts to green space, removal of trees and impact to memorial benches 	
<p>Considering new amenities, including plaza space, waste bins, bike racks, new benches, lighting, restoration planting, new trees and edible landscaping</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + A wide variety of preferences for amenities in the area were shared, with people expressing support for the addition of lighting, waste bins, seating, trees and other plantings 	

View point improvements and potential seating location

Changes were proposed to the top-of-bank park to improve the view of the North Saskatchewan River and enhance accessibility for people who walk, roll and bike to 53 Avenue and Lessard Drive.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Enhanced seating with accessible pathway connections to 53 Avenue and Lessard Drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a new area within the park and including seating and amenities to support community gathering, such as picnic tables and bike racks + Adding new accessible pathway connections to each viewpoint + Enhancing existing seating areas with new benches and naturalized planting + Adding new waste bins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need to improve access to viewpoints in top-of-bank park + Generally, people were fairly evenly split between those who were comfortable and those who were uncomfortable with this option to improve access to viewpoints, with people sharing their desire for the area to remain natural + Some concerns were expressed about safety for those who walk in the area, increased traffic in the area, cost, maintenance, and potential impact to greenspace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Enhancing the viewpoints with new concrete pads, benches (memorial plaques will remain), waste bins and additional landscaping with native plant species and boulders + Making the west viewpoint fully accessible with a new sidewalk connection + New seating areas for gathering with enhanced hard surfacing, benches, waste bins, and additional landscaping with native plant species and boulders



Place-making opportunities: How we gather and enjoy unique community features

Participants shared perspectives and feedback on a series of proposed improvements to parks and City-owned green spaces as a part of Neighbourhood Renewal. What we heard in response to these options is included below.

Entrance areas

Changes were proposed to enhance the entrance to Gariepy at the intersections of 55 Avenue and Lessard Road, 57 Avenue and Lessard Road, 59 Avenue and Lessard Road and 172 Street and Callingwood Road.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Located at the intersections of: 55 Avenue and Lessard Road 57 Avenue and Lessard Road, 59 Avenue and Lessard Road and 172 Street and Callingwood Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Improving intersections with measures to slow traffic and enhance crossings + Adding new naturalized planting material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about improving the look and feel of entrance areas into Gariepy + Generally, people expressed support for making entrance areas visually appealing, sharing a wide variety of suggestions on how to improve the area look and feel + Some concerns were expressed about traffic calming and control, safety for people who walk and noise reduction along main roads in the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Aligning the road centre lines at neighbourhood entrances from Callingwood Road and Lessard Road to improve sight lines and reduce crossing distances + Aligning the road width to current standards. This will help to reduce the environmental impacts of hard surfaces, stress on the storm sewer system and crossing distances for people walking and rolling while also slowing traffic



Corner store area

Changes were proposed to enhance the area around Lessard Mall, adding space for community members to gather and connect with their neighbours and improve accessibility for people who walk, bike and roll. .

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
<p>Improvements to Lessard Mall and corner store area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding a boulevard with new trees along Callingwood Road + Creating pathway connections to the proposed shared pathway along Callingwood Road + New bike racks along Callingwood Road + Enhancing crosswalks from the public sidewalk to the building entrances + Landscaping areas with and without benches + Including additional lighting around the building + Adding new seating and landscaping + Adjusting existing parking stalls, including new angled parking + Closing one access point on the east side + Adding enhanced surfacing on the southeast parking lot that could be used for events + Including a Molok waste collection system to replace existing dumpsters + Maintaining sidewalk width next to the building and constructing the missing sidewalk connection along the south side of the building + Maintaining existing trees along 172 Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + There was a range of perspectives shared about the need to improve the look and feel of the area around Lessard Mall + Generally, people expressed comfort with improvements to this space to increase accessibility and create additional gathering space + Some concerns were expressed about the potential impact to parking and traffic flow, as well as cost to enhance private property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding seating areas and plantings along the shared pathways + Creating gathering spaces with enhanced plantings and surfacing + Adding crossings over the parking lot to the shared pathways and daycare outside play areas + Reviewing existing parking alignment for optimizations

Community-led opportunities

What is a community-led project?

A community-led project is an opportunity for the community to collaborate and is carried out by a group of neighbourhood members. This group creates a vision for the project, a schedule and a budget. These projects can occur on or in public or private land and facilities. These projects can lead to programming or infrastructure. The City of Edmonton can support these projects by providing staff and resources. Neighbourhood Resource Coordinators (NRC) support communities on many projects such as park enhancements, murals and programming.

Community-led opportunities are fundraised and often maintained by residents or the community. The City has a number of grants to help contribute to community projects. Other organizations have grants available for community projects as well, such as the Government of Alberta and Edmonton Community Foundation. Other partnerships with businesses or associations can also fund community projects.

Maintenance of community-led infrastructure may be the responsibility of the community or be a shared responsibility with the City. The level of support provided by the City is project specific and would be identified through the Community-Led Construction process.



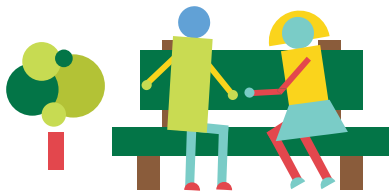
What we heard during public engagement

Several ideas for community-led opportunities were proposed throughout the design package. The following is a list of those opportunities and the community feedback received on these community-led options.

Proposed options	What we heard	What we are considering for draft design
+ Adding a community garden in Gariepy Park (pending community funding)	+ Generally, people were not comfortable with adding a community garden in Gariepy Park	+ If community members would like to pursue any of the opportunities presented in this phase of engagement, please reach out to the Lessard Community League as well as your Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator to discuss next steps
+ Adding a gazebo in Gariepy park (pending community funding)	+ There was a range of perspectives shared about whether to add a gazebo in Gariepy Park + Generally, people were fairly evenly divided between those who expressed comfort with adding a gazebo and those who expressed discomfort	
+ Adding a bike pump track in Gariepy park (pending community funding)	+ There was a range of perspectives shared about whether to add a bike pump track in Gariepy Park + Generally, people were fairly evenly divided between those who expressed comfort with adding a bike pump track and those who expressed discomfort	

How to get started – it starts with community volunteers

Residents interested in pursuing the development of any of the options listed above, or others, should connect with their Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator. To get started or to learn more about community-led opportunities, call 311 to find your NRC or the Gariepy Neighbourhood Renewal Project Manager. Together, we can set up a meeting with interested Gariepy residents to discuss potential ideas.



Next Steps

Thank you to all who shared their input during the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** stage of engagement.

The Project Team will return to the community to share a draft design for your neighbourhood in spring 2023. During the **Community Feedback on Draft Design** stage of engagement, we invite you to provide your feedback that we will consider to **REFINE** the final design for Gariepy Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal.

Information will continue to be provided during upcoming project stages about cost-sharing opportunities for decorative street lights and sidewalk reconstruction through the Local Improvement process.

For more information regarding the Gariepy Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal, upcoming public engagement activities and to subscribe for project updates, please visit edmonton.ca/BuildingGariepy



Working together to make the most out of your neighbourhood.

This is your city and your neighbourhood. We want to understand how you experience your neighbourhood and ask for your input on what we might do to make it better. We will engage and work with you on the renewal of roads, sidewalks, street lights and park spaces. We will also promote other community opportunities to enhance how people live and interact in your neighbourhood. We commit to being open and transparent about how your input is used. Let's make the most out of your neighbourhood.



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