



What We Heard Report: Pleasantview Neighbourhood Renewal

**Community Feedback on Final Design
July – August 2021**

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Edmonton

What We Heard Report:

Pleasantview Neighbourhood Renewal Community Feedback on Final Design

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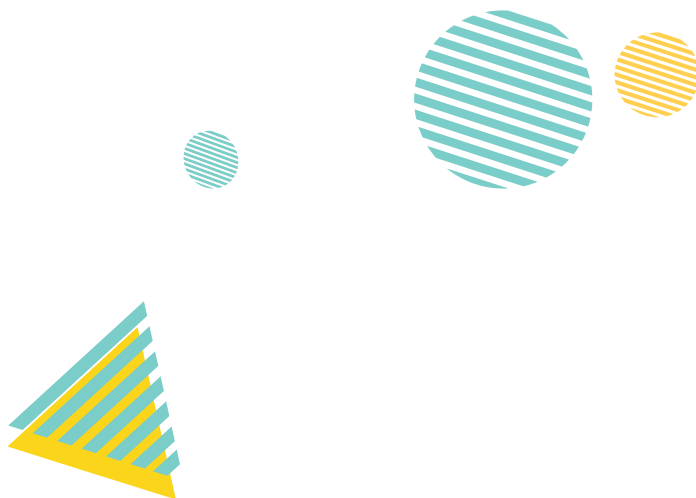
Project overview

Pleasantview has been chosen for Neighbourhood Renewal construction to update its aging streets and sidewalks. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2022.

Neighbourhood Renewal rehabilitates residential roads, replaces street lights, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and adds missing sidewalk links, where possible. Other opportunities to improve how people walk, bike, roll and drive in the neighbourhood and how they enjoy City-owned parks and open spaces are also explored.

An interactive public engagement process was designed to gather local knowledge, views and opinions from residents and property owners to inform the development of the neighbourhood design and ensure it meets the needs of both current residents and visitors and those in the future.

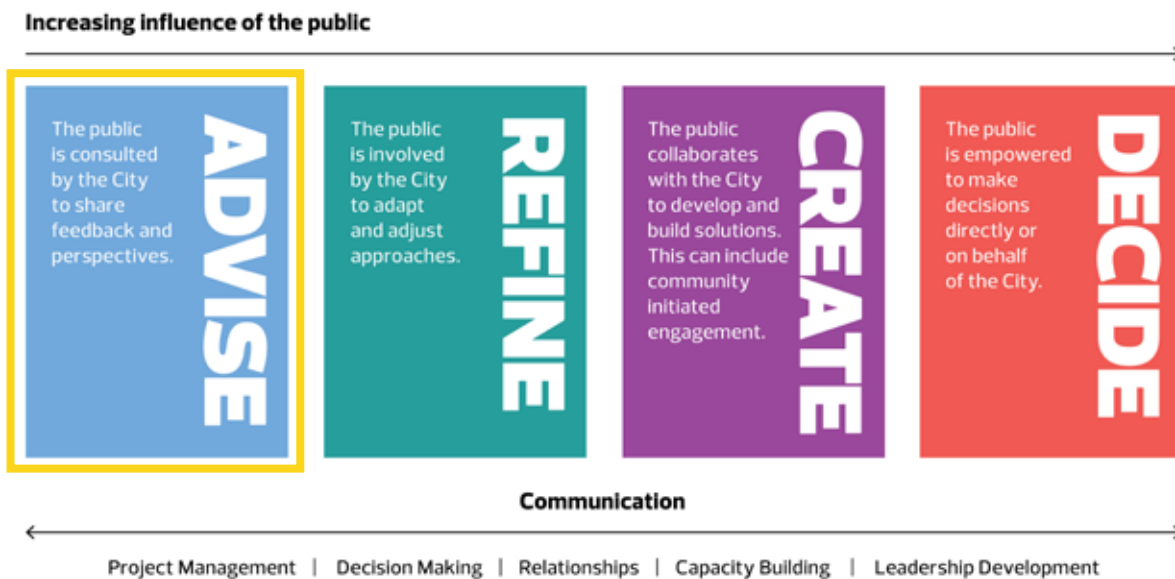
The planning and engagement process began in September 2019 and the final design was shared for community feedback in summer 2021.



Public engagement spectrum

The City of Edmonton is committed to seeking diverse opinions, experiences and perspectives from Edmontonians, ensuring a wide range of input is available to support decision making.

The City's Public Engagement Spectrum defines the public's level of influence in the engagement process. Engagement activities during this stage were at the **ADVISE** level on the City's Public Engagement Spectrum.



Visit edmonton.ca/PublicEngagement for more information on the City's public engagement process and click on Vision, Definition and Spectrum.



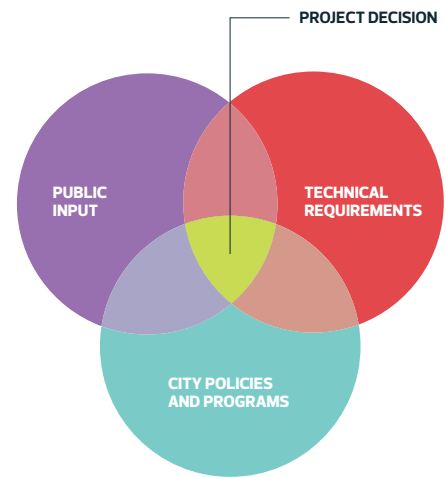
Roadmap to Building Great Neighbourhoods

The Neighbourhood Renewal program follows the roadmap below from Starting the Conversation to the unveiling of the new neighbourhood enhancements and celebration of the completion of construction. This report highlights the input received during the **Community Feedback on Final Design** stage between July and August 2021.



How decisions are made

City policies and standards such as the Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards, Vision Zero Edmonton and Winter City Strategy provide the overall direction for Neighbourhood 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 best fit in the neighbourhood. More details on these policies can be found at edmonton.ca.



Over 4000 residents live in Pleasantview, each with needs and opinions on how they envision its future. Over the past two years, feedback has been collected in multiple ways—surveys, a community walk/workshop, engagement pop-up events, door hanger question cards, emails/phone calls, stakeholder discussions and live virtual question and answer opportunities. Early public input was used to develop the Project Vision and Guiding Principles that, along with ongoing public engagement, continue to guide the Project Team when prioritizing design decisions.

Community Feedback on Final Design

During this project stage, the Project Team created a final design to share with the Pleasantview neighbourhood, using feedback received in the previous stage of engagement – **Community Feedback on Draft Design**.

The final design presented a neighbourhood plan showing all infrastructure and design elements that would be constructed in Pleasantview. The public was asked to provide input on some final design details including the 106 Street design.





How we informed and engaged

Understanding how the neighbourhood design works together as a system, we asked survey participants:

- + For each section (driving and street crossings, biking and walking, and parks and open spaces):
 - What overall changes they are most looking forward to and why
 - What overall changes they are most concerned about and why
- + If they feel the final design aligns with the Vision and Guiding Principles developed at the beginning of the project
- + Preference of the two design options presented for 106 Street

The input received during this stage is summarized in this report and was considered in confirming the final neighbourhood design.

Visit edmonton.ca/BuildingPleasantview for details from previous stages.



Live online events

A live online event was held to share the final design and offer the opportunity to ask questions directly of the Project Team.

- + August 5, 2021, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

61 total event participants



Online and paper survey

A survey was available, both online and in paper copy, to submit feedback on the final design. A paper copy of the final design information booklet was included with the paper copy surveys.

- + July 28 – August 12, 2021

132 completed surveys



Emails, phone calls

Residents, and property and business owners shared information with the Project Team via email and telephone.



Interactive digital and paper information booklet

Maps, drawings and details of the final neighbourhood design were posted online and were available in paper copy, by request.

What we heard

The following is a summary of the most common themes heard across all engagement activities and audience groups during the **Community Feedback on Final Design** stage. All input and comments were considered by the Project Team as they worked to fine tune the design. These minor adjustments will be updated in the final design to be shared during the **Preparing for Construction** stage in March 2022.

It is important to note that unique priorities, issues and concerns were raised by individual stakeholders and public respondents and may not necessarily be reflected in the common themes.



Driving and Street Crossings

Some common changes respondents look forward to most:

- + Many respondents suggest traffic calming features as the changes they most look forward to including improved crosswalks (raised or visually enhanced) and/or curb extensions
- + 109 Street traffic calming additions are mentioned often as being welcome features including the roundabout, improved crosswalks and speed humps
- + The changes to 52 Avenue and 53 Avenue between 107 Street and 109 Street to slow traffic and reduce one-way infractions are also mentioned as welcome features

Some common changes respondents are most concerned about:

- + Raised crosswalks with curb extensions are a concern to some respondents who worry about the impacts to parking in the area and snow removal. Several comments are specific to 105 Street.
- + Several respondents noted the absence of new traffic calming measures and pedestrian crossings along 106 Street and would like to see more included in the plan, especially pedestrian crossings

- + There is some concern that the amount of traffic calming along 109 Street may be excessive and cause traffic congestion and diversion onto nearby residential streets
- + Several respondents are concerned that the roundabout at 109 Street/60 Avenue may impact transit's ability to operate and fear they may change the route of the bus because of the issues
- + A few respondents are concerned the 57 Avenue and 109 Street intersection realignment may not be effective enough and may impact large trucks/trailers turning.
- + A few respondents suggest changing the 60 Avenue shared street to a shared pathway that would prioritize people who bike, walk and roll and be snow cleared
- + A few people expressed concern over the 108 Street median being a hazard more than a help
- + Several respondents suggest narrowed streets create an issue for cars to pass each other, especially if larger trucks are involved



Biking & Walking Connections

Changes respondents look forward to most:

- + Many respondents look forward to the 106 Street changes, including the addition of protected, raised and separated bike lanes to improve safety and connectability
- + Many feel that new sidewalks and added connections will improve walkability and safety
- + Others like the 51 Avenue shared pathway between 106 Street and Allard Way as a way to improve access in that area
- + The shared-use alleys are also mentioned as welcome connections that will improve walkability and bikeability

Changes respondents are concerned about:

- + There is concern with some respondents regarding the 106 Street changes including the loss of trees, and that the retaining wall may become unsightly, inviting graffiti and crime. Some expressed concern with the reduction of roadway width.
- + A few respondents suggest the shared-use alley by the cemetery could invite unwanted activity/crime, especially for residents backing onto the alley

106 Street design

Throughout the engagement process, we heard a strong desire for separated, raised bike lanes on each side of 106 Street for the safety and comfort of all users and consistency with the bike lanes north and south. We also heard concerns about potential impacts to trees due to the 106 Street design and a desire to minimize these impacts. It was determined that the number of trees impacted would approximately be 75 (the original estimate was about 45 trees).

With this feedback in mind, the Project Team conducted further reviews to determine if there was another potential option that would minimize impacts to the trees.

Two potential design options for 106 Street between 51 Avenue and 61 Avenue were shared for consideration.

106 Street Option A and Option B preferences:

More respondents strongly or somewhat support Option A (66%) than Option B (37%).

More respondents strongly or somewhat oppose Option B (52%) than Option A (29%).

Option A

- + People who support Option A feel a raised, separated bike lane will provide a better, safer and consistent cycling experience
- + Supporters feel the sidewalk on both sides provides necessary pedestrian connections and that this plan offers better transit options
- + While concerned about trees, supporters understand the tradeoff and welcome the opportunity to have new tree plantings where mature trees are nearing the end of their life span
- + Respondents who oppose Option A are very concerned about the removal of trees, the narrowing of the road and the retaining wall that some feel is not visually appealing and may invite unwanted activity

Option B

- + Many respondents who support Option B do so because they oppose the removal of trees
- + A few feel that a sidewalk on both sides is not needed
- + A few who oppose Option B feel there are too many negative tradeoffs and that a sidewalk on both sides is necessary



Parks and Open Spaces

Changes respondents are looking forward to most:

- + Many respondents support 61 Avenue as the location for the new dog park. They suggest it brings life to an unused park, acts as a gathering point for community dog owners and keeps dogs out of other spaces.
- + We also heard that the 105 Street / 105A Street sidewalks around the pocket parks provide welcome pedestrian connections
- + Some respondents commented they like the Angus Murray Park improvements including the new pathway and plantings
- + A few respondents indicate they like the new Mount Pleasant Park pathways
- + The addition of new trees to the parks and roadways throughout Pleasantview was also mentioned as a favourable addition

Changes respondents are most concerned about:

- + A few residents are concerned about parking and added traffic around the new 61 Avenue off-leash dog park and how it will impact adjacent residents
- + Maintenance of Pleasantview's current and new green spaces along with the new tree plantings is an issue for several respondents.
- + A few respondents request more garbage cans be placed throughout the parks and green spaces



Thank you to everyone who participated in the public engagement opportunities to date and contributed knowledge and experience to help shape the future of Pleasantview.

Street Lights Local Improvement Update:

In October 2021, a decorative street lighting Expression of Interest package was sent to all registered property owners in the neighbourhood. More than 50%+1 of the received responses were not in support ("no"), so the decorative street light Local Improvement will not be proceeding. Street lights will be replaced as part of the Pleasantview Neighbourhood Renewal with standard galvanized poles and energy-efficient LED lights. Where existing lighting is attached to overhead power poles, those lights will be removed and replaced with new stand-alone street light poles on the opposite side of the street. The poles for the overhead power lines will remain.

Vision and Guiding Principles

The Vision and Guiding Principles for Pleasantview's Neighbourhood Renewal were drafted with input received from the Pleasantview Visioning Survey (September to October 2019) and the Community Walk and Ideas Workshop (November 2, 2019). The draft was posted online for feedback in February and March 2020 and modified to result in the final version that can be found on the project website.

Survey participants were asked if the final designs presented for Pleasantview's Neighbourhood Renewal align with the Vision and Guiding Principles developed at the beginning of the project.

Of those that had an opinion on if the new designs align with the project Vision and Guiding Principles, 84 percent feel that they do and 16 percent feel they do not.

Pleasantview Community Vision

Pleasantview is a welcoming, friendly neighbourhood with a diversity of residents who are proud to call it home. Pleasantview provides a safe experience for both residents and visitors who move in and through the neighbourhood using all methods of travel.

Pleasantview's neighbourhood design ensures traffic flow is convenient for those who drive. It also connects its residents and creates a strong sense of community by promoting walking, biking, and encourages gathering in safe, attractive and inviting public spaces.

Pleasantview's distinctive tree canopies and natural spaces add to the neighbourhood's charm and appeal.

Guiding Principles

1. Create a safe and enjoyable experience for all who choose to walk.
2. Provide safe, user-friendly roadways and intersections that reduce vehicle speeds and discourage shortcutting.
3. Provide connections to key destinations within and outside of the neighbourhood for those walking, driving and biking.
4. Encourage gathering and enhance the sense of community through improved open and green spaces.
5. Preserve and add to the neighbourhood's natural elements.

Next Steps:

The Project Team has considered all comments received in finalizing the neighbourhood design.

Watch for information on the upcoming project stages:

- + **March 2022:**
Preparing for Construction
- + **Spring 2022 – Fall 2023:**
Construction on Your Streets

Stay informed

Visit edmonton.ca/BuildingPleasantview for more information and to register to receive email updates throughout the project.

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