

The Orchards at Ellerslie Vision Zero Street Labs Engagement Summary

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Edmonton

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Street Labs Public Engagement Summary

Background and Context

Vision Zero Street Labs are an opportunity to work with the City to bring traffic safety improvements to your neighbourhood, using adaptable traffic calming measures.

Residents in The Orchards at Ellerslie neighbourhood have expressed concerns around traffic safety issues, such as speeding and shortcutting, through various channels including emails and meetings with City staff as well as submissions through our Community Activation programs.

We learned more about residents' traffic safety concerns in the neighbourhood to determine if a Street Lab would help address these safety concerns.

The feedback shared in this What We Heard Report was used in conjunction with the City's engineering expertise and technical data to decide if a Street Lab is the best solution to address the street safety issues the neighbourhood is facing, or if another Safe Mobility program would be more appropriate.

The City has determined that it will pursue a Street Lab based on feedback received from the neighbourhood.

Communications Activities

To ensure residents were aware of the engagement process and to support inclusive participation of residents in The Orchards at Ellerslie neighbourhood and beyond, the City communicated the engagement activities in the following ways:

- 2641 public notices were mailed to residents in The Orchards at Ellerslie neighbourhood.
- An email was sent to the Horizon Community League asking to share the engagement opportunities.

- A dedicated The Orchards at Ellerslie Street Lab Engaged Edmonton page was developed to provide project information and updates and to share engagement opportunities.
- Information about engagement opportunities was shared with Councillor Tang.

Engagement Activities

A Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) process was used to better understand the experiences and diverse needs of Edmontonians. The City's Street Lab project team provided a variety of engagement tools and activities to broaden outreach and ensure equitable participation.

Public Engagement activities included:

- An online survey was available from July 5 - August 2 on Engaged Edmonton. There were a total of **127 responses** to the survey.
- An [interactive map](#) on Engaged Edmonton for community members to pinpoint locations of traffic safety concerns. **40 contributors placed 120 different pins** on the online map.
- An in-person Walk and Roll Audit was held on July 13. **11 participants** from the neighbourhood and surrounding area joined the project team to provide feedback on traffic safety issues in The Orchards at Ellerslie.

Public Engagement Conclusion

Online Survey Engagement Results

The data from the online survey was analyzed and themed.

A summary of the findings is presented in this section. Some totals may exceed 100% due to rounding and respondents' ability to select multiple answers.

Question 1: Which modes of transportation do you use in the neighbourhood? Select all that apply.

The majority of respondents stated they walk or drive a vehicle around the neighbourhood.

Response	N = 127	%
Walk	110	87%
Bike	72	57%
Drive a vehicle	119	94%
Ride as a passenger in a vehicle	65	51%
Roll (e.g. e-scooter, skateboard etc.)	23	18%
Mobility aid (e.g. wheelchair, walker or other aid)	0	0%
Motorcycle	7	6%
Public transportation	13	10%
Other	2	2%

Question 2: In the past 12 months, have you observed any traffic safety concerns in the neighbourhood?

The majority of respondents (95%) stated they have observed traffic safety concerns in the neighbourhood.

Response	N = 127	%
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Yes	120	95%
No	6	5%
Unsure	1	1%

Question 3: Which of the following have you observed in the neighbourhood? Select all that apply.

The top traffic safety concerns in the neighbourhood include speeding and drivers not coming to a full stop. There were 120 responses to this question.

Response	N= 120	%
Speeding	103	86%
Shortcutting	29	24%
Poor crosswalk safety (such as visibility of crosswalks)	77	64%
Drivers not yielding to pedestrians	82	68%
Drivers not coming to a full stop	88	73%
Poor driver attention or distracted driving	81	68%
Other	33	28%

Other traffic safety concerns identified include: poor visibility (both at crosswalks and intersections) due to street parking, shortcutting and drivers not following the rules of the road.

Question 4: On which street(s) or intersection(s) have you observed these traffic safety concerns?

A number of roads within the neighbourhood were identified by survey respondents as areas of concern:

- Orchards Drive
- Orchards Boulevard
- Orchards Link
- Orchards Gate
- Orchards Way

Respondents also noted that the major boundary roads for the neighbourhood, and the large intersections at neighbourhood entrances also present traffic safety issues. These include:

- 25 Avenue SW (Orchards Way, Orchards Link, Orchards Gate intersections)
- 66 Street SW

Question 5: What time of day do you have traffic concerns? Select all that apply.

The majority of respondents (79%) observed traffic safety concerns all of the time.

Response	N = 121	%
Morning rush hour	37	31%
Afternoon rush hour	39	32%
Daytime	30	25%
Nighttime	21	17%
All the time	96	79%
Other	1	1%

Question 6: Which days of the week do you have traffic concerns? Select all that apply.

93% of respondents observed traffic safety concerns every day of the week.

Response	N = 121	%
Monday	16	13%
Tuesday	16	13%
Wednesday	16	13%
Thursday	16	13%
Friday	16	13%
Saturday	11	9%
Sunday	10	8%
All of the above	112	93%

Question 7: During which season(s) do you experience these traffic concerns? Select all that apply.

The majority of respondents (87%) observed traffic safety concerns throughout the year.

<i>Response</i>	<i>N = 121</i>	<i>%</i>
Spring	21	17%
Summer	22	18%
Fall	19	16%
Winter	8	7%
Year round	105	87%

Question 8: Do you have any other specific comments regarding the above safety concerns?

Respondents shared a number of additional comments. The top themes included:

- Speeding
- Poor crosswalk visibility
- Roadside parking
- Unsafe intersections

A description of each theme is provided in the table below.

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Description</i>
Speeding	Speeding on Orchards Drive SW and Orchards Boulevard SW were a major cause of concern for survey respondents. Specifically, the area in front of Jan Reimer School on Orchards Boulevard was said to be a problem area for speeding.
Poor Crosswalk Visibility Roadside Parking	Due to roadside parking as well as a lack of flashing lights and/or signage, respondents felt that many crosswalks in the neighbourhood were not appropriately visible for drivers, causing them to feel unsafe for pedestrians.
Unsafe Intersections	Many respondents noted that there are a number of intersections within the neighbourhood and at neighbourhood entrances/exits that feel unsafe due to a lack of either a stop sign or traffic lights.

Question 9: Do you have any suggestions to improve traffic safety in the neighbourhood?

Residents provided a number of suggestions for both adaptable and permanent measures, to improve traffic safety in the neighbourhood.

Suggestions were analyzed and are summarized in the table below along with whether or not it could be considered in a Street Lab.

<i>Suggestion</i>	<i>Potential Considerations for a Street Lab</i>
Restrict road parking Narrow roads Curb extensions Centre medians Speed humps	Yes
Speed tables Additional signage Raised crosswalks Flashing crosswalks Additional crosswalks Stop signs No-parking zones	Yes, not directly part of the Street Lab program but can be reviewed through other Safe Mobility programs and incorporated where feasible.
Driver feedback signs (digital speed signs)	Yes
Automated enforcement	No Currently, there is no approved Automated Enforcement location for The Orchards at Ellerslie. As per the Government of Alberta's Automated Enforcement guidelines , Automated Enforcement is only allowed at approved sites and no new sites can be added at this time.
Police presence	No, but we will share the neighbourhood concerns with the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) for their review. To report traffic complaints, contact EPS at trafficcomplaints@edmontonpolice.ca .

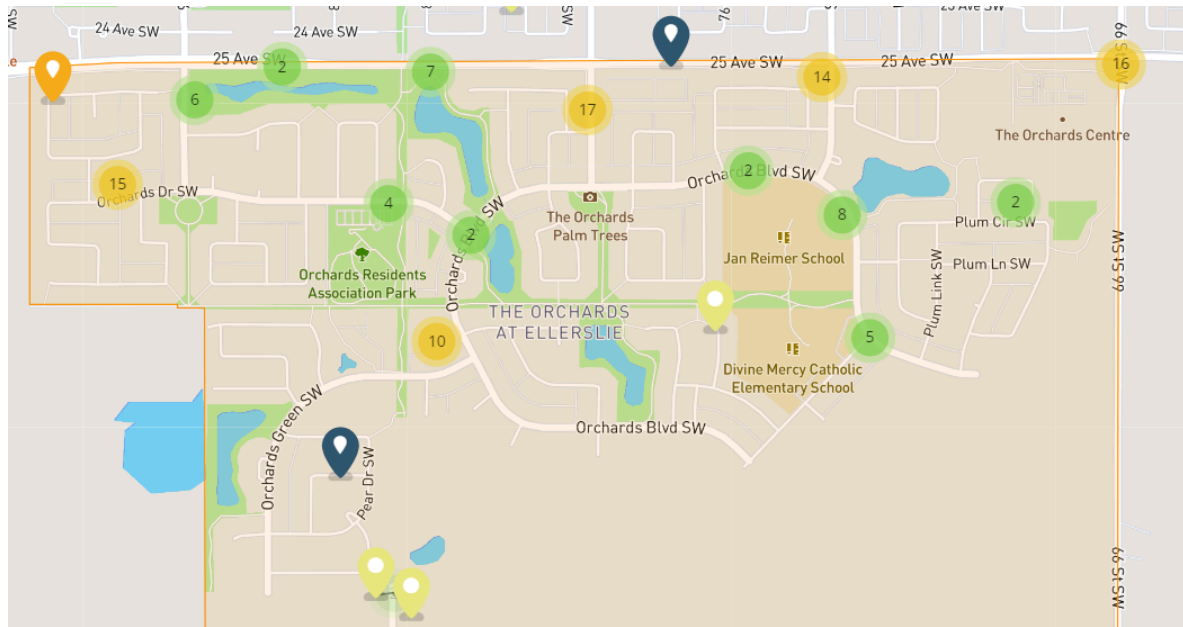
Question 10: Do you live, work or visit the neighbourhood? Select all that apply.

If respondents live in the neighbourhood, they were asked which street they live on. If respondents stated they visit or work in the neighbourhood, they were asked how often they work in/visit the neighbourhood.

The majority of respondents (98%) live in the neighbourhood. A smaller number of respondents visit the area multiple times per week.

Interactive Mapping Tool Feedback

An [interactive mapping tool](#) was available on Engaged Edmonton from July 5 to August 2. This activity provided residents with the opportunity to identify locations of interest and pinpoint traffic safety concerns. 40 contributors placed 120 pins on the map. Not all pins appear in detail on the map, however, every pin is captured in the table. The results are summarized below:



Location	Top Traffic Safety Concerns
Crabapple Loop SW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vehicles are parked too close to the intersection, parking around corners, blocking fire hydrants and impeding visibility
Orchards Gate and 25 Avenue SW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poorly maintained in the winter, causing drivers to lose traction due to snow and ice ● Congestion ● Traffic collisions
Orchards Drive and Orchards Gate SW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Southbound drivers failing to stop and yield to east and westbound drivers ● Drivers not following the rules of the road
Cherry Way and Orchards Link SW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parking on both sides of the road decreases visibility ● Speeding through intersection

Orchards Drive SW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speeding ● Shortcutting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Through the neighbourhood in general and also through alleys within the neighbourhood to bypass construction
25 Avenue SW (Between Orchards Gate and Orchards Way)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor driver attention ● Speeding
25 Avenue SW (Crosswalk between Orchards Gate and Orchards Link)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor crosswalk visibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Respondents request flashing lights
25 Avenue and Orchards Link SW (Intersection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Difficulty turning onto Orchards Link SW from 25 Avenue due to poor visibility from parked vehicles and speeding ● Rush hour congestion
Orchards Link and Cherry Way SW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parking on both sides of the road, causing poor visibility for turning vehicles ● More local drivers than available parking
Orchards Green SW (Crosswalk between Hawthorn Common and Pear Drive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Drivers not yielding to pedestrians ● Speeding
Orchards Road and Orchards Boulevard (Intersection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor visibility due to parking
Orchards Boulevard (between Plum Gate and Chokeberry PI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parking too close to curbs ● Congestion ● Speeding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Specifically in playground zones
25 Ave and Orchards Way (Intersection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intersection has no lights or crosswalk ● Very busy during rush hour ● High volume of drivers turning left onto Orchards Way
Orchards Boulevard (Crosswalk between Hawthorn PI and Orchards Drive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parking on both sides impacting visibility ● Speeding
25 Avenue and 66 Street (Intersection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No traffic lights or crosswalks, only two stop signs. Respondents felt traffic controls were insufficient for the traffic volume ● Unclear right of way ● Drivers failing to come to a complete stop at stop signs

Walk and Roll Audit Feedback

The project team conducted a Walk and Roll Audit with 11 community members in The Orchards at Ellerslie on July 13, 2023. Attendees were asked to identify areas of particular concern regarding traffic safety and help the project team understand the local context of the neighbourhood. Below are the main areas identified as well as the cause(s) of concern.

<i>Location</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Orchards Drive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor crosswalk safety ● Speeding: 60-80 km/hr all along road ● Drivers not yielding to pedestrians ● Highest amount of traffic ● Pedestrian crosswalk helps to improve safety but many drivers are not looking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kids have to wait because drivers are not yielding to them at unmarked crosswalks
Orchards Drive and Orchards Blvd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speeding and poor crosswalk safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drivers are travelling at speeds of 70 km/h and faster ○ Constant, year-round issue
Orchards Drive and Cherry Cove SW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cars parked too close to the entrance of the condominium complex, causing sightline and visibility concerns ● Difficult to turn onto Cherry Cove ● Pedestrian safety concerns at the bus stop due to parked cars, impacting visibility of pedestrians
Orchards Blvd and Path (middle of community)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Drivers have reduced visibility of pedestrians crossing due to tree overgrowth ● Poor crosswalk safety ● Speeding
Orchards Drive (E/W bound)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Passing in the cul-de-sac
Orchards Drive and Shared Path (88 St Trail)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Drivers have reduced visibility of pedestrians crossing due to tree overgrowth ● Poor crosswalk safety
Orchards Drive between Orchards Gate and Crabapple Landing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speeding and crosswalk safety issues ● Distracted driving ● Drivers passing at Orchards Gate and Crabapple Landing ● Drivers passing on Orchards Drive near Crabapple Landing where the road widens

Orchards Drive between Orchards Gate and the Shared Path (88 St Trail)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor crosswalk safety ● Speeding ● Distracted driving
Orchards Gate and Orchards Drive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speeding ● Crosswalk safety at the bus stop ● Distracted driving e.g. drivers signalling incorrectly when turning
25 Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Passing illegally west of Orchards Gate SW when the lane reduces from two lanes to one ● Speeding up to 80-90 km/h ● Drivers not stopping for pedestrians ● Shortcutting through the neighbourhood ● Racing/stunting ● Poor crosswalk safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Only one out of the three crosswalks is lit ○ Three crosswalks is not enough ● Distracted driving
Utility Corridor / Shared Use Path (88 St Trail) and 25 Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Busy crossing area ● Speeding and poor crosswalk safety ● Drivers not yielding to pedestrians ● Concerns about 60 km/h speed limit along 25 Avenue ● Flashing pedestrian lights help but not all the time
66 Street and 25 Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2-way stop at 25 Avenue - road is not completed yet ● Turning north onto 66 Street from 25 Avenue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ People have seen risky driver behaviours ○ Confusion and uncertainty as to whose right of way it is ○ Visibility issues due to construction trucks ○ Drivers sometimes fail to slow down as they approach the stop sign ○ Drivers do not always come to a full stop at the stop sign ● High traffic volume feeding onto 25 Avenue from 3 directions, which contributes to the confusion ● Concerns that this intersection will see a large increase in traffic volume when Orchards Boulevard connects to 66 Street ● A 4-way stop may improve traffic flow and address some of the confusion drivers are facing
Orchards Way SW and 25 Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor crosswalk safety. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The bus also turns at this intersection, and there are concerns for pedestrian safety when awaiting the bus

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drivers not yielding to pedestrians, especially at the unmarked crosswalk ○ Flashing pedestrian lights help, but not all the time
Orchards Gate and 25 Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor crosswalk safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drivers not yielding to pedestrians ○ Flashing pedestrian lights help, but not all the time ● Poor driver attention or distracted driving
Orchards Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speeding ● Poor crosswalk safety ● Drivers not coming to a full stop ● Honking and road rage, especially during rush hour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drivers get impatient and pass one another ● Heavy equipment - gravel and cement trucks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Could be using arterials instead of Orchards Link ○ These large trucks barely leave room to drive down the street
Orchards Link and Cherry Way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cars are parked too close to the intersection, reducing line of sight
Orchards Link and 25 Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speeding ● Poor driver attention or distracted driving ● Poor crosswalk safety ● Drivers are not yielding to pedestrians/coming to a full stop particularly in the morning peak times <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is worse on school days and during the school year ● Concerns about collisions - reported one to EPS and they came quickly ● High volume of students and parents walking to and from school during peak times ● Flashing signals help but they are not enough ● Drivers are illegally parking their cars next to other correctly parked cars on the street (double parking) ● Dangerous to exit with parked cars on street ● Drivers lose patience and pass other drivers trying to parallel park without yielding to them
Orchards Gate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Illegal parking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ People park on Orchards Gate instead of taking the long way into the community through the lights and it interferes greatly with traffic ○ All times of day, days of the week and year round ● Drivers not slowing down at crosswalks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rumble strips requested ● Speeding and distracted ● Shortcutting through neighbourhood
Orchards Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speeding

Near resident's home on southeast corner of Orchards Drive and Crabapple Landing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor driver attention ● People driving too close to parked cars <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One resident has personally experienced drivers taking out their driver's side mirror. Their neighbour did as well
Savaryn Drive and 91 Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Residents have seen drivers go through the new light illegally
95 Street and 28 Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Residents have seen drivers go through the new light illegally
Divine Mercy School (Orchards Rd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor crosswalk safety ● Drivers not yielding to pedestrians ● Distracted driving ● Speeding ● Lots of parked cars, causing visibility issues ● People are rushed and not paying attention ● Traffic safety concerns happen on school days at pick up drop off times and are less prevalent when school is out for the summer
Jan Reimer School (Orchards Blvd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distracted driving ● Speeding ● Poor crosswalk safety ● Drivers not yielding to pedestrians ● Pedestrians sometimes forget to use the crosswalk flashing light ● Buses and parents backed up along the road ● Parking issues start at Chokecherry Common ● There's not enough enforcement presence
Crabapple Landing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Most drivers seem to have good driving behaviour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drive slowly and yield to pedestrians ● Some speeding
1A Ave SW and Plum Gate SW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cars parked too close to the intersection create poor visibility of children and other pedestrians crossing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Worse in the afternoon and evening when there is lots of cars parked at the duplexes and playground
91 Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speeding ● Drivers trying to beat the lights and speeding through the traffic lights
General comments/Other concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No 40 km/h signs in neighbourhood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drivers not complying with speed limits ● No Driver Feedback Signs (DFS) in community ● Not enough signage in community ● Distracted drivers on all routes, all days and times ● High number of kids in the neighbourhood

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● E-scooters and bikes on sidewalks● Drivers and pedestrians distracted on their phones● Drivers do not respect the rules of the road● Teens and young adults in the neighbourhood have poor driver awareness● Intersections<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Illegal parking too close to driveways resulting in blocking access○ Drivers park too far from curb● Bumper to bumper parking and cars parked too close to intersections reduce pedestrian visibility when crossing● Poor police presence/lack of enforcement<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Support for additional enforcement (Edmonton Police Service/Automated Enforcement)● Construction vehicles<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 8:00 - 9:00 pm gravel trucks leaving the area and speeding especially on Fridays● Heavy equipment trucks have difficulty navigating/turning
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Next Steps

The City's Safe Mobility team will use residents' feedback in conjunction with engineering expertise and technical data to develop a Street Lab plan consisting of measures to help address the street safety concerns in The Orchards at Ellerslie.

Subscribe to project updates at edmonton.ca/StreetLabs.

CONTACT: Please email saferoads@edmonton.ca and City staff will follow up with you within three business days.