



What We Heard Summary

Climate Action Plan Update (2027–2030) Phase 1 Engagement

The City of Edmonton is developing a **Climate Action Plan Update (2027–2030)** to ensure the effectiveness of the City's existing climate strategies and adapt them to changing local priorities. This initiative supports [Edmonton's Community Energy Transition Strategy and Action Plan](#) and [Climate Resilient Edmonton: Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan](#), two existing strategies aimed at reducing emissions and enhancing resilience.

The actions in the Climate Action Plan Update (2027–2030) will build on the momentum the City has achieved so far in responding to a changing climate.

ADVISE

This document is a high-level overview of Phase 1 engagement. The full **Phase 1 What We Heard Report** is available at edmonton.ca/ClimateStrategy.

Engagement Approach

To support the development of the Climate Action Plan Update (2027–2030), the project team held its first of two phases of engagement between **June and October 2025**.

Engagement occurred at the **ADVISE** level of the [Public Engagement Spectrum](#), meaning participants were asked to share their feedback and perspectives on what the project team needs to consider when updating the City's climate actions.

Who was engaged? Phase 1 engagement targeted external groups with expertise in climate action, including representatives from Indigenous nations and organizations, development industry, utilities, educational institutions, non-profits and advocacy groups. The project team also reviewed existing City of Edmonton engagement and research relevant to the project to learn what insights are already available from the public. There were 68 participants in meetings, 19 in workshops, 2 through written feedback, and 219 through Indigenous engagement.

What was the focus? This phase focused on validating the project approach, better understanding people's experiences of climate change, and identifying potential partnership opportunities through workshops, meetings and written feedback.

Learn more about this project at edmonton.ca/ClimateStrategy

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What We Heard in Phase 1

Overall, targeted partners agree with the proposed project approach and recognize the need for strong partnerships between the City and external groups to advance climate action. Concerns about flooding, drought, extreme heat and air quality were recurring themes, alongside calls for stronger management of natural assets. Feedback highlighted the need to ensure climate actions are equitable and accessible, and that the success of climate resilience initiatives depends on sustained political support, adequate funding and clear policy direction.

Detailed feedback was categorized into three areas: **project approach, lived experience**, and **partnership opportunities and barriers**. The following key themes emerged:

- **Governance, Policy and Resources:** Participants emphasized that the success of climate resilience initiatives depends on sustained political support, adequate funding and clear policy direction. Concerns were raised about affordability for residents and businesses as well as the City's ability to prioritize climate actions within its budget. Grants, incentives and supportive legislation were seen as critical for individual and community-level action.
- **Engagement, Awareness and Partnerships:** Participants highlighted the need for transparent communication, accessible education, and inclusive engagement to build trust and shared ownership of climate initiatives. Strong partnerships were seen as essential, whether with other municipalities, higher levels of government, industry, advocacy organizations or educational institutions. Collaboration across sectors was viewed as a key driver of innovation and collective progress.
- **Project Design, Delivery and Innovation:** Feedback reflected both appreciation for current projects and suggestions for improvement. Participants noted where approaches were working well, where gaps existed, and where additional considerations could strengthen delivery. Innovation and technology were identified as opportunities to accelerate climate action, while attention to building standards, infrastructure maintenance and the balance between residential and commercial priorities were seen as foundational to long-term resilience.
- **Social Well-Being and Equity:** Climate resilience was strongly connected to quality of life. Participants indicated that climate actions must be equitable and accessible, particularly for vulnerable populations. Affordable housing, mental health and access to recreation and outdoor programming were raised as important dimensions of resilience. Mobility and connectivity were also highlighted, with calls for safe, accessible and convenient transportation options that reduce barriers and support community well-being.



- **Natural Environment and Resilience:** The natural environment was recognized as both vulnerable to climate impacts and vital to resilience. Concerns about flooding, drought, extreme heat and air quality were recurring themes alongside calls for stronger management of natural assets. Participants stressed the importance of protecting and restoring ecosystems, with a focus on urban trees, native species and ecological restoration. Waste reduction, greenhouse gas emissions reduction and the transition to cleaner energy were seen as critical to mitigating climate risks and building a healthier, more sustainable future.

What we heard and did with this feedback is detailed in the full **Phase 1 What We Heard Report** available at edmonton.ca/ClimateStrategy.

Next Steps

The findings from phase 1 engagement were used to inform the drafted 2027–2030 action concepts. Phase 2 engagement, which will include the public, will seek feedback on the drafted action concepts and is occurring from December 2025 to January 2026. The Climate Action Plan Update (2027–2030) is anticipated to go to Executive Committee and City Council for approval in mid 2026.

For any questions, please contact climatestrategyandplanning@edmonton.ca. For additional information, visit edmonton.ca/ClimateStrategy.

Published December 5, 2025