

What We Heard Report

162 Avenue Urbanization Project

October 2018

BUILDING GREAT
NEIGHBOURHOODS

Edmonton

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Building Great Neighbourhoods

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, streetlights, and park spaces, and 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.

Public engagement was held to have the public advise on several topics.

INTRODUCTION

The City of Edmonton is in the Concept phase of planning upgrades to 162 Avenue (between 139 Street and 142 Street). This upgrade will change 162 Avenue from a rural to an urban road. Along with the roadway improvement, the City is working with Canadian National Railway on a Whistle Cessation Project to improve safety at this crossing.

The project will include:

- Road reconstruction and widening
- Installation of curbs and gutters
- New sidewalk and boulevard on the south side of the roadway
- Upgraded light poles to metal and LED lights
- Intersection improvements
- Reconstruct property accesses along 162 Avenue
- Tree removals
- Landscaping
- Underground utility work
- Railway crossing arms

OBJECTIVES

These public engagement activities were held to have the public **ADVISE** on the following:

- Provide an awareness of the upcoming project
- Learn how residents currently use 162 Avenue and how they would like to use it in the future
- Ask advice on traffic, bike and walking patterns on 162 Avenue
- Listen to ideas around landscaping and opportunities to improve the space
- Gather information and listen to ideas for maintaining access requirements to properties during construction

A listing of various Public Engagement and Communications methods used to inform residents and gather their advice for the project.

Following is a listing of public engagement and communications methods used:

Type of Engagement	Date & Location	Responses / # of attendees
Letters mailed to residents to be directly affected by construction	September 19 and October 1, 2018	Not Applicable
Public Engagement Drop-in Event for Key Stakeholders	October 3, 2018	17 attendees
Public Engagement Drop-In Event for local residents and commuters who use 162 Avenue	October 11, 2018	20 attendees

COMMUNICATION METHODS USED

- Letters mailed to residents to be directly affected by construction (September 19 and October 1, 2018)
- Road sign on 162 Avenue from October 1 - 11, 2018
- A-frame sign on 139 Street by Elizabeth Finch School
- Information sent out electronically through Elizabeth Finch School to school parents
- Posters at Elizabeth Finch School

A project update provided to the **Castle Downs Recreation Society** at their October 3, 2018 Annual General Meeting.

ABOUT THE REPORT

The information in this report includes a summary of responses received at both the October 3 and 11, 2018 Public Engagement Drop-in events held at Elizabeth Finch School. This report will be emailed to attendees that provided their contact information from the October 3 event and will be posted on the project web site.



State of 162th Avenue NW during public engagement

Involving the community helps the City understand how residents currently use the space and identify what works, what doesn't work, and where there are opportunities to improve the space. Citizens were also asked to advise on any unknown future needs for the community.

MEETING FORMAT

Both Public Engagement Drop-in Events included opportunities for attendees to view display boards with project information, ask questions, and advise City Staff on the activities in and around 162 Avenue. Participants were invited to share their perspectives by indicating on maps where problem areas exist, and to give feedback on recommendations before the Design Phase is completed.

WHAT WE HEARD: TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Sidewalks & Road - Several residents commented on how well used the road was for walking, walking with a pet, and biking. They consider the road dangerous for these activities, so were happy to know a sidewalk was being considered. A wider road will also make driving easier as it is very narrow with ditches on both sides.

Intersection at 139 Street and 162 Avenue - Residents pointed out safety concerns at this corner. The intersection is slanted, ices up in the winter and the depth of the ditch is significant. With no barriers currently in place, vehicles are in the ditch on a regular basis. This intersection also lacks lighting.

Drainage - The catch basin on 139 Street north of the intersection is high and causes flooding in the adjoining properties.

Lighting - It is very dark at the 139 Street and 162 Avenue corner. 141 Street is also dark and should get some attention. Residents would like to see streetlights upgraded to City standard.

Trees/Landscaping - Residents were interested in what trees might be removed particularly on the northside. They want to see selective removals in this area. On the Avenue's southside, the recommendation shown indicates full tree removal. Residents want to see some landscaping put in to give some coverage and a sound buffer for the homes backing onto the area.

Train Whistle - Has been reviewed for the last couple of years. Happy to hear the Whistle Cessation program is coming.

Access to property - Consideration of access to business and properties along 141 Street needs to be kept in mind during construction and access for waste pick up, water hauling (every 2 - 3 weeks) for cisterns and Canada Post delivery.

Construction - When 139 Street was constructed the contractor left a lot of garbage around, equipment left idling for long periods, no warning of a blocked driveway, etc. Consider keeping road open once road work is done by having CN do signal installation work at non peak hours in order to keep road operational during morning and evening rush hours.



An example of utilities excavation that may be required for this project.

OTHER PROBLEMS HEARD

Phone line problems - Telus line under the road was damaged 4 -5 years ago so residents have no land-line services to their property

NEXT STEPS

Information received will assist the City to develop the final design for 162 Avenue and constraints for construction staging. A completed design will be sent out by mail to adjacent property owners and will be available to view at edmonton.ca/162AvenueUrbanization in Spring 2019. Residents can also sign up for project updates on this webpage.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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