EDMONTON'S STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2028

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*Updated Spring 2022*
This is your plan for your city.
This is your invitation.

CONNECTEDMONTON comes from the thoughts, ambitions and dreams of individuals, businesses and organizations in Edmonton that, together, described and defined the city they want to see and experience through a journey called Vision 2050. And although it looks to the future, CONNECTEDMONTON reflects our past as a place where people have gathered to live, celebrate, trade and build community for generations.

It guides Edmonton’s continued transformation into a place that is healthy for all and resilient to a changing climate, that offers vibrant and welcoming spaces and opportunities for everyone to fulfill their dreams and fullest potential.

CONNECTEDMONTON makes space for everyone. No matter your background, no matter how long you have lived here, CONNECTEDMONTON invites you to bring your ideas, energy and desires as we work to make Edmonton even better.

Together with the rest of City Council, I am thankful to the thousands of Edmontonians who helped to create this vision for our city.

While CONNECTEDMONTON was completed before I was elected as Mayor, it reflects my understanding of and experience in Edmonton: we are a city that is better when we connect together. To solve problems, go after opportunities and fulfill our collective aspirations. I am excited about what we will create together as we build an Edmonton for all of us.

A. Sohi
Mayor Amarjeet Sohi
City of Edmonton
ABOUT

CONNECTEDMONTON is Edmonton’s Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2028. It sets the direction for our future and outlines where we need to change today to realize our vision for Edmonton in 2050.

CONNECTEDMONTON IS ABOUT TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE THAT PROVIDES:

- A vision of what Edmonton can become by 2050
- One unifying principle to guide decision-making over the next ten years
- Four goals that require our action and change to achieve our vision
- An invitation for all Edmontonians to work together to make our vision come alive
- Indicators that monitor the collective impact of our efforts to achieve the strategic goals

BUILDING AND IMPLEMENTING CONNECTEDMONTON

CONNECTEDMONTON is inspired by a simple idea: to achieve what we set out to do, Edmontonians are better together than we are alone. The unifying principle of the plan, Connected, captures this idea.

Collectively, thousands of Edmontonians provided input and shared what’s important to them as they imagined the Edmonton of their future and the people who come after them.

The vision, goals, and principle of this plan are based directly on the feedback gathered by talking to Edmontonians in person and online, through workshops, small group discussions, public engagement sessions, social media and surveys.

The invitation to implement the plan together, and the indicators that will allow us to focus on change and progress, were formed through feedback acknowledging that many partners and groups in the public and private sectors, non-profit organizations and Edmontonians alike have a role to play in building Edmonton’s future.

The four strategic goals of CONNECTEDMONTON are the focus areas that require transformational change in the next ten years: Healthy City, Urban Places, Regional Prosperity and Climate Resilience. They show us where collaboration, strategic actions and partnerships will set transformational changes in motion and make a collective impact on our future. These actions, partnerships and roles we all have in co-building our future are the starting point for implementation of the plan.
Our vision is our **aspiration** for Edmonton in the year 2050.

It’s 2050 and Edmonton’s creativity and community spirit are lights to the world. The city’s heart is our people. They make everything possible.

We work together to create liveability for all, where everyone has what they need to succeed. We are inspired by and grateful for our collective ancestors who continue to guide our way. They inspire us to learn, steward this shared place and build the meaning of our lives.

We plant ideas. We grow business. We get stuff done here. Edmontonians see their efforts and ideals reflected back to them in a city that was built to connect. This commitment turns new ideas into solutions for our communities, which we take to the world.

Edmonton has come to mean a community where it makes sense to plan our future together. We spark an energy seen worldwide: a light in the northern sky.
The guiding principle unifies our work. It ensures that we make strategically consistent choices as we work to achieve our goals.

CONNECTED

We create as a community to connect people to what matters to them.

We care about the impact of our actions on our social, economic, cultural, spiritual and environmental systems.

We serve those here today and those who come after us.
The four strategic goals are the focus areas that require transformational change in the next ten years to achieve our vision. The goals will be achieved through strategic actions, partnerships and collaboration.
**Goal:** Edmonton is a *neighbourly* city with *community* and *personal wellness* that embodies and promotes *equity* for all Edmontonians.

**ABOUT HEALTHY CITY**

Our healthy city encompasses both Edmontonians’ well-being and the wellness of our communities. It requires that all people have the means to access and maintain a good standard of living. When they feel safe, empowered and supported as individuals, they are better able to connect with and enrich the community. It is about harmony, happiness and health as a whole.

**WHY A HEALTHY CITY IS IMPORTANT FOR EDMONTON’S FUTURE**

Working together to advance the equity and conditions for all Edmontonians to live their best lives is imperative to achieving liveability for all. The health and wellness of Edmontonians is core to our quality of life. It is why we want to build urban places, have regional prosperity and become climate resilient.

**INDICATOR CATEGORIES FOR MONITORING CHANGE AND IMPACT TO HEALTHY CITY**

- Community Wellness
- Neighbourly
- Equity
- Personal Wellness
Goal: Edmonton neighbourhoods are more vibrant as density increases, where people and businesses thrive and where housing and mobility options are plentiful.

ABOUT URBAN PLACES

Urban places are well designed and developed areas for Edmontonians. They are characterized by higher population density, feature attractive destinations and amenities, supported by housing variety and nearby businesses in which to shop and work. They have interesting and diverse activities and events, distinctive and lively culture and transportation options that create a vibrant urban experience in a city that is built to connect people and places.

WHY URBAN PLACES ARE IMPORTANT FOR EDMONTON’S FUTURE

Developing integrated and attractive urban places throughout the city creates and enhances the experiences that make people choose to live, shop, work and play in Edmonton. Urban places are where people come together. Planned and built well, they will ensure that Edmonton’s future growth is sustainable and attractive.

INDICATOR CATEGORIES FOR MONITORING CHANGE AND IMPACT TO URBAN PLACES

- Growth Patterns
- Housing Options
- Neighbourhood Vibrancy
- Transportation System
- Urban Business
Goal: Edmonton grows prosperity for our Metro Region by driving innovation, competitiveness and relevance for our businesses at the local and global level.

ABOUT REGIONAL PROSPERITY

The Edmonton Metro Region is officially bounded by the four counties that surround Edmonton and the 13 municipalities within these counties. We’re a region where great homegrown ideas, talent and businesses gain the attention of markets and investors around the world. This collective effort can build regional assets and advance the region’s well-being and connection to the world.

WHY REGIONAL PROSPERITY IS IMPORTANT FOR EDMONTON’S FUTURE

Edmonton is an active participant in regional innovation to build national and international opportunities that promote economic diversity, competitiveness, and increase our capacity for growth. With focused collaboration, regional businesses and entrepreneurs will thrive and Edmontonians will enjoy the prosperity achieved as the region becomes a dominant hub.

INDICATOR CATEGORIES FOR MONITORING CHANGE AND IMPACT TO REGIONAL PROSPERITY

- Business Innovation
- Prosperity
- Competitiveness
- Relevance
**Goal:** Edmonton is a city transitioning to a low-carbon future, has clean air and water and is adapting to a changing climate.

**ABOUT CLIMATE RESILIENCE**

Climate resilience is about Edmonton’s capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change and protect people, businesses and infrastructure from those impacts. On our path to becoming a resilient city, we will work together to address climate challenges and risks, and pursue the opportunities that arise from a changing climate.

**WHY CLIMATE RESILIENCE IS IMPORTANT FOR EDMONTON’S FUTURE**

Action is required by all Edmontonians, businesses and industries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and preserve and protect a clean environment. Generating and expanding renewable energy and reducing and mitigating climate change is imperative to improve Edmonton’s environment now, and for future generations.

**INDICATOR CATEGORIES FOR MONITORING CHANGE AND IMPACT TO CLIMATE RESILIENCE**

- Air & Water Quality
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Climate Mitigation
- Energy Generation & Use
Edmonton’s heart is our people. We are a community planning a future together. CONNECTEDMONTON harnesses this uniquely Edmonton quality and calls together Edmontonians, the community, partners and the City. When we bring together these groups and their passion and talents, we can collaboratively build a healthy, urban and climate resilient city that supports a prosperous region.

CONNECTEDMONTON provides the strategic direction, purpose and focus for Edmontonians, public and private sectors and non-profit organizations. It outlines the investment we must make to ensure greater benefit for all Edmontonians today—and tomorrow. This plan was built by Edmontonians and it will require ongoing relationships and partnerships to collaboratively build a connected city.

Working together means acknowledging we have different roles to play and unique strengths and resources to contribute to achieving the strategic goals. Sharing accountability for our strategic goals requires all of Edmonton to work together to tackle challenges and opportunities.

CONNECTEDMONTON invites all individuals, groups, teams, associations, organizations, companies and institutions throughout the city to take leadership and supporting roles at various times to make these big changes happen. Sharing collaborative, aligned and purposeful actions is the foundation of successful implementation of CONNECTEDMONTON.
The indicators tell us how we are doing. They are how our collective impact is monitored, and show how our efforts are getting us to our strategic goals.

Indicators reflect observable changes from the collaboration of many, rather than the results of any single organization. Indicators are a nimble and adjustable system of monitoring trends to signal change and progress.

Each strategic goal has priority areas to monitor collective impact. The indicators represent a way of holistically understanding the current state of each of the goals by understanding the status of the priority areas.

Edmonton is a smart city where we use data and technology to connect people, enable partnerships and ultimately increase the quality of life for our residents. Our city, community and environment are constantly transforming and we need to be adaptable and adjust to the changes and trends. As different information becomes available, we will continually monitor our collective impact.

Annual reporting led by City of Edmonton Administration will use the most current and relevant indicators to demonstrate the success and opportunities of CONNECTEDMONTON.
INDICATOR SUMMARY

COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Discrimination and Racism
Percentage of Edmontonians who indicate they witnessed or personally experienced any discrimination and racism in Edmonton
City of Edmonton – Community Perception Survey

Personal Safety
Percentage of Edmontonians who feel they live in a safe city
City of Edmonton – Community Perception Survey

EQUITY

Affordable Housing Demand
Percentage of Edmonton households spending 30 percent or more pre-tax household income on housing
Statistics Canada

Crime
Crime severity rate in Edmonton
Statistics Canada

Income Inequality
Income growth difference between Edmonton’s top and bottom 10 per cent of the population.
Statistics Canada through Edmonton Social Planning Council

Poverty
Percentage of Edmontonians in low income status in Edmonton
Statistics Canada

NEIGHBOURLY

Sense of Community
Sense of community score averaged for Edmonton’s neighbourhoods
City of Edmonton – Sense of Community in Neighbourhoods Survey

Volunteerism
Percentage of Edmontonians who indicate they volunteered formally and/or informally
City of Edmonton – Community Perception Survey

PERSONAL WELLNESS

Arts and Culture
Percentage of Edmontonians who indicate they attended arts or cultural activities
City of Edmonton – Community Perception Survey

GROWTH PATTERNS

Housing Growth Pattern
Number of new residential units in selected areas of the city as a percentage of new residential units city-wide
City of Edmonton

Population Growth Pattern
Edmonton’s population growth in selected areas of the city as a percentage of growth city-wide
City of Edmonton

HOUSING OPTIONS

Housing Diversity
Edmonton’s residential housing diversity index
City of Edmonton

NEIGHBOURHOOD VIBRANCY

Access to Amenities
Percentage of Edmontonians with access to infrastructure and amenities that improve their quality of life.
City of Edmonton – Community Perception Survey

TRANS榔UTION SYSTEM

Transportation Mode
Breakdown of Edmontonians’ modes of transportation for daily needs
City of Edmonton – Community Perception Survey

URBAN BUSINESS

Employment Growth Pattern
Edmonton’s employment growth in selected areas of the city as a percentage of growth city-wide
Business Info Canada

Small and Medium-Sized Businesses
Percentage growth in the number of small and medium-sized businesses in Edmonton
Statistics Canada

HEALTHY CITY

Urban places

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EDMONTON'S STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2028
BUSINESS INNOVATION

Patents
Total number of patents assigned in Edmonton region
Edmonton Global and Conference Board of Canada

Startups
Estimated number of startups in Edmonton region
Startup Genome

COMPETITIVENESS

Education Levels
Percentage of Edmonton region’s labour force who have attained a certificate or degree as highest level of education
Statistics Canada

Productivity
Value created from resources: Edmonton region’s Gross Domestic Product per worker
Edmonton Global and Conference Board of Canada

PROSPERITY

Disposable Income
Disposable income per household in the Edmonton region
Statistics Canada

Employment Growth
Percentage growth of total employment in the Edmonton region
Statistics Canada

Gross Domestic Product
Gross Domestic Product per capita in the Edmonton region
Conference Board of Canada

RELEVANCE

Global Awareness
Edmonton’s position against other cities in a number of selected national and international rankings as a place to live, visit and invest in
City of Edmonton and Edmonton Economic Development Corporation

National Awareness
Percentage of respondents across Canada that identify Edmonton as a place to live, visit and invest in
City of Edmonton

AIR AND WATER QUALITY

Air Quality
Edmonton region’s air quality level
Government of Alberta

Water Quality
Water quality in Edmonton region’s major rivers, including the North Saskatchewan River
Government of Alberta

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Climate Change Adaptation
Percentage of Edmonton neighbourhoods that are resilient to climate change impacts from flooding, temperature, extreme weather and changes to sensitive ecosystems
City of Edmonton

CLIMATE MITIGATION

Community Greenhouse Gases
Tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions from Edmonton community sources
Stantec Consulting LTD.

ENERGY GENERATION AND USE

Energy Use
Amount of energy used in Edmonton per capita, including energy for transportation, stationary heat, industrial processes, and electricity
Epcor, ATCO, the federal government’s National Inventory Report, the international airport, and the provincial government.

Renewable Electricity Generation
Percentage of electricity consumed by Edmontonians that is generated from renewable sources in Edmonton
EPCOR

PRINCIPLE: CONNECTED

Connected to Community
Percentage of Edmontonians who indicate they feel connected to their communities
City of Edmonton – Community Perception Survey
CITY MANAGER’S MESSAGE

CONNECTEDMONTON is our pathway to the future Edmonton. Through active collaboration between Edmontonians, community partners and the City of Edmonton, we will create a connected city for Edmontonians now and for generations to come. We encourage each and every individual, group, team, association, business and institution to join us in building our future — our connected city.

The four goals of CONNECTEDMONTON will be achieved by everyone working together. Within the City of Edmonton, we are further guided by a long term and a four year plan.

The City Plan outlines objectives and the actions we will take to ensure your vision of Edmonton becomes reality. Completed and approved by City Council in December 2020, The City Plan is based on guiding values that reflect both the inspirations and aspirations of the community — residents, students, businesses, stakeholders and partners. They want to Belong, Thrive, Live, Access, Preserve and Create, and we are guided by these values as we move forward in all aspects of envisioning, planning and developing our city, our communities and our home.

Linking The City Plan objectives with the everyday delivery of programs and services is the Corporate Business Plan. This is our blueprint for ensuring that the work of the City is efficient, effective and providing good value to the people we serve. The Corporate Business Plan provides an additional level of guidance toward reaching our vision of the future, and we continue to update the plan annually to address both emerging issues and opportunities for our city’s continuous improvement.

We look forward to the exciting challenge of bringing the goals of CONNECTEDMONTON, the vision of the City Plan and the objectives of the Corporate Business Plan to life.

City Manager Andre Corbould
City of Edmonton
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