

# THE EMERALD CRESCENT: AN OPEN SPACE VISION FOR EDMONTON'S SOUTHEAST

Spanning 75 city blocks (over 10 km - the distance between City Hall and Southgate Mall), this is a system of parks, natural areas, and school sites, linked by trails, greenways, bioswales, constructed wetlands and wildlife passages to form a connected network of open space.

This concept is the result of a collaboration between the City of Edmonton, Edmonton Public School Board, Edmonton Catholic School Board, and land developers.

This is a place where people can recreate year-round, indoors and out; where residents and visitors can learn about and steward Edmonton's biodiversity; where wildlife can move unhindered between core habitat areas. It is a place where development is tailored to the landscape, recognizing and celebrating the unique topography and landforms of this area.

It serves 8 neighbourhoods and an estimated population of 110,000 people. It is also a destination for all Edmontonians, connected by public transit, by bicycle, by foot, by snowshoe and kayak. It is a place where community can thrive, through unique opportunities for gathering, placemaking and cultural celebration.

## RECREATION

Health, enjoyment and well-being through diverse activities



- Physical and mental well-being
- Access and movement
- Play and sport

## CONSERVATION

Healthy, diverse, connected and sustainable natural areas



- Wildlife habitat
- Ecological processes
- Connectivity

## ECONOMY

Financial sustainability and opportunity



- Added value - views/amenity space for neighbourhoods and businesses
- Tourism
- Infrastructure savings

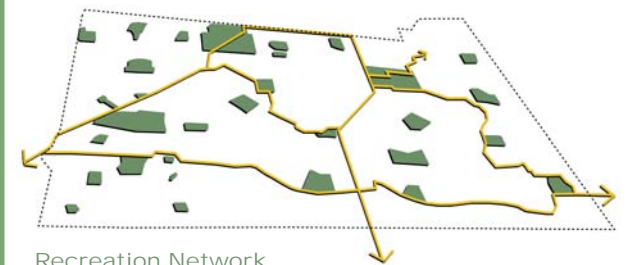
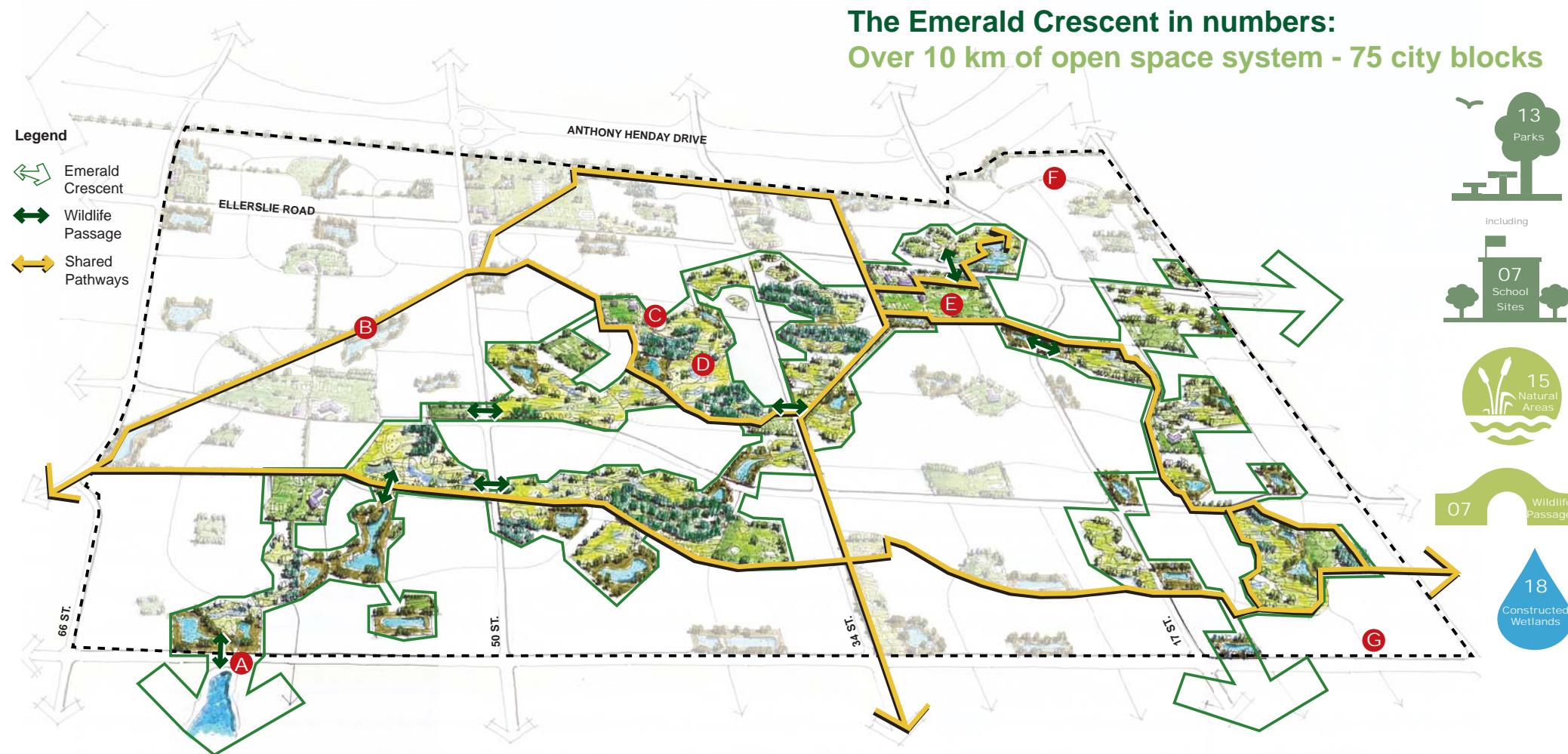
## COMMUNITY

A space for communities to thrive



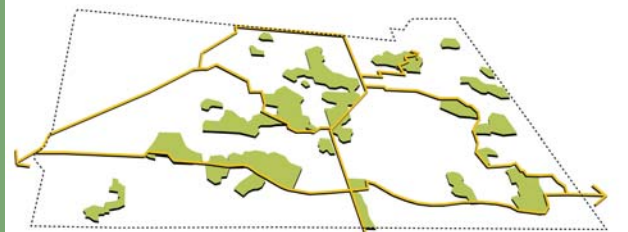
- Places to gather
- Education, research and stewardship opportunities
- Cultural heritage and diversity

## The Emerald Crescent in numbers: Over 10 km of open space system - 75 city blocks



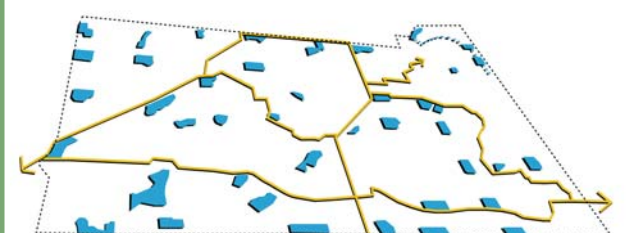
Recreation Network  
Parks and School Sites

+



Ecological Network  
Natural Areas: Wetlands and Tree Stands

+



Stormwater Management Network  
Constructed Wetlands and Bioswale

=



Comprehensive and Connected Open Space System

- A** Regional ecological connectivity
- Movement of wildlife
  - Extensive trail networks
  - Natural stormwater management

- B** A connected network of trails
- Active and passive recreation
  - Commuting through active transportation
  - Unhindered movement of wildlife

- C** School/community park site connected to a protected natural wetland
- Hands-on learning and stewardship
  - Year-round recreation opportunities
  - Connected, protected natural areas

- D** Protected 80 acre wetland/upland complex
- Connected, protected natural areas and wildlife movement
  - Extensive trail networks
  - Community education, research and stewardship

- E** District park with a lake and a multi-purpose recreation facility
- Indoor and outdoor recreation places for people to meet
  - A lively community hub
  - Increased value of the neighbourhood

- F** Naturalized constructed wetland and bioswale
- Re-establishment of wildlife habitat
  - Reduced infrastructure costs
  - Local stewardship opportunities

- G** Creative site development that protects local land forms
- Attractive, unique residential and commercial development
  - Integrated management of stormwater and protection of wildlife habitat