



Alley Lighting

Getting started

Alley Lighting is a property owner initiated Local Improvement. Applications must be received by July 1, and completed Expression of Interest forms submitted no later than October 15 for construction the next year.

To initiate the Expression of Interest process to have lighting installed in an alley, please contact the City's Local Improvement office at 780-944-7663. Signatures are required from 50% + 1 of the property owners adjacent to the alley, showing majority support to have the work completed and share the construction, maintenance and energy consumption costs.

The City then mails details to all the affected property owners in a Local Improvement Notice. Once the notice is issued, property owners have 30 days to petition against the Local Improvement. A majority of the affected property owners must sign the petition in order to defeat the Local Improvement.

How is alley lighting installed?

Alley lighting must be installed along the entire length of the alley, not just the portion behind an individual property. Where wood poles are present, alley lighting is generally installed on every second pole in the alley. EPCOR staff must inspect the wood poles to ensure that they can support the lights without conflicting with other utilities. If there are no existing poles in the alley, they must be added. The cost of pole installation is included in the construction costs that are shared by affected property owners.



Alley with existing poles



Alley without existing poles

For more information visit edmonton.ca/alleylighting or contact localimprovement@edmonton.ca

Phone: 780-944-7663



How are alley lighting costs assessed?

All construction, maintenance and energy consumption costs for alley lighting will be assessed to all property owners along the alley. This is why the agreement of the majority of property owners is required.

The costs of construction may be paid in a lump sum or over a period of five years. Payment for maintenance and energy consumption will be required every year, at the current market rate, as long as the lights remain in place. This charge will appear on your tax assessment as Alley Lighting Maintenance Fee. The Local Improvement cost will be added to the homeowner's property taxes the year after installation.

How much does it cost to install alley lighting?

Construction costs vary widely depending on whether there are existing wooden poles in the alley. In either case, the total cost to residents depends on lot width (frontage) along the alley. The per metre cost (explained on the right) is multiplied by the lot frontage and applies separately to properties on both sides of the alley.

Alleys with existing poles

Installation rates are set on a yearly basis in consideration of the number of construction locations, market prices, and interest rates. For 2019, costs for new alley lighting construction (added to every second pole) are \$18.94 per metre (lump sum) with maintenance/energy costs of \$1.48 per metre, per year. 2019 amortized (spread out) construction costs are \$4.16 per metre, per year, over five years, with maintenance/energy costs of \$1.48 per metre, per year.

Alleys without existing poles

Construction costs to install the necessary infrastructure depend on what is existing in the area. When an application is submitted, a cost estimate specific to the alley under consideration is completed. The alley-specific total construction cost is divided by the total lot frontages on both sides of the alley to determine the per metre (lump sum) cost. This cost is shared during the Expression of Interest stage so that property owners are aware of the cost.

How is payment calculated?

Alleys with existing poles - 2019 Rates

Lump sum payment (example)

Width of residential property backing onto the alley (in metres)	15.00
Construction rate per metre (light on every second pole)	\$18.94
Total construction costs	\$284.10

Plus

Annual maintenance/energy costs 15.00 m x \$1.48/m	\$22.20
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Yearly cost (example)

Width of residential property backing onto the alley (in metres)	15.00
Amortized construction rate per metre	\$4.16
Annual construction costs (per year for five years)	\$62.40

Plus

Annual maintenance/energy costs 15.00 m x \$1.48/m	\$22.20
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The City does not fund or subsidize this local improvement. Property owners are responsible for 100% of applicable costs.