

# BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

Ottewell Neighbourhood Renewal Newsletter – June 2021

Edmonton

## Explore Options for Neighbourhood Renewal!

Share your thoughts with us on the project at [edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell)

Thank you to everyone who participated in our first survey in winter 2020. The survey results, along with many additional conversations with community members, businesses and area organizations, revealed so many great assets about living in Ottewell!

As our project moves into the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** phase, we will build on what we've learned so far to present options that will shape the renewal design for the streets and public open spaces. In our next survey, we want your feedback on the Vision and Principles for the project, as well as your opinion on neighbourhood mobility, parks, open spaces and community character.

Share your suggestions, ideas and priorities by filling out our **Design Options** survey.

### Ottewell Design Options Survey June 28 to July 14, 2021

Online: [edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell)

#### No access to online? No problem!

Paper copies of the survey can be delivered to your home or businesses please contact Chris McMorran at 587-983-3756 or [chris.mcmorran@edmonton.ca](mailto:chris.mcmorran@edmonton.ca).

### Ottewell Neighbourhood Renewal Project Timeline

#### FALL 2020

Starting the Conversation

#### WINTER 2020

Building a Project Vision,  
Exploring Opportunities

WE ARE  
HERE

#### SPRING/SUMMER 2021

Exploring Options and Tradeoffs

#### FALL 2021

Community Feedback  
on Draft Design

#### SPRING 2022

Community Feedback  
on Final Design

#### SPRING 2023

Preparing for Construction

#### SPRING 2023 – FALL 2027

Construction



# What We Asked

For the first phase of this project, three methods were used to reach out to residents of Ottewell: survey, phone interviews and video interviews. In each instance, the Project team asked participants questions about what they liked in their communities, what challenges they faced and what changes they would like to see. These questions were used not only to guide the Project team, but also to contribute to the creation of a Vision and Guiding Principles for Ottewell's Neighbourhood Renewal.



# How We Engaged



## Pre-Engagement Dialogue

- + Connected with 19 community members and leaders to gain insight into the community and we asked people how they wish to communicate with the Project team. Individuals included representatives of a local church, community league, seniors' residences, daycares and local businesses.
- + Preferred methods of communication include: newsletter or print material delivered to households, Facebook, advertising in Southeast Voice newspaper and road signs.

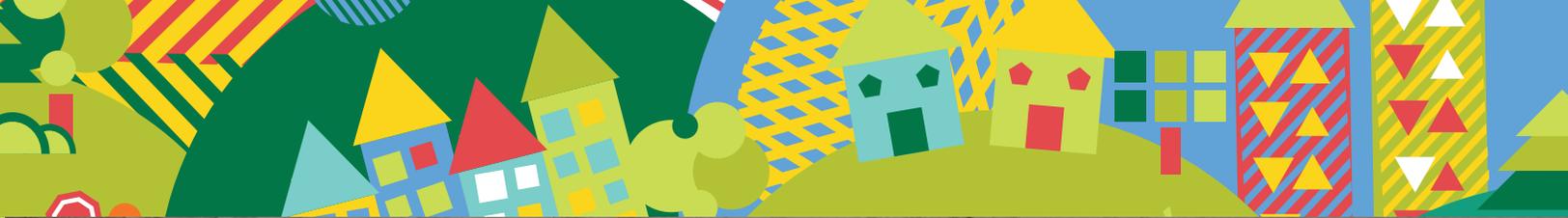
19 participants



## Create Vision and Guiding Principles

- + A survey was conducted online, via telephone/video and hard copy to understand the key factors that make Ottewell a great place to live, work and play.
- + Nearly 260 people participated.
- + Individuals identified what aspects of the community they like, dislike and what opportunities exist to improve the neighbourhood. Insights provided by respondents helped CREATE a vision and guiding principles for Ottewell's Neighbourhood Renewal.

260 participants



*Welcome to:*  
**OTTEWELL HALL**  
**5920-93A Ave.**

## What We Heard

### What you love about Ottewell

When asked what people like about Ottewell, the praise poured in. You said that, in Ottewell, "neighbours look out for each other," helping to cement the bonds that this is such a vibrant community.

#### Community Pride

Most people really love living in Ottewell. Their community pride and spirit were evident throughout all interactions.

#### Green Spaces and Community

Other reasons people love the Ottewell community include plenty of green spaces, great local amenities (such as Ottewell Plaza, playgrounds) and an active community league.

#### Access

People love Ottewell's proximity to main transportation corridors and to downtown.

Close to downtown  
accessible  
Family friendly  
Green Spaces  
Friendly neighbours  
good community  
Multi-generational  
Close to schools  
Happy with Amenities

# Vision

A small town in the heart of the city

# Principles

According to residents, the Ottewell community:

- + Enjoys safe sidewalks that encourage people of all ages to take advantage of good connections through a walkable neighbourhood
- + Celebrates the neighbourhood's splendid character, with mature trees and parks.
- + Delights in its green spaces, with activities and amenities for all ages and abilities
- + Values its family-friendly, multi-generational neighbourhood where all are welcomed
- + Appreciates safe streets where everyone respects speed limits and traffic laws
- + Invites and encourages all kinds of mobility options for people walking, cycling, driving and other forms of active transportation
- + Nurtures a strong sense of community, where people feel safe and look out for each other

“Everyone is super friendly ...  
I am a part of a couple of  
different neighbourhood  
groups ... everyone is very  
welcoming.”

Do the Vision and Principles reflect your aspirations for Ottewell?  
Did we miss anything?

Let us know at  
[edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell](http://edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell)





# Ottewell Opportunities

## + Sidewalks and Walkability

The most frequently mentioned topic was the state of the sidewalks and their disrepair. Many respondents commented on trip hazards, cracks, crumbling concrete and general lack of navigability; especially for those who use mobility devices or strollers.

## + Traffic Issues

The greatest number of concerns appear to have been identified at intersections along Ottewell Road (at 98 Avenue, 94B Avenue, 90 Avenue) and where 94B Avenue meets both 50 Street and 75 Street. Respondents were concerned about cars failing to come to a full stop, or speeding on the roads, particularly during morning and afternoon rush hours. This is a particular concern for the children walking or biking to school.

## + Speed Limits

With respect to speed limits, many respondents noted that there are too many/confusing speed limit signs, especially along 58 Street, between 92A and 94 Avenues. Ottewell is 40 km/hr on all roads, and as such, required additional speed limit signs. The main concern comes near school zones when the speed limit drops to 30km/hr. The result is that, within the space of a block, drivers noted they will encounter numerous 40 km/hr and 30 km/hr signs as they travel past school zones.

## + Traffic Back-ups and Need for Improved Signals

Many people weighed in on the desire for improved traffic management through better signals and left-turn opportunities. People identified numerous pinch points causing congestion and preventing left turns, or rerouting to avoid problem areas, which in turn, results in cutting through Ottewell, especially via 94B Avenue. Some specific references included:

- Traffic volume issues were identified at Ottewell Road at 98 Avenue, 94B Avenue and 90 Avenue, and 98 Avenue and 75 Street. 57 Street and 96B Avenue needs lights.
- People said it is difficult to make right or left turns out of 98 Avenue and 67A Street to get to the library, and any access points to 75 Street south of Ottewell Road



**“I would like to see a more walkable neighbourhood. More corner shops, so we can support local business...I would also like it if it was easier to walk or bike out of Ottewell into surrounding neighbourhoods.”**





# Ottewell Opportunities

- + **Bike Lanes**  
Protected bike lanes were mentioned as an important feature that's missing in Ottewell, including increased connectivity within the neighbourhood.
- + **Back Alleys**  
Several people mentioned the poor condition of the area's back alleys and noted the need for repairs and/or repaving. Back alley lighting was also mentioned as being inadequate. Alley Renewal is a separate program from Neighbourhood Renewal and input received will be shared for future alley renewal work.
- + **Green Spaces and Amenities**  
Residents had suggestions to make better use of the green spaces within Ottewell. Open fields for passive recreation could be replaced in some areas with more activities for all ages. In particular, respondents identified the need for more adult-oriented green spaces, including walking paths, benches and gathering spaces that are not solely solely focused on children (playgrounds).

“It would be nice to have the roads be for people, not just cars.”

## Find out more

Read the entire What We Heard Report at [edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell](http://edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell)



# Where we are in the decision-making process

The City has created a road map to help people understand the stages of public engagement where residents can provide feedback and actively participate in the process. At each step, the team will tell people what the purpose is and how their input will inform the decisions being made. The team commits to reporting back on how we used public input.

## Exploring Options and Tradeoffs

We are now in the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** phase of the Ottewell Neighbourhood Renewal project.

Public input has been considered alongside City policies, programs and technical considerations to develop a number of options for your neighbourhood.

The survey online right now is your opportunity provide feedback on these options and help us refine them, and will inform a new draft design for Ottewell in the coming months.





To complete the next survey, receive reminders about upcoming engagement opportunities and to sign up for the electronic newsletter, go to [edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell)



## Next Steps

### Feedback on Draft Design

Based on what we learn from the survey and our other research, we will create new draft design for Ottewell in the coming months. After this, you will have an opportunity to help us adapt and adjust this draft before we present the final design.

More information on the draft neighbourhood design and how you can be involved will be posted to the [edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell) website in the coming months.

**For more information:**  
**Web:** [edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingOttewell)  
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**Call:** 311

