BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS AND OPEN SPACES

BUILDING CALDER

Project overview

Through the Building Great Neighbourhoods and Open Spaces Branch, the Neighbourhood Renewal Program rehabilitates your residential roads, replaces street lights, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and adds missing sidewalk links in your neighbourhood where possible. Other opportunities to improve parks and public spaces are also explored. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2021.

In September 2019, we reached out to Calder's residents, businesses and visitors to help REFINE our understanding of the enhancements that could help to improve your neighbourhood.

During the Exploring Opportunities stage, we distributed an online survey, conducted meetings with community members and key stakeholders, and hosted a Walk and Workshop event to gather input to further explore issues and opportunities for the Calder neighbourhood.

Exploring options and tradeoffs

We have created design options for different areas in your neighbourhood based on the ideas you shared at past public engagement events.

At today's event, we will discuss with you the benefits and tradeoffs of these design options.

We will use the feedback from these conversations to identify what the community, as a whole deems important to maintain and what is flexible when making changes within the neighbourhood renewal design.

What is a tradeoff?

Sometimes when we turn an idea into a design, it means that another idea might not be possible or we might need to take something away to make space for the new idea. Tradeoff decisions sometimes have to be made due to limited space, limited budget, and competing needs.

We ask for you to share your level of support for an idea so we can better prioritize the needs and wants of the community. We will use your priorities to guide the decision-making process where we can.

Project schedule



What we heard

The following is a summary of what we heard through public engagement during the Exploring Opportunities stage of this project. These themes were developed using input gathered through the online survey, conversations with community members and key stakeholders, and from the walk and workshop event.



Historical character

The history of the neighbourhood is important to emphasize including highlighting historic spaces and landmarks. Participants also identified that recognition of the Indigenous history, and the significant contribution of the Canadian National Railway to Calder's past should be considered.



Community safety

Safety is an important consideration for many residents in Calder. Participants believed that insufficient lighting and maintenance of landscaping can create spaces for illicit and unsafe activity. Many believed that improvements in these areas would help them feel safer.



Open space upgrades and recreational opportunities

Residents felt that green spaces in Calder add to the unique character of the neighbourhood. Many believed that parks help residents to connect with their neighbours and additional amenities will make more people want to use these spaces. Participants indicated that providing new additions (i.e., skateboard parks, spray parks, community gardens, upgraded playground equipment) would improve Calder and provide more recreational opportunities.



Streets and connections

Upgrading ageing streets and sidewalks are important to community members in Calder. Many believed that providing new and enhanced bike infrastructure and sidewalk linkages will make the neighbourhood better connected, more accessible, and safer for people who walk, drive and bike.



Placemaking

Enhanced spaces (i.e., seating areas, and public gathering spaces) for residents to connect with each other was important to many. These spaces could include public art and well-maintained landscaping. People also said that community programming could help to bring the community together.



Traffic

Participants indicated that the City should consider measures to reduce speeding and shortcutting on some roads. Others identified significant traffic congestion at peak times around the schools and Keyano Park.

A comprehensive What We Heard Report which provides more detail about the input received during the previous project stage is available at edmonton.ca/BuildingCalder.