

What We Heard Baturyn Neighbourhood Renewal

Building a Project Vision Together
Exploring Opportunities

Fall 2020

CREATE & REFINED

SHARE YOUR VOICE
SHAPE OUR CITY

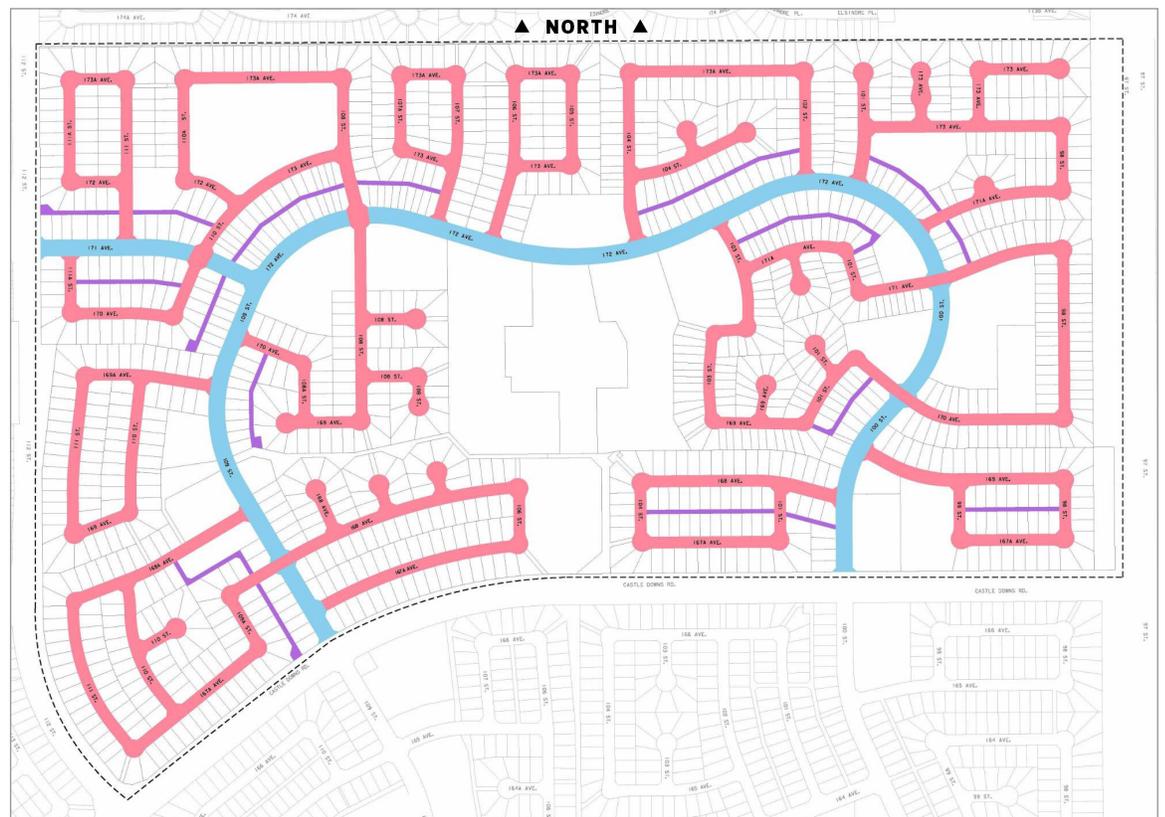
Edmonton

Background

Neighbourhood Renewal in Baturyn will begin in spring 2023. Through the City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Renewal program, we will rehabilitate roads, replace street lights, curb and gutters, repair sidewalks and connect missing sidewalk links where possible. Alley Renewal will also be included as part of this project and involves alley reconstruction and repaving, improvements to surface drainage where possible and upgrading of existing lighting to LED fixtures.

Cost-sharing opportunities will be made available through the Local Improvement process for sidewalk reconstruction and decorative streetlight upgrades in the neighbourhood. Other opportunities to improve City-owned parks and public spaces will also be explored.

Baturyn Neighbourhood Renewal Project Scope Map



Where we are in the decision-making process

The Neighbourhood Renewal program follows the roadmap below, and this report focuses on public input that was heard during both the Building a Project Vision Together and Exploring Opportunities stages. At each step, the project team shares information with you about how your input has and will inform decisions.



LEGEND

				
Public Engagement and Communications Opportunities	Concept Phase	Design Phase	Build Phase	Operate Phase



Public Engagement Spectrum

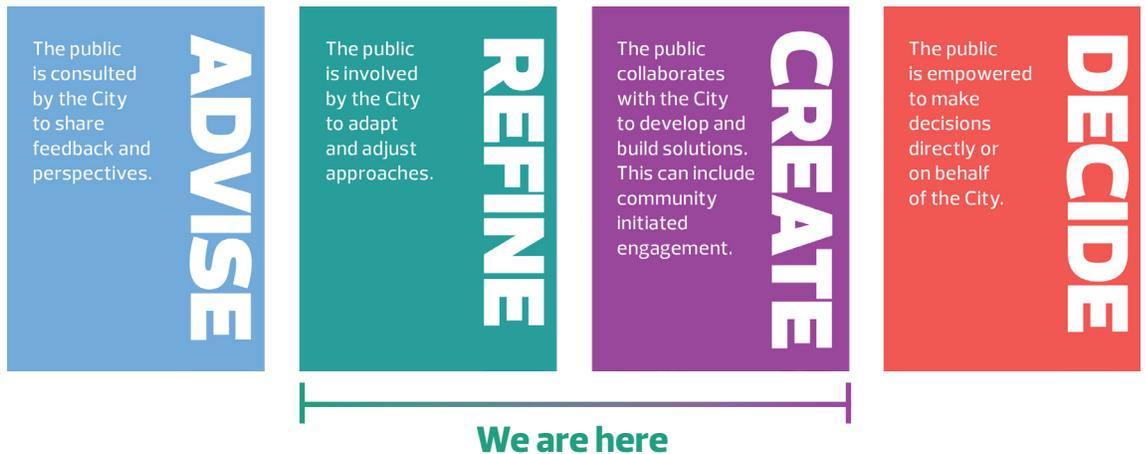
The City of Edmonton seeks input from citizens to help guide the project. The City's public engagement spectrum below, shows the four distinct levels of influence that the public can have on decisions made by the City throughout the project.

The public was invited to provide input that would help:

+ **CREATE** a Vision and Guiding Principles

+ **REFINE** the project team's knowledge of neighbourhood assets, opportunities and priorities

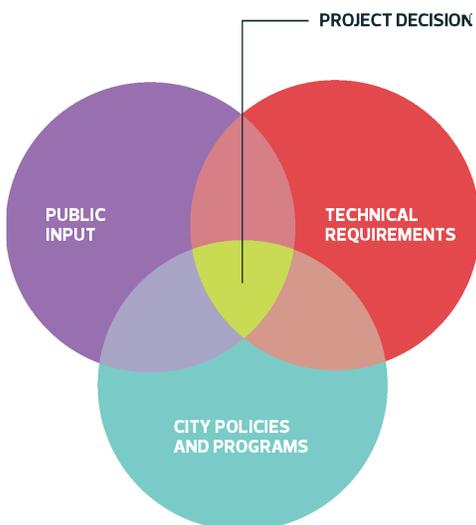
We commit to telling you how public input influences decisions according to the public engagement spectrum.



How decisions are made

The City makes decisions using a combination of policy and program information, public engagement input, technical requirements and available funding. This process helps to ensure that the decisions we make are fiscally responsible, align with best practices, consider the existing public and private infrastructure, land uses and activities in the neighbourhood and result in the best outcomes for our city.

City policies and programs such as the Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards, Safe Mobility Strategy and Winter City Strategy provide the overall direction for Neighbourhood Renewal designs. As each neighbourhood is unique, the Project Team asks for input from residents who live, work and play in the neighbourhood and considers technical aspects such as roadway widths and conflicts with utilities and trees to determine what will fit in the neighbourhood.



What we did and what we asked

There were a number of engagement opportunities open to the public from November 5–December 8, 2020.



Surveys

- + An online survey was available to the public from November 5–26, 2020 asking residents to help us CREATE a Vision and Guiding Principles for Baturyn's Neighbourhood Renewal. We also asked citizens to identify opportunities to improve the area.
- + Paper copies were made available at the Baturyn Community League Hall speak board.

33 participants



Online Workshops

- + On November 10, 2020 stakeholders were invited to participate in an online conversation to discuss what they like about Baturyn and identify areas that could be improved. We asked participants to share what they would like to keep the same, change and add to make Baturyn better.
- + On December 8, 2020 stakeholders were invited to CREATE the draft Vision and Guiding Principles.

18 participants





Online Engagement

+ From November 5–26, 2020 citizens shared their feedback online about Baturyn engagement.

Options included:

- + a self-directed tour of the neighbourhood
- + sharing ideas and stories about Baturyn
- + mapping potential improvement locations
- + Over 50 people signed up for project updates
- + The self-directed walking tour was also available in a paper copy at the Baturyn Community League speak board and we received 5 completed guides from community members

+ We received:

- + 2 stories illustrating people's experience living in Baturyn
- + 11 visions of a future Baturyn
- + 121 pins on the map to identify where opportunities and issues exist
- + Overall there were 199 aware participants who visited the project webpage
- + There were also 99 informed participants who viewed photos, reviewed documents and visited multiple project pages
- + As well, there were 21 engaged participants who contributing to an engagement tool including placing pins on maps, contributed to stories and ideas

374 visits to Engaged Edmonton
288 unique visits to the project webpage
Over 500 comments



What we heard

Building a Vision and Guiding Principles

Input was collected from all of the engagement activities to help **CREATE** a draft Vision and Guiding Principles for Baturyn.

A Vision is a short description that sets the direction for the community's future livability. Guiding Principles are ideas which inform how the Vision is applied to the neighbourhood design.

We asked people to provide input that could **CREATE** an understanding of what the community hopes for the future of Baturyn. Following a review of input gathered through the online engagement, the survey and the first stakeholder workshop a series of key concepts were developed. These key concepts are represented in the word cloud below and reflect the ways that engagement participants described Baturyn now and in the future, to be supported through Neighbourhood Renewal.

A group of community stakeholders including residents, business owners and school representatives were invited to participate in an online workshop to **CREATE** the Vision and Guiding Principles for Baturyn Neighbourhood Renewal. Participants included members of the Baturyn Community League, the Parent Councils of Baturyn School and St. Charles School, representatives from the Castledowns Recreation Society, as well as individuals who expressed interest in being involved in the project.

The most frequent key concepts were presented to a group of community stakeholders during a virtual workshop. During the workshop, community members explored these concepts and worked together to **CREATE** a draft Vision and Guiding Principles for the Baturyn Neighbourhood Renewal. The following word cloud image represents the list of key concepts that were presented at this workshop.



Draft Vision

“Baturyn is a generationally and culturally diverse community that offers a safe, friendly and walkable experience for families and visitors. There are lots of opportunities to experience green spaces and recreational activities.

We take pride in our connections within our neighbourhood and with the nearby communities and we value friendly gatherings with our neighbours.

We enjoy experiencing the serene and peaceful surroundings that Baturyn has to offer. Baturyn is continuously looking to grow the connections between its diverse residents and neighbours.”



Draft Guiding Principles:

- + Baturyn has an abundance of amenities such as benches, bike racks and playgrounds to create spaces that are attractive and comfortable.
- + Baturyn has good connections and wide pathways which provide safe and accessible mobility for people of all ages and abilities.
- + Baturyn has safe, well-lit spaces and streets for all residents and visitors.
- + Baturyn is a great place to walk and bike.
- + Baturyn has many family and kid-friendly spaces and amenities for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy.
- + Baturyn has spaces to meet and connect with neighbours in all seasons.

“More shared pathways. Riding bicycles is as important as being able to walk the neighborhood.”

Exploring Opportunities

The following section includes a summary of what we heard throughout all of the engagement opportunities. The summary has been developed to reflect the relevancy, frequency and diversity of the responses we received based on questions that we asked.

Driving in Baturyn

- + **Aging roads:** Residents like the connectedness of the roads, but suggested improvements to the aging infrastructure such as filling potholes and cracks.
- + **Safety:** There were concerns around speeding in the neighbourhood due to the wide roadways.

“Safer roads for kids please, including pathway exits and entries. Thank you.”

Traffic in Baturyn

- + **Wide roads:** Traffic congestion is rarely an issue in Baturyn.
- + **Parking:** Residents were unhappy with the amount of parked cars in the neighbourhood, particularly around St. Charles School and Baturyn School. The cars block sightlines during busy driving times, and many residents have difficulty finding a spot. There were suggestions to implement parking restrictions in certain high traffic areas.

Biking in Baturyn

- + **Missing bike infrastructure:** Baturyn has no dedicated biking infrastructure and residents suggested that adding some would create more opportunities for people who bike while making it safer for those who walk.
- + **Type of bike infrastructure:** Protected bike lanes were deemed to be safer for people who bike, but shared pathways would also be desirable to some residents. Residents would prefer to use these bike lanes recreationally to travel to surrounding neighbourhoods, rather than for commuting to more distant locations.
- + **Residents prefer to drive:** Due to the location of Baturyn, most residents drive to get from place to place. It was mentioned that residents may continue to drive, even if bike infrastructure is installed.

Walking in Baturyn

- + **Aging sidewalks:** Residents noted that the aging sidewalks make it difficult to enjoy walking around the neighbourhood. They suggested that the cracks should be filled and the missing connections be completed.
- + **Connectivity:** The connecting pathways in Baturyn make it easy for residents to walk to surrounding neighborhoods. The lack of easy access to shops and businesses was a concern, and it was mentioned that indirect routes are the only ways to access these services.
- + **Safety:** Residents would like to see better lit walking routes to prevent dark spaces for gathering. The community desires safe gathering places where residents can enjoy neighbourly recreational activities.

“Lived here more than 40 years and really like the neighbourhood, but the roads, sidewalks and lighting need lots of work.”



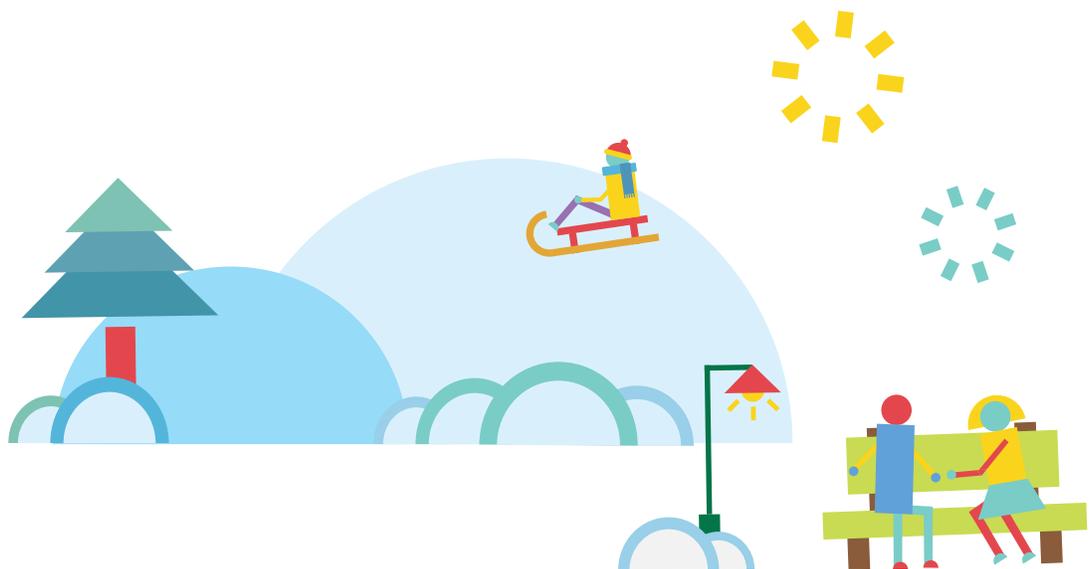
Parks in Baturyn

- + **Aging parks:** Residents like the various parks in the neighbourhood, but agree that they are outdated and upgrades are needed, including new basketball courts and a playground upgrade.
- + **Additional amenities:** Amenities such as a dog park, tennis courts, ice rink, waste bins and benches would be a welcome addition in Baturyn.
- + **Safety:** To make park users feel safer, additional lighting and maintaining trees to keep sightlines open would be appreciated. Litter around the parks is also a concern.

Public gathering spaces in Baturyn

- + **Lack of community gathering spaces:** Residents noted that Baturyn currently does not have public gathering spaces to use (other than in Baturyn Park), but would love to see more of these incorporated.
- + **Amenities:** Residents would also like to see amenities such as benches, waste bins, picnic tables and a community garden incorporated into the public gathering spaces. Additional programming such as outdoor recreational activities for people of all ages and abilities at all seasons was also suggested.
- + **Maintenance:** Should these spaces be built in Baturyn, future upkeep and maintenance of these areas is important to Baturyn residents.

“There was a real pride in who the Baturyn neighbourhood was and we all worked together to benefit the neighbours and our surrounding neighbourhoods. We need to renew that feeling in Baturyn and that comes from amenities and safe places for people to gather.”





Next Steps

The project team will return to the community to confirm the Vision and Guiding Principles and **Explore Options and Tradeoffs** to understand the preferences of the community.

Design options will be presented in spring 2021 during the next phase of the project, **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs**. During this phase we will invite you to provide feedback on the design options and to gather insights to help refine them.

Information will also be provided during upcoming project phases about cost-sharing opportunities for decorative street lights and sidewalk reconstruction through the Local Improvement process.

For more information regarding the Baturyn Neighbourhood Renewal, upcoming public engagement activities and to subscribe for project updates, please visit edmonton.ca/BuildingBaturyn.

Working together to make the most out of your neighbourhood.

This is your city and your neighbourhood. We want to understand how you experience your neighbourhood and ask for your input on what we might do to make it better.

We will engage and work with you on the renewal of roads, alleys, sidewalks, street lights and park spaces. We will also promote other community opportunities to enhance how people live and interact in your neighbourhood. We commit to being open and transparent about how your input is used. Let's make the most out of your neighbourhood.



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