

How Will the Highlands Vision and Important Elements be Used?

Options and recommendations for the neighbourhood are evaluated against the Vision and Important Elements and are reflected in the Concept Designs. The vision will be further used to assist with setting priorities when budgeting and making final design decisions.

VISION

Highlands is a safe, friendly, and highly-connected neighbourhood. It is an active and accessible destination, where people enjoy modern infrastructure and beautiful gathering spaces surrounded by local history.

IMPORTANT ELEMENTS

- Highlands features its natural beauty, including mature trees and connections to the river valley.
- Highlands is an active and accessible neighbourhood, where streets and sidewalks are designed to favour pedestrians and other active modes of transportation.
- Highlands is a safe neighbourhood, where traffic management and lighting help people feel secure moving throughout the neighbourhood.
- Highlands is a friendly neighbourhood, where there are beautiful, functional and accessible outdoor areas for people to gather.
- Highlands honours and reflects its history, recognizing local points of interest and telling stories about the diverse groups of people who lived on these lands.
- Highlands is a connected neighbourhood, where the streets and sidewalks support a natural flow of people who move both north and south of 112 avenue.

What is Happening with Ada Boulevard?

Building on the feedback we received from a variety of stakeholders including the whole community of Highlands and taking into consideration the City's standards for accessibility and safety, we will be showing two draft concepts for Ada Boulevard. We are working to make Ada Boulevard accessible, walkable and safe for people who walk, drive and bike, while still recognizing the special character of the street.

Get Involved & Stay Informed!

The City recognizes each Edmonton neighbourhood is unique. To ensure a solid understanding of what is important to those who live and work in Highlands, we are actively engaging with the community to capture your vision of your neighbourhood. There are many opportunities for you to get involved. For more information (i.e. upcoming public meetings, project updates, sign up to email list, etc.) regarding the Highlands neighbourhood renewal including Ada Boulevard, please visit edmonton.ca/BuildingHighlands.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
SHARE YOUR VOICE SHAPE OUR CITY

For more information:

🌐 edmonton.ca/buildinggreatneighbourhoods
✉ buildinggreatneighbourhoods@edmonton.ca
☎ 311

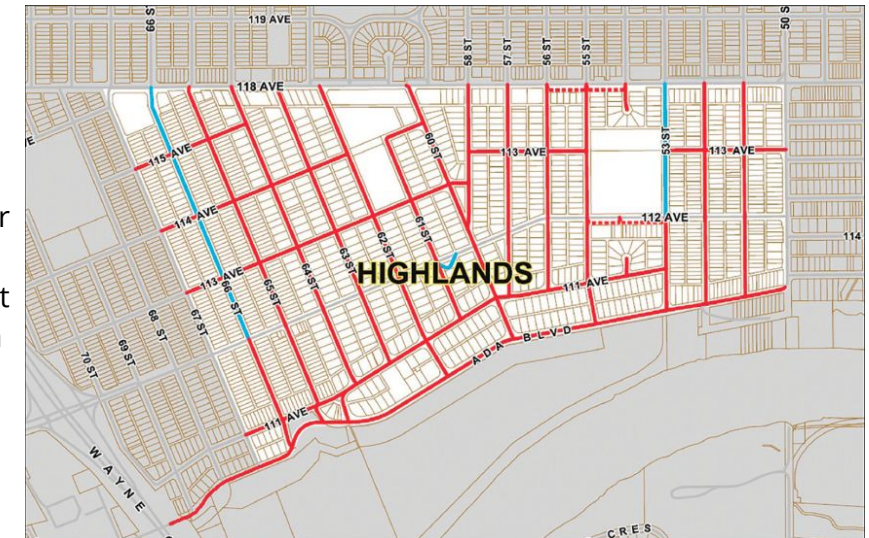
Edmonton



Building Great Neighbourhoods is a new branch of the City of Edmonton committed to making the most out of your neighbourhood by investing taxpayer and utility rate dollars in reconstructing neighbourhoods to enhance their livability and longevity. Our commitment is:

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 to enhance how people live and interact in your neighbourhood. We commit to being open and transparent about how your input is used.



Map showing scope of work for Highlands Neighbourhood Renewal and Ada Boulevard Construction: 2019 - 2021

What is Neighbourhood Renewal?

The Neighbourhood Renewal program is part of the Building Great Neighbourhoods initiative. It outlines a cost effective and long-term strategic approach to renew and rebuild roads, sidewalks and street lights in mature neighbourhoods. The new infrastructure will be in place for 30 to 50 years. In Highlands, the scope of work includes:

- New neighbourhood road surfaces (excludes arterial roads: 118 Avenue, 112 Avenue and 50 Street)
- New sidewalks to replace existing (subject to approval of the 50/50 cost shared local improvement tax)
- New sidewalks where they are missing, where possible (at no cost to residents)
- New standard galvanized street lights

What could also be included, pending further funding from other City programs:

- Enhancements to pedestrian crossings, park spaces, paths, pedestrian connections, bike infrastructure and measures to reduce speeding and shortcutting.

What is not included:

- Alleys and arterial roads (funded through separate programs)
- Immediate maintenance issues (taken and referred to Operations and Maintenance)

How are Decisions Made for the Highlands Neighbourhood Renewal?

Globally, decisions are made by considering technical requirements and City policies/programs, together with public input. Technical requirements include existing conditions such as roadway widths and constraints such as mature trees. City policies include current road design standards such as Edmonton's Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards. Input from the public includes local knowledge, views and desires gathered since January 2018.

The Highlands Neighbourhood Renewal Project Team (project managers and engineers, as well as engineering, planning and landscape architecture consultants) make recommendations with justification for the proposed design. The design is approved or refined, based on funding available, and the project proceeds to Detailed Design, with the approved Concept Design as the foundation.

Creating a neighbourhood Concept Design is a true team effort as input is also received from other City groups representing emergency services, operations and maintenance, recreation and parks, and forestry interests.

How is Neighbourhood Renewal Funded?

The Neighbourhood Renewal program is paid for through a combination of City-wide property taxes and provincial funding. However, two specific improvements—decorative street lights and sidewalk reconstruction — are cost-shared by the City and owners of property in the neighbourhood. Decisions for these improvements are voted on by property owners (see details at edmonton.ca/localimprovements). Property owners will receive a notice this fall to outline the process, potential costs for decorative street light options. Sidewalk reconstruction notices will be sent this winter prior to neighbourhood construction. New sidewalks added to the neighbourhood are no additional cost to property owners.

To be approved for construction, the cost for the Concept Design* must fall within the renewal budget for the neighbourhood. Some elements proposed may not receive funding, however efforts will be made to partner with other City programs, community partners and initiatives to leverage additional funding opportunities.

What City Policies, Strategies and Standards Influence the Renewal Design?

All policies listed here can be found at Edmonton.ca - search using the policy title.

- Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards
- Bike Transportation Plan
- Mature Neighbourhood Overlay
- Active Transportation Policy
- Winter Design Guidelines
- Vision Zero
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
- Access Design Guide
- Checklist for Accessibility and Universal Design

What are the Next Steps of Highlands' Neighbourhood Renewal?

Concept Designs* are being shared publicly for public review on September 27.

The following few months will be used to fine-tune the design based on public feedback, and to more fully develop the technical and other elements of the plan including:

- Locations and style of street/park furniture
- Locations and types of traffic calming measures
- Ideas to enhance and showcase Highlands' history and identity
- Details for Ada Boulevard
- Details of the bike lanes

It is anticipated the Preliminary Designs* will be shared with residents in November/ December 2018.



Commonly Used Words in Neighbourhood Renewal:

Boulevard - is the portion of City property between the curb or road's edge and the adjacent front property line. Boulevards may also border sidewalks, shared-use paths and alleys.

Concept Design - Plan for "what" will be built, including roadway and sidewalk widths, intersection design, traffic movements, and green space ideas.

Preliminary Design - Plan includes specific design elements such as materials, exact geometry for roadway and sidewalk changes, locations and trade-offs for new sidewalks, confirms construction schedule and budget. Only minor suggestions and tweaks can be incorporated into the design at this stage.

How is the Decision to Proceed with Decorative Street Lights Made?

The City uses an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to determine if there is support within a neighbourhood for local improvements. The requirement to proceed with upgraded decorative street lights is for the majority (50+1%) of a representative sample of respondents responding in favour. For Highlands, the representative sample size must meet or exceed 413 responses (based on 1,085 properties). If a neighbourhood does not have sufficient support for this upgrade option, standard street lights will be installed with no extra charge to property owners.

