

A stylized tree graphic with a leaf pattern, rendered in a light green color against a darker green background. The tree's trunk and branches are visible, and the leaves are represented by a dense, repeating pattern of small leaf shapes.

# Let's breathe

EDMONTON'S GREEN NETWORK STRATEGY

Let's Talk Parks Open House

# Today's Event Format

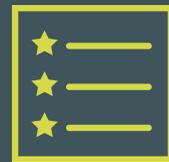
Welcome to the open house for **BREATHE: Edmonton's Green Network Strategy!**

Today you will be participating in the second stage of public engagement for the project. Please take a moment to orient yourself to the different activity centers and opportunities for participation.



## VIDEO

Watch the video for an introduction to BREATHE



## BOARDS

Each board will help you learn about the project and step you through the different analyses that help us understand the current supply of open space in Edmonton.

If you have questions, look for the Breathe team T-shirts in green!



## HANDOUT

Based on your own knowledge and experience of open spaces in Edmonton, use the handout to share your comments on the results of our analysis. Let us know what YOU think!



## MAP

Mark the map with your likes and wishes. Which are your favourite open spaces? Where can we improve?



## KIDS TABLE

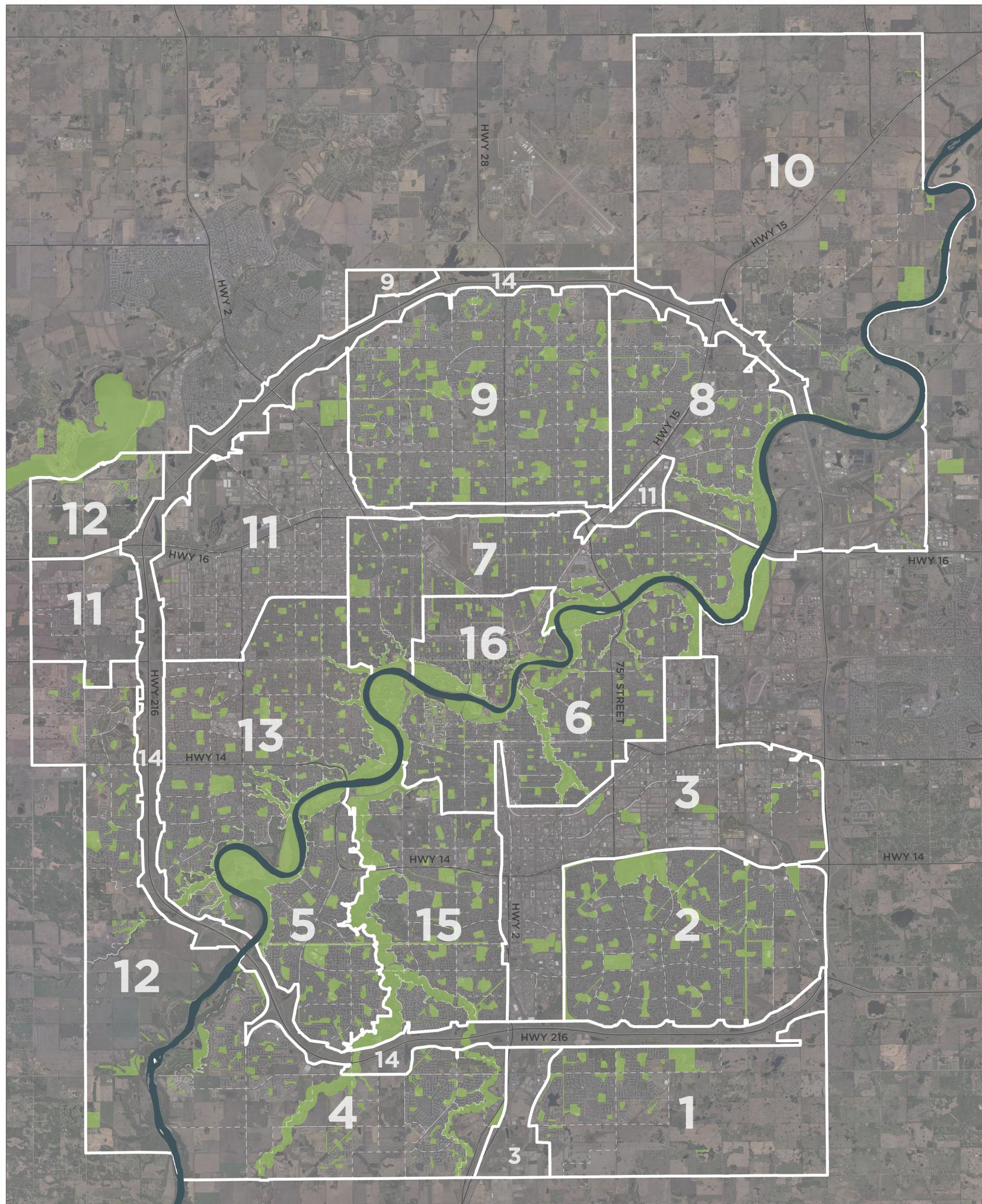
Kids are welcome to share their input throughout the room, or check out the activities at our Kids Table

# Where is my neighbourhood?

Edmonton is a big city, and different parts of its green network work in different ways. Dividing the city into **Open Space Reporting Units** makes it easier to explain the issues and trends affecting each area of the city, and to target recommendations based on the challenges unique to that area.

The boundaries of the Reporting Units are based on Edmonton's City Sectors (Central Core, Mature, Established, Urban Growth Area, Developing, and Industrial areas) and natural barriers in the landscape (the River Valley and ravine system, Anthony Henday Drive, and other major roads and highways).

As you move through the room, information and analyses are sometimes presented for each park or open space, and sometimes for each Reporting Unit, depending on the type of information. The Reporting Units are numbered on the map to the left to make it easy to remember which one interests you, and the next board explains key characteristics of each Unit. To help determine where you live, Edmonton's neighbourhoods are listed on print-outs located at each station. BREATHE project team members are also happy to help should you have any questions.



# Open Space Reporting Units

- 1. Developing Fringe South-East:** This area contains rural and newly developing communities, and important new open spaces like the Ivor Dent Sports Park.
- 2. Settled South-East:** This area contains both established neighbourhoods, like Mill Woods, and newer and developing neighbourhoods, like Silver Berry. In addition to the Mill Creek Ravine, open spaces here include the Jackie Parker Recreation Area, and Mill Woods Park.
- 3. Industrial South:** With the exception of the Maple Ridge neighbourhood, this area is mostly industrial, although it does contain the John Fry Sports Park.
- 4. Developing Fringe South-West:** One of the newer parts of Edmonton, this area south of the Anthony Henday contains rural lands and new residential communities like Heritage Valley. Blackmud Creek runs through the area.
- 5. Settled South-West B:** Just to the west of Reporting Unit #15, this area contains established and newly developing neighbourhoods served by open spaces like Terwillegar and Terwillegar Heights Parks.
- 6. City Centre South:** This area south of the River contains the denser neighbourhoods around Strathcona and the University of Alberta, along with other mature inner city neighbourhoods north of the industrial area. Key open spaces include the Mill Creek Ravine, Gold Bar Park, and Rollie Miles Athletic Park.
- 7. City Centre North:** This is the area north of Downtown comprised of mature, inner city neighbourhoods, along with the redeveloping Blatchford site. Coronation Park is the most prominent open space in the area.
- 8. Settled North-East:** Although most of this area is currently developing, there are also established and mature residential neighbourhoods that contain open spaces like Matt Berry Park.
- 9. Settled North:** This area contains a mixture of newly developing, established, and mature neighbourhoods. Key open spaces include Castle Downs Park and Grand Trunk Park.
- 10. New Growth Area North-East:** Most of this area is currently rural, but is planned to accommodate industrial and residential development in the future.
- 11. Industrial North:** With the exception of Westview Village, this area is exclusively industrial and contains few open space amenities.
- 12. Developing Fringe West:** This area contains the newly developing residential neighbourhoods west of the Anthony Henday. Although many open spaces have not yet been constructed, important new parks like The Grange are being developed to service the increasing population.
- 13. Settled West:** Nestled between the central core and the Anthony Henday, this area contains established and mature neighbourhoods, and open spaces like Callingwood and Sir Wilfred Laurier Parks.
- 15. Settled South-West A:** The area includes the mature and established neighbourhoods between Whitemud Creek and the industrial area to the east. Key open spaces include Confederation and Twin Brooks Parks.
- 16. Downtown Core:** Located to the north of the North Saskatchewan River, this area contains a concentration of commercial uses, with important civic spaces like City Hall Plaza and Sir Winston Churchill Square.

Note that the Transportation Utility Corridor (Reporting Unit #14, aka Anthony Henday Drive) is not included in the analyses.

# What is Breathe?

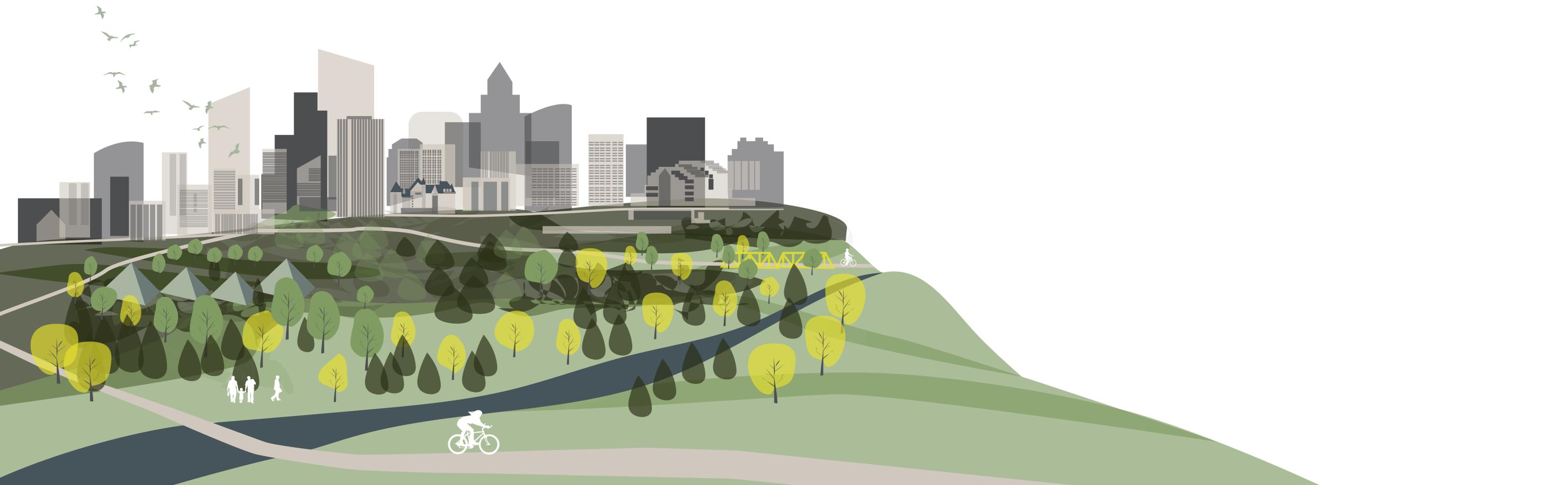
## **BREATHE: Edmonton's Green Network Strategy**

Parks and open spaces are vital to a community's health. These open spaces provide places for people to play, gather, grow food, learn about nature and celebrate.

Because Edmonton Metro is projected to nearly double in population from 1.2 million people to 2.1 million people by 2050, the City has embarked on a process to plan the city's green network to meet the needs of growing communities.

## **A Multi-Functional Green Network**

Edmonton's Green Network Strategy will examine how open space in the City of Edmonton functions as an integrated network of public spaces that provide real, measurable value to Edmontonians. Open spaces contribute to human health and wellness, improve the urban environment, and provide places for people to come together. These contributions are the central themes of the Green Network Strategy, and provide the organizing framework for assessing open space.



# What is the goal of the project?

BREATHE is a transformative strategy to make sure that each neighbourhood in Edmonton will be supported by an accessible network of open space as the city grows.

The Green Network Strategy builds on the Urban Parks Management Plan and the Natural Connections Strategic Plan, and aligns with the goals identified in the City's strategic planning documents ("The Ways").

The Green Network Strategy will support the City of Edmonton commitment to:

- Transform Edmonton's urban form
- Enhance the use of public transit and active modes of transportation
- Improve Edmonton's liveability
- Preserve and sustain Edmonton's environment
- Ensure Edmonton's financial sustainability
- Diversify Edmonton's economy

# What is included in the green network?

In Edmonton, the green network is all of the city's outdoor land and water that is publicly owned or publicly accessible.

Some examples include:

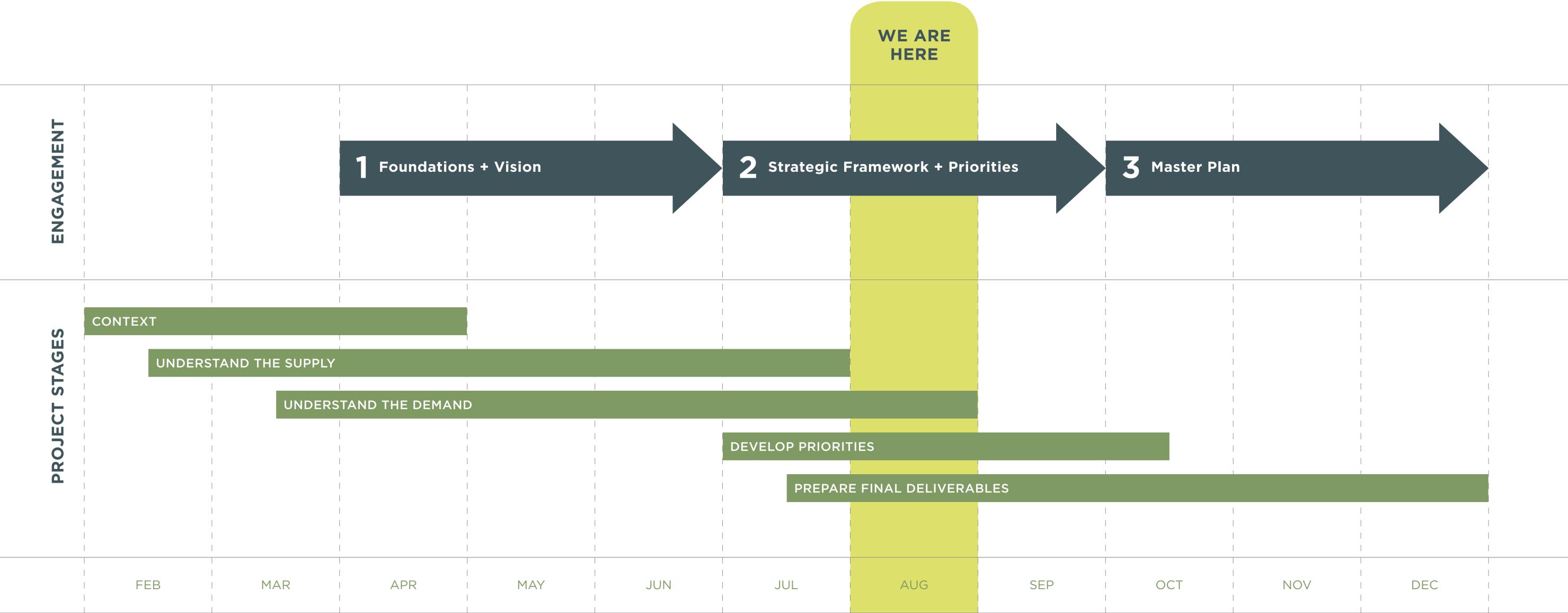
- Parks and plazas, like Churchill Square
- Main streets, like Jasper Avenue
- Natural areas, like the Saskatchewan River Valley and ravine system
- Corridors and linkages, like Mill Creek Ravine
- Green infrastructure, like the bioswales at Ellerslie Fire Station, green roofs, and the rainwater gardens at Government House Park



# Project Timeline

During **Phase 2: Strategic Framework & Priorities**, we are identifying priorities for future open space planning. What kinds of open spaces do we need, and where do we need them?

Right now is a critical time in BREATHE's journey... where we identify parts of the city that need a little extra help to ensure that the Green Network is accessible, sustainable, and responsive to the needs of all Edmontonians. By giving us your feedback, you can help us determine if we are on the right track!



# Open Space Themes

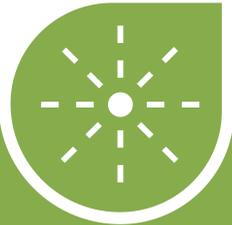
In the same way that organisms function within a natural ecosystem, open spaces function as part of a larger integrated whole within the urban ecosystem.

The primary functions of open space, organized by the central themes of the Green Network Strategy, will be used to understand the role that plans, policies, stakeholders, funding strategies, and management play in providing and shaping the value of the existing open space network, and assessing the network's capacity to meet current (and future) needs of the city and residents.



## ECOLOGY

**Supports and enhances the environment by sustaining healthy and resilient ecosystems.**



## CELEBRATION

**Connects people to each other and builds a sense of place by providing places for communities to thrive, gather and celebrate.**



## WELLNESS

**Promotes healthy living and fosters well-being through diverse kinds of recreation, mobility and environments.**



# Open Space Functions **ECOLOGY**

## Water Management

Open spaces can absorb storm water and prevent flooding, as well as provide water treatment and purification for the city.



## Climate Regulation

Vegetation in open spaces can mitigate urban heat island effect, improve air quality, and mitigate climate change.



## Biodiversity

Many types of open space provide habitat for plants and animals, which supports biodiversity and wildlife connectivity.



## Risk Mitigation

Open spaces can minimize environmental risks by stabilizing slopes, protecting floodways and repurposing contaminated sites.



## Waste Management

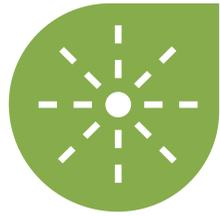
Open spaces can be used for waste management activities like composting, recycling/biofuel facilities, and temporary snow storage.



## Food Production

Local food production promotes food security, community interaction, and skill development.





Open Space Functions

# CELEBRATION

## Aesthetic Value

Attractive and welcoming design is key in place-making.



## Community Building

Gathering spaces facilitate social interaction and community programming.



## Public Safety

Open spaces can provide traffic calming, buffer zones and “eyes on the street”.



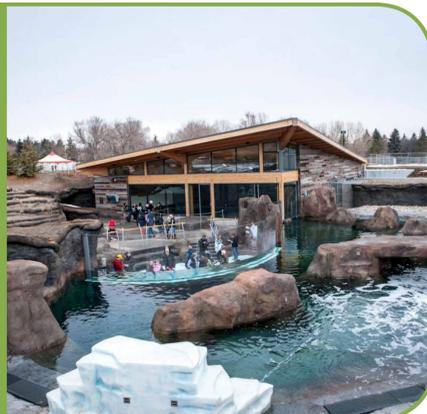
## Heritage

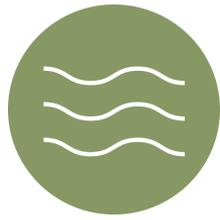
Open spaces can highlight the cultural or historical value of a site or feature.



## Destination + Tourism

Open spaces can draw people from the region, the nation and beyond.





Open Space Functions  
**WELLNESS**

**Recreation**

High-quality sports facilities and outdoor recreation spaces promote healthy living.



**Mental Health + Wellbeing**

Open spaces can reduce stress and provide opportunities for therapeutic activities.



**Active Transportation**

Well-connected trails and pathways encourage active transportation and improve mobility.



**Learn + Play**

Programming and free-form play promotes learning, and nature is essential for children's development.



# What We Heard Summary

Edmontonians feel passionately about their parks and open spaces, and the BREATHE community engagement process acknowledges the importance of incorporating local knowledge and community values in the planning of our green network.

During the first phase of engagement, the BREATHE team asked about how the current open space system is working well, issues that are affecting open spaces, and improvements that could be made. Edmontonians responded enthusiastically: over 350 individuals and organizations participated in Phase 1 events alone. The most common responses are summarized here, and organized so you can see how they relate to the three project themes:

 **ECOLOGY**

 **CELEBRATION**

 **WELLNESS**

Moving forward, community feedback will be used to inform both the analyses performed during Stages 2 (Understand the Supply) and 3 (Understand the Demand), and the recommendations of the final Green Network Strategy.

## What Works Well

-    North Saskatchewan River Valley
-  Abundance of natural areas
-    Variety of open spaces
-  Trail system
-   Open space programming
-  Beneficial effects of open space on mental and physical health

## Issues and Concerns

-   Connectivity of spaces
-  Disregard of users for natural open spaces
-    Maintenance
-    Wayfinding and interpretive signage
-  Perception of personal safety
-   Lack of open space in the dense urban areas
- City processes to use and develop open space

## Opportunities for Improvement

-   Promote existing opportunities
-  Education about natural areas and natural aspects of open space
-  Access to the North Saskatchewan River edge and River Valley open spaces
-  Accessibility to and within open spaces for people with mobility issues
-  Enhance active transportation networks
-   Providing amenities (washrooms, fountains) based on user needs
-    Urban agriculture
-    More green space in urban core
-   Commercial opportunities in open spaces
- Streamline City processes
- Ongoing stakeholder involvement in planning and implementation

During the first phase of engagement for BREATHE:

16 **ENGAGEMENT EVENTS** to consult with the public and stakeholders

36 **ORGANIZATIONS** participated in stakeholder workshops or meetings

918 **EDMONTONIANS** engaged to date

# Stay Engaged!

In addition to formal community consultation events, did you know that you can also provide feedback through two online surveys and at pop-up event kiosks?

Almost 600 people visited our pop-up BREATHE kiosk at events like 100in1Day and National Aboriginal Day, and over 2,100 people submitted responses through our online questionnaire and feedback map. You can see the parts of the city that received the most feedback in the map to the left.

Both pop-up kiosks and the two online surveys (questionnaire and spatial survey) will remain available until the end of August, so we encourage you to get involved and have your say!

Visit [edmonton.ca/breathe](https://edmonton.ca/breathe) to stay involved!

- ✉ Sign up to receive project updates  
[breathe@edmonton.ca](mailto:breathe@edmonton.ca)
- 🐦 Check out our Twitter Scavenger Hunt  
[@PlanEdmonton](https://twitter.com/PlanEdmonton)
- 📞 Call for more information 311

# Edmonton's Open Spaces

The first step to creating priorities for planning Edmonton's green network is understanding the existing open space system: how much space there is, how easy spaces are to access, and how those spaces work. These are all elements of the supply of open spaces in Edmonton.

To measure open space supply, the project team used GIS to inventory all the open spaces in Edmonton and classify those open spaces into types based on existing management practices and research into other jurisdictions.

Once those steps were complete, Edmonton's green network was analyzed in several different ways:

- 1. Open Space Supply:** How much open space is available in Edmonton?
- 2. Access to Open Space:** How much open space is within walking distance from residents?
- 3. Functionality:** How well does the open space system fulfil the functional values of Edmontonians in terms of

 **ECOLOGY**

 **CELEBRATION**

 **WELLNESS**

The following boards explain each of these analyses in greater detail, and provide maps that show the results and key findings.

## What is GIS?

A Geographic Information System (GIS) is a computer-based system for recording, storing, and displaying data related to geographic locations on the Earth's surface. GIS software enables the user to visualize multiple types of data about a place, and to manipulate that information to understand patterns and relationships. For the Green Network Strategy, GIS is being used not only to inform the maps and analyses you see here today, but also to provide the City of Edmonton with a tool to help them make management decisions about the open space system into the future.

# Open Space Supply

## What does it measure?

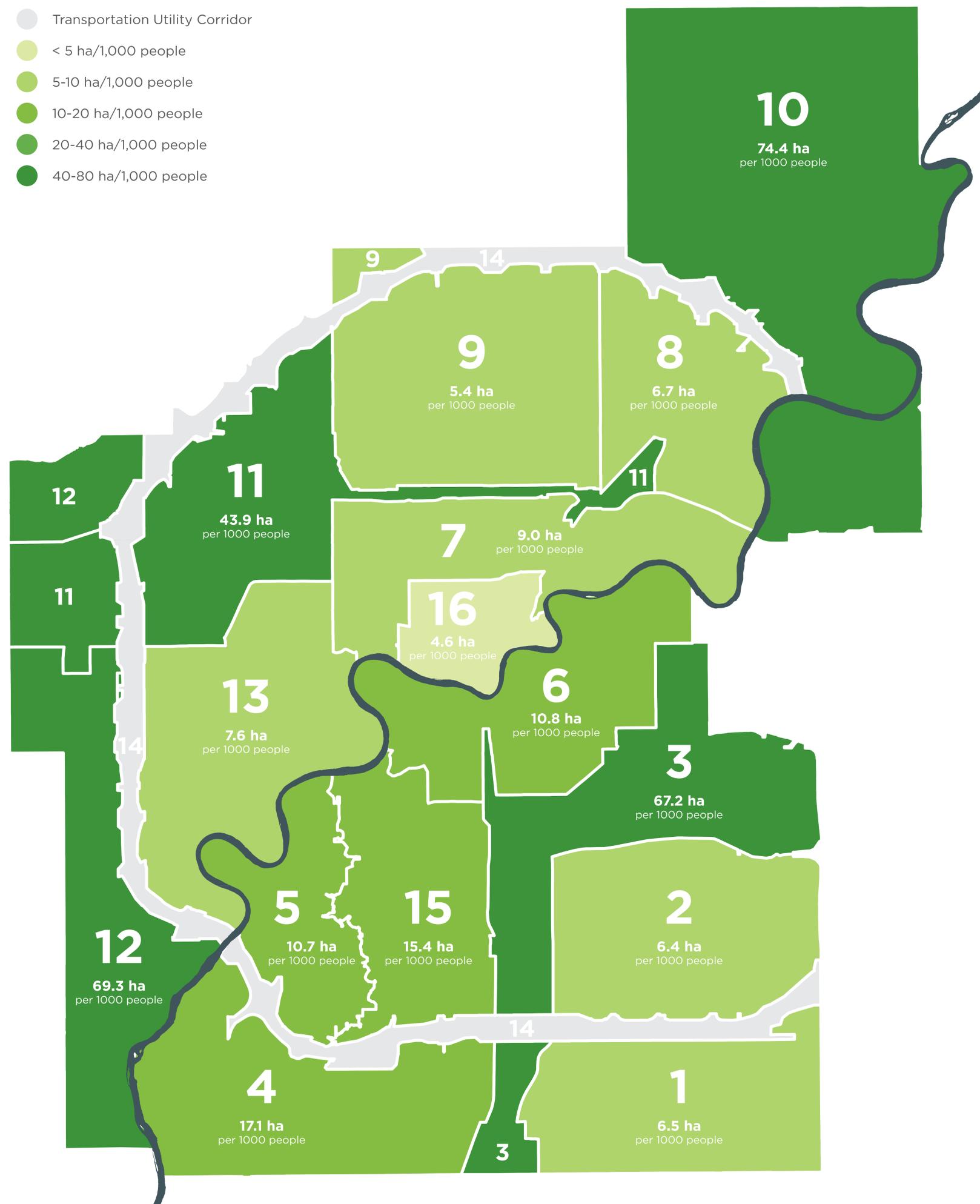
The supply analysis measures the amount of open space available in a given area. The results show the degree to which residents of each Open Space Reporting Unit are serviced by parks and other open spaces. Many best practices adopted by other cities establish planning guidelines based on the area of open space per capita, so this measure allows a comparison of Edmonton's supply with that of other jurisdictions.

## How do we measure it?

Using GIS, the area of each open space is measured in hectares (ha), and then combined with population data to determine the average amount of open space per 1,000 residents in each Open Space Reporting Unit.



- Transportation Utility Corridor
- < 5 ha/1,000 people
- 5-10 ha/1,000 people
- 10-20 ha/1,000 people
- 20-40 ha/1,000 people
- 40-80 ha/1,000 people



# Open Space Supply

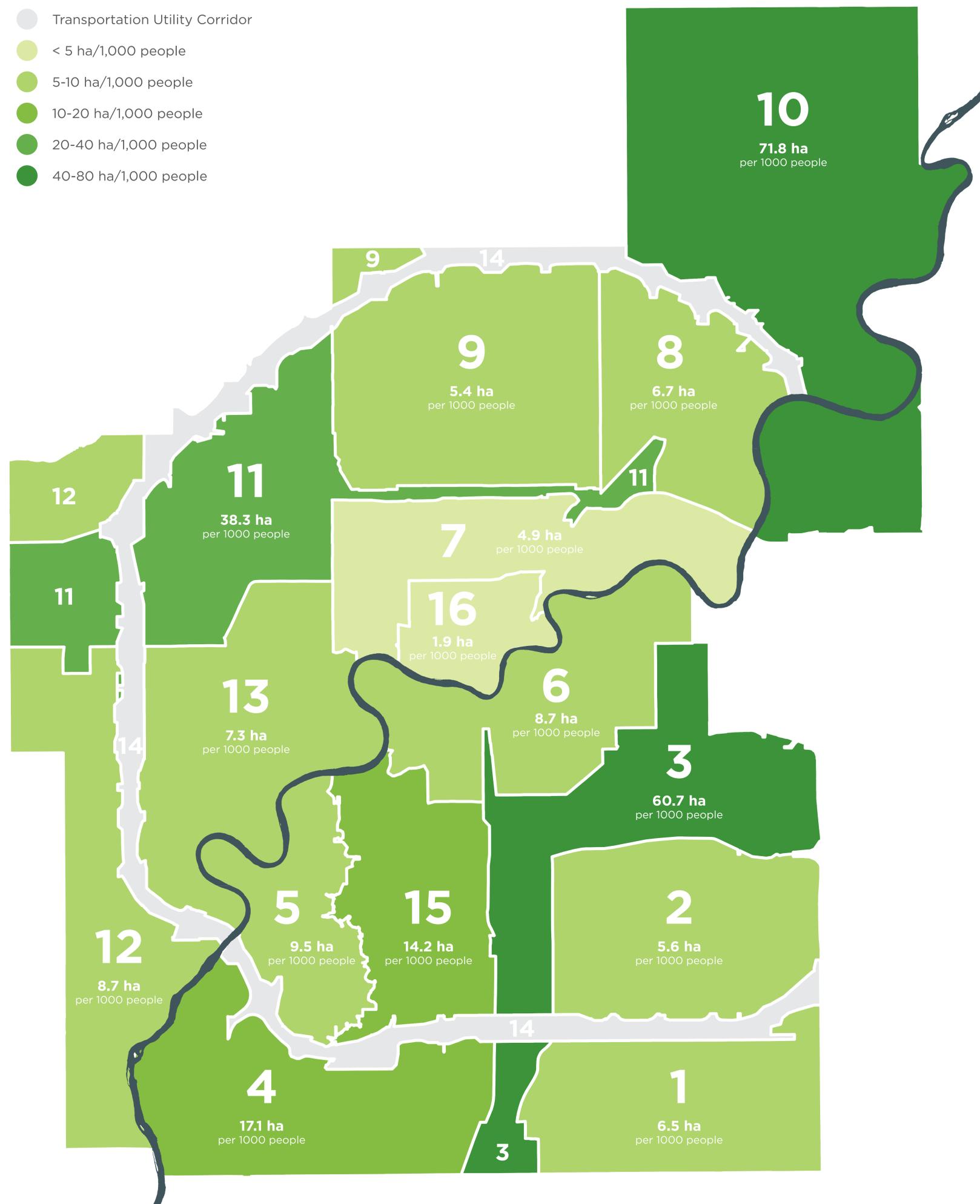
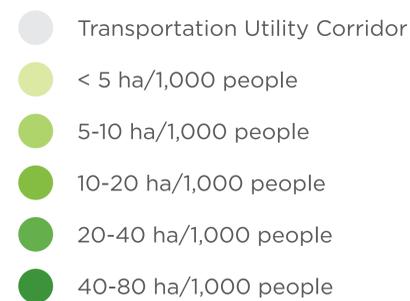
## All Open Spaces

This map shows the current supply of all open spaces per capita. Open spaces include municipal and provincial parks, civic spaces, and any other type of currently developed, usable open space.

- **Total open space per capita citywide:** 23.7 ha/1,000 people
- **Total open space per capita, excluding industrial and New Growth Areas:** 8.5 ha/1,000
- **Highest amount of open space per capita:** 74.4 ha/1,000 (New Growth Area North-East)
- **Lowest amount of open space per capita:** 4.6 ha/1,000 (Downtown Core)

The Downtown Core, some established and mature neighbourhoods, and areas that are sparsely developed have among the lowest provision of open space in Edmonton.

Industrial areas and the New Growth Area have the highest amount of open space per capita. In these areas, open space is spread among relatively few people living there. But as the residential population increases, the amount of open space per capita will decrease, unless more parks are constructed.



# Open Space Supply

## Municipal Parkland

This map shows the current supply of municipal parkland only. Municipal parkland includes various types of parks that are owned and operated by the City and its community partners (community leagues and school boards).

- **Total municipal parkland per capita citywide:** 17.8 ha/1,000 people
- **Total municipal parkland per capita, excluding industrial and New Growth Areas:** 7.1 ha/1,000
- **Highest amount of parkland per capita:** 71.8 ha/1,000 (New Growth Area North-East)
- **Lowest amount of parkland per capita:** 1.9 ha/1,000 (Downtown Core)
- **US National Recreation and Park Association minimum standard:** 4.0 ha/1,000

The Downtown Core, some established and mature neighbourhoods, and areas that are sparsely developed have among the lowest provision of open space in Edmonton.

Industrial areas and the New Growth Area have the highest amount of municipal parkland per capita. In these areas, parkland is spread among relatively few people living there.

# Access to Open Space

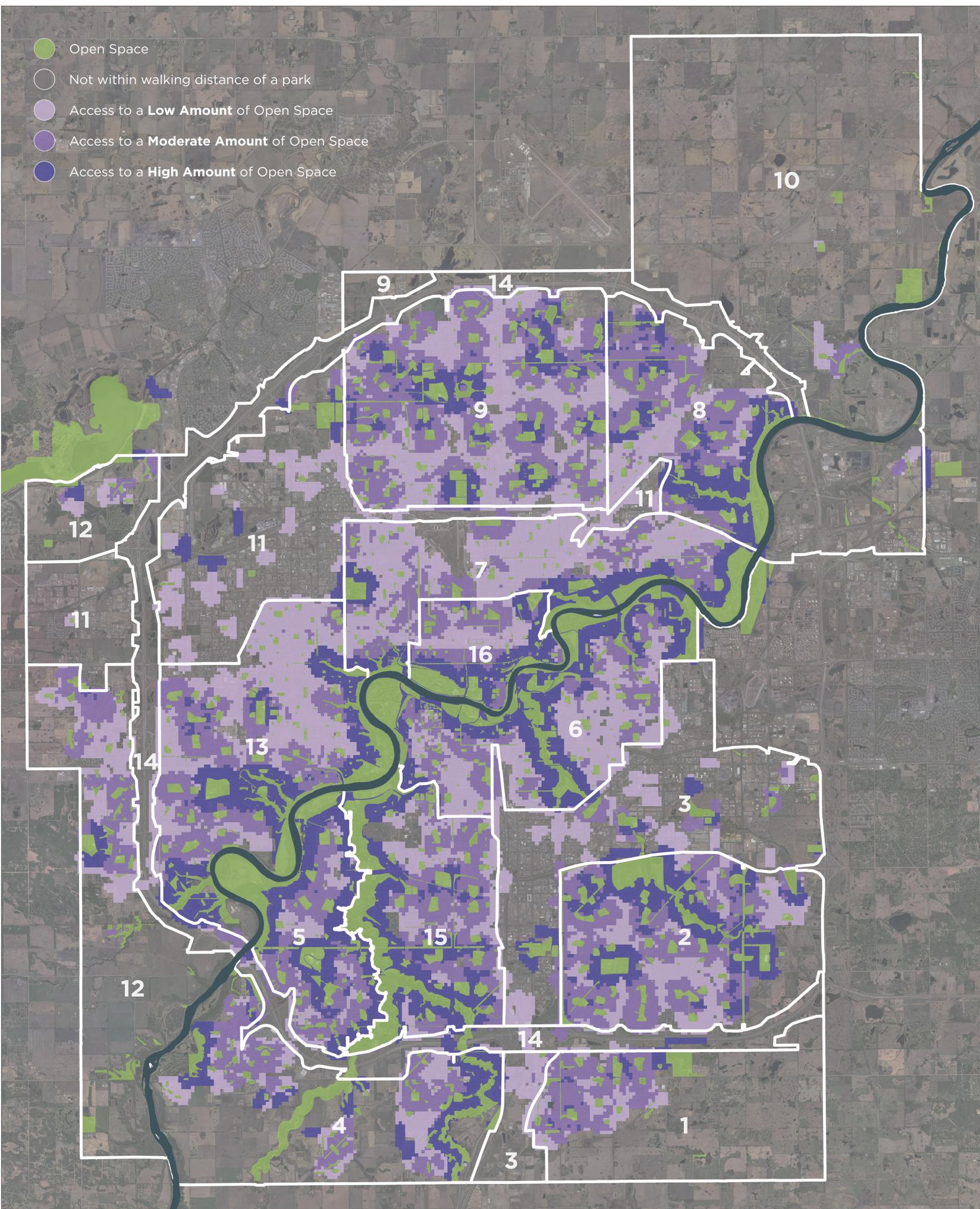
## What does it measure?

While the supply analysis shows how much open space Edmonton has, the walkability analysis measures how easy those spaces are for people to reach. One standard approach is to determine how much open space is within walking distance from residents.

## How do we measure it?

Research shows that people are generally willing to walk around 5 or 10 minutes to reach parks and other destinations, which corresponds to a distance of around 400 metres. Using only the pedestrian network (i.e. sidewalks and pathways), a 400 m distance was calculated from each open space. Because many of these “service areas” overlap with each other, we also calculated the amount of open space within walking distance from any given location in the city, which is shown on the next board.





# Access to Open Space

This map shows how much open space is within walking distance (400 metres, or 5 to 10-minute walk) from any given location in the city. **The darker the colour, the more open space is within a walking distance.**

- **99% of residential lots within 5 to 10-minute walk of an open space**
- **64%** of residential lots within walking distance to a **high amount of open space**
- **27%** of residential lots within walking distance to a **moderate amount of open space**
- **8%** of residential lots within walking distance to a **low amount of open space**

Neighbourhoods near the River Valley and some of the larger District Parks have the best walking access to open spaces. Residents in these areas have the most open space (in hectares) within walking distance.

Industrial areas, the north-east New Growth Area, and the city's other newly developing areas have low walking access to open spaces, because their pedestrian network (sidewalks and pathways) is not as well developed. Some of these neighbourhoods have few or no open spaces within walking distance.

# Functionality: Ecology



## What does it measure?

All open spaces were analyzed to determine how they work for Edmontonians – what functions they provide as part of a holistic green network. The results of the Ecology assessment are a combination of the ‘scores’ of its component functions:

 **WATER MANAGEMENT**

 **CLIMATE REGULATION**

 **BIODIVERSITY**

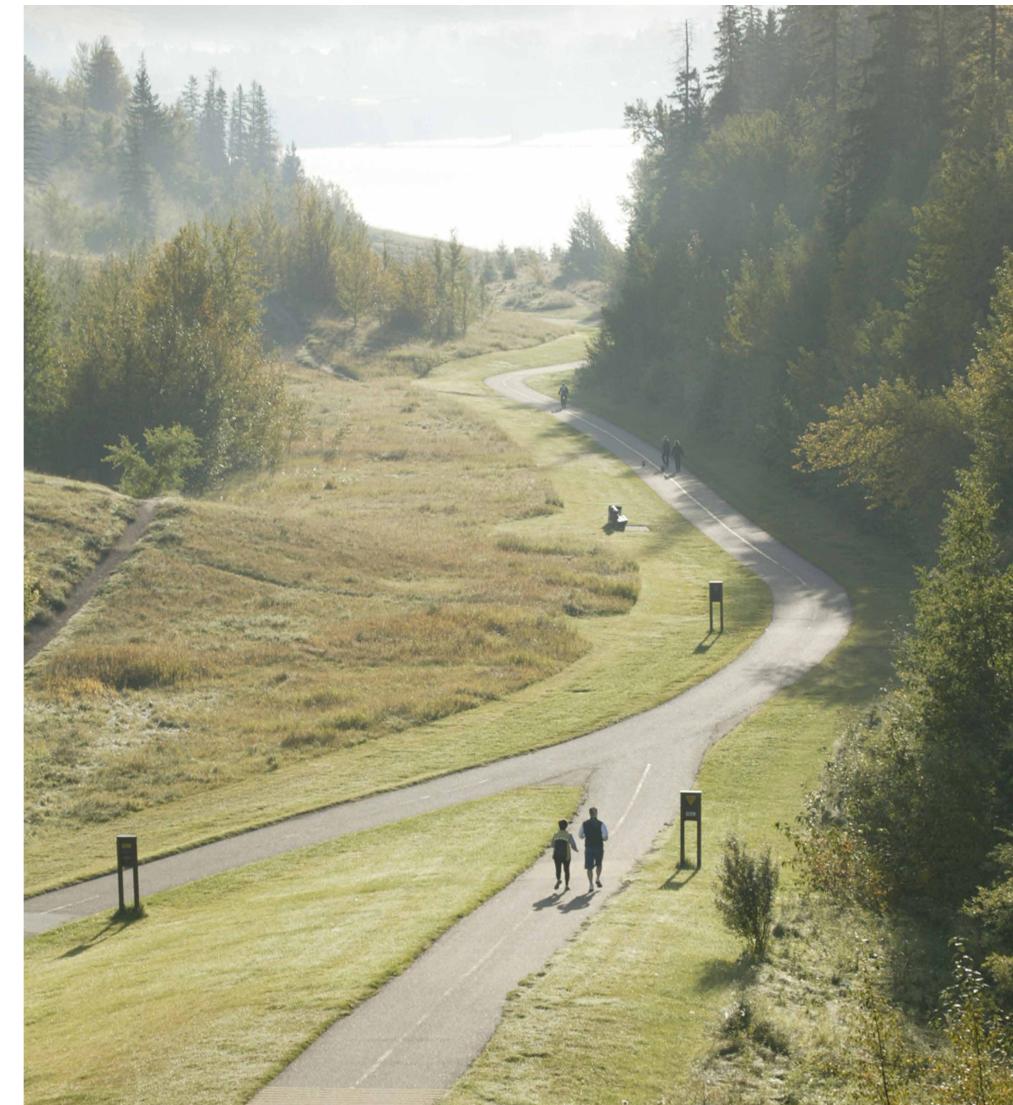
 **RISK MITIGATION**

 **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

 **FOOD PRODUCTION**

Water Management  
Climate Regulation  
Biodiversity  
Risk Mitigation  
Waste Management  
Food Production

Natural Wetlands						
Land Cover Diversity						
Stormwater Features						
Green Infrastructure						
Tree Diversity						
Tree Canopy						
Vegetative Land Cover						
Flood Risk						
Steep Slopes						
Garden Beds						
Recycling Depots						
Community Gardens						



## How do we measure it?

Each function was measured separately for each open space in the green network, and then the results were combined and summarized under the theme of Ecology. A variety of data was used to evaluate the functions, ranging from stormwater ponds to vegetation. These sources of information are listed to the right.



# Functionality: Ecology

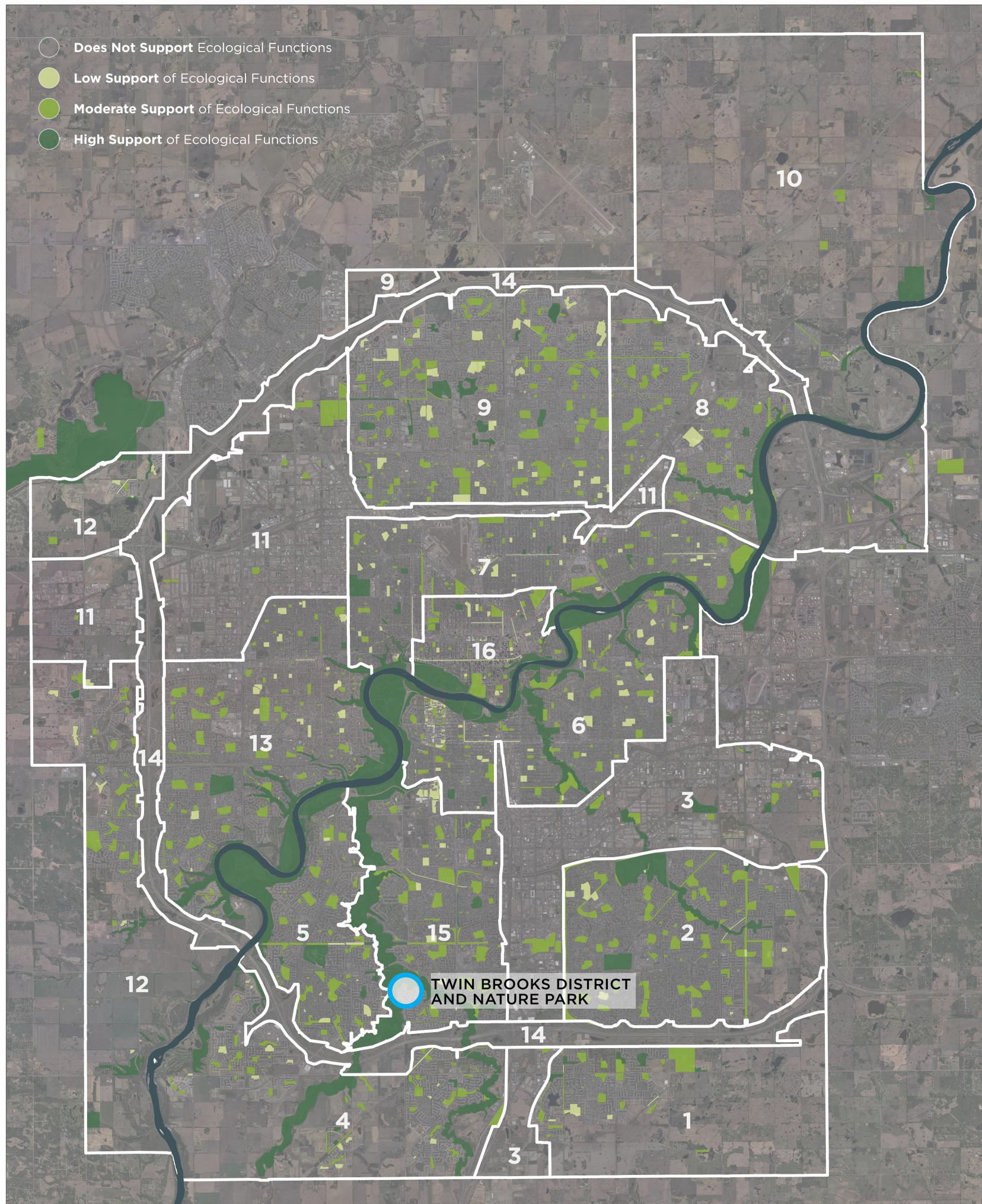
This map shows the results for our analysis of how well each open space fulfils the functions of Ecology. **The darker the colour on the map, the better that space supports a diversity of functions:**

-  WATER MANAGEMENT
-  CLIMATE REGULATION
-  BIODIVERSITY
-  RISK MITIGATION
-  WASTE MANAGEMENT
-  FOOD PRODUCTION

**The North Saskatchewan River Valley and ravine system has the highest value for Ecology.** Its open spaces support Water Management, Climate Regulation, Biodiversity and Risk Mitigation functions especially well. Some other upland parks have stormwater management features, community gardens, or vegetation that help support Ecology functioning as well.

**Many of the smaller upland parks have lower values for Ecology because they may support fewer functions.** They may have little natural vegetation (which helps to support good water management, climate regulation and biodiversity functioning), and they may lack sufficient space for amenities like community gardens or recycling centres.

**Twin Brooks District and Nature Park is a good example of an open space that is effective at providing for a diversity of Ecology functions.** Adjacent to the ravine system, the park helps to mitigate risk by protecting steep slopes and flood lands from development, and natural woodlands help to moderate heat island effect, reduce and filter stormwater runoff, sequester carbon, and provide habitat for plants and animals.



# Functionality: Celebration

## What does it measure?

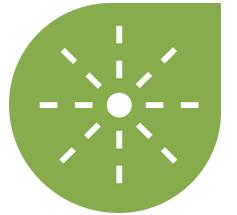
All open spaces were analyzed to determine how they work for Edmontonians - what functions they provide as part of a holistic green network. The results of the Celebration assessment are a combination of the 'scores' of its component functions:

-  **AESTHETIC VALUE**
-  **COMMUNITY BUILDING**
-  **PUBLIC SAFETY**
-  **HERITAGE**
-  **DESTINATION & TOURISM**

## How do we measure it?

Each function was measured separately for each open space in the green network, and then the functional 'scores' were combined and summarized under the theme of Celebration. A variety of data was used to evaluate the functions, ranging from scenic viewpoints to historic features. These sources of information are listed to the right.

	Aesthetic Value	Community Building	Public Safety	Heritage	Destination + Tourism
Garden Beds	💡				
Ornamental Water Features	💡				
Tree Inventory	💡				
Tree Canopy	💡				
Public Art	💡			🏛️	
Viewpoints	💡				
Litter Containers	💡				
Community Gardens		👥			
Community League Halls		👥			
Community Events		👥			
Main Streets, Squares & Plazas		👥			
Picnic Areas		👥			
Blue Phones			🚪		
Crime Rate			🚪		
Fencing			🚪		
Lighting			🚪		
Traffic Rates			🚪		
Road Speeds			🚪		
Cemeteries				🏛️	
Historic Buildings	💡			🏛️	
Heritage Landscapes				🏛️	
Traditional Indigenous Territories				🏛️	
Festivals		👥			🚩
Special Destination Venues					🚩
Provincial Parkland					🚩
Regional Parks					🚩
Aesthetic Value					🚩
Heritage Value					🚩
Washrooms		👥			🚩
Benches		👥			





# Functionality: Celebration

This map shows the results for our analysis of how well each open space fulfils the functions of Celebration. **The darker the colour on the map, the better that space supports a diversity of functions:**

-  AESTHETIC VALUE
-  HERITAGE
-  COMMUNITY BUILDING
-  DESTINATION + TOURISM
-  PUBLIC SAFETY

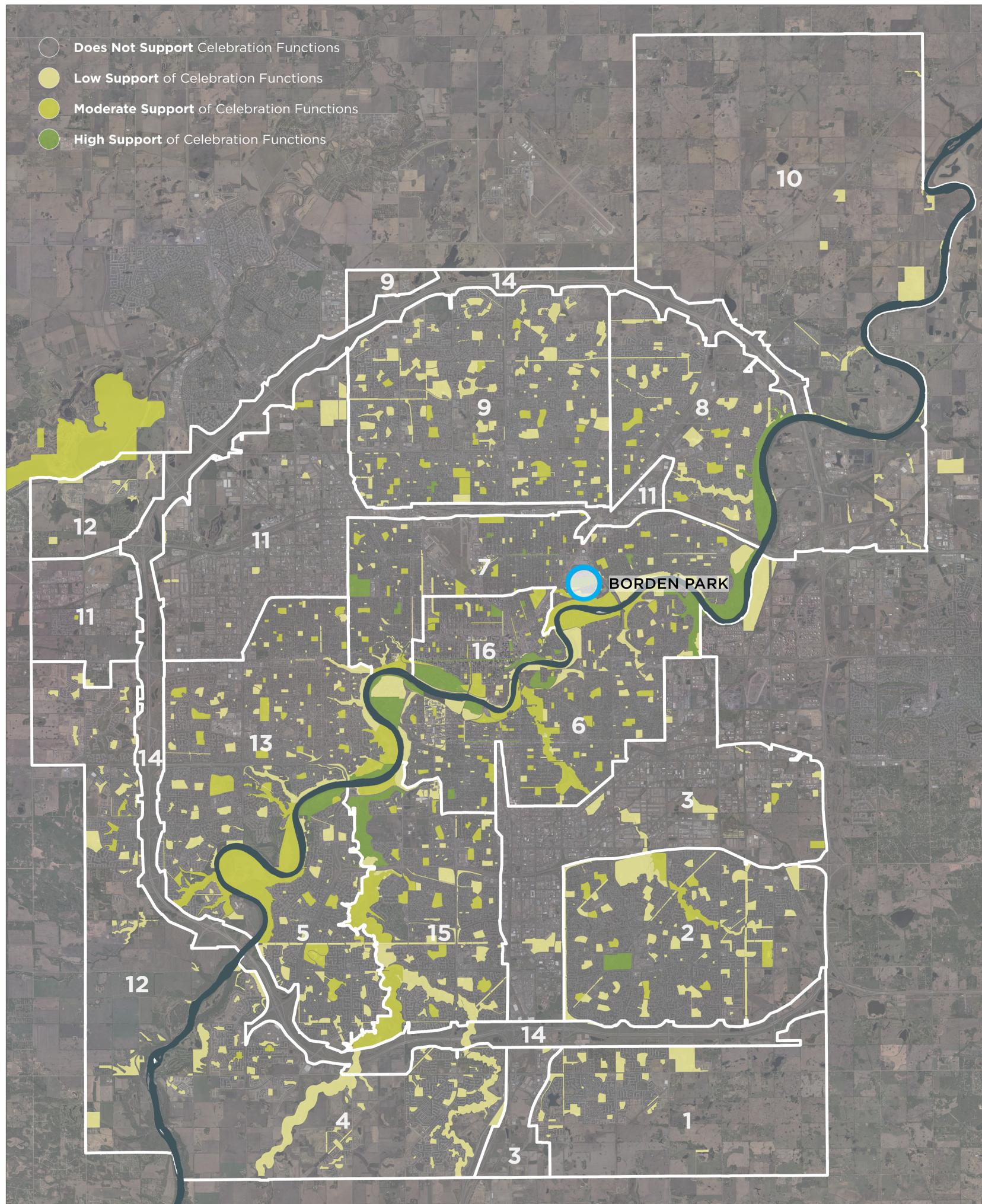
**Celebration values vary widely throughout the city,** reflecting the diverse functions that determine how Edmontonians gather, self-identify, and celebrate.

**Every open space has some Celebration value,** as a place of traditional Indigenous heritage or aesthetic appreciation.

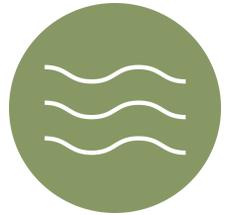
**The open spaces with the highest Celebration values are typically within the River Valley and ravine system,** and have features or amenities that support many functions. They are often places of significant natural beauty or family-friendly amenities, and include parks that draw people from across the city to special events and unique destinations. Many other open spaces perform well as locations for community events and gathering, thanks in large part to the activities of Community Leagues.

**Open spaces that received lower values are typically smaller, single-use spaces** that can support only a limited number of functions because they have less of the programming and amenities that create safe, attractive community destinations.

**Borden Park is a good example of an open space that supports a diversity of Celebration functions.** Its numerous public art installations and landscaping create a culturally significant and aesthetically pleasing space, and its multiple picnic sites provide opportunities for community gathering. This combination of features also helps to make it a destination for people throughout the city.



# Functionality: Wellness



## What does it measure?

All open spaces were analyzed to determine how they work for Edmontonians - what functions they provide as part of a holistic green network. The results of the Wellness assessment are a combination of the 'scores' of its component functions:

 **RECREATION**

 **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION**

 **MENTAL HEALTH + WELLBEING**

 **LEARN + PLAY**

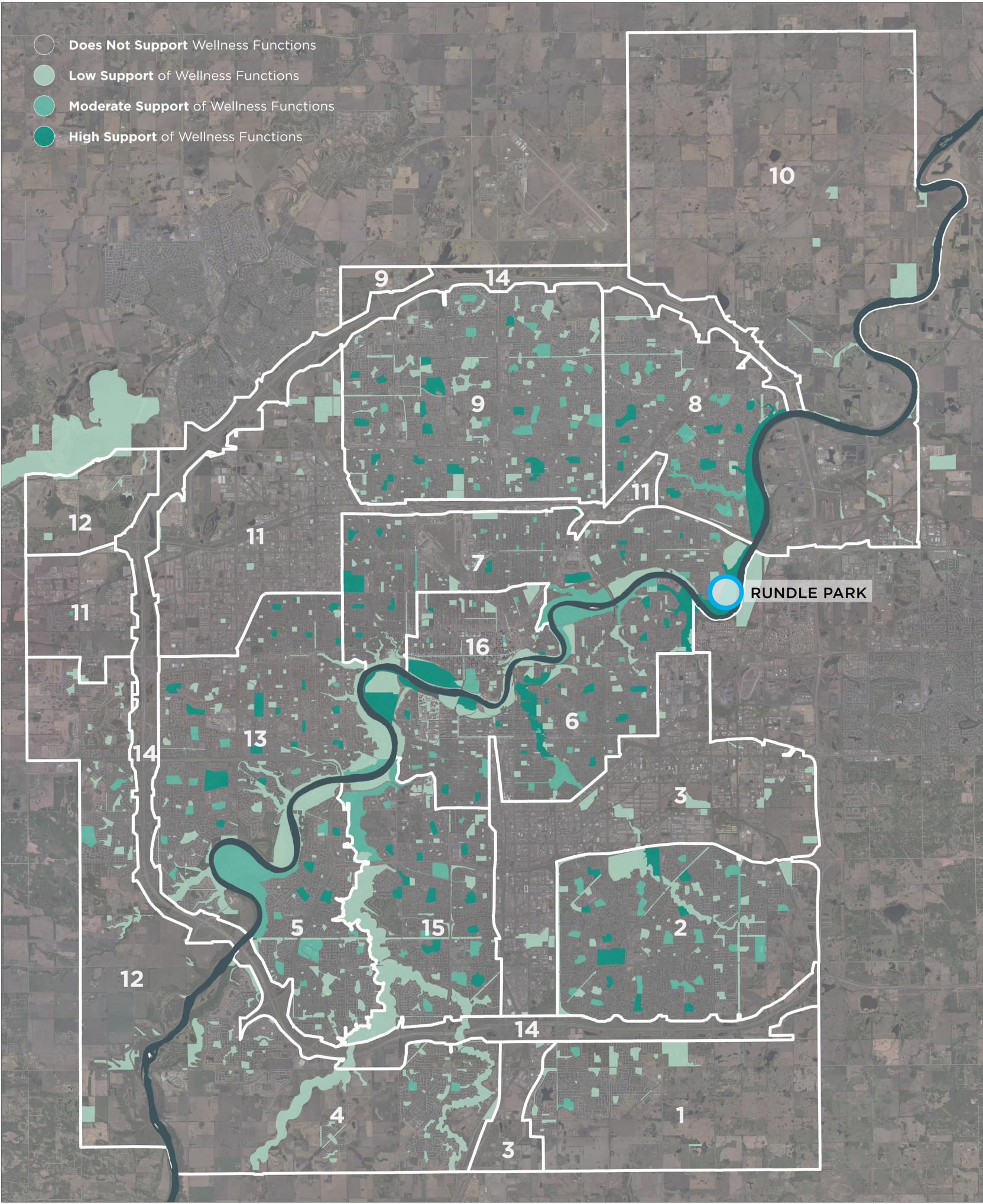
## How do we measure it?

Each function was measured separately for each open space in the green network, and then the functional 'scores' were combined and summarized under the theme of Wellness. A variety of data was used to evaluate the functions, ranging from school sites to multi-use pathways. These sources of information are listed to the right.

	Recreation	Active Transportation	Mental Health + Wellbeing	Learn + Play
Winter Chalets				
Toboggan Hills				
Skate Parks				
Nordic Skiing Trails				
Boat Launches				
Outdoor Skating Rinks				
Sports Fields				
Dog Off-Leash Areas				
Outdoor Swimming Pools				
Cycling & Pedestrian Pathways				
Playgrounds				
Splash Pads				
Green Shack Program				
School Sites				
Aesthetic Value				
Recreation Value				
Community Building Value				
Learn + Play Value				
Benches				
Bike Racks				
Bleachers				
Washrooms				
Tables				
Drinking Fountains				
Lighting				



- Does Not Support Wellness Functions
- Low Support of Wellness Functions
- Moderate Support of Wellness Functions
- High Support of Wellness Functions



## Functionality: Wellness



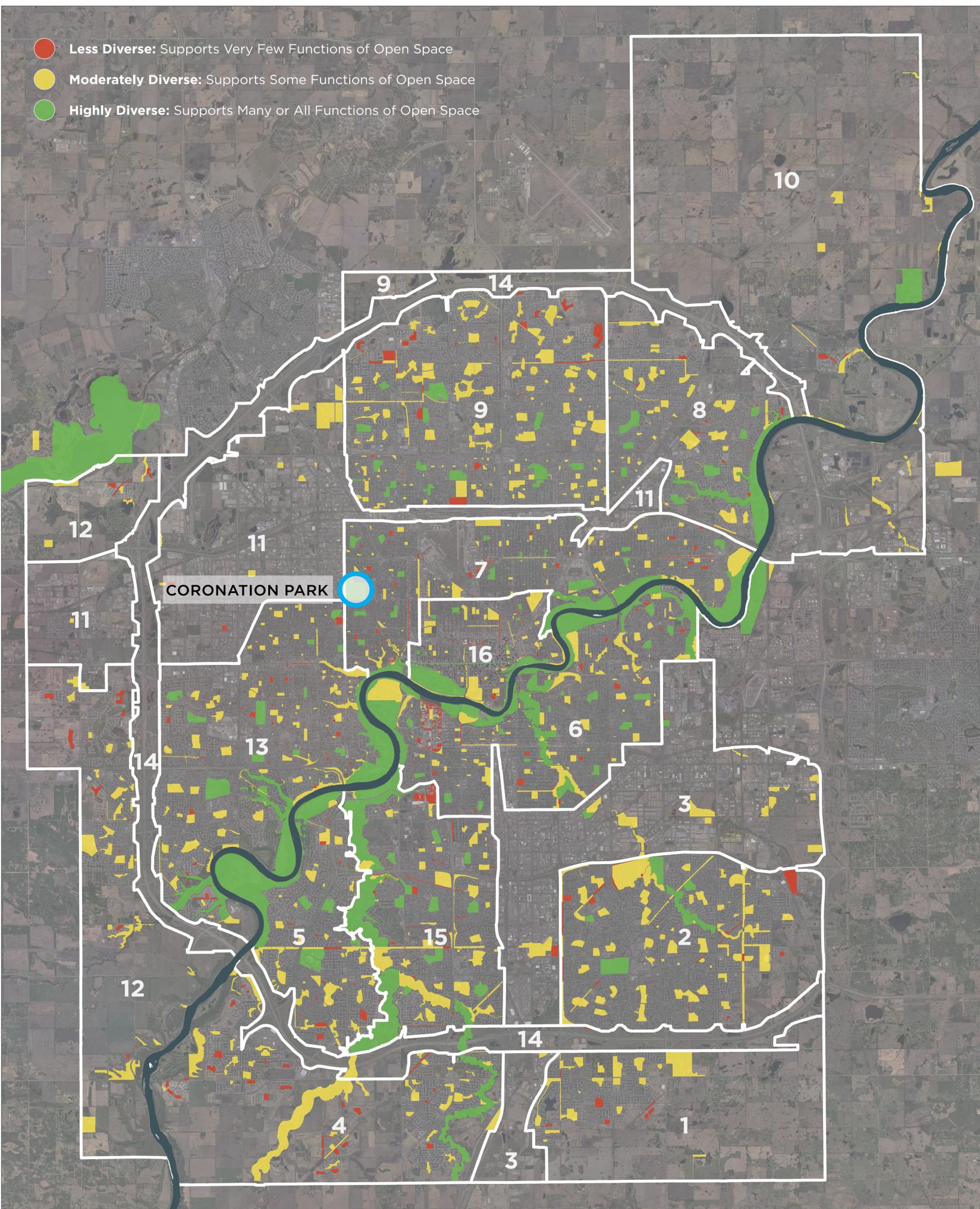
This map shows the results for our analysis of how well each open space fulfils the functions of Wellness. **The darker the colour on the map, the better that space supports a diversity of functions:**

- RECREATION
- ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
- LEARN + PLAY
- MENTAL HEALTH + WELLBEING

**Those open spaces that have high Wellness values are effective at supporting diverse kinds of physical and mental wellness.** They often have recreational features like sports fields and trail networks, some combination of natural beauty and social interaction to promote mental health and relaxation, and amenities that encourage childhood activity and development.

**Open spaces that received lower values have a limited number of amenities and features that support physical and mental wellness.** Although smaller parks often lack a broad range of amenities because of their size, some larger parks may provide amenities focused on a single use, to the exclusion of the others.

**Rundle Park is a good example of an open space that effectively represents a number of Wellness functions.** It contains many sports fields to encourage recreation, events and programming along with attractive surroundings to support mental wellness, and multi-use trails that can be used for active transportation.



# Functionality: Open Space Summary

What happens when we combine all of the functional values - Ecology, Celebration and Wellness - to find out how open spaces perform overall? This map shows how well each open space works to satisfy the various social, physical, mental and environmental needs of Edmontonians. **Open spaces shown in green have higher functional diversity (i.e. they support many functions), while open spaces shown in red have lower functional diversity (i.e. they support fewer functions).**

**There are relatively few open spaces in the Green Network that perform poorly in terms of functional diversity.** Almost always, these smaller spaces are associated with a single use - for example, a stormwater management pond or a turf field.

**Many open spaces are effective at satisfying a wide variety of Edmontonians' functional needs,** especially in the River Valley and ravine system, but also in many Community and District Parks. They provide a holistic value to residents and visitors by supporting multiple functions.

**Coronation Park is a good example of a multi-functional park.** It has vegetation and landscaping that make it aesthetically pleasing, multiple recreation facilities and pathways to encourage active living, the Woodcroft Community Hall and Ross Sheppard High School that promote community interaction, splash pad and picnic tables for families to gather and play, and the Telus World of Science that attracts visitors from near and far.



**FUNCTIONS**

**RECREATION**

Active and passive recreation opportunities contribute to physical and mental wellness

**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION**

Trail systems for walking, running, bicycling, and other forms of active transport

**LEARN & PLAY**

People of all ages learning through play

**COMMUNITY BUILDING**

Gathering spaces for social interaction, creating a sense of community

**CULTURE & HERITAGE**

Preserving and highlighting arts, culture, history and heritage

**DESTINATION & TOURISM**

Drawing residents and tourists together, in celebration

**AESTHETIC VALUE**

Welcoming spaces with attractive design

**BIODIVERSITY**

Habitat protection for plants and animals

**WATER MANAGEMENT**

Stormwater management, water treatment, and purification

**CLIMATE REGULATION**

Reducing urban heat island effect, improving microclimates, and mitigating climate change

**FOOD PRODUCTION**

Food security, healthier communities, and local agriculture

**RISK MITIGATION (SLOPE STABILITY)**

Soil retention, erosion control, and flood risk mitigation

# Thank you for participating!

## Next Steps

- Analysis of Open Space Demand**  
What will we need for open space over the next 5 years? 10 years? 30 years?
- Develop Indicators**  
Are we meeting our goals?  
What should our open space targets be?
- Final Consultation**  
Did we get it right?

## Future Opportunities for Engagement

-  **SPATIAL SURVEY:** Tell us what you like about Edmonton's open spaces at [engage.o2design.com/edmonton/breathe/engagemap](https://engage.o2design.com/edmonton/breathe/engagemap)
-  **QUESTIONNAIRE:** Take the online questionnaire at [edmonton.ca/breathe](https://edmonton.ca/breathe)
-  **OPEN HOUSES:** Let's Talk Parks Open Houses and Pop-Up Engagement Sessions are ongoing in August. Visit [edmonton.ca/breathe](https://edmonton.ca/breathe) for times and locations.
-  **PHASE 3:** Additional consultation sessions will be scheduled in October. Stay tuned for details!

## Breathe is Online

 Visit [edmonton.ca/breathe](https://edmonton.ca/breathe) to keep up to date on the project and stay involved!

**NEWS + EVENTS:** Come by, learn about the project and share your thoughts about Edmonton's open space

**TWITTER SCAVENGER HUNT:** Explore and photograph Edmonton's multi-functional open spaces

**PROJECT REPORTS:**  
Stage 1 Report  
What We Heard Report (Available at the end of August)

Have Questions?

-  [breathe@edmonton.ca](mailto:breathe@edmonton.ca)
-  [@PlanEdmonton](https://twitter.com/PlanEdmonton)
-  311