



BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

QUEEN ALEXANDRA MEETING TWO MARCH 27, 2014 6:30-8:30 PM

The City of Edmonton is building a great neighbourhood in Queen Alexandra beginning in spring 2015. As the City is committed to involving Edmontonians in the decisions that affect them, residents have been asked to provide input, to identify missing sidewalk connections and opportunities for other investments to add to Queen Alexandra's livability.

The City held its first meeting with the community league executive on September 24, 2013. A second neighbourhood-wide meeting was held March 27, 2014. A final pre-construction meeting will be held January 20, 2015.

Queen Alexandra residents had the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the neighbourhood preliminary design, and learn about the local improvement process. Staff members from Transportation Services, Community Services, Drainage Services and Forestry were on hand to address residents' questions.

The following provides a general overview of comments and questions from meeting two.

BIKE LANES

- *More shared-use lanes would be appreciated! Even just sharrows on 108 St and/or 81 Ave.*
- *Would like to see dedicated bike lane on 106 St and 76 Ave.*

Sustainable Transportation will implement contra-flow bike lanes along 80 Avenue and 81 Avenue. These are typically found on one-way streets where cyclists ride against the direction of traffic and are separated by solid yellow lines marked with an image of a bicycle and a white diamond. There will be no net loss of parking; however, some parking will be shifted on 80 Avenue from the north side to the south side between 105 Street and 109 Street. More information is available at www.edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/information-for-residents-and-motorists.aspx

Transportation Planning will also undertake a comprehensive corridor concept plan for 106 Street and 76 Avenue, which will be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Renewal construction plans in late 2015.

CONSTRUCTION

- *Will part of the grass on a person's front lawn be removed with sidewalk reconstruction?*

Yes, the amount of lawn removed will be dependent on the grade design of the new sidewalk. Any landscaping removed during construction will be replaced to match as close as possible to the existing condition.

DECORATIVE STREETLIGHTS

- *Are there examples of the proposed streetlight designs in existing neighbourhoods I can view to assist in my decision?*

Queen Alexandra did not support a decorative streetlight option. Standard galvanized streetlights will be installed throughout the neighbourhood at no cost to property owners.

DRAINAGE

- *My neighbours have graded their yard and sidewalks much higher than my yard. As a result, all their rainwater and sump water flows onto my yard and continuously floods my sidewalks...What can I do?*



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It is important to ensure that you and your neighbours have proper lot grading on your properties, which is the responsibility of each property owner. On occasion there are disputes between property owners. Information on residential lot grading, including assistance with this issue, is available at www.edmonton.ca/for_residents/flooding_sewers/residential-lot-grading.aspx or www.edmonton.ca/for_residents/flooding_sewers/surface-drainage-problems.aspx

MEETING/PRESENTATION

- *Why was a meeting for Queen Alex held in McKernan?*

The City tries to host meetings within the neighbourhood under reconstruction; however we are limited by the space available and project timelines. We need a school gym or other facility large enough to accommodate several hundred people, plus space for displays. Sometimes the facilities within the neighbourhood are fully booked for the time requested. If we must go outside the neighbourhood, we try to get a facility as close as possible.

NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PROGRAM

- *How is it that neighbourhoods in Terwillegar get repaved roads when they aren't that bad and we have to still wait till 2016 before ours gets done?*

The type of Neighbourhood Renewal work done depends on the condition of neighbourhood roads. Types of renewal work include: preventive maintenance; overlay; reconstruction; and collector road renewal. By combining these types of renewal, all Edmonton neighbourhoods can be improved within 30 years. This benefits neighbourhoods more quickly and at a lower cost than a reconstruction-only program. By doing overlay and maintenance in newer neighbourhoods, the City can extend their lifespans and save taxpayers money in the long term by not having to do full reconstruction.

- *Is it not our tax dollars that pays for reconstruction? Or does the City receive grants?*

The Neighbourhood Renewal Program was created in 2009 and included a new dedicated property tax levy to provide it with predictable, reliable and stable funding. The dedicated tax is 1.5% until the program can be completely funded by the levy alone, which is expected to be in 2018. On average, the City invests about \$20 million in a neighbourhood reconstruction, not including underground utility work. The program is currently funded through a combination of grants from the Provincial Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI), the Neighbourhood Renewal Program property tax levy, as well as sidewalk and decorative streetlight local improvements.

PARKS

- *Walkway path and bike path through Joe Morris Park and along University Ave needs redesign.*
- *J. Morris Park access down 109 St along University Ave becomes a dead end before 108 St.*

Thank you for your suggestion. We have assessed the walkways through Joe Morris Park. A new connection will be made from the corner of 108 Street and 78 Avenue to the existing sidewalks following the goat trail. The existing sidewalks will be reconstructed and a new sidewalk will be added along 108 Street from 78 Avenue to University Avenue.

- *Would like to see lighting on the pathway to the east side of 75 Ave and 74 Ave between the houses and the running track. Would also like if the path would extend to 76 Ave.*

Thank you for your suggestion. The Rollie Miles Master Plan has been funded as a part of the City's 2015-18 Capital Budget. Public consultation for the park master plan will resume in 2015. Any walkway connections will be identified for the entire site and therefore will not be done as part of Neighbourhood Renewal.



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We are able to accommodate the addition of lighting in the area of the pathway behind the running track. This will be installed as part of Neighbourhood Renewal work.

- *Connector sidewalk needed from park to 75 Ave (105A St) currently dirt.*

The 75 Avenue cul-de-sac will have a new sidewalk built to connect up to the fence. The area beyond the fence is not included in Neighbourhood Renewal.

- *Please consider adding sidewalk to the east side of 108 St to connect 74 Ave to the children's park at 73 Ave. Also, please add sidewalk to 76 Ave, west of 106 St, south side of the avenue.*

A sidewalk will be added along 108 Street from the alley south of 75 Avenue to 73 Avenue and on 76 Avenue west of 106 Street. We explored the addition of a connection from 108 Street by the alley east into the playground; however this connection will not be made. The community league is leading a redevelopment project for this park. More information about the park redevelopment is available through the community league or Community Recreation Coordinator.

ROADWAYS

- *My main concern is the timing of the road reconstruction on 105A St south of 76 Ave. I feel this needs to be moved up to 2015...it is simply not drivable in its current state.*

Thank you for your suggestion. There are many roadways in very poor condition throughout Queen Alexandra and they will all be reconstructed by the end of 2017. The current schedule will have 105A Street completed in 2016.

- *Need more info on widening of 77 Ave between 106 St and 105 St.*

The City has proposed widening 77 Avenue between 106 Street and 105 Street by 1.1 m to the south to provide additional road width for the buses at Mount Carmel School. This will be done within the existing road right-of-way so there will be no encroachments onto private property.

SIDEWALKS

- *East side of 108 St south of 74 Ave to alley needs a sidewalk to access the Queen Alex Park.*

The City will construct a new sidewalk on the east side of 108 Street between 74 Avenue and 73 Avenue.

- *Need new sidewalk on south side of 76 Ave west of 105 St. None exists on this corner and people shortcut across the grass to continue along 76 Ave.*

The City will construct a new sidewalk on the south side of 76 Avenue at the west of 105 Street.

- *A new sidewalk on the east side of 106 St is totally unnecessary. It will add to maintenance (shoveling) of property owners. It also increases loitering and drunken revelry of people walking from Whyte Ave when the bars close.*

The sidewalk along the east side of 106 Street will improve pedestrian connectivity between residential portions of Queen Alexandra and nearby commercial destinations, transit routes, and schools. The City's Strategic Plan, *The Way Ahead*, and Transportation Master Plan, *The Way We Move*, provide direction and support to encourage active modes of transportation, such as walking and cycling. We are committed to providing safe, direct and convenient routes for



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pedestrians by adding missing links in the sidewalk network. Universally accessible sidewalks and shared-use paths are part of the basic infrastructure needed to create a walkable and cycle-friendly city.

- *There is a need for a continuous sidewalk in front of Mount Carmel school.*

The City will be constructing a new sidewalk in front of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School.

- *Is Our Lady of Mount Carmel owned by the Catholic Church or leased City of Edmonton property?*

The Catholic School Board owns Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School and pays for any improvements.

TRAFFIC/SPEEDING

- *Consider traffic lights at 106 Ave and 76 St.*

Signs and markings at this location are clearly visible and appropriate to guide road users. The traffic volume does not currently warrant signals. Transportation Planning will undertake a comprehensive corridor concept plan for 106 Street and 76 Avenue, which will be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Renewal construction plans in late 2015.

- *Crosswalk light at University and 109 St is poorly located.*
- *A streetlight needs to be installed to control traffic at the 106 St and 76 Ave intersection. Trouble crossing.*

Given the existing street orientations of these two locations, the pedestrian signals are at the appropriate locations. Stop bars for both northbound and southbound directions are set back from closely spaced intersections to ensure proper sightlines and to ensure that motorists do not stop in the middle of the intersection.

- *Continue the treed boulevards on 76 Ave between 106 St and 105 St. It is the only section in Queen Alexandra without boulevards and encourages speeding from the 4-way stop (106 St and 76 Ave). There are 2 schools adjacent and safety is an issue.*

Unfortunately there is not enough road right-of-way on the north side of 76 Avenue along this stretch of road to install a boulevard. Transportation Planning will undertake a comprehensive corridor concept plan for 106 Street and 76 Avenue, which will be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Renewal construction plans in late 2015.