



BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

QUEEN ALEXANDRA MEETING THREE JANUARY 20, 2015 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 was 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 the meeting.

76 AVENUE/106 STREET CROSSROADS

- *I live on 106 Street & 76 Ave and believe we don't need a sidewalk at all so I'm against having to pay for a new sidewalk.*

The City covers the cost of the new sidewalk. For reconstruction of the existing sidewalk, you have 30 days to petition against the reconstruction. If you and others in your area successfully petition against sidewalk reconstruction (50 per cent +1), you will not have to pay for sidewalks -- only maintenance will be done.

- *Since the area is a bike route I would rather see this space used to widen the bike route since it is quite dangerous as it is now.*

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. We have forwarded your comments to Transportation Planning for consideration in their preliminary work.

- *On 75 Ave to 76 Ave there are not sidewalks on the east side of 108 St or 107 St. Why can't they be added?*

There is an existing sidewalk on the west side of both 108 St and 107 St between 75 Ave and 76 Ave, which meets requirements to have sidewalks on at least one side of the roadway.

- *Will the announcement by CP Rail of development of the 76 Ave rail yards be taken into account for traffic planning on 76 Ave? Traffic volumes could multiply as it becomes a through route to 99 St.*

CP only recently announced its plans to redevelop the rail yard east of Gateway Boulevard and south of Whyte Avenue. Transportation Planning has not been approached regarding the redevelopment or potential roadway requirements. Although Sustainable Transportation has indicated that there may be a cyclist/pedestrian connection, there is no concept plan for any connections following the alignment of 76 Avenue across the rail yard. Should CP's redevelopment plans move forward, Transportation Planning would be open to exploring this connection.



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- *106 St and 76 Ave are busy commuter roads. Painted line for “dedicated bike lane” does not provide adequate safety for bikes and cars, especially in winter (when bike lanes are covered in snow). We need enhanced infrastructure for active transport on these routes. They are busy with bikes and cars year round.*
- *Please install “bike boxes” on 76 Ave at intersections of 109 St and 106 St.*

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. We have forwarded your comments to Transportation Planning for consideration in their preliminary work.

BIKE LANES

- *Love the contra flow bike lanes. Thank you.*

Thank you for your feedback.

DECORATIVE STREETLIGHTS

- *I am concerned about the process of voting for streetlights in that at an earlier meeting it was stated that the neighbourhood would be canvassed for votes. To my knowledge, this was not the case. :(*
- *Had not received info from the city about the outcome of the decision regarding light standards. Disappointing.*

The Queen Alexandra Decorative Streetlight Committee did express interest in a decorative streetlight option. However, Queen Alexandra did not receive majority property owner support for decorative streetlights. Standard galvanized streetlights will be installed throughout the neighbourhood at no cost to property owners. As decorative streetlights are a property-owner-initiated local improvement, the City would only send out notification of decorative streetlight local improvements with the local improvement tax notice if the petition was successful.

DRAINAGE

- *Drainage is a huge problem/flooding when it rains.*

Surface drainage will be addressed through road reconstruction. Grading will be improved so storm water will drain properly to the catch basins. Queen Alexandra will also be part of a city-wide flood mitigation study beginning in 2015.

MEETING/PRESENTATION

- *Found that some of the presenters were hard to understand. Some of their verbal facts were not the same as the facts on the slide presentation.*
- *This was the first meeting as an owner of the property I was informed of only to find out two other meetings have already occurred. How were the meeting notices sent out—just a mail drop or sent to the property owner’s address?*
- *A huge sandwich board on 108 St. Put signs on apt building door because there is such density here. Very few University younger types here!*

The first meeting was held with the community league executive during a regular community league meeting in 2013. The second meeting was held in March 2014 with the entire neighbourhood. Notices were distributed to all homes within Queen Alexandra. The community league was notified in order to put the information on its website and in the community newsletter. The City also placed street signs and distributed information via our website, social media channels and a media announcement.



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- *The answers received were just a reiteration of what was in the information provided. Didn't necessarily "really" answer our questions.*
- *Thanks for info on sidewalks and curb ramps*
- *Some young speakers need more practice with mike and enunciation and speaking.*
- *But where are the ID badges? If not, make one. Everyone has paper, pen, tape. Bring a little kit with you like at the theatre department.*
- *Have a brief Q&A period at the end of the presentation.*
- *Should have allowed questions from the floor.*
- *More clear and more engaging presentation*
- *Don't just read off PPT*
- *Crowds gathered in front [of display boards] to chat - no way to see displays.*
- *Construction project manager needs some private time on public speaking (night school maybe) and giving a report. Photos not very sharp, for driveway stuff, sidewalks, etc.*
- *Staff name was not clear [was at the end of presentation].*
- *The type was way too small for the 50+ seniors mostly here.*

Thank you for your comments about the presentation content - we are taking them into consideration going forward.

City staff from various departments are available to answer questions during the meeting. All staff are required to wear name tags at meetings. Previously, we held Q&A sessions after presentations and found that this approach only allowed for a small number of questions from a few people. By making a number of subject matter experts available to answer questions after the presentation, we can answer more individual questions and also address specific questions that residents and property owners may have.

PARKS/TRAILS

- *I prefer to walk on grass/trails like the naturally formed ones in the University area.*
- *Would like more information on the path in the Rollie Miles area. Would definitely like to see a paved path go all the way from 76 Ave, connect to the gate at 75 Ave and continue on to the existing path behind the seating. Also would like the entire path to have lights. I feel the current lack of lighting creates a dangerous environment. Can someone please provide me with more information when more is known about this project?*

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, so they won't be done as part of Neighbourhood Renewal. For more information, visit http://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/projects_redevelopment/rollie-miles-athletic-park-renewal.aspx.

The City will be lighting in the area of the pathway behind the running track as part of Neighbourhood Renewal work.

SIDEWALKS

- *I asked if it is possible to get a sidewalk going all around the dead end of 75 Ave and 105A Street. Was told they will look into it but no one took my name to provide an answer to my question.*

To mitigate the impact on existing landscape, the 75 Avenue cul-de-sac will have a new sidewalk built to connect up to the fence. In addition, two new ramps will be constructed on the north and south sides of the sidewalk to allow pedestrians to cross.



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TREES

- *If you disrupt a large tree's roots, and especially if we get one or two hot/dry summers, is there a plan to water the trees?*

The Neighbourhood Renewal team works closely with the contractor and the City's urban foresters to ensure any root damage is minimized. The City places a lot of value on the long-term health of the mature trees and takes a proactive approach in mitigating any damage throughout the construction process.

Trees that have moderate root damage will be put on a three-year water and fertilizing list. Trees that have more serious root damage stay on the list for five years. Depending on weather, these trees are watered three-to-four times a season.