2027 Update - Climate Implementation Priorities **What We Heard and Did Report**

PHASE 2

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Edmonton

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Thank you to everyone who participated in this engagement. Your contributions have been invaluable, and we are pleased to share your insights in this report.

REPORT SUMMARY

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The objective of the 2027 Update - Climate Implementation Priorities is to identify priority climate actions the City is taking to advance the goals from the Climate Resilient Edmonton: Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan (Approved 2020) and the Community Energy Transition Strategy and Action Plan (Approved 2021). The actions focus on priorities for reducing emissions and responding to climate hazards.

ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

Phase 1 Engagement *(Jun - Oct 2025)*: Validating project approach, understanding experiences with climate change, and identifying partnership opportunities through workshops, meetings, and written feedback. This phase also included a separate stream of Indigenous engagement. ***Details can be found in the Phase 1 Summary and What We Heard Report.***

Phase 2 Engagement *(Dec 2025 - Jan 2026)*: Reviewing draft action concepts and providing feedback through a public survey, community pop-ups, targeted meetings, Engaged Edmonton online, and workshops. ***This report and its appendices focus on Phase 2 engagement.***

WHAT WE HEARD AND DID

Over two-thirds of survey respondents agree that we need to **act now to address climate change** (68 per cent) and that **climate change is caused mostly by human activities** (67 per cent). Most survey respondents showed **support for all proposed implementation approaches**.

Through other engagement tactics, general feedback on future implementation of these actions included involving Indigenous partners, placing high urgency on climate action, considering affordability and economics, collaborating with governments and organizations, having the City lead by example, integrating accessibility, involving youth, expanding education and engagement, and recognizing extreme heat and air quality. *General feedback*

Engagement feedback was used to refine draft action concepts into the detailed 2027 Update - Climate Implementation Priorities, leading to the creation of new actions and the strategic consolidation of others.

Action 1 (added outside of the five sectors below) is focused on relationship-building with Indigenous Peoples. This action is about creating **City Administration coordinated Indigenous Advisory Groups focusing on climate action.**

To learn more about what we did with engagement feedback, please read the relevant sections of this report and the Appendix at edmonton.ca/ClimateStrategy**.**

Buildings and Land Use

The majority of survey respondents consider **all proposed building and land use goals important**. In written survey responses, they showed strong interest in improving design standards, building codes, and permitting processes for energy efficiency, with suggestions to reduce permitting timelines and costs. They also suggested financial incentives to support all income levels and shared concerns about

development affecting mature trees and green spaces.

Through other engagement tactics, feedback on future implementation of the Buildings and Land Use actions included addressing the benefits and challenges of densification and considering construction emissions and building operations. *Buildings and Land Use sector feedback*

Action-specific feedback led to consolidating the wildfire actions, broadening the scope of the extreme heat and air quality action, focusing the climate-resilient community planning action for clear policy and design guidance, and consolidating private building actions to streamline energy-efficiency and climate readiness, aligning incentives and furthering education. Details on action-specific feedback are in the appendix.

Transportation

The majority of survey respondents consider most proposed transportation goals important, with **public transit and pedestrian safety goals being seen as most important**. In written survey responses, they mainly called for more frequent and reliable transit to make it an attractive alternative to driving and the need for improved accessibility and walkability.

Through other engagement tactics, feedback on future implementation of the Transportation actions included prioritizing a shift to transit through various improvements, discouraging car use through City policies, ensuring long-term transportation planning including transit facility investments, and improving transit accessibility for people with disabilities and low-income Edmontonians. *Transportation sector feedback*

Action-specific feedback led to consolidating transit facility improvements into the design and construction standards action, broadening the active transportation action, refining the EV action, and opening up the bus fleet action to various technology opportunities and to consider noise pollution. Details on action-specific feedback are in the appendix.

Infrastructure

The majority of survey respondents consider **all proposed infrastructure goals important**, especially those relating to extreme weather events. In written survey responses, they mainly wrote about fiscal responsibility and called for climate-resilient City infrastructure and preparedness for emergencies.

Through other engagement tactics, feedback on future implementation of the Infrastructure actions included needing to improve and maintain existing infrastructure, recognizing the critical importance of resilient infrastructure, and taking advantage of new construction to be climate-ready for the future. *Infrastructure sector feedback*

Action-specific feedback led to more integration of accessibility and social services in the actions, considering operational needs for resilience hubs, evolving hazard assessments and emergency response training, refining the extreme weather planning action, prioritizing infrastructure upgrades that will bring the greatest benefits, and ensuring that infrastructure actions align with existing policies and processes. Details on action-specific feedback are in the appendix.

Nature and Water

The majority of survey respondents consider **all proposed nature and water goals important**,

especially those relating to the tree canopy and green spaces, reducing wildfire risk, and preparing for droughts. In written survey responses, they mainly emphasized the need to protect the River Valley and natural areas and reduce development in these places, concerns about the loss of mature trees and water conservation, and recommendations to use more native plants.

Through other engagement tactics, feedback on future implementation of the Nature and Water actions included recognizing the fundamental importance of ecosystems and the changes they are experiencing with climate change, recognizing the importance of access to water especially during extreme heat, and working with neighbouring jurisdictions to connect ecological systems. *Feedback on Nature and Water*

Action-specific feedback led to broadening the scope to include all of Edmonton's urban forest, focusing the protection action on natural areas, refining the water security action to focus on holistic approaches, refining the flood action to consider a spectrum of flood risk reduction options, and connecting the wildfire action to the existing Wildland-Urban Interface Wildfire Risk Strategy. Details on action-specific feedback are in the appendix.

Low Carbon Energy and Waste

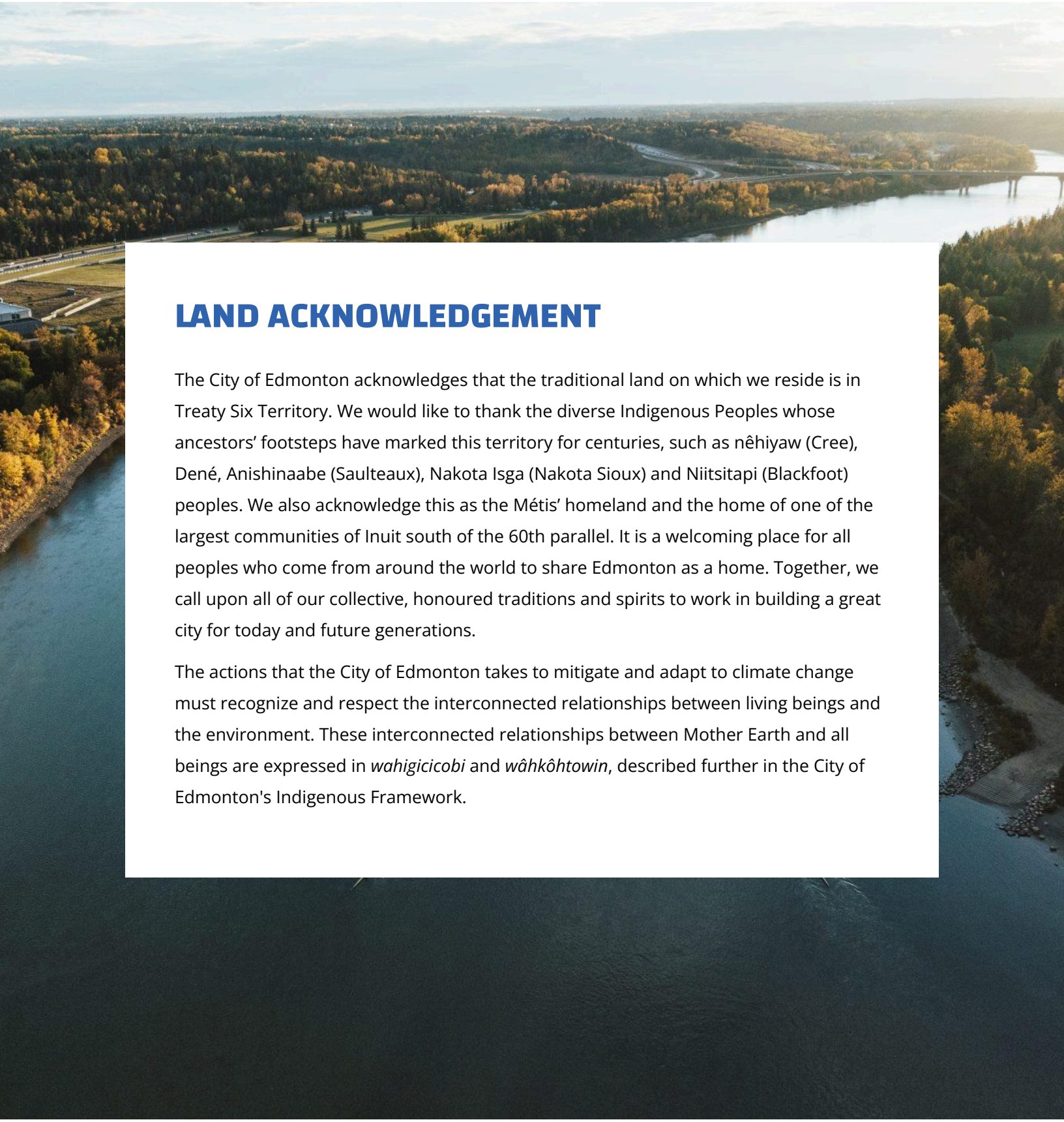
The majority of respondents consider **all proposed low carbon energy and waste goals important**, especially converting waste into low-carbon energy and better supporting renewable energy installation.

Through other engagement tactics, feedback on future implementation of the Low Carbon Energy and Waste actions included considering pursuing zero carbon instead of low carbon, increasing access to recycling, addressing methane emissions with regulations, and expanding solar photovoltaic systems to more buildings. *Feedback on Low-Carbon Energy and Waste*

Action-specific feedback led to refining the community-led renewable energy projects action to enable projects on City property, consolidating actions focusing on the electricity grid clarifying the intent to pursue funding options to support all the identified emission reduction and climate preparedness actions, refining the landfill gas action to explore how learnings can be applied to other methane sources in Edmonton, and adjusting the waste action to focus on waste reduction and diversion initiatives. Details on action-specific feedback are in the appendix.

NEXT STEPS

The findings from Phase 2 engagement were used to develop the detailed 2027 Update - Climate Implementation Priorities which will be presented to Executive Committee and City Council for approval in mid-2026. Funding decisions will be made as part of Council's established budget processes. Feedback received regarding the implementation of the actions will be shared with the City teams who will lead the actions that are funded by City Council. **Visit edmonton.ca/ClimateStrategy for the Appendix to this report.**



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The City of Edmonton acknowledges that the traditional land on which we reside is in Treaty Six Territory. We would like to thank the diverse Indigenous Peoples whose ancestors' footsteps have marked this territory for centuries, such as nêhiyaw (Cree), Dené, Anishinaabe (Saulteaux), Nakota Isga (Nakota Sioux) and Niitsitapi (Blackfoot) peoples. We also acknowledge this as the Métis' homeland and the home of one of the largest communities of Inuit south of the 60th parallel. It is a welcoming place for all peoples who come from around the world to share Edmonton as a home. Together, we call upon all of our collective, honoured traditions and spirits to work in building a great city for today and future generations.

The actions that the City of Edmonton takes to mitigate and adapt to climate change must recognize and respect the interconnected relationships between living beings and the environment. These interconnected relationships between Mother Earth and all beings are expressed in *wahigicicobi* and *wâhkôhtowin*, described further in the City of Edmonton's Indigenous Framework.

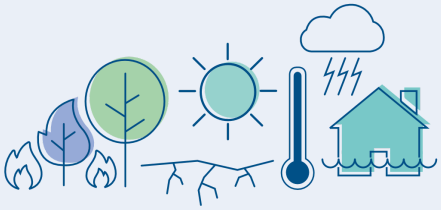
PROJECT OVERVIEW

EDMONTON'S CLIMATE IS CHANGING AND THE CITY OF EDMONTON IS TAKING ACTION

Following Edmonton City Council's declaration of a climate emergency in 2019, the City established two climate strategies to guide the City of Edmonton's climate work:

1. **The Climate Resilient Edmonton: Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan** (2018), centered around five transformative pathways identifying the impacts of climate change, and what we can do to be prepared to protect our community, infrastructure and services:

+ Preparing for Changing Temperatures
+ Preparing for Changing Precipitation
+ Preparing for Changing Weather Extremes
+ Preparing for Changing Ecosystems
+ Science and Evidence Based Decisions, including frameworks for decision making



Climate adaptation is about minimizing negative impacts, reducing risks and embracing potential opportunities associated with climate change so that communities and ecosystems are prepared to cope with new or changing climate conditions.

2. **The Community Energy Transition Strategy** (2021), centered around four transformative pathways to achieve Edmonton's low-carbon future:

+ Renewable and Resilient Energy Transition
+ Emission Neutral Buildings
+ Low Carbon City and Transportation
+ Nature Based Solutions and Carbon Capture

Climate mitigation is about efforts that slow climate change by reducing or preventing the release of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. Examples include using renewable energy, improving energy efficiency, and walking, biking and taking public transit.

Project Objective

The objective of the **2027 Update - Climate Implementation Priorities** is to identify priority climate actions the City is taking to advance the goals from the *Climate Resilient Edmonton: Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan* (2018) and the *Community Energy Transition Strategy and Action Plan* (2021). The actions focus on priorities for both reducing emissions, and responding to climate hazards.

Project Background

Edmonton's two climate strategies must be reviewed every five years as directed by City Charter Regulations. This initiative is to meet requirements under Edmonton's City Charter regulation and ensure that Edmonton's climate strategies are effective and responsive to shifting local priorities and impacts.

Through the review it was determined the goals that are laid out in the strategies remain in alignment with best practice and are on par with the ambitions of other comparable municipalities. To establish a clear path forward, the City has identified a set of implementation priorities that will build on and strengthen existing progress.

During Phase 2 public engagement, the high-level action statements were described as **Draft Action Concepts**. These are the high level concepts proposed by the City. The concepts have been refined based on community engagement and additional analysis to create the **Final New Actions** for the Climate Implementation Priorities.

ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

Engagement Goals

The Public Engagement Spectrum explains the four roles the public can have when they participate in City of Edmonton public engagement activities. From ADVISE to DECIDE, there is an increasing level of public influence and commitment from the City and the public, as shown below:

Phase 2 engagement for this project was at the **ADVISE** level of the spectrum. For ADVISE, *the public is consulted by the City to share feedback and perspectives that are considered for policies, programs, projects, or services.* The Climate Implementation Priorities were developed using a combination of City policies and programs, technical and safety requirements, and input from the public and interested parties. This approach ensures decisions are fiscally responsible, aligned with best practices, and support strong outcomes for Edmonton.

How We Engaged

Phase 2 engagement for the draft Action Concepts was open from December 5, 2025 to January 30, 2026. To ensure that a wide range of Edmontonians could provide feedback, a variety of engagement methods and tools were used in person and virtually. The engagement opportunities demonstrated our commitment to engaging with a diverse range of interested parties in order to understand their unique perspectives and experiences. Each activity was designed to meet Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) goals by targeting specific communities that may be underserved and/or underrepresented in traditional planning processes. Additional detail on the major engagement tactics is provided below.

The 2027 Update - Climate Implementation Priorities project involved a separate Indigenous engagement stream in coordination with the Climate Resilience Planning and Development Action Plan and the Wildland-Urban Interface Wildfire Risk Strategy. A fulsome report on the Indigenous engagement findings across these three projects will be published in late 2026.

Engagement Tactics

Engagement tactics include a variety of activities to ensure Edmontonian's had a wide range of options to participate and provide feedback. The table below outlines the key engagement tactics used for phase 2 engagement of this project. Details on tactics from phase one engagement can be found in the phase one high-level summary and full What We Heard Report.

TACTIC	DESCRIPTION	AUDIENCE	STATISTICS
Engaged Edmonton	An online hub to access all engagement opportunities and educational materials	Public, Online	**59 Comments & 8 Questions**
Online Survey	The public was invited to fill out the online survey from Jan 5 to 30, 2026 to collect feedback on draft actions *(see the appendix for details on the survey methodology)*	Public and Edmonton Insight Community, Online	**3,849 Responses**
Community Pop Ups	In person pop-up events across various locations in Edmonton to provide the public, with an emphasis on equity-deserving / GBA+ groups, with the opportunity to learn more about the project and provide feedback on the draft actions	Targeted, In Person	**5 Locations & 148 Participants**
Meet with the Project Team	10-20 minute meetings booked by any member of the public or organizations to meet with the project team for in-depth discussions	Targeted, Online	**4 Meetings & 4 Participants**
Targeted Workshops	Representatives from Indigenous Nations and organizations, development industry, utilities, educational institutions, non-profits and advocacy groups were invited to learn about the draft actions and provide detailed feedback	Targeted, In Person and Online	**2 In-Person & 1 Online Workshop with 52 Participants**
Advisory Committee Meetings	The project team presented project updates to City of Edmonton Advisory committees including the Energy Transition Climate Resilience Committee, The Accessibility Advisory Committee, The City of Edmonton Youth Council, and the Transit Advisory Committee	Targeted, In Person and Online	**2 Meetings & 28 Participants**

TACTIC	DESCRIPTION	AUDIENCE	STATISTICS
Email Feedback	Received written feedback from a variety of participants, including those who could not attend the targeted workshops or meetings, or who had additional feedback.		**12 Emails**

WORKSHOPS IN JANUARY 2026

ENGAGED EDMONTON PAGE

COMMUNITY POP-UP

Communication Tactics

Multiple channels were used to inform interested parties and the public about engagement opportunities during phase 2 of the engagement process. These resulted in strong awareness and participation in the engagement process.

TACTIC	DESCRIPTION	AUDIENCE	STATISTICS
Digital Screens	Public facing digital screens at City of Edmonton locations	Public	Ran Dec. 5-31, 2026
Social Media	Posts on X, Facebook, Instagram	Public, Online	~23K impressions
Newsletters, Public Service Announcements (PSAs)	Stories and event listings in Change for Climate Newsletter and Weekly Engagement PSA (Dec/Jan)	Public and Insight Community, Online	~10 articles
Email - Targeted	Targets email to representatives from Indigenous Nations and organizations, development industry, utilities, educational institutions, non-profits and advocacy groups	Targeted, In Person	~234 Engagement Notice Emails
Email - General	Email to groups and organizations for public engagement opportunities, including Community Leagues, Business Improvement Area Associations and economic development groups, and those who signed up for project updates	Public, In Person & Online	~226 Engagement Notice Emails

Who We Engaged

The City has made a commitment to engage with the people affected by the decisions it makes and seeks diverse opinions, experiences and information so that a wide spectrum of perspectives are represented in the process. The insights presented in this What We Heard Report represent the viewpoints of people and organizations who decided to participate in public engagement for this phase.

+ General public
+ First Nation and Métis governments, Indigenous organizations, and Indigenous Peoples
+ Climate-focused non-governmental organizations (NGOs), not for profits, and advocacy groups

+ Environmental industry associations
+ Utility companies
+ Development industry associations and industry advisory groups
+ Educational institutions and academics
+ Select City of Edmonton Committees, such as the Energy Transition Climate Resilience Committee and Accessibility Advisory Committee

A full list of organizations can be found in Appendix 4.

What We Asked

The focus of the second phase of engagement was to receive feedback on the draft action concepts that were published on December 5, 2025. All engagement tactics aimed to deepen our understanding of two central questions::

1. Do the proposed actions make sense?
2. How should we carry out these actions?

The following elaborate from the two central questions:

CENTRAL QUESTIONS	SUB-QUESTIONS
Do the proposed actions make sense?	Do the draft action concepts make sense?
	Have the draft action concepts adequately considered people's lived experiences of climate change?
	How should the action concepts be refined to maximize impact and mitigate challenges?
	How important are the goals that each action concept is aiming to achieve?
	How should the City prioritize its resources for responding to climate change?
	Are there any actions you think are missing?
How should we carry out these actions?	How should the action concepts be refined to maximize impact and mitigate challenges?

WHAT WE HEARD AND ARE DOING

The feedback considered during the second phase of engagement has been compiled, analyzed, and summarized. The project team has also continued to consider the insights gained during Phase 1 of engagement (more information on Phase 1 can be found at edmonton.ca/ClimateStrategy).

Feedback is categorized into main themes, organized into the following sections:

+ **General:** Broader themes we heard with applicability to the overall project
+ **Sector-Specific:** Broad feedback on the following five sectors, which were used to organize actions: Buildings and Land Use, Transportation (*previously mobility*), Infrastructure, Nature and Water, and Low Carbon Energy and Waste

Results from the **public survey** and **general feedback** for each section are summarized. Specific insights from various groups are highlighted where there were unique or contrasting perspectives shared by a certain participant group.

Action-Specific Feedback: What We Heard and Did

Feedback on specific Buildings and land Use actions was used to refine the actions. Draft Action Concepts shared during engagement have been combined or reorganized based on further refinements and feedback. Feedback regarding the implementation of each action will be shared with the City teams who will lead the action.

A detailed breakdown of what we heard and did for each action can be found in Appendix 1.

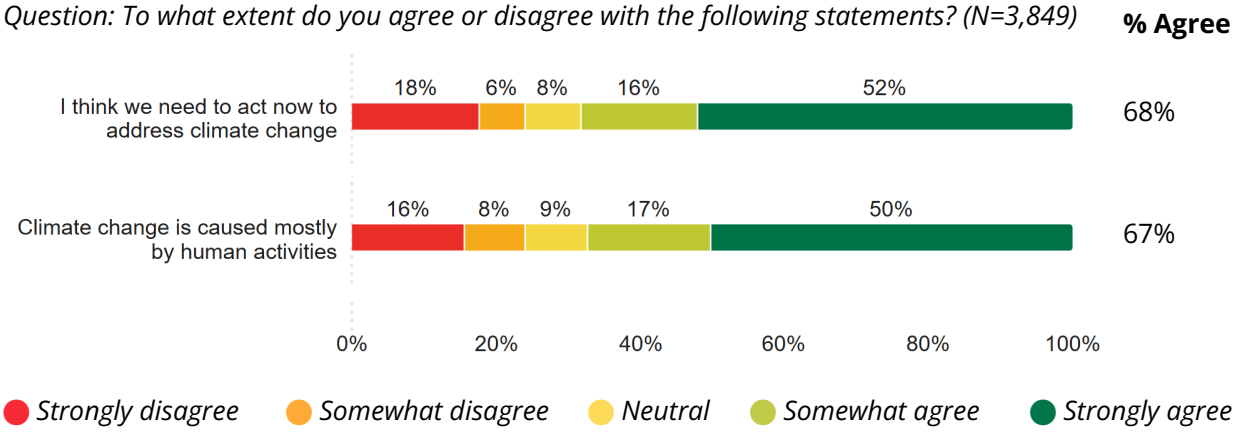
General Feedback

This section outlines the broad feedback received and how the City is responding to this feedback.

Survey Results

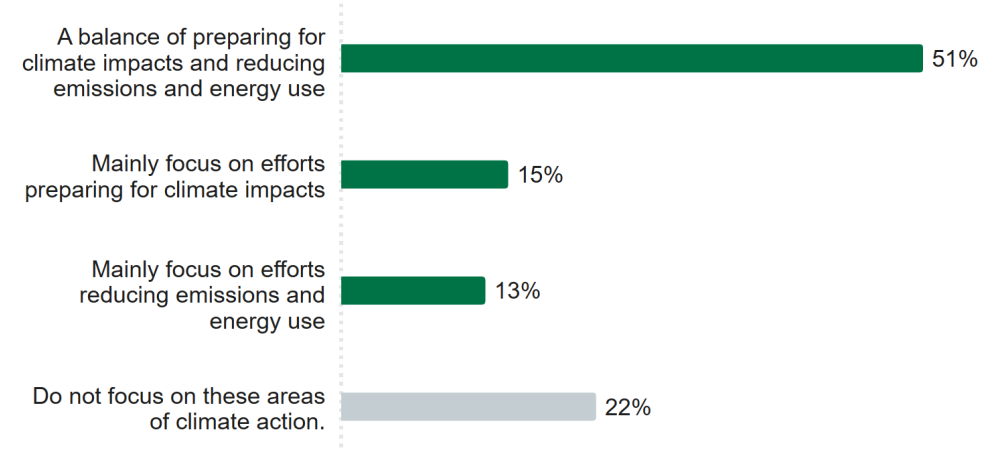
Over two-thirds of respondents agree that we need to **act now to address climate change** (68 per cent) and that **climate change is caused mostly by human activities** (67 per cent). Agreement is higher among women, those born outside Canada, persons with disabilities, those under 35 years of age, and those identifying as 2SLGBTQIA+.

Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (N=3,849)



Fifty-one per cent of respondents prefer a **balanced approach between reducing emissions and preparing for climate impacts**. Fifteen per cent prioritize efforts toward preparing for climate impacts, and 13 per cent favor focusing on reducing emissions and energy use.

Question: The actions in the Climate Action Plan Update will fall under two main goals: Reducing Emissions and Energy Use and Preparing for Climate Impacts. Over the next four years (2027–2030), how would you prioritize the allocation of City resources between the two main goals? Please select one option that best reflects your priority. (N=3,849)



The majority of respondents **support all proposed implementation approaches**, with **infrastructure-based methods such as resilient facilities and flood protection identified as the most valued at 79 per cent.** Support was also shown for financial support, community awareness, and policy and coordination.

Respondents were asked if there was anything else they would like to share, beyond feedback on the specific action categories (1,492 responses). Respondents expressed concerns about spending and municipal jurisdiction and the need to focus on core services. Many expressed general support for the project and gratitude for the City's work on climate action. Some emphasized the urgent need for stronger climate action, with the recognition that climate change is an emergency and there is a need to lead by example to support future generations. Respondents also mentioned that

climate action in Edmonton will not have enough impact on global climate change and cause Edmonton to bear additional costs. Some respondents expressed that climate change is not real or not impacted by humans, while others expressed that climate change is due to natural causes. There is interest in focusing City funds on preparing infrastructure for extreme weather, wildfire, droughts, and floods, with ideas including incentives and public education. Also, there is a concern that individuals might bear the burden of additional costs, while industries, corporations, and developers are main contributors to emissions.

Indigenous Relationships

Targeted engagement with Indigenous Peoples for the development of the 2027 Update - Climate Implementation priorities occurred throughout the later half of 2025 and into early 2026. We heard about the importance of an ongoing, predictable and committed relationship between Indigenous Peoples and the City. In response to this, a new action was created:

New Action

ACTION 1. ESTABLISH AN ONGOING, PREDICTABLE AND ACCOUNTABLE RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ON CLIMATE

Action 1 is about fostering an ongoing and accountable relationship between the City and Indigenous Peoples through collaboration and respect as we work to implement the Climate Implementation Priorities. This will be done through the creation of City Administration coordinated Indigenous Advisory Groups focusing on climate action. Full details on the content of this action are listed in the 2027 Update - Climate Implementation Priorities .

General Feedback

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
A.	**Greater Urgency with Focus on Core Services:** Some participants wanted the action concepts to go further to address the current climate emergency. They pointed out that our 2025 climate target (35 per cent greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction compared to 2005 levels) has been missed and that the actions will not be sufficient to reach the 2030 target (50 per cent reduction compared to 2005 levels). Some shared that the City should first focus on core services and reduce the tax burden for	Through development and refinement of the actions, the City sought to integrate climate outcomes into its existing services and align actions with Council priorities (Economic Development, Growth Management, Safety and Quality Services). Further by building on the momentum of projects already underway, the actions can maximize potential benefit given the City's current fiscal constraints.

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
	Edmontonians. We heard from some that climate action should be integrated into essential infrastructure projects rather than pursued as standalone initiatives to balance immediate needs with long-term environmental goals.	
B.	**Economic Development:** Participants wanted the City to prioritize local job creation and business opportunities.	Each action includes a measure of how it supports economic development, which was informed by modelling done by an economics consultant.
C.	**Affordability:** Concerns about affordability were raised by many participants. Some said climate action can improve affordability and others said it could increase costs. However, some said that the focus of climate action should be about responding to climate change, not affordability.	Affordability was a key consideration in developing the actions. Social and economic benefits, including affordability, and relevant actions include an affordability outcome description. However, the focus of the actions is on responding to climate change.
D.	**Informed, Actionable and Measurable:** There was broad consensus that the actions should build on previous successes and lessons learned while integrating both Western science and Indigenous Knowledge as foundational elements. Actions should be prioritized based on Edmonton's most pressing climate hazards, using cost-benefit analysis, economic modelling, and criteria that consider social, environmental, and financial outcomes to ensure the most impactful work moves forward. The implementation approach should be appropriately resourced to meet established climate targets and include clear accountability through objectives that are monitored and audited for alignment with intended outcomes.	Development of the new actions started with a detailed review of existing actions, including their strengths, and opportunities for enhancement. The actions that are included in the 2027 Update - Climate Implementation Priorities were selected and refined using prioritization criteria that balanced financial, social and economic impacts with the most effective ways to reduce Edmonton's climate hazards and most significant emission sources. The City created a public dashboard and Climate Governance Framework in December 2025 to ensure climate actions are transparently tracked and consistently reviewed, allowing for continuous improvements and corrections where necessary.
E.	**Collaboration with other Orders of Government and Organizations:** We heard it is critical to collaborate with other levels of government to influence changes where there are jurisdictional constraints. We also heard about the importance of partnerships more generally to advance climate efforts. However, these collaborations should not become ways	As standard practice, the City aims to build relationships with other organizations, community members, and other levels of government to identify collaboration opportunities. The Implementation Priorities identify areas requiring collaboration with external partners. The City coordinates with provincial and federal

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
	to pass off responsibilities of the City. On the other hand, we heard that the City should not resource actions that other levels of government are responsible for.	governments, as well as other organizations, to advance climate wherever possible.
F.	**Indigenous Knowledge & Participation:** We heard that we should involve Indigenous Knowledge in the actions, considering it on par with scientific knowledge. We also heard the importance of shifting away from traditional development and implementation models, and to continue dialogue and engagement with Indigenous partners as the actions move forward.	Refined actions have been informed by Indigenous Knowledge and feedback heard during engagement, such as the integration of **Action 19**, which includes a key planned activity to integrate Indigenous knowledge and fire stewardship in reducing wildfire risk. Furthermore, the following two actions were added: **Action 1**: Establish formal, ongoing relationships with Indigenous partners to serve as the foundation for implementation. **Action 20:** Integrate Traditional Ecological Knowledge into City land-use processes by engaging Indigenous partners in respectful knowledge-sharing. The City's Environment and Climate Resilience Team is committed to continued relationship building with First Nations and Métis Governments and Indigenous organizations.
G.	**City Policies:** We heard the City should lead by example by making sure that City Policies address a range of climate considerations for city operations, maintenance, and other processes.	The City is leading by example by transitioning its municipal assets toward a low-carbon and climate-ready future through actions such as **Action 9**, which focuses on City fleet, and **Action 13** which focuses on City infrastructure. Further, some actions within this plan include changes and/or updates to City policies to help incorporate climate. By transforming these internal processes and assets, the City ensures its own operations and service delivery are directly aligned with its long-term climate commitments.
H.	**Accessibility:** We heard that the impact of any action on accessibility must be considered. It is critical to avoid adding barriers and ensure service accessibility is expanded for equitable access. Ongoing engagement and reporting are needed during implementation.	The Climate Implementation Priorities were developed using an equity and GBA Plus lens to ensure actions support vulnerable populations. The City has an accessibility policy, Accessibility for People with Disabilities Policy C602A, which is used to inform accessibility requirements and best practices for City projects. This policy will be applied during the detailed implementation of each action.

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
		Feedback shared during this phase of engagement regarding accessibility (and all other feedback) will be shared with implementation teams for each action.
I.	**Youth:** We heard that more efforts need to be made to involve youth in climate action.	The project team sought out the perspectives of youth through Phase 2 engagement, including providing honoraria for those who faced barriers to participating in engagement. The implementation of many of the climate actions will require additional engagement, which will follow the City's engagement policy. This includes applying GBA Plus, and involving youth organizations.
J.	**Language & Terminology:** We heard that plain language communication that is accessible to all is important for the implementation of actions and the way the City communicates regarding climate hazards, such as wildfire risk. For example: • Use plain language communication methods for those who do not know English. • Work with Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard-of-Hearing communities to share information. Indigenous partners mentioned that the City should be mindful of language moving away from terms such as "management" or "pests" when talking about natural areas and animals.	The Implementation Priorities were refined to ensure language was clear, accessible and clarified terms where there may be confusion. Language regarding natural areas has been adjusted to focus more on environmental stewardship. Feedback regarding accessible language and reaching deaf and hard of hearing communities will be considered when implementing the actions and will be shared with the teams leading each action.
K.	**Education & Community Action:** We heard that the success of the Climate Implementation Priorities is contingent on the engaged participation of informed and educated Edmontonians. We also heard that, beyond education, establishing ways to spur individual action through intrinsic motivation will be necessary. We heard the City should look to establish a Climate Action Citizen Forum.	Recognizing the importance of education to inform and spur climate action, the Climate Implementation Priorities includes outreach and education initiatives on key topics such as energy literacy (**Action 3)**), extreme heat and air quality (**Action 4**), resilient landscaping practices (**Action 15**), wildfire (**Action 19**), renewable energy (**Action 21**) and circular construction (**Action 27**).
L.	**Air Quality and Extreme Heat:** We heard from numerous respondents about how extreme heat events and poor air quality is a pressing public health concern that is affecting their quality of life, affordability and social access.	Several actions within the plan focus on mitigating health risks associated with extreme heat and poor air quality. **Action 4** recognizes the importance of addressing

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
	We heard that action is required to address local sources of poor air quality, as well as implement both temporary and long-term adaptation strategies for all Edmontonians.	these two climate hazards. Longer term systemic changes through advocacy will be pursued along with concrete actions. The impact of this Action will be further bolstered by programs and incentives advanced through **Action 3**. Short-term response measures were also identified in **Actions 10-12**, which focus on how we can respond to extreme weather events through accessing cool spaces and protecting City staff wellbeing during day-to-day operations. **Actions 15-20** outline the numerous long-term health benefits provided by natural assets and water resources. For example, protecting and enhancing our urban forest is important as trees provide natural cooling and clean the air.
M.	**Artificial Intelligence and Data Centres:** We heard concerns from several parties about artificial intelligence and their environmental impact, including water use for data centres. We heard the City should assess industrial development, specifically discouraging water-intensive industries which conflict with drought management goals. Respondents felt this concern was not addressed in the Draft concepts.	Artificial intelligence is not directly addressed through the climate actions. Discussions on AI infrastructure and data centres are ongoing.

Buildings and Land Use

This sector is about the design, construction and operation of private buildings, sites and neighbourhoods to improve energy transition and climate adaptation outcomes.

Survey Results on the Buildings and Land Use Sector

A total of 2,485 respondents contributed to quantitative questions on building and land use goals. The majority of respondents consider all proposed building and land use goals important. The top three goals respondents find somewhat to very important are the following:

+ **Supporting the cleanup of old vacant commercial or industrial sites** (77 per cent),
+ **Reducing household utility bills and emissions through energy-efficient building programs** (76 per cent), and
+ **Addressing extreme temperature and air quality in living spaces and reducing utility costs through advocacy for building standard changes and partnerships** (73 per cent).

The perceived importance of all building and land use goals is higher among women, those under 35 years of age, those identifying as 2SLGBTQIA+, low-income households (under $60,000) and those that agree we need to act now to address climate change. Respondents who use bikes or ebikes as their primary mode of transportation show higher support for improving access to energy-saving options and renewable energy for low-income respondents and addressing extreme temperature and air quality in living spaces through building standard advocacy. Analysis of general feedback in the open-ended question on climate resilience and efficiency of buildings and neighbourhoods (random sampling of 600 comments from 1,001 responses) identified the following themes:

+ Strong interest in improving design standards, building codes, and permitting processes for energy efficiency, with suggestions to reduce permitting timelines and costs
+ A desire to focus funds on core municipal services rather than on discrete climate initiatives or private property retrofits
+ Interest in financial incentives, grants, and rebates for energy-efficient home upgrades, making sure they are accessible to all income levels and mitigate risk
+ Address infill developments that respondents feel result in the loss of mature trees and green spaces, issues with solar light capture, and increased hazards from crowding

+ The need to reduce urban sprawl and the city's carbon footprint by supporting infill density, while protecting green spaces and access
+ Concerns about housing affordability, specifically the risk that new standards, mandatory retrofits, and increased taxes could increase housing costs for households
+ Support for solar panels and heat pumps, calling to remove capacity limits on resident-installed solar panels and better support multi-unit buildings
+ The need for tenant protections against extreme weather, such as indoor temperature limits and air filtration in rental buildings, helping to protect vulnerable populations from extreme heat and wildfire smoke
+ Recommendations for the City to require property owners to address abandoned properties and transform them into usable sites, potentially for affordable housing
+ Require fire-resistant materials in new buildings, making sure that developers have a role in climate-resilient design instead of relying solely on City funding
+ Support for advancing climate goals in mature neighbourhoods through retrofits rather than demolition, to preserve neighbourhood character
+ Calls for improved resilience of public infrastructure and essential services to protect Edmontonians from floods, wildfires, and energy crises
+ A desire to lower fixed utility fees, as respondents see these existing delivery charges getting in the way of financial savings from energy conservation

A detailed analysis of open-ended responses is included in Appendix 3.

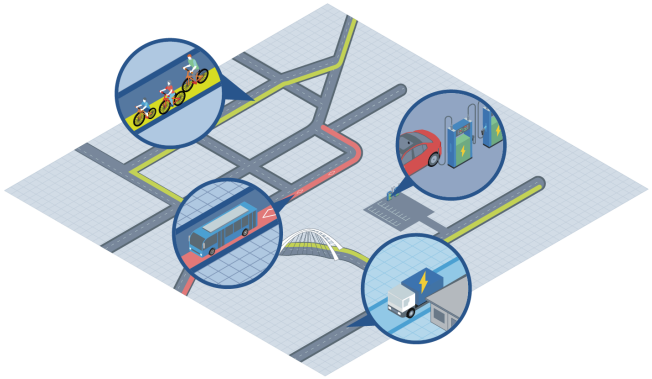
General Feedback on Buildings and Land Use Sector

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
A.	**Densification:** We heard from many parties about the benefits and challenges of densification. Participants shared that it must be carefully implemented to gain benefits and not hinder other climate priorities such as wildfire risk, solar access and tree canopies. Feedback highlighted that strategic site design can help navigate these competing environmental needs and, importantly, must be approached equitably to ensure all communities benefit.	This is an ongoing discussion that is outside of the scope of the climate actions. District Plans and the new Zoning Bylaw establish goals and regulations on density. However, work currently underway through the Climate Resilience Planning and Development Action Plan and continuing through **Action 2** is taking steps to address wildfire risk, solar-readiness and resilient landscaping through development regulations and policy so that Edmonton is a resilient city as it continues to grow and densify. **Action 15** also has key planned activities on preserving and enhancing Edmonton's urban forest for their numerous cooling and ecosystem benefits, including exploring opportunities for better protecting

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
		trees on private properties.
B.	**Embodied Carbon and Waste:** We heard that emissions from construction, including the construction activity, new building materials and demolition waste (together referred to as embodied carbon) should be taken into account, in addition to emissions from the day-to-day operation of a building (such as from heating and cooling). As lifecycle impact becomes increasingly important, respondents emphasized that construction waste should be properly managed with greater consideration for circularity.	**Action 27** includes a program to promote circular construction and demolition projects, encourage the testing of alternatives to conventional demolition and create partnerships across the sector. Feedback regarding the importance of addressing material emissions and construction waste will be shared with the City teams who will lead the actions.
C.	**Lighting Restrictions:** We heard the City should pursue lighting restrictions for commercial, industrial and government properties to reduce after hours lighting and minimize the impact of their street lighting.	The Climate Implementation Priorities do not include a specific action around lighting. Lighting standards are addressed in part through the design and construction standards (**Action 14)**. This feedback will be shared with the City teams who will lead this action.

Transportation

This sector is about how people move throughout Edmonton, and the types of infrastructure and facilities provided to support that movement and reduce emissions from transportation. This category was previously called **mobility** during the engagement period.



Survey Results on Transportation Sector

A total of 2,618 respondents contributed to quantitative questions relating to transportation goals. The top three transportation goals respondents find somewhat to very important are the following:

+ **Improving comfort and safety for transit users during extreme weather events** (76 per cent),
+ **Providing faster and more reliable transit options** (73 per cent), and
+ **Supporting safer travel options by building pathways for walking and cycling** (68 per cent).

The perceived importance of all transportation goals is higher among those under 35 years of age, those identifying as 2SLGBTQIA+, respondents who use public transit as primary transportation, low-income households (under $60,000) and those that agree we need to act now to address climate change. Respondents living in central regions, as well as those who walk or cycle as their primary mode of transportation, also show higher support for secure bike parking and the expansion of walking and cycling pathways. Furthermore, low-income households (under $60,000) are more likely to prioritize improving transit comfort and safety during extreme weather events through facility design and supporting safer, low-carbon travel options for walking, cycling, and mobility devices compared to high-income households.

Analysis of general feedback in the open-ended question on moving around Edmonton (random sampling of 600 comments from 1,397 responses) identified the following themes:

+ The need to prioritize snow removal for roads, sidewalks, and bike lanes, recognizing Edmonton as a winter city
+ Suggestions for more frequent, reliable, and faster transit options, including LRT and BRT expansion, to make public transit an attractive alternative to driving
+ The need to improve accessibility and walkability, including wider sidewalks, more shared-use paths, and safer infrastructure for pedestrians and particularly people using wheelchairs and walkers

+ Varied views on bike lanes, with opponents seeing them as expensive and disruptive to traffic, and supporters calling for better maintenance and secure bike parking
+ Concerns about safety and comfort on transit, with interest in greater security, enforcement, and climate-controlled bus shelters
+ Concerns about spending and the need to focus on core municipal services like road repair
+ Mixed views on electric vehicles (EVs), with support for expanding charging networks and concerns about carbon footprints and poor performance in cold weather
+ Interest in reducing dependency on cars with more convenient public transit, walkable neighbourhoods, denser development, and better local amenities
+ The need to improve traffic flow and bottlenecks to reduce vehicle idling
+ The recommendation to support vulnerable populations with safe, warm winter alternatives and providing heated and cooled bus shelters, instead of removing people in need from transit centres

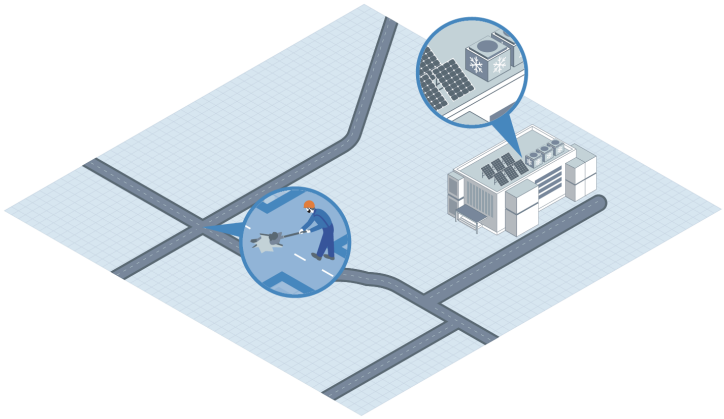
A detailed analysis of open-ended responses is included in Appendix 3.

General Feedback on Transportation Sector

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
A.	**Prioritize Mode Shift:** We heard the City needs to prioritize use of transit and other low carbon transportation through: • Continued LRT expansion • Managing fare increases • Ensuring accessibility and reliability of transit, including during extreme weather events • Keeping transit safe • Ensuring safety of bike lanes and other trails and pathways • Providing bike parking • Eliminating no-ride zones for e-scooters and bikes	The Transportation actions were refined using the feedback received with two key actions focused on mode shift: • **Action 6** which is focused on advancing transit improvement projects and • **Action 7** which is focused on expanding the active transportation network. Both of these actions prioritize mode shift and support Edmontonian's shift from personal vehicle use to public and active transportation use. Aspects such as Transit Fare, transit accessibility, and the design of specific active transportation projects are managed outside the scope of the Climate Implementation Priorities.
B.	**Discourage Car Use:** We heard that personal vehicle use needs to be discouraged. We heard by some parties that this should include EVs which are not an appropriate solution. Mechanisms proposed were: • No incentives or subsidies for vehicles • Increase or implement parking fees at City facilities	The action refinements were developed to encourage low-carbon modes of transportation, focusing on new infrastructure projects to build better transit and active transportation connections. **Action 6** and **Action 7** focus on encouraging Edmontonian's to use public and active transportation. The City recognizes that a multifaceted approach is required to decarbonize transportation. The expansion of the electric vehicle (EV) charging network at City

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
	• Tax larger vehicles • Implement traffic calming measures • Eliminate road expansion projects	facilities is seen as a key element to ensure equitable access to EV technology. This expansion is being pursued through private investment and not through taxpayer funded investments or incentives.
C.	**Long term planning:** We heard about the importance of long term transportation planning for the City including investing in needed transit infrastructure such as bus depots	Development of actions was informed by the City's ongoing long-term transportation and transit planning. Specific transit, active transportation and related infrastructure advancement is reflected through key planned activities in **Actions 6, 7 and 9**. **Action 9** identifies progress on construction of the new Southeast Transit Garage as a priority.
D.	**Accessibility:** We heard that facilitating the mobility of people with accessibility or disability barriers is not seen in the draft concepts. Extreme weather and other climate risks exacerbate mobility challenges for populations already facing accessibility concerns. We heard from Indigenous partners and advocacy groups that often accessibility concerns are compounded by other access barriers such as income and age.	The Climate Implementation Priorities was developed using an equity and GBA+ lens to ensure actions support our most vulnerable populations. Through detailed implementation of the actions, critical factors such as accessibility will be considered and included.

Infrastructure



This sector is about how the City provides services and assesses, prioritizes and builds infrastructure (roads, City buildings, bridges) in response to changing climate conditions.

Survey Results on Infrastructure Sector

A total of 2,684 respondents contributed to quantitative questions relating to infrastructure goals. The majority of respondents consider all proposed infrastructure goals important. The top two goals respondents find somewhat to very important are the following:

+ **Ensuring support during extreme weather events** (80 per cent) and
+ **Providing safe places during extreme weather events** (79 per cent).

The perceived importance of all infrastructure goals is higher among women, those under 35 years of age, those identifying as 2SLGBTQIA+, low-income households (under $60,000), respondents who use public transit as primary transportation, and those that agree we need to act now to address climate change. Respondents living in central areas are more likely to find “reducing energy use by applying higher emission reduction standards in City infrastructure projects” important compared to those in other regions.

General feedback in the open-ended question on infrastructure (random sampling of 600 comments from 1,163 responses) covered the following themes:

+ Prioritizing core services and fiscal responsibility, with comments about cost-of-living concerns, the need for cost-benefit analyses on climate projects, and the need for financial support to offset upgrade costs
+ Demand for building high-quality, climate-resilient infrastructure like City facilities, maintaining current infrastructure, and improving flood and drainage systems
+ Urgent need for reliable emergency evacuation hubs, accessible heating and cooling facilities (e.g. heated transit shelters), and effective management of wildfire smoke
+ Making sure that unhoused Edmontonians and people with disabilities have safe, accessible shelter from extreme weather
+ Support for the energy transition, reducing emissions, and protecting the environment such as the River Valley and tree canopy
+ The need for improved public transit, reliable snow and ice removal, and improved traffic flow to reduce vehicle idling

+ More public education on climate issues and stronger partnerships with other levels of government and community partners in climate action

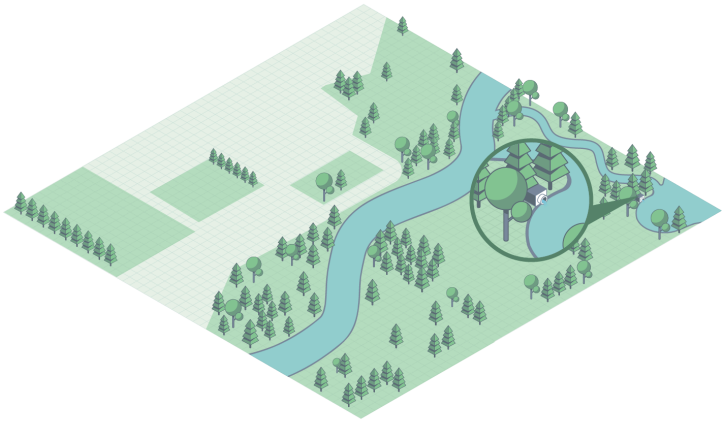
A detailed analysis of open-ended responses is included in Appendix 3.

General Feedback on Infrastructure Sector

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
A.	**Existing Infrastructure:** We heard that existing infrastructure should be leveraged first before building new infrastructure. That said, we also heard concerns around the age and state of existing infrastructure.	**Actions 10** and **13** detail how the City can opportunistically use and improve its existing infrastructure to mitigate against the impacts of a changing climate to provide continued services to Edmontonians. However, some actions focus on new priority infrastructure projects that are required to meet City objectives such as to support mode shift.
B.	**Critical Importance:** We heard that infrastructure is a core service the City provides and how important it is to have systems in place to protect Edmontonians from climate risks, as well as ensure the infrastructure itself is built to withstand future climate risks.	**Actions 11 and 12** details the systems and responses required to protect Edmontonians during extreme weather events or shifting seasons. For example, **Action 12** outlines how the City will update its business continuity programs to minimize disruptions and prioritize critical services. **Action 13** includes activities for the City to improve its infrastructure to better withstand climate risks. **Action 14** outlines activities that will support standards updates that will guide climate resilient infrastructure development.
C.	**Climate Opportunity:** We heard that every construction project is an opportunity to act on climate through design, building material, purpose and location.	**Action 14** identifies opportunities to ensure that infrastructure designed and built today is climate-ready for the future.

Nature and Water

This category is about how to support, restore and sustainably manage ecosystems including green spaces and parks, and water resources.



Survey Results on Nature and Water Sector

A total of 2,584 respondents contributed to quantitative questions relating to nature and water goals. The majority of respondents consider all proposed goals important. The top three goals respondents find somewhat to very important are the following:

+ **Protecting the health of the City tree canopy and green spaces** (88 per cent),
+ **Reducing wildfire risk by managing vegetation** (88 per cent), and
+ **Preparing for droughts and water shortages** (87 per cent).

Those who agree that we need to act now to address climate change are more likely to view all nature and water goals as important. There are no other sub-group differences across these goals.

Analysis of general feedback in the open-ended question on green spaces, parks, and water resources (random sampling of 600 comments from 1,107 responses) identified the following themes:

+ The need to protect the River Valley and natural areas with interest in limiting or halting further development, keeping these spaces natural and public
+ Opposition to cutting mature trees on private land, specifically identifying concerns about developers and infill, and interest in private tree protection bylaws
+ The need for water conservation and drought preparedness with properly-maintained infrastructure and reservoirs, with concerns about activities demanding high water use like data centres and lawn watering
+ Recommendations to use native plants to improve flood risk management, reduce water demand, and better support the natural environment
+ Requests for reducing wildfire risks by clearing deadfall from the River Valley and natural areas
+ The need to limit development in floodplains and prioritize flood mitigation planning
+ Support for expanding and protecting the tree canopy
+ Concerns about the cost of further studies on environmental research instead of using existing data to take immediate action

+ The need for enhanced public education and communication to help Edmontonians actively participate in climate goals like water conservation and promoting native species
+ Recognition of the cooling benefits of the tree canopy, highlighting how trees noticeably reduce the urban heat island effect
+ Concerns with tree health and maintenance, which should not be forgotten when expanding the tree canopy
+ Recommendations for meaningful involvement of Indigenous peoples for guidance on land and water management, especially regarding Indigenous fire stewardship and controlled burns

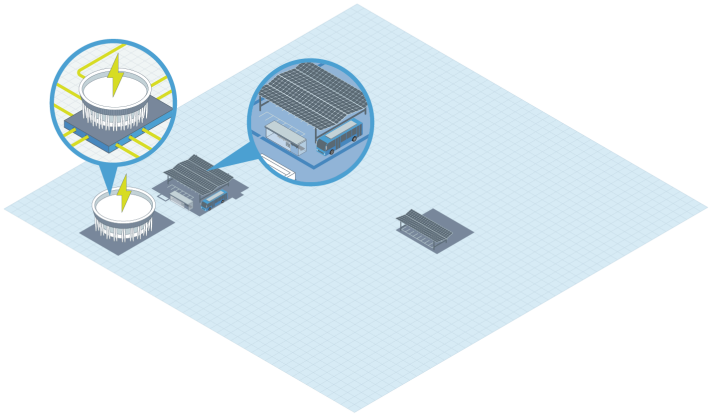
A detailed analysis of open-ended responses is included in Appendix 3.

General Feedback on Nature and Water Sector

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
A.	**Ecosystem Importance:** We heard from all parties about the fundamental importance of nature and water, and overwhelming support for actions that will ensure its continued health. We heard how a whole ecosystem approach should be implemented and nature based solutions advanced where possible.	The actions in this section further detail the individual and collective benefits of our ecosystem's components, including land, water, vegetation, and people. **Actions 15 and 20** adopt a holistic approach, with key planned activities to improve the overall health of our ecosystems.
B.	**Planning for Ecosystem Shifts:** We heard that trees and plants need to be selected taking into consideration the shifting ecosystem in Edmonton. We also heard it is important to consider native plants, medicinal plants and edibles.	**Action 15 and 16** consider the impacts of a changing climate, including drought and increased temperatures, on trees, plants, and natural areas.
C.	**Access to Water:** We heard that access to water should be a fundamental right and that more needs to be done to ensure water is available during extreme heat events and for vulnerable Edmontonians.	The development of **Actions 10**, **11**, and **12** in the Infrastructure category include activities on improving water availability and accessibility. This includes outlining spaces and creating event contingency planning to ensure that Edmontonians can access water not just for consumption, but also cooling and hygiene, during heatwaves and other extreme weather events.
D.	**Ecological Connectivity:** We heard Edmonton needs to work with neighbouring jurisdictions since our waterways and other ecological systems are all connected.	Development of **Actions 17, 18 and 19** and the subsequent implementation efforts, acknowledge that the work related to our land, water and ecological features requires collaboration with neighbouring jurisdictions, other levels of government, and key partners where appropriate. This may look like sharing information on creeks and tributaries in and around Edmonton, working with partners for improving

WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
	watershed health, and building regional resilience to wildfire events.

Low Carbon Energy and Waste



This category is about energy and waste systems aimed at reducing community greenhouse gas emissions; the actions listed include efforts targeting both community-wide change and the City's own corporate operations.

Survey Results on Low Carbon Energy and Waste Sector

A total of 2,264 respondents contributed to quantitative questions relating to low carbon energy and waste goals. The majority of respondents consider all proposed low carbon energy and waste goals important. The top two goals respondents find somewhat to very important are the following:

+ **Reducing city landfill emissions by converting waste into low-carbon energy** (76 per cent) and
+ **Making installing renewable energy easier by providing improved education and permitting support** (75 per cent).

The perceived importance of all low carbon energy and waste goals is higher among those under 35 years of age, women, 2SLGBTQIA+ respondents, respondents who use public transit as primary transportation, those agreeing that we need to act now to address climate change, low-income households (under $60,000), and respondents living in central areas. Low-income households are more likely to find reducing city landfill emissions, reducing food waste, and expanding local energy systems important. Respondents living in central areas are more likely to find expanding local energy systems important compared to those in other regions.

Analysis of general feedback in the open-ended question on energy and waste systems (random sampling of 600 comments from 927 responses) identified the following themes:

+ Support for renewable energy, especially solar, with a preference for publicly-owned solar projects on existing City infrastructure rather than privately-owned or located on green spaces

- Prioritizing personal affordability with the need to demonstrate returns on investment and suggesting that City renewable energy projects can be a revenue stream to reduce taxes, while also calling for financial incentives for utilities and renewable energy upgrades
- Interest in accessible public education to help Edmontonians sort waste and adopt budget-friendly renewable energy practices
- The need for waste management improvements to reduce landfill waste, with suggestions including reducing commercial food waste and waste incineration for energy production.
- Interest in expanding composting and recycling options for renters and multi-unit buildings and exploring ways to support condominium solar installations
- Requiring greater sustainability in new buildings and businesses, including compliance with waste management approaches, minimizing new natural gas connections, and encouraging solar energy
- Requests to reduce emissions and waste by addressing landfill use, reducing traffic idling, protecting the River Valley from development, and collaborating with Indigenous-led organizations and community groups
- The need to have realistic energy and waste goals and to recognize systemic versus individual responsibilities in energy and waste management

A detailed analysis of open-ended responses is included in Appendix 3.

General Feedback on Low Carbon Energy and Waste Sector

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
A.	**Zero Carbon not Low Carbon:** We heard that the City should be pursuing zero carbon initiatives and not low carbon initiatives.	The City is pursuing zero emission technologies (e.g. increased adoption of solar photovoltaic systems) through many actions in this category. However, to balance ambition with other constraints, the City is also pursuing lower carbon fuel sources that can be transitioned over time (e.g. **Action 24** enabling lower carbon private-led delivery for district energy).
B.	**Recycling:** We heard several suggestions to increase recycling including having more recycling bins around walkways and making recycling mandatory. It was suggested the City look to reduce unnecessary packaging from businesses and properly process biodegradable and compostable single-use items.	The City's 25-year Waste Strategy and Roadmaps guide the City's ongoing efforts to reduce waste, divert waste from landfills, and advance the City's climate goals. **Action 27** supports the actions outlined in these roadmaps.
C.	**Methane:** We heard concerns around methane emissions both at landfills and at oil wells. We heard that Edmonton should	Provincial and federal authorities maintain primary oversight for methane regulations. **Action 26** includes activities to explore ways to better use the methane that

	WHAT WE HEARD	WHAT WE ARE DOING
	support a methane credit system and ensure waste facilities exceed standards for methane emissions.	is already captured at the Clover Bar landfill (such as converting it to renewable natural gas), and to research opportunities to reduce other sources of methane in Edmonton.
D.	**Solar Expansion:** We heard that solar photovoltaic systems should be added to all viable locations in Edmonton through appropriate incentives or requirements.	The Implementation Priorities contain multiple actions that support expanding solar photovoltaic systems in Edmonton. For example, **Actions 21 and 25** both seek to add solar photovoltaic systems on City properties, while **Action 22** seeks to collaborate with utility partners to facilitate the adoption of renewable energy systems. **Action 3** will provide incentives for underserved audiences.

APPENDIX

The following content is in a separate Appendix document, which is available online at edmonton.ca/ClimateStrategy:

+ **Appendix 1:** Action-Specific Feedback - What We Heard and Did
+ **Appendix 2:** Full Analysis of Quantitative Survey Responses
+ **Appendix 3:** Full Analysis of Open-Ended Survey Comments
+ **Appendix 4:** List of Engagement Participants