

THE WAY AHEAD

# Building Great Neighbourhoods

# TRANSFORMING | EDMONTON

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## We are here today to:

- Explain what Building Great Neighbourhoods is and the processes and timing for your neighbourhood.
- Ask about any neighbourhood projects/initiatives already underway that may align with, or impact, opportunities for City capital investment.
- Listen to your suggestions for capital investments to improve pedestrian/cycling access, traffic access and overall livability.
- Ask your help in advertising future Building Great Neighbourhoods public meetings.



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### **Presentation Overview**

- Building Great Neighbourhoods
- Selecting Neighbourhoods
- Drainage Neighbourhood Renewal Program
- Neighbourhood Renewal Program Reconstruction Design Standards
- Local Improvements

**Sidewalks** 

Street lights

- Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program
- Discussion



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Building Great Neighbourhoods is an initiative that coordinates three City infrastructure investment programs to renew and improve Edmonton neighbourhoods.

### **Building Great Neighbourhoods**

Drainage
Neighbourhood Renewal
Program
(Financial Services &
Utilities)

Neighbourhood Renewal Program (Transportation Services)

Office of Great
Neighbourhoods Capital
Program
(Community Services)



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Great neighbourhoods are the building blocks of a great city. The City invests approximately \$25 million on average to reconstruct a neighbourhood.

- Renew and replace sanitary and storm sewers.
- Renew and replace roads, curbs, sidewalks and streetlights on City road right-of-way.
- Improve pedestrian/cycling accessibility.
- Identify enhancements to the neighbourhood's livability.
- Ask residents for feedback on preliminary designs that include proposed improvements to pedestrian/cycling accessibility and overall neighbourhood livability.



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### In Addition:

Property owners have the opportunity to choose:

- <u>To pay for</u> the additional cost of installing decorative street lighting in the neighbourhood.
- <u>To petition against</u> sidewalk reconstruction.
   Sidewalk maintenance work is then done: mud-jacking, grinding and asphalt patching.





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### Before & After







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### Before & After





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# Selecting Neighbourhoods

Annually over a four year cycle, City crews examine the condition of pavement and concrete in Edmonton's 300+ neighbourhoods.

Selection and timing depends on various factors:

- Street-level and underground infrastructure conditions
- Available budget
- Coordination with underground utilities



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# Drainage Neighbourhood Renewal

Involves a combination of relining and open cut work:

- The majority of the work is done by relining. This involves minor disruption to your neighbourhood.
- Sometimes an open cut is required which involves cutting the road open.



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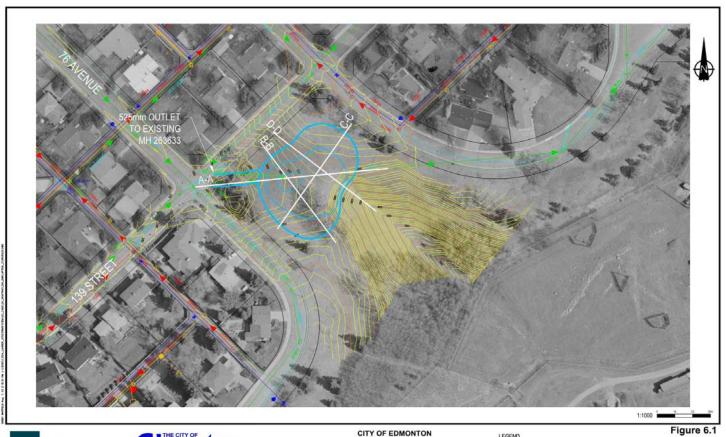
# Relining



You may already be seeing drainage renewal work in your area.

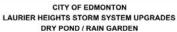
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# Drainage Storm System Upgrades















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# Neighbourhood Renewal

#### Three components:

- Microsurfacing
- Overlay
- Reconstruction

Laurier Heights (west of and including 139 St and Buena Vista Road) will be undergo reconstruction in 2014-15\*.

Laurier Heights east of 139 St will undergo overlay in 2013\*.

\*Tentative/planned schedules



All City property tax bills include a 1.5% property tax levy for Neighbourhood Renewal.



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# Design Standards for Reconstruction

The City reviews current design standards before reconstruction begins. These include:

- Road design
- Curb design
- Traffic signage
- Active transportation
- Streetlights

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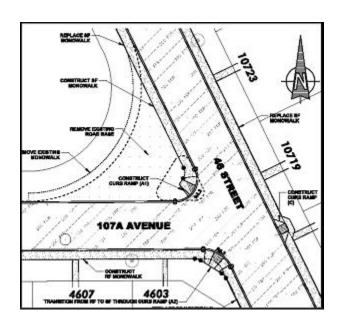
# Road Design Standards

#### **Intersections**

 Adding curb ramps, eliminating 'overdesign' and improving curb radius.

#### Road Width

- Where possible, roads are sized to current standards.
  - Collector = 11.5 m
  - Local = 9 m
- Shift curbline walks to boulevards.



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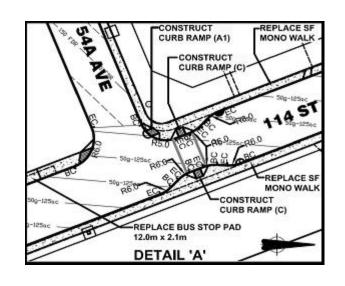
### Curb Design Standards

#### **Curb extensions**

 Considered at key pedestrian crossings near schools, community halls, playgrounds.

### Curb types

 Generally install mountable curbs except on collector roads, bus routes, and around schools, parks and commercial areas.









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# Traffic Signage Design Standards

Review circulation/traffic control signage and determine if changes required.







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### Active Transportation Design Standards

### Improve infrastructure

- Sidewalks: In residential neighbourhoods ensure accessibility to all bus stops, provide a sidewalk on at least one side of the street.
- Bicycle routes: Use the Bicycle
   Transportation Plan to implement bike lanes, shared-use lanes and shared-use pathways.



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### Streetlight Design Standards

# Neighbourhood streetlight system

 Upgraded to energy efficient LED lighting, the new City standard for street lights.



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# Local Improvements

### What are they?

- Construction projects undertaken near or adjacent to your property.
- Projects City Council considers of greater benefit to an area of the municipality rather than to the whole municipality.
- Paid for in whole or part by property owners through a local improvement tax on annual municipal property tax bill.



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# Local Improvements

Two types involved with neighbourhood reconstruction:

### City initiated

 City proposes improvement and advises property owners of improvement and projected costs.

Example: Sidewalk reconstruction

### Property owner initiated

 Property owners propose improvement through an Expression of Interest (EOI) and gather support for it.

**Example: Decorative streetlighting** 



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### Sidewalk Reconstruction



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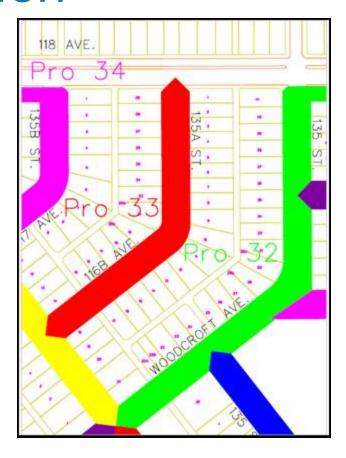
### Sidewalk Reconstruction

- City and property owner share costs (50/50) of sidewalk reconstruction adjacent to the owner's property.
- 51% of property owners in a project area needed to *petition against the improvement* to defeat sidewalk reconstruction.
- Deadline for petition is <u>30 days</u> after Local Improvement notice received by property owners.

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### Sidewalk Reconstruction

- If one reconstruction sidewalk project is defeated, other projects proceed if supported by majority of property owners.
- Map of your project area is provided with your Local Improvement notice.







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### Sidewalk Reconstruction Outcomes

Sidewalk Reconstruction





#### Sidewalk Maintenance



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# Decorative Street Lighting

Residents have the option of upgrading their neighbourhood streetlights.

The decorative streetlight option would include the entire Laurier Heights neighbourhood (both reconstruction and overlay project areas)









Blue - Federal Standard, 15055

Black – Federal Standard, 17038

Dark Green - Federal Standard, 14036





Residential Decorative Street Light Options.

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# Decorative Street Lighting

Property owner-initiated local improvement:

Expression of Interest received Jul 1, 2013

City provides EOI package Sep 1, 2013

Signed petition received by City Nov 1, 2013

Must have 51% of <u>all</u> neighbourhood property owners agree to pay the additional costs for decorative lighting (beyond standard street lighting.)

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### Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program

The Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program makes improvements in neighbourhoods on City property:

- Investments are coordinated with work planned in the neighbourhood to maximize the investments made and increases the livability of a neighbourhood.
- Investments are unique to each neighbourhood.



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### Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program



Neighbourhood Park in Fulton Place BEFORE



Neighbourhood Park in Fulton Place AFTER



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### Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program



Sherbrooke Neighbourhood BEFORE



Sherbrooke Neighbourhood AFTER

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### Reconstruction Project Stages - Concept



Your feedback today will help inform preliminary design.

Reconstruction preliminary designs will be presented at a neighbourhood public meeting in early 2013.

Residents will see detailed maps that show the proposed changes to the neighbourhood and around their property. Resident input and feedback will inform the final design prior to construction in 2014.

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# Timing for Reconstruction



Community League meeting

Fall 2012



Preliminary Design Public Meeting

Spring 2013

(Opportunity for Decorative Street Lighting Committee to get signatures)



Preconstruction community meeting Nov 2013 - Feb 2014 Follows Local Improvement notices mailed to property owners

Construction starts

Spring 2014

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### Discussion

Are there any projects/initiatives you have underway that may align with or impact opportunities for Building Great Neighbourhoods?

Any suggestions around pedestrian and cycling access, traffic access or opportunities to improve the livability of your neighbourhood?

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### Thanks!

We ask your help with the next two Building Great Neighbourhoods public meetings:

 Does your community have a contact for newsletter content and advertising suggestions?

For more information about work in your neighbourhood: www.edmonton.ca/BuildingGreatNeighbourhoods
BuildingGreatNeighbourhoods@edmonton.ca