



BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

BELLEVUE & VIRGINIA PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD MEETING ONE WITH COMMUNITY LEAGUE SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

ATTENDING FROM THE COMMUNITY LEAGUE

Ericka Chemko (*President*)
Erin Armstrong (*Vice President*)
Jeremy Fritsche (*Communications Director*)
David Cournoyer (*Civics Director*)
Jo Nuthack (*Treasurer*)
Ed Boraas (*Secretary*)
Judy Nuthack (*Membership Director*)
Greg Brandenburg (*Neighbourhood Connector of ACE*)

ATTENDING FROM THE CITY OF EDMONTON

Cathy Dytiuk, Great Neighbourhoods Capital Program
Tony Sestito, Neighbourhood Renewal Program
Ali Akbar, Drainage Neighbourhood Renewal Program
Kelly Cameron, Community Recreation Coordinator
Beth Padfield, Communications

The Building Great Neighbourhoods team met with the Bellevue/Virginia Park Community League to share the City's plans to renew and replace sanitary and storm sewers; reconstruct roads, curbs, gutters and sidewalks on City-owned property; and replace streetlights, starting in 2018.

The City presentation included:

- An outline of the Building Great Neighbourhoods process and timing.
- A question to the league about any initiatives underway that could align with or impact opportunities for any City capital investment.
- An overview of the Local Improvement process and the choices property owners will make.
- A request for the community league's help in advertising future Building Great Neighbourhood meetings.

The following provides an overview of the discussion and comments received from the league after the meeting:

League: 74 Street has a lot of trees. It might be tricky to get streetlights in.

City: Thank you for bringing this to our attention. EPCOR and the City will assess the area.

League: Do they standardize light level standard from one road to the next?

City: EPCOR and the City will look at the lighting levels throughout the neighbourhood to make sure they provide safe illumination based on the specifics of each location. All new and rehabilitated streetlights are designed to the City's Road and Walkway Lighting Design Standards, which are based on technical guidelines, industry best practices and applicable policies, such as the Transportation Association of Canada. To review the City's standards, please see [https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/PDF/Road_and_Walkway_Lighting_Design_Standards_\(Updated_Feb_2012\).p](https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/PDF/Road_and_Walkway_Lighting_Design_Standards_(Updated_Feb_2012).p)



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df and Residential Neighbourhood Street Lighting Renewal Policy
(<https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/PDF/C564.pdf>)

League: What's the linkage between this program and the pre-renewal pilot Bellevue, Virginia Park and Highlands are part of?

City: Building Great Neighbourhoods is coordinating efforts with the pre-renewal pilot. As pre-renewal is still in the pilot phase, the City is aiming to work with the community leagues of the neighbourhoods that are part of the pilot, Bellevue, Virginia Park and Highlands, to determine the the best ways to engage and involve them throughout the stages of pre-renewal all the way through to completed construction.

League: At the pre-renewal meeting I had suggested the City arrange for our community league to meet with another community league that has recently gone through neighbourhood renewal so we could talk to them. It would let us ask what they learned and how it went for the community league and residents.

City: Thank for your suggestion. The City will explore options for connecting community leagues.

League: Who is responsible for the maintenance, such as snow clearing, of new pathways neighbourhood renewal might add to the neighbourhood?

City: Maintenance responsibility for sidewalks depends on who the property owner is adjacent to the land the sidewalk is constructed on. For instance, the property owner would be responsible for clearing the snow from a new sidewalk built in front of their house. In most cases, the City is responsible for maintenance, such as clearing snow, of a shared-use path.

League: Where there isn't a sidewalk on one side of the road you will construct one on one side or on both sides? There are no roads in the neighbourhood that have sidewalks on both sides.

City: The City's Sidewalk Strategy provides a base level of pedestrian infrastructure along all roads, constructing missing sidewalks along at least one side where missing on both. This means, in most cases, the City would only only construct sidewalks on one side of the road (note, if there are locations that already have sidewalks on both sides of the road, both sides are eligible for the sidewalk reconstruction local improvement). If there are specific locations you feel warrant sidewalks on both sides of the road, please forward those locations along with the reason why they should have sidewalks on both sides to buildinggreatneighbourhoods@edmonton.ca and the City can assess them.

League: Where does the curb change from straight to rolled around schools, like Concordia? Why do you install straight around schools?

City: The exact location of the transition between curb types will be determined based on the City's assessment of what is needed for the the specific conditions around the school, such as lot grade and trees. The design standard is to install straight face curb, whenever possible, around schools for safety reasons. Straight face is considered safer around schools as it is not 'mountable,' meaning cars cannot as easily drive over it.

League: Ada Boulevard is a signature walking trail but there are no sidewalks, could you build a boardwalk? A boardwalk would leave it friendly for bicycles.

City: A sidewalk is being proposed for the north side of Ada Boulevard. More information about this proposed sidewalk will be available at the next Bellevue/Virginia Park neighbourhood renewal open house. Typically when installing



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pathways, the City uses one of three standard materials. The three materials are asphalt, granular and concrete. These materials are used instead of other kinds, such as boardwalks, due to maintenance requirements and restrictions.

League: Is alley renewal part of neighbourhood renewal?

City: As part of neighbourhood renewal, existing alley lighting will be upgraded to the new LED standard.

The City does not have an alley pavement renewal program in place. Alley maintenance, which includes pothole and patch repairs, is available to preserve existing alleys. A complete alley resurfacing or reconstruction may occur in one of two ways:

1. Pave alleys reconstructed/resurfaced as part of utility (ATCO, EPCOR or drainage) restoration. In these situations, the utility pays for the restoration.
2. An alley local improvement is petitioned for by benefiting property owners using the local improvement process. The cost of alley renewal is covered 100% by property owners. For more information please visit edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/alley-renewal.aspx or contact 311.

League: If an alley is currently paved or partly paved and now has potholes, how could we go about getting it renewed?

City: Please contact 311 to report any alleys in need of maintenance. Or, as mentioned above, property owners could initiate the alley renewal local improvement process. To begin the local improvement process:

- Collect a majority (greater than 50%) of the property owners' signatures on an "Expression of Interest" to request the City to initiate the alley paving project.
- The Expression of Interest identifies the location of the improvement, alley local improvement rates for that year and the benefiting properties.
- 100% of the total costs to reconstruct are paid by the property owners.

For more information please visit edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/alley-renewal.aspx or contact 311.

League: If there are sewer lines in an alley that drainage neighbourhood renewal is replacing, would the City repave the alley?

City: If there are sewer lines in a paved alley that require open cut to repair, then yes, the City would repave those sections of the alley impacted by the open cut. However, most sewer line repairs are done through relining, which does not impact the road. Note that in the case of open cut, the City will repair the alley to the current conditions. This means the City would only pave the open cut section if the alley is currently paved. If the alley is currently gravel, the City would repair the section with gravel.

League: Open cut in alleys means the whole alley gets repaved or just the section they cut?

City: Only the section impacted by the open cut would get repaved, or repaired with gravel depending on existing conditions, not the whole alley.

League: Notices for the open cut work were delivered over a long weekend and weren't seen by some homeowners. This led to flooding for some of them. The notices weren't on the doors for them to see.



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City: We apologize that some residents did not see the delivered notices. Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We will provide this information to our delivery services.

League: For decorative streetlights, does the property owner on the side with light only pay or does the property owner across from it also pay?

City: Property owners on both sides of the street pay. For more information about decorative streetlights and estimated costs, please see [edmonton.ca/decorativestreetlights](https://www.edmonton.ca/decorativestreetlights).

League: I heard a report on CBC that LED blue light promotes suicide, especially during winter, and that it has a negative effect on both people and animals. Are there other bulb colour options?

City: The City is keeping a close eye on the research regarding lighting, and as a result a Light Efficiency Community Policy (LECP) was adopted and it is being implemented with any work. This includes reducing spill light and light trespass to the greatest extent possible and using 4000K colour temperatures for streetlights. The City doesn't use high intensity light output luminaires and colour temperatures with high blue content (6000K-7000K) that may impact human health. Additional info may be located within the LECP report: https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/PDF/Light_Efficient_Community_Policy.pdf.

League: By the corner of 75 Street with the mature neighbourhood overlay they took away the last house on the park side of Ada Boulevard but they left the wires, poles and foundation. There are light poles right by energy poles that don't work and should be removed.

City: Thank you for letting us know. The City will assess the area.

League: What are the plans for cycling infrastructure for the neighbourhood? Are there any standards for neighbourhoods that undergo renewal?

City: Currently, during neighbourhood renewal, Urban Transportation reviews the neighbourhood for possible bicycle route pavement marking locations. Examples of these types of markings are sharrows. If there are locations in the neighbourhood where you believe a bicycle pavement marking should be added, please email those locations to buildinggreatneighbourhood@edmonton.ca so Urban Transportation can assess the location. As the City is in the process of reviewing bicycle facilities city-wide, new bike lanes or paths are usually not designed or constructed during neighbourhood renewal.

League: There is a highly used route for bicycles on the roads to Ada Boulevard. There are many spots along this route that are dangerous for bicyclists and motorists. For example, the worse place is the corner of 79 Street and 110 Avenue as it is very tight. It is also dangerous at 75 Street and 110 Avenue. People often miss the yield sign there.

City: Thank you for letting us know about these locations. The City will assess them.

League: What about adding speed bumps on Ada Boulevard?

City: The City has a number of programs to help address speeding concerns in neighbourhoods. Please refer to the resources available through Vision Zero at

https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/traffic_safety/get-involved-vision-zero.aspx.

Additional information and resources can be found at Neighbourhood Traffic Concerns:

https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/neighbourhood-traffic-concerns.aspx



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League: What kind of input would be most helpful for us to gather from residents?

City: At this stage in the Building Great Neighbourhoods (BGN) process, the City is seeking feedback and information from the neighbourhood on any projects/initiatives you have underway that may align with or impact opportunities for BGN. The City would also like to know if residents and property owners have any suggestions around pedestrian and cycling access, traffic access or opportunities to improve the livability of your neighbourhood. Feedback and suggestions can be submitted by emailed to buildinggreatneighbourhoods@edmonton.ca or by calling 311.

League: Who do we talk to about getting a speed trap on 112 Avenue?

City: To report a concern about speeding in your neighbourhood, call 780-495-0371 or email speeding@edmonton.ca

League: Would improvements or upgrades for sound barriers by the freeway be part of neighbourhood renewal?

City: Neighbourhood renewal does not usually include work to sound barriers. However, if there are specific areas of concern, please send the locations to buildinggreatneighbourhoods@edmonton.ca and we can note them for future assessment by the City.



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HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Meeting	Phase	Timeline	Who's Invited?	Discussion/ Feedback	Feedback Deadline
#1	Concept	Approximately 18 months before construction	Community league executive	<p>Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline Neighbourhood Renewal process and timing. - Advise community league about decorative streetlight local improvement process and timelines. <p>Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community-led projects that may affect City investments in the neighbourhood. - Suggestions to improve pedestrian/cyclist access and overall livability. <p><i>Comments will be considered for preliminary design.</i></p>	2-3 months after the meeting (by December 15, 2016).
#2	Design	Approximately 12 months before construction	Residents, property owners	<p>Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline Neighbourhood Renewal process and timing. - Advise community about sidewalk and decorative streetlight local improvement process and timelines. - Share preliminary designs. <p>Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pedestrian and cycling accessibility, traffic accessibility, and overall neighbourhood livability. - Input on preliminary designs. <p><i>Comments will be considered for final design.</i></p>	6 weeks after the meeting.
#3	Build	Approximately 3-6 months before construction	Residents, property owners	<p>Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final neighbourhood design and construction process. - Review local improvements and petition process. <p>Feedback:</p> <p><i>Comments are welcome. Few changes can be made at this stage of the project.</i></p>	2 weeks after the meeting.