Neighbourhood Renewal In Royal Gardens

Starting in 2019, Royal Gardens will see the replacement of its aging collector and local roadway surfaces, streetlights, and sidewalks as part of the City of Edmonton’s Neighbourhood Renewal program for mature neighbourhoods. A new dedicated City branch, Building Great Neighbourhoods, has also been exploring improvements to other City owned areas within the neighbourhood, including green spaces and parks, and will look for opportunities and funding to make desired upgrades and enhancements in coordination with the Neighbourhood Renewal program. Public Engagement to inform this planning began at the end of 2017 with construction scheduled for Spring 2019 to Fall 2020.

Get Involved!

This is your city and your neighbourhood. We want to understand how you experience your neighbourhood and ask for your input on what we might do to make it better. We will engage and work with you on the renewal of roads, sidewalks, streetlights, and park spaces, and promote other community opportunities to enhance how people live and interact in your neighbourhood. We commit to being open and transparent about how your input is used. Let’s make the most out of your neighbourhood.

Where Is Renewal Occurring?

The map above shows the roads that are within the scope of this project. The project does not include back alleys or the arterial roads surrounding the neighbourhood which would be included in a different funding program. Additional improvements to City owned spaces will also be explored throughout the neighbourhood.

Find out more by going to: edmonton.ca/BuildingRoyalGardens or call 311
**Draft Concepts Public Event**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this event is to gather your feedback to help refine the draft concept designs and to gather input on their level of importance and priority for the neighbourhood. The following panels will provide information about the draft concept designs, including specific design elements and details on project considerations.

**Engagement Activity**

The envelope you received contains enough stickers to use one for each focus area option.

To determine how important each focus area is to the neighbourhood, we are asking community members to:

1. Identify **when the project should occur** based on the following colour scale:

   - Blue: Short term* (1-4 years)
   - Red: Mid-term (5-10 years)
   - Yellow: Long-term (10+ years)

   *The short term is the most likely to be included in the Neighbourhood Renewal process.

2. Identify the **level of importance** for each focus area on a 1 to 5 scale (with 1 being the least important and 5 being the most).

**For example:** You may decide that focus area one is very important (5) to you, but you think that it should be designed and built in the mid-term (red sticker).

**How We Will Use Feedback**

We will use feedback from this event to refine the draft concepts presented and identify priorities. The concepts will be refined and prioritized based on the following factors:

1) Your input  
2) Availability of funding  
3) City policies and programs  
4) Technical considerations

The preliminary design plans will be shared in the Fall to gather any final feedback.

**Timeline**

The following timeline depicts the progress to date and the next steps in the renewal process including future public engagement opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| February 2018 | Community Walk and Ideas Workshop + Online Survey  
|             | - Identify issues and opportunities in the neighbourhood  
|             | - Gather input to create a draft project vision and identify important elements |
| May 2018    | Project Vision Confirmation and Community Options Event + Online Survey  
|             | - Invite public feedback on potential design options and benefits + trade-offs |
| June 2018   | Draft Concepts Public Event  
|             | - Gather feedback and perspectives to refine draft concept plans  
|             | - Identify level of importance to prioritize improvements |
| Fall 2018   | Preliminary Design Public Event  
|             | - Gather feedback and perspectives on preliminary design plans  
|             | - Determine if any final revisions are required |
| Early 2019  | Pre-Construction Event  
|             | - Inform public of final renewal plans and local improvement process  
|             | - Gather input on possible construction issues and solutions |
| Spring 2019 to Fall 2020 | Construction  
|             | - Construction in the neighbourhood will be staged over two years |

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Local Improvements – Cost Shared Elements

Cost Shared Elements

The Neighbourhood Renewal Program is paid for through a combination of property taxes, provincial funding and cost-sharing with Royal Gardens property owners for specific neighbourhood local improvements.

The cost shared elements are:
- Sidewalk reconstruction
- Decorative street lights

These cost shared local improvement opportunities need to be approved by 50%+1 of property owners.

Decisions will be made by property owners in later phases of this project.

Local Improvement Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Decorative Streetlight</th>
<th>Sidewalk Renewal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 3, 2018:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for the neighbourhood’s submission to the City of the choice of decorative lighting (pole, arm, colour)</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 4, 2018:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City sends Expression of Interest (EOI) notices to registered property owners with proposed light design and cost estimate</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 15, 2018:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for property owners to submit signed Expression of Interest form</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early 2019:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 day local improvement petition period</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Decorative Street Lights For Royal Gardens

During neighbourhood renewal the City covers the full cost to replace all street lights with standard galvanized steel poles, LED lights and street address blades. The community has the option to upgrade to decorative street lights, as a cost-sharing opportunity. Currently, the City has not received a formal submission indicating an interest in Decorative Street Lights. If you are interested in submitting or leading a submission to the City with a choice of decorative lighting or have questions, please contact the Royal Gardens Project Coordinator at Chris.McMorran@edmonton.ca by July 3, 2018. Formal submission must be submitted by July 3, 2018 to be considered.

Decorative Street Light Options

Pole Colour:
- Blue
- Black
- Dark Green

Decorative Arm:
- Newport
- Scroll
- Heritage

Estimated Cost Chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Octagonal</th>
<th>Fluted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Cost of decorative over standard poles</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-cash payment per metre of frontage</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>$18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yearly rate per metre of frontage for 15 years</td>
<td>$5.6</td>
<td>$18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-time cash payment for typical lot (50 ft)</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yearly rate for 15 years for typical lot (50 ft)</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td>$27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What We Heard – Vision Confirmation and Community Options Event

On May 15, a Vision Confirmation and Community Options Event and Survey was held with the community to confirm the project vision and core values and to discuss the focus areas within the urban design themes (Open Spaces, Connectivity and Corridors, and Traffic). During this event residents were asked what they liked about the vision, core values, and urban design themes, and what needed to be changed. The event also called on residents to share feedback on focus areas and potential design elements by providing their level of comfort with each.

The feedback from this event has been summarized into the following What We Heard panel, as well as the What We Heard table for each focus area concept.

Updated Vision Statement

Neighbourhood Renewal in Royal Gardens will support a safe, accessible, and family-friendly community. As a neighbourhood with many schools, activities, and green spaces, Royal Gardens is a community that is easy for people to walk, bike and drive. The design of the neighbourhood enables residents to visit, play and enjoy local destinations together.

What We Heard

Feedback received indicated that participants were supportive of the vision statement. Additional comments for consideration included:

- Safety around school zones,
- Enjoyment of the shared use path on 43 Avenue, and;
- A community that is inclusive to all age groups and abilities.

Another emerging theme from this event was to ensure that all modes of transportation are accommodated for throughout renewal. As such, making it easy for people “to drive”, in addition to “walk and bike”, was incorporated into the vision statement.

Core Values

1. Getting to know your neighbours in a friendly atmosphere.
2. Enjoying vibrant green spaces and playgrounds.
3. Gatherings and block parties that bring people together.
4. Year-round opportunities for doing family-friendly activities.
5. Feeding safe and having well-lit spaces.
6. Having viable options to walk, bike and use transit.
7. Visiting local amenities, shops, and schools.
8. Enjoying both quietness and proximity to nearby destinations.
10. Wayfinding and signage that is easy to understand.

*The core values are not ranked in any particular order.

What We Heard

Feedback received indicated that participants were supportive of the core values. No additional comments were shared. As such, the core values have remained the same. The vision, along with understanding the core values, will help inform the design of neighbourhood renewal in Royal Gardens.
The following is a summary of some of the main points we heard throughout engagement

**FOCUS AREAS**

1. **Pipeline Corridor Improvements**
   Participants had a high level of comfort with improvements along this corridor, including plantings, seating areas, lighting improvements and enhanced off-leash dog areas.

2. **Pocket Park Improvements**
   Participants had a moderate level of comfort with improvements in these pocket parks, including improvements to access, landscaping changes, and lighting in Area 2 and 3.

3. **Wayfinding Signage**
   Participants had a high level of comfort with wayfinding signage to help connect and provide directions to key destinations and the surrounding area.

4. **Royal Gardens Park Improvements**
   Participants had a high level of comfort with improvements at this park space including improved lighting and the addition of murals/art. Participants would also like to see additional public amenities that would complement a potential future community garden.

5. **Traffic Improvements Near Richard Secord**
   Participants had a high level of comfort with Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons at crosswalks and a drop-off loop and a low level of comfort raised crosswalks, speed humps, wider sidewalks and curb extensions.

6. **114 Street Enhanced Pedestrian and Bike Connection**
   Participants identified shared roadway and shared use pathway as the preferred design for the existing bike route on 114th Street. Participants identified bike boulevards, protected bike lanes, and raised bike lanes as the least preferred.

7. **Harry Ainlay & Louis St. Laurent Traffic Improvements**
   Participants had a high level of comfort with Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons, and a low level of comfort with curb extensions, speed bumps and raised crosswalks.

8. **Bus Stop Improvements**
   Participants had a high level of comfort with updating existing bus stops with shelters and providing benches.

9. **Intersection of 40 Avenue and 114 Street**
   Participants had a high level of comfort with signalization at the 40 Avenue and 114 Street intersection.

**GENERAL THEMES**

**Traffic**
- Participants had a high level of comfort with Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons for improved safety at key locations throughout the neighbourhood.
- Participants had a low level of comfort with speed humps, raised intersections, raised crosswalks and curb extensions for traffic calming throughout the neighbourhood.

**Public art**
- Participants would like to see more public art, potentially through a partnership with one of the many schools in the community.

**Pedestrian Oriented Lighting and Garbage Cans**
- Participants would like to see additional pedestrian oriented lighting and garbage cans throughout the community, especially along pathways, and near schools, parks and open spaces.

**Boulevards with landscaping**
- Participants would like to see sidewalks along the road with landscaped boulevards to improve the pedestrian experience at key locations throughout the community.

Do you feel like your comments from the previous engagement event are reflected in these points? Please use a post-it note.

**Sidewalk Standard:**
The new standard for sidewalk width is 1.8 m on local roads and 2.3 m on collector roads and will be incorporated where technically feasible.
Next Steps

Thank You For Participating In Our Public Event!

The next steps for renewal in Royal Gardens will include the refinement of the prioritized draft concepts to create preliminary design plans over summer. These preliminary design plans will be presented to the public for final feedback in Fall. In early 2019, a public session will be held regarding the construction plans. Construction will commence in Spring 2019, and will be staged throughout the neighbourhood until the Fall of 2020, at which point Royal Gardens will have successfully completed the renewal process. Please see below for all the future engagement activities that you can participate in.

Future opportunities include:

Fall 2018 – Preliminary Design Plan Public Event
Early 2019 – Pre-Construction Event

To find more information visit: edmonton.ca/BuildingRoyalGardens