OVERVIEW

In 2018, the City of Edmonton approved a renewal program to address the poor condition of its nearly 1,200 kilometres of alleys. This long-term plan will improve alleys city-wide over the next 25 years.

FUNDING

This program, which is estimated at $22.3 million annually, is funded by an increase to the Neighbourhood Renewal Tax Levy. This levy includes a city-wide contribution, not just a contribution from property owners with alleys.

PRIORITIZATION

The City is currently finalizing the first four-year plan for the Alley Renewal Program in collaboration with other utility partners such as ATCO Gas, EPCOR Water, and EPCOR Drainage. Scheduling of locations will be primarily based on:

- Average alley neighbourhood condition, as determined by a visual inspection done every four years. The Program is targeting neighbourhoods with alleys in poor to very poor condition.
- Coordination with utility partners to ensure alley renewal aligns with planned utility upgrade work.
- A neighbourhood-wide approach, rather than an alley by alley approach, in order to make construction more efficient and allow for consistency throughout neighbourhoods for future maintenance work.

ALLEY WORK OUTSIDE OF THE PROGRAM

Outside of the neighbourhood-based Alley Renewal Program, there are a number of ways for alleys to see improvements:

- Depending on the extent of their work and the condition of the alley, utility companies may be required to reconstruct individual alleys after completing their utility work.
- Property owners can choose to bypass the Alley Renewal Program by initiating a Local Improvement petition that must be supported by 50% + 1 of the adjacent residents. If successful, the impacted property owners would be responsible to pay 100% of the costs and would continue to be responsible for paying the city-wide tax levy.
- Outside of alley renewal, alley maintenance, which includes pothole and patch repairs, will continue to be available by contacting 311.

ALLEY RENEWAL SCOPE

Work you may see in your neighbourhood in preparation for alley renewal includes:

- Utility assessments and repairs
- Land surveys to inform design (including flags and paint markings)
- Drilling small holes to check utility locations
- Tree and shrub pruning and removals

A renewed alley will:

- Address surface drainage issues
- Have a standard four metre wide alley, where possible, with a paved surface
- Replace the material between the alley and property line with the material that was removed during construction
- Tie in to driveways
- Upgrade existing alley lighting to LED fixtures

For further information visit the website: www.edmonton.ca/alleyrenewal