

THE EMERALD CRESCENT: AN OPEN SPACE VISION FOR EDMONTON'S SOUTHEAST

Spanning 75 city blocks (over 10 km - the distance between City Hall and Southgate Mall), this is a system of parks, natural areas, and school sites, linked by trails, greenways, bioswales, constructed wetlands and wildlife passages to form a connected network of open space.

This concept is the result of a collaboration between the City of Edmonton, Edmonton Public School Board, Edmonton Catholic School Board, and land developers.

This is a place where people can recreate year-round, indoors and out; where residents and visitors can learn about and steward Edmonton's biodiversity; where wildlife can move unhindered between core habitat areas. It is a place where development is tailored to the landscape, recognizing and celebrating the unique topography and landforms of this area.

It serves 8 neighbourhoods and an estimated population of 110,000 people. It is also a destination for all Edmontonians, connected by public transit, by bicycle, by foot, by snowshoe and kayak. It is a place where community can thrive, through unique opportunities for gathering, placemaking and cultural celebration.

RECREATION

Health, enjoyment and well-being through diverse activities



- Physical and mental well-being
- Access and movement
- Play and sport

CONSERVATION

Healthy, diverse, connected and sustainable natural areas



- Wildlife habitat
- Ecological processes
- Connectivity

ECONOMY

Financial sustainability and opportunity



- Added value - views/amenity space for neighbourhoods and businesses
- Tourism
- Infrastructure savings

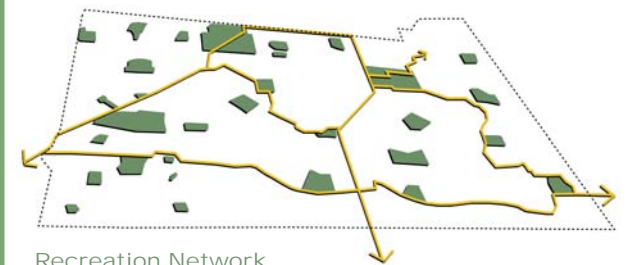
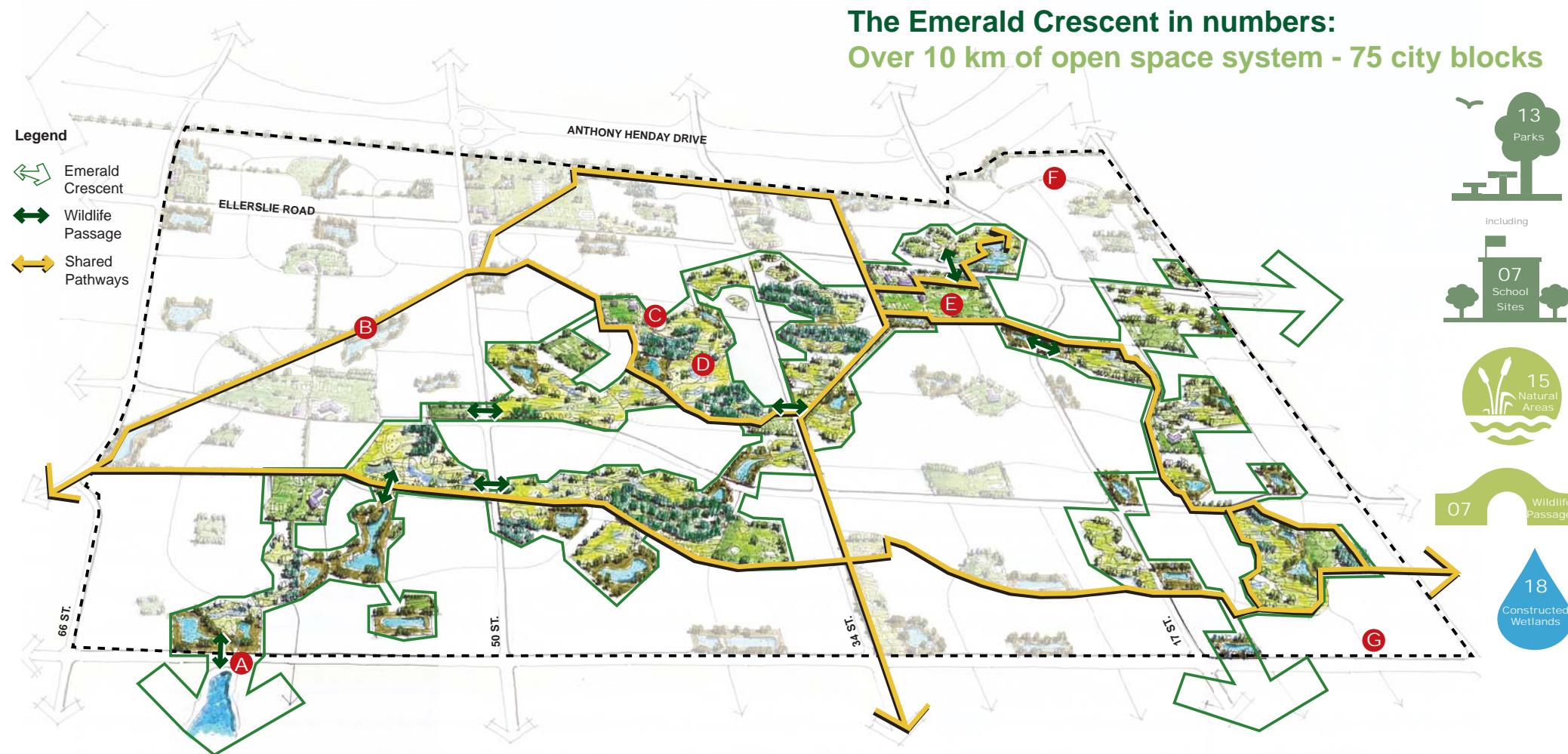
COMMUNITY

A space for communities to thrive



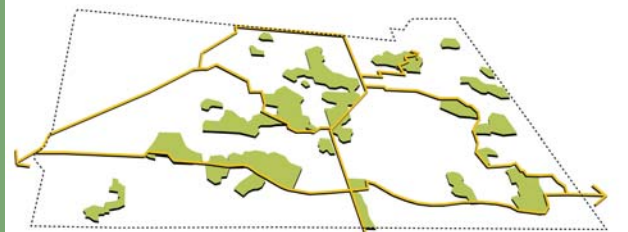
- Places to gather
- Education, research and stewardship opportunities
- Cultural heritage and diversity

The Emerald Crescent in numbers: Over 10 km of open space system - 75 city blocks



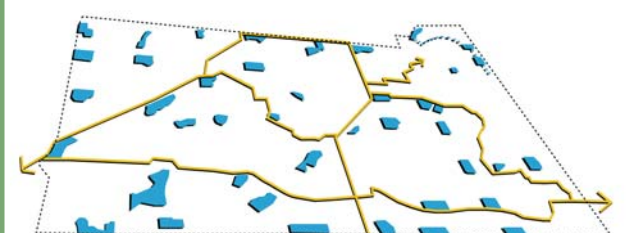
Recreation Network
Parks and School Sites

+



Ecological Network
Natural Areas: Wetlands and Tree Stands

+



Stormwater Management Network
Constructed Wetlands and Bioswale

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Comprehensive and Connected Open Space System

- A** Regional ecological connectivity
 - Movement of wildlife
 - Extensive trail networks
 - Natural stormwater management

- B** A connected network of trails
 - Active and passive recreation
 - Commuting through active transportation
 - Unhindered movement of wildlife

- C** School/community park site connected to a protected natural wetland
 - Hands-on learning and stewardship
 - Year-round recreation opportunities
 - Connected, protected natural areas

- D** Protected 80 acre wetland/upland complex
 - Connected, protected natural areas and wildlife movement
 - Extensive trail networks
 - Community education, research and stewardship

- E** District park with a lake and a multi-purpose recreation facility
 - Indoor and outdoor recreation places for people to meet
 - A lively community hub
 - Increased value of the neighbourhood

- F** Naturalized constructed wetland and bioswale
 - Re-establishment of wildlife habitat
 - Reduced infrastructure costs
 - Local stewardship opportunities

- G** Creative site development that protects local land forms
 - Attractive, unique residential and commercial development
 - Integrated management of stormwater and protection of wildlife habitat