

BUILDING GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

Calder Renewal Newsletter Issue #4 – June 2020

Edmonton

Through the Building Great Neighbourhoods and Open Spaces Branch, the Neighbourhood Renewal Program rehabilitates your residential roads, replaces street lights, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and adds missing sidewalk links in your neighbourhood where possible. Other opportunities to improve parks and public spaces are also explored. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2021.

Planning has been underway for Calder's neighbourhood renewal since January 2019. We have been busy reviewing resident feedback, understanding technical opportunities and constraints and incorporating City policies into a single draft design for the neighbourhood. The design will show you how each proposed improvement for walking, biking, driving, playing and gathering, work together as a system to provide the best neighbourhood experience for all users.

In this newsletter, we want to share with you a summary of the engagement activities in January, and invite you to participate in the upcoming engagement where we will show you the draft design.

The project team will continue working on your neighbourhood design to ensure construction remains on schedule to begin in 2021. While in-person public events are paused and physical distancing is a priority, we remain committed to delivering project information and meaningful public engagement opportunities efficiently and safely.

Calder Neighbourhood Renewal Schedule

SPRING/SUMMER 2019

Building a Community Vision Together

FALL 2019

Exploring Opportunities

WINTER 2020

Exploring Options and Trade-Offs

WE ARE
HERE

SPRING 2020

Community Feedback on Draft Design

FALL 2020

Community Feedback on Final Design

FEBRUARY 2021

Preparing for Construction & Local Improvement Decisions

SPRING 2021 – FALL 2023

Construction on your streets

FALL 2023

Celebrate with us!



Reporting back on Exploring Options and Trade-offs

In January 2020, we invited Calder's residents, businesses and visitors to view design options for Calder neighbourhood renewal. Design options were provided for:

- + Pedestrian sidewalks and crossings
- + Bike routes in the neighbourhood
- + Traffic management, including traffic calming to enhance safety
- + Enhancements to parks and open spaces
- + Creating spaces to meet our neighbours
- + Historic celebration of rail, street car and Indigenous past

During the Exploring Options and Trade-offs stage we distributed an online survey, conducted meetings with community members and key stakeholders, and hosted two public engagement events to gather input to assist us in **REFINING** the design options for the Calder neighbourhood.

During this stage, we also provided information regarding Local Improvements for Sidewalk Reconstruction and Decorative Street Lighting.

What your community had to say

The following is a summary of what we heard through public engagement during the Exploring Options and Trade-offs stage of this project. These themes were developed using input gathered through the online survey and during the public engagement event.



Parks

Residents appreciated the addition of amenities within the parks of Calder, such as barbecue pits, waste bins, benches, picnic tables and pathways to increase connectivity. Residents enjoy using space that supports recreational activities including horseshoes, bocce ball and community gardens. Participants shared that additional amenities and enhancements would encourage them to use park spaces in the neighbourhood.



Historical character

Calder has a unique history and residents want to ensure that this history will be celebrated.

Community members placed emphasis on highlighting historic spaces and landmarks within the neighbourhood. Participants were also interested in volunteering to be involved in community led projects that will help shape the celebration of history in the neighbourhood.

Bike routes

Participants indicated that connecting Calder to the wider bike network would be a welcome enhancement in the neighbourhood. The addition of an enhanced bike route on 129 Avenue, which is a major community thoroughfare, was believed to be best suited to create those connections. We continue to hear that families with younger children would like separated facilities from roadways to use for biking. Some participants expressed a perception that bike routes in Calder are currently underutilized and were unsure if enhancements would increase use.



129 Avenue commercial area

Enhancements in proximity to the 129 Avenue commercial area are seen to be a positive improvement in Calder. Amenities such as lighting, benches and waste bins would encourage the use of the 129 Avenue commercial area for residents and enhance the overall attractiveness of Calder. Community members would also like to ensure there is enough parking in the area to support comfortable access to area businesses.



Creating spaces to meet our neighbours

Community members expressed appreciation for the proposed additional seating areas at locations throughout the neighbourhood. They indicated that amenities, such as lights and waste bins, would enhance the attractiveness of the neighbourhood and comfort for users of seating areas. Participants were unsure if gateway features are a necessary enhancement in the Calder neighbourhood.



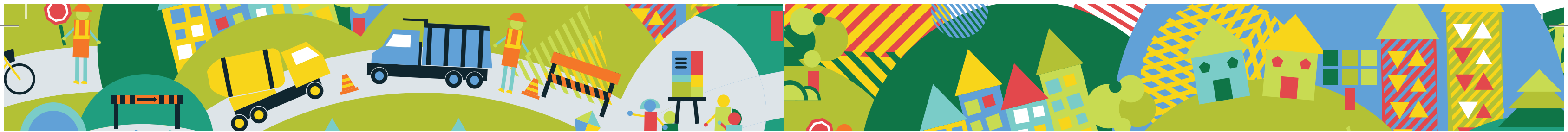
Potential community hub

The community hub concept was supported by many participants. People were excited about the idea and thought it would create a sense of community in Calder. Community members believed that the concept would encourage the use of parks, businesses and amenities at all times of the year within the area.

121 Street opportunity for new boulevards



Some community members indicated that new boulevards on 121 Street should be pursued. It was believed that this improvement will enhance pedestrian safety, as well as provide a place for new trees. Others noted concern about the possible impacts of a narrowed road on traffic flow and the comfort of people who drive.



Traffic calming

Community members have varying perceptions about the impact of shortcutting and speeding in the neighbourhood. As we continue to develop our understanding of this issue, we are identifying locations where people do not feel safe when they walk, bike or drive. There are road and sidewalk changes we may be able to add to the draft design that can enhance a sense of safety for people who walk, bike and drive in the neighbourhood.



Traffic Congestion around the Schools

We heard emphatically that the congestion of traffic around the two schools is an area to focus on and to explore solutions. Participants value the mature trees and ability to park in this area. In regards to the drop off options of bus bays and / or bus pads, participants placed value on retaining the mature trees.



Decorative Streetlight Option

Participants appreciated the information provided to describe the decorative street light options and how the local improvement process works. A good proportion of participants were positive towards the possibility of decorative lighting in Calder.



What is next? Community Feedback on Draft Design

We are now ready to share the draft design for your feedback. Here is what we have planned:

Learn about the draft design:

Draft Design Package

A draft design package will be posted on the project website for your viewing. The information will include all of the proposed improvements for pedestrian sidewalks and crossings, bike routes, traffic congestion and calming, parks and open spaces, placemaking to meet your neighbours, and the historic celebration of the neighbourhood's rail, street car and Indigenous past.

Videos will also show school traffic flow improvements, 129 Avenue Cornerstore enhancements and upgraded bike routes and facilities for Calder.

Available online June 30, 2020

Online Presentations – July 7, 9, and 11, 2020

From the comfort of your home, attend one of three online presentations. We will walk you through the proposed 129 Avenue Cornerstore enhancements, school traffic flow improvements, and upgraded bike routes and facilities for Calder. Opportunity for questions and answers will be provided.

Register online: edmonton.ca/BuildingCalder

Have a question for the project team?

Ask your questions online and our project team will respond. If you do not have online access, please contact Chase Gingles at Chase.Gingles@edmonton.ca or **780-996-4372** to arrange a conversation with a project team member.

Available from June 30 to July 18, 2020

Share your feedback on the draft design:

Online Survey

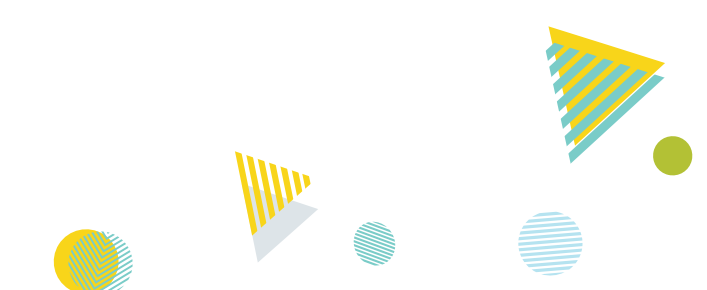
Tell us what you think about the proposed changes for Calder. The survey can be accessed from the project website at edmonton.ca/BuildingCalder.

Available from June 30 to July 18, 2020

Paper Survey

If you do not have online access, please contact Chase Gingles at Chase.Gingles@edmonton.ca or **780-996-4372** to arrange for a copy of the Draft Design survey to be mailed to you.

Available from June 30 to July 18, 2020





Cost Sharing Opportunities

Decorative street lights and sidewalk reconstruction are Local Improvements that are cost-shared by the City and property owners in the neighbourhood.

Sidewalk replacement is also a cost-shared improvement. Property owners will have the opportunity to decide if this improvement proceeds or not. If the sidewalk local improvement process is successfully petitioned against, sidewalks will remain as is, and will be maintained for safety by the City. In the future, those property owners will have to fund replacement at 100%. Sidewalks installed where currently missing are 100% City funded. Property owners will have the opportunity to decide if local improvements proceed or not. A notice is sent out in the fall of 2020 for property owners to respond to.

Community Led Decorative Street Lighting Campaign

Are you interested in decorative street lights for Calder?

At the January 2020 event, there was interest in further conversation about decorative street lighting in Calder. Standard street lights will be replaced as part of the Neighbourhood Renewal process. However, property owners in each neighbourhood undergoing renewal will have the opportunity to upgrade to their community's choice of decorative street lights through a community-initiated local improvement process. Property owners are responsible for the cost to upgrade the street lights.

What are the costs for Decorative Street Lighting?

To give you a quick idea of the upgrade cost for decorative street lighting, we have included this chart. If the community wanted to change the color of your pole only, it would cost approximately \$90 for a one time payment or approximately \$9 a year for 15 years. If you change the pole style to octagonal or fluted, the additional cost would be between \$27 and \$36 per year for 15 years.

	Poles			Luminaires	
	Colour	Octagonal	Fluted	Regular	Renaissance
% Costs of decorative over standard poles	5%	15%	20%	-	-
One-time cash payment per metre of frontage	\$6	\$18	\$24	-	\$3.47
Yearly rate per metre of frontage for 15 years	\$0.56	\$1.68	\$2.24	-	\$0.33
One-time cash payment for typical lot (50ft)	\$90	\$270	\$360	-	\$52
Yearly Rate for 15 years for typical lot (50ft)	\$9	\$27	\$36	-	\$5.20

Decorative street lighting estimated costs

What are the options for street lighting?

Pole



Powder coated galvanized

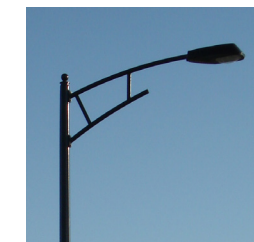


Octagonal



Fluted

Decorative arm



Newport

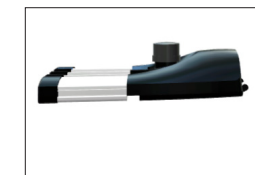


Scroll



Heritage

Light fixture



Regular



Renaissance

Colour

- Black
- Blue
- Green

Community volunteers lead the campaign to select a decorative option for street lights.

Please let us know if any of your neighbours or you are interested in leading the campaign to decide on decorative street light options in Calder. The City can provide support by sharing the options available for decorative street lights and help gather feedback at upcoming public engagement opportunities.

Please contact Laura Shewchuk at Laura.Shewchuk@edmonton.ca if you are interested to learn more.

The decorative option would need to be determined and submitted to the City by July 2, 2020.

For more information on Local Improvements and the decision processes, please visit edmonton.ca/LocalImprovements for more detailed information.

Decorative Street Blades

Calder Community League is working with the project team to develop decorative street blades for Calder. The designs below have been developed and the league would like to know your thoughts about these. There is no cost to the community as new street blades are part of neighbourhood renewal.

The blades can be one of three colors: black, blue or green. Which one do you like best?

Two images have been created as options. An old steam train or the date of Calder being established. Which do you prefer?

Please send your responses to caldercommunityleague@gmail.com.



Message from your Project Manager

The snow has since melted following our January public engagement events. Spring has come and we have adjusted to physical distancing, cleaned our yards and planted our gardens. It is also time to share the proposed draft designs for Calder neighbourhood renewal!

You have probably seen us on the streets in Calder in our safety vests and masks. Measuring, drilling holes and surveying the neighbourhood. This technical analysis is very important to help us refine the options you told us were important at the last public engagement events. We've made some small changes on some of the options, and had to make some bigger changes on others.

Behind the scenes, we have been discussing the draft design with our colleagues responsible for street lights, signals, school safety, parks and roads maintenance and neighbourhood services. Coordinating the

design with the work of the larger city is an important part of getting the design right. All these areas have design considerations to help us bring Calder up to a newer standard where possible.

The current situation with COVID-19 has transitioned us to working from home, and holding public engagement online. As we carry out our next public engagement for your neighbourhood, we want you to know that if you find using the internet uncomfortable or difficult, we have other ways for you to be involved in engagement. Our project team wants to hear from the whole community. Even if we have to have an old fashioned telephone conversation!

Looking forward to sharing the draft design with you in late June!

Laura

Neighbourhood Services message

The Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator (NRC) assigned to Ward 2 is Kristy Berryman. Kristy is an enthusiastic champion of community connectedness and is committed to supporting Ward 2 neighbourhoods through this challenging time. Given the current workloads of NRCs, they do need to prioritize urgent matters and time sensitive community-led construction projects. Our response times in supporting our community partners will be longer than you are used to. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time.

You can reach Kristy at: Kristy.Berryman@edmonton.ca or by phone (780) 920-6456.

Stay Informed

For more information, and to sign up for project updates, go to edmonton.ca/BuildingCalder.

