# 2020–2021 Annual Report Inglewood Revitalization

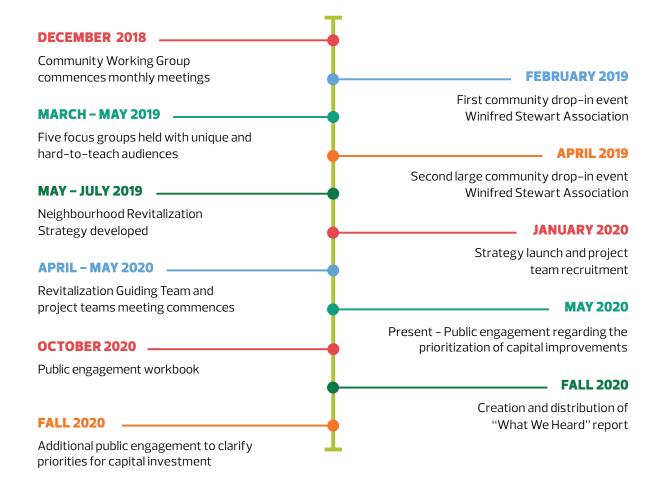
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#### **Background**





## Background and Progress

In June 2018, Inglewood community was approved by City Council for the Neighbourhood Revitalization program. Over the last two years the Covid–19 pandemic has impacted our neighbourhoods and communities across Edmonton and the world with varying and unpredictable challenges from the way we work together to shifting priorities.

Two major impacts seen at the City have been:

- Moving online and developing new ways of working and building relationships
- Volunteerism and organizations shifting priorities

Between December 2018 and June 2019, the City worked with Inglewood community members to co-create a Revitalization Strategy:

- Vision for Inglewood Revitalization "Building connections to create a vibrant and inclusive community"
  - + Goal One More Inglewood residents are out in the community getting involved and interacting with each other
  - + Goal Two Inglewood's unique character is enhanced by having attractive spaces and features
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Between May 2020 and November 2021, the City worked with community members to gather input on and prioritize capital investments to put forward to the city through a community working group, focused neighbourhood discussions and large community engagement workshops.

## Community Led Initiatives and Working with Community



We had people walking by who came by to thank us for putting them up. They said they really liked how festive it made the park look. Another commented that it made it look like this was a community people cared about.

- PROJECT PARTICIPANT

In 2020 Revitalization funded a mural collaboration between Inglewood Community League of Edmonton, Soulflame Creative Services, Wild Heart Collective, and Inglewood neighbours. In 2021 the Mural was installed on the side of the Inglewood Community League Hall. 77 members of the Inglewood community (in 34 cohorts) participated in painting the murals. Community members who participated felt that this was a project that really brought the community together and also will be a good thing for the community to have a mural up in an area where the community can come together and look at it.

In December of 2020 trees were decorated in John A Norris Park to add some winter vibrabancy. Some of the community feedback was about the beauty it added to the park and that it brought people joy and made them smile.

In the summer of 2021the Inglewood Community League Garden Committee applied for funding to support a concept design for an expansion of their existing community garden to add additional garden boxes, additional seating, communal spaces, and to enhance accessibility.

In the Spring of 2021 the Inglewood Revitalization Community group worked with the revitalization coordinator and consultants to prioritize the list of capital infrastructure ideas that were collected in the fall of 2020. In the Fall of 2021 the Inglewood Park Committee with the revitalization coordinator on community engagement to help inform the concept designs for Phase 2 of the Inglewood Park Park redevelopment. The engagement consisted of an online survey, virtual workshops and a drop-in event outside of the hall. Phase 2 of the Inglewood Park Park redevelopment which includes a gathering space with seating, a spray deck for all ages, accessible pathways and site furnishings. The project is scheduled for construction start up in Spring 2022.

## **Macro and Micro Funding Disbursed**

TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED	TOTAL COMMUNITY CASH CONTRIBUTIONS	VOLUNTEER	TOTAL COMMUNITY IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS
\$1,760	\$2,500	\$9,880	\$5,600

ORGANIZATION NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING AWARD	INGLEWOOD REVITALIZATION GOAL	COMMUNITY DEFINITION OF SUCCESS FOR REVITALIZATION
Inglewood Community League Garden Committee	Community Garden Redevelopment Design	\$350	+ Inglewood's unique character is enhanced by having attractive spaces and features.	+ Volunteerism is increasing  + New people are connected that previously were not
Wild Heart Collective	Community Mural	\$710	+ More residents are out in the community getting involved and interacting with each other.  + Inglewood's unique character is enhanced by having attractive spaces and features.	+ More people using public spaces  + More people attending community events/ programs  + New people are connected that previously were not  + Neighbourhood feels more vibrant and thriving  + People living in Inglewood and across the city perceive the neighbourhood more positively
Inglewood Community League Garden Committee	Block Party	\$350	+ More residents are out in the community getting involved and interacting with each other.	<ul> <li>+ More people using public spaces</li> <li>+ More people attending community events/ programs</li> <li>+ New people are connected that previously were not</li> <li>+ Neighbourhood feels more vibrant and thriving</li> </ul>
Resident	Festive John A Norris Park	\$350	+ More residents are out in the community getting involved and interacting with each other.  + Inglewood's unique character is enhanced by having attractive spaces and features.	+ More people using public spaces  + Volunteerism is increasing  + Community is defined more by assets than deficits  + Neighbourhood feels more vibrant and thriving  + People living in Inglewood and across the city perceive the neighbourhood more positively

#### City Led Initiatives

The Revitalization team hosted the first Peer 2 Peer session in May 2020! As changemakers in a Revitalization area members of steering committees and project teams were invited to be a part of building a peer network. There was an opportunity to share ideas, learnings and experience for positive community change and neighbourhood revitalization. High level themes from the session were: marketing and communications strategies, relationships with community leagues and other community stakeholders, project and idea generation.

In May 2021 a newsletter was sent out to all households and businesses in the Inglewood neighbourhood. With many City of Edmonton projects in Inglewood at the same time this newsletter was a way to let people living in Inglewood know what City of Edmonton programs and projects were on the go and how the projects and programs might affect them and where to find more information or how they can get involved.

In the Spring of 2021 an Inglewood Interagency was resparked as an opportunity for agencies and organizations in and around the Inglewood neighbourhood to connect, discuss trends, share news and look for ways to work together to support the people and families in the neighbourhood. This group met monthly virtually and shared posters and updates by email as well.

44 Having Revite support means that we could resurrect the longstanding interagency group in Inglewood virtually. The City Citizen Services/ Community Building Social Worker has historically been an important part of bringing us together, focussing, guiding and engaging us, and most importantly, teaching strategies that we can use in future. With restructuring, we would have lacked that presence we had before, but Revite has stepped in and filled that need by providing that encouragement and 

- INGLEWOOD INTERAGENCY MEMBER

#### Capital Investment

For Inglewood the approved 2019–2022 Capital Budget included \$13.4 million (shared with Balwin/Belvedere area) for potential capital projects that would be leveraged with other City projects in the 2 areas.

The majority of capital funding allocated for 2019–2022 was to be spent in Inglewood as there were more immediate leverage opportunities with Inglewood Neighbourhood Renewal and 124th Street Renewal programs.

In 2020 and 2021 the revitalization coordinator worked with the Community Capital working group to develop and facilitate engagement and prioritization of capital projects outside of the neighborhood renewal and arterial renewal projects. In 2020 a workbook and online survey were distributed to gather project ideas and in 2021 a prioritization process was developed to refine project ideas to put forward from the community to the City for capital investment in 2022.

### **Looking Forward**

The City of Edmonton Neighbourhood Services is currently in a review process for the Neighbourhood Revitalization Program. The purpose of the review, with input from individuals and groups involved in the program, is to understand what parts of the program are working well and what parts could be changed or updated, and gather suggestions for how to improve the program.

The recommendations from the review will be presented to City Council later in 2022 where Council will be making decisions about program improvements and funding.

The Neighbourhood Revitalization Coordinators will be delivering 2 Peer to Peer sessions in 2022 scheduled for late Spring and early Fall for individuals currently involved in the Revitalization.

#### Ways to get involved

Neighbourhood Revitalization is bringing people and ideas together in Inglewood! Share your interests, skills, passions, knowledge and experience with your community:

- Bring a project to life! Connect with people and access revitalization funding for projects
- Join the Revitalization Guiding Team! Support projects and be a point of contact with community members and the City of Edmonton.

#### **VISIT AND SIGN UP FOR UPDATES:**

edmonton.ca/InglewoodRevitalization email: inglewoodrevitalization@edmonton.ca

#### **Acknowledgements**

Many thanks to all of the deduction of the Revitalization working groups including the Guiding Team, The Capital Investment Team and Community League Park Committee, and the The Gardening & Beautification Team. There are also project leaders and participants who have invested their time to enhance their neighbourhood and the many people and organizations who convene and drive conversation on how to make their neighbourhood more welcoming and vibrant to live, work and play in.