

What We Heard Report

101 Avenue Streetscape Concept Plan Final Report

Transportation Planning & Design
Integrated Infrastructure Services |
Infrastructure Planning & Design
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Edmonton

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Project Overview

The area of the 101 Avenue Streetscape project is a transportation corridor surrounded by the Fulton Place and Forest Heights neighbourhoods and is well-used by residents of the adjacent communities and Capilano, Terrace Heights, and Gold Bar neighbourhoods. It is also locally known as the Greater Hardisty Area.

The 101 Avenue Corridor Study was initiated in 2016 by the community who saw an opportunity to improve the corridor. The goal of the 101 Avenue Corridor Study included: connecting 101 Avenue to a broad network of transportation options and destinations, while supporting residential and commercial development, to create an active, vibrant and unique sense of place.

In December 2018, City Council approved the project to continue through the concept phase, with future phases of the project not funded. Building on the work done for the Corridor Study completed in 2017, the concept planning project was the next step towards implementing the 101 Avenue Streetscape. The goal of the concept plan was to refine themes from the corridor study to set alignments and locations for roadway, bikeway, landscaping and accesses. The next phases of the project (including preliminary design, detailed design and construction) were not funded at the completion of the concept planning project.

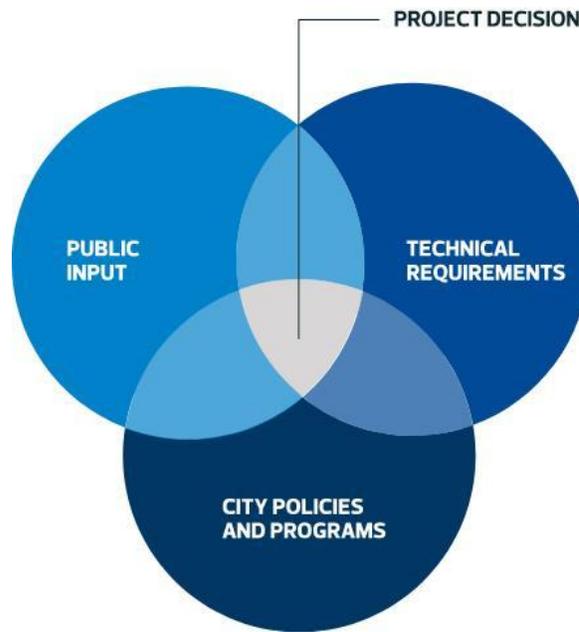
The boundaries of the project extended from 50 Street to 84 Street. The section between 80 Street and 84 Street was added to the concept plan to connect active transportation links along 101 Avenue to the wider active mode network.

Public Engagement Process

Public Engagement Philosophy

The City of Edmonton is committed to involving the people affected by the decisions it makes by seeking diverse opinions, experiences and information so that a wide spectrum of information is available to decision-makers.

Public input was used, along with technical analysis and City policies and programs, to determine the concept plan.



The City's public engagement spectrum defines the public's level of influence in engagement processes.

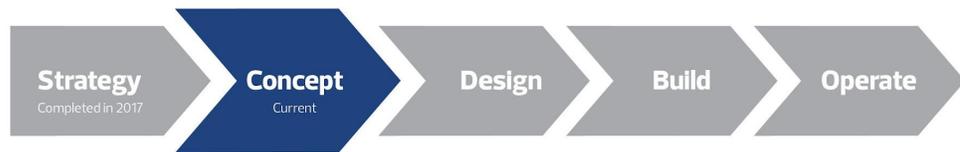


Public Engagement Design

The purpose of public engagement for the 101 Avenue Streetscape Project was to share project information and gather ideas and feedback from stakeholders and the public at key milestones.

A multi-phased public and stakeholder engagement process was designed between June 2021 and the completion of the project in April 2022. During this period, the public and stakeholders were invited to learn about the project and provide input to inform the development of the recommended concept plan.

The project began with stakeholder meetings with the Greater Hardisty Community Sustainability Coalition and the community leagues near the project area. These groups were highly involved in the development of the Corridor Study completed in 2017 and continue to be an active and interested group following the project. The purpose of the stakeholder meetings with representatives from these community groups was to share the project was moving from the Corridor Study into Concept Planning, what that meant and how the community groups can get involved throughout the project.



This report documents the engagement activities conducted and the input collected from June 2021 to Early 2022. Engagement activities throughout the project were at the **ADVISE** level on the City's engagement spectrum.



Phases of Engagement

The public engagement process included three phases of engagement, as well as a pre-engagement phase. These phases aligned with key decision points and timelines within the concept planning process. The phases and level of engagement are identified in the table below.

Phase	Pre Engagement	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
Timing	May 2021	June 2021	November 2021	March 2022
Level of Engagement	Refine	Advise	Advise	Advise
Objective	Introduce Concept Planning Project	Confirm Corridor Study, Vision and Guiding Principles	Share Draft Concept Plan	Share Recommended Concept Plan

Pre-Engagement

At the outset of the project, the project team met with members of the community leagues and the Greater Hardisty Community Sustainability Coalition to introduce the project.

The engagement objectives during this phase of engagement were to introduce the project and gather feedback on:

- + The preferred method of communication and engagement with members of the public and residents of nearby communities

Input received during these stakeholder meetings was used to finalize the communication and engagement plan.

Phase 1

For this phase of engagement, the project team shared engagement materials that could be downloaded, and an online survey was created to gather feedback.

The engagement objectives during this phase of engagement were to present and gather feedback on:

- + The vision and guiding principles created during the Corridor Study
- + Confirm recommendations from the Corridor Study

- + If anything has changed since the Corridor Study

Input received in Phase 1 was used to create the draft concept plan including development of active mode connections.

Phase 2

For this phase of engagement, the project team created a self-guided walking tour, video, engagement materials that could be downloaded, and an online survey to gather feedback. The self-guided walking tour of the corridor could be done online or with paper copies, and shared images of today's view and images of potential changes throughout the corridor.

The engagement objectives during this phase of engagement were to present and gather feedback on:

- + The draft concept plan

Input received in Phase 2 was used to create the recommended concept plan.

Phase 3

For the final phase of engagement, the project team created a video and engagement materials that could be downloaded.

The final engagement objective was to share the recommended concept plan.

Communications and Engagement Approach

Communication Activities

To promote the project and the engagement opportunities, the following communication methods were used :

Postcards

- + Were sent to all addresses in Capilano, Forest Heights, Fulton Heights and Terrace Heights

Road Signs

- + Temporary signs were placed throughout the Greater Hardisty area

Yard Signs

- + Temporary signs were placed throughout the Greater Hardisty area

Online and Print Advertisements

- + Social Media posts through the City of Edmonton's Facebook and Twitter
- + Community League emails
- + South East Voice advertisement

Public and Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Feedback gathered was used to help shape the development of the recommended concept plan for the 101 Avenue Streetscape.

Survey

Online surveys were used to gather feedback.

Engaged Edmonton - Ideas Tool

The Ideas tool was used to share input and ideas.

Stakeholder Meetings and Workshops

Online stakeholder meetings and workshops were hosted to gather feedback from property owners and representatives from the community leagues and the Greater Hardisty Community Sustainability Coalition.

Videos

Videos were created to share the draft concept plan and the recommended concept plan.

Self-Guided Walking Tour

Participants were asked to review the draft concept plan and think about how they use 101 Avenue as a driver, pedestrian, cyclist and transit user, and to leave comments on how the draft concept plan addresses getting around or visiting the area.

What We Presented and What We Heard

Phase 1

What We presented

No options or designs were proposed during Phase 1. Instead, the intent was to confirm the vision and guiding principles and recommendations that were created during the Corridor Study.

Phase 1 engagement objectives were:

- + To validate the corridor study vision and guiding principles
- + To compare vision with the infrastructure analysis
- + To identify the values, issues or opportunities of the project area

Public and stakeholder input was considered in the development of the draft concept plan.

What We Heard

The following summarizes feedback gathered throughout all engagement activities in Phase 1.

- + Participants generally supported the vision and guiding principles and expressed enthusiasm about the project moving forward

- + The recommendations presented in the Corridor Study were still relevant and important
- + Participants generally supported designs that included improvements to sidewalks and improved safety for people walking and biking along 101 Avenue
- + Landscaping and other ways to beautify 101 Avenue was generally supported
- + Some participants were concerned about losing on-street parking and parking for commercial properties along 101 Avenue

Phase 2

What We presented

In Phase 2, we shared a draft concept plan for review and feedback.

Phase 2 engagement objectives were:

- + To identify where stakeholder and the public do not feel the concept design reflects the project vision
- + To identify possible alternatives to non-aligning areas

Public and stakeholder input was considered, along with the City's policies and programs and technical requirements, in the refinement of the concept plan to create the recommended concept plan.

What We Heard

The following summarizes feedback gathered throughout all engagement activities in Phase 2.

- + The draft concept plan generally meets the needs of drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and transit users
- + Participants generally supported the dedicated bike lanes
- + Participants were concerned about the safety of the 75 Street and 101 Avenue intersection for people walking and cycling
- + There were some concerns that the closure of the 50 Street to 101 Avenue access would cause traffic to be re-routed onto 106 Avenue
- + Participants generally supported that the recommended concept plan included improvements to safety for people walking and biking along 101 Avenue

Topics for Future Consideration

The intersection at 75 Street and 101 Avenue is an important link that connects south Edmonton across the river heading north. There are some changes recommended as to how the intersection works which can be implemented without disrupting the flow of north/south traffic, as it is an important north-south commuter route.

The design presented meets the current design guidelines and will be moving forward as the recommended design. Concerns about safety at this intersection were raised throughout the engagement process for people who travel on bikes across 75 Street.

As part of the next stage of design, the preliminary design phase, the City will conduct a safety audit to further review the operations of the intersection to confirm it will safely accommodate all users, pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles.

Conclusion

The recommended concept plan was presented in this third and final phase of the study. These recommendations will be carried forward to seek funding for future phases of the project.

The City of Edmonton thanks all stakeholders and members of the public who participated in the engagement process for this project. The feedback received helped to inform and advise the project team throughout the 3 phases as they developed a final design for the 101 Avenue streetscape.