

# What We Heard Report: Pleasantview Neighbourhood Renewal

**Community Feedback on Draft Design  
November – December 2020**

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**Edmonton**

# What We Heard Report:

## Pleasantview Neighbourhood Renewal Community Feedback on Draft Design

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## **Project overview**

Pleasantview has been chosen for Neighbourhood Renewal construction to update its aging streets and sidewalks. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2022.

Neighbourhood Renewal rehabilitates residential roads, replaces street lights, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and adds missing sidewalk links, where possible. Other opportunities to improve how people walk, bike and drive in the neighbourhood, and how they enjoy City-owned parks and open spaces are also explored.

An interactive public engagement process was designed to gather local knowledge, views and opinions from residents and property owners to inform the development of the neighbourhood design and ensure it meets the needs of both current residents and visitors and those in the future.

The planning and engagement process began in September 2019 and the final design will be shared in summer 2021.

## **Impact to engagement due to COVID-19**

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted nearly every aspect of daily life, including how we are able to connect with you about Neighbourhood Renewal. Thank you to everyone who engaged with us virtually during the Community Feedback on Draft Design stage of the project.

Neighbourhood Renewal ensures that neighbourhood infrastructure is safe, maintained and serves the people who live in the community and depend upon it. Although in-person public events are paused, the Project Team remains committed to delivering project information and meaningful public engagement opportunities as efficiently and safely as possible.

## Public engagement spectrum

The City of Edmonton is committed to seeking diverse opinions, experiences and perspectives from Edmontonians, ensuring a wide range of input is available to support decision making.

The City's Public Engagement Spectrum defines the public's level of influence in the engagement process. Engagement activities during this phase were at the **REFINE** level on the City's Public Engagement Spectrum.

### Increasing influence of the public



Visit [edmonton.ca/PublicEngagement](http://edmonton.ca/PublicEngagement) for more information on the City's public engagement process and click on Vision, Definition and Spectrum.



## Roadmap to Building Great Neighbourhoods

The Neighbourhood Renewal program follows the roadmap below from Starting the Conversation to the unveiling of the new neighbourhood enhancements and celebration of the completion of construction. This report highlights the input received during the **Community Feedback on Draft Design** stage between November and December 2020.



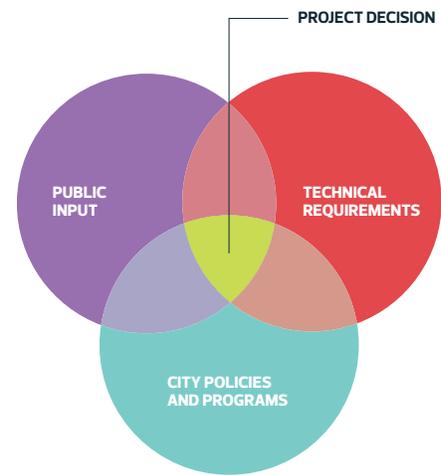


## Community Feedback on Draft Design

During this project stage, the Project Team reviewed and analyzed public feedback on the proposed options from the previous engagement stage – **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** – and the team used this analysis to create the draft neighbourhood design. The draft design is the first look at how the proposed infrastructure and design elements could work together as a system. The draft design was shared with the public to gather feedback.

## How decisions are made

City policies and standards such as the Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards, Safe Mobility Strategy, and Winter City Strategy provide the overall direction for Neighbourhood Renewal designs. As each neighbourhood is unique, the Project Team asks for input from residents who live, work and play in the neighbourhood and considers technical aspects such as roadway widths and conflicts with utilities and trees to determine what will best fit in the neighbourhood.



Over 4000 residents live in Pleasantview, each with needs and opinions on how they envision its future. Over the past year and a half, feedback has been collected in multiple ways—surveys, community walk/workshop, engagement pop-up events, door hanger question cards, emails/phone calls, stakeholder discussions and live question and answer opportunities. Early public input was used to develop the Project Vision and Guiding Principles that, along with ongoing public engagement, continue to guide the Project Team when prioritizing design decisions.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the public engagement opportunities to date and contributed knowledge and experience to help shape the future of Pleasantview.



## How we informed and engaged

The Project Team shared information with the public to describe how the options in the neighbourhood design work together as a system. We asked residents and property owners if they feel that the proposed changes meet the needs of area residents and visitors and if they align with the Project Vision and Guiding Principles. We also invited any suggestions that would improve the proposed changes or make them better align with the vision.

The input received during this stage is summarized in this report and will be used in developing the final neighbourhood design.

Visit [edmonton.ca/BuildingPleasantview](http://edmonton.ca/BuildingPleasantview) for details from previous stages.



### Live online events

A live online event was held to share the draft design and offer the opportunity to ask questions directly of the Project Team.

+ November 25, 2020, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**52 total event participants**



### Online and paper survey

A survey was available, both online and in paper copy, to submit feedback on the draft design. A paper copy of the draft design information booklet was included with the paper copy surveys.

+ November 16 – December 2, 2020

**89 completed surveys**



### Emails, phone calls

Residents, and property and business owners shared information with the Project Team via email, telephone and the Ask A Question Tool on the project website.



### Interactive digital and paper information booklet

Maps, drawings and details of the draft neighbourhood design were posted online or available in paper copy, by request.

## What we heard

The following is a summary of feedback received. All input and comments will be considered by the Project Team as it refines the draft design to create the final neighbourhood design that will be shared in July 2021.



### Driving and Street Crossings

There is general agreement that the proposed changes to driving and street crossings meet the needs of area residents and other users.

There is general support for and residents and property owners indicated they are looking forward to:

- + The 109 Street / 60 Avenue roundabout as a traffic calming measure and a landscaped gateway into the community
- + The addition of raised crosswalks to slow traffic and prioritize people walking
- + The partial closure of 60 Avenue off of 107 Street to increase green space
- + Measures that slow traffic and result in a safer neighbourhood

In addition, the following suggestions, thoughts and issues were raised by residents and property owners:

- + Consider adding a speed hump or crosswalk to slow traffic and create a safer crossing at 106 Street / 52 Avenue
- + Some suggest removing the bike lane in favour of prioritizing motor vehicles on 106 Street. Some feel the 109 Street / 60 Avenue roundabout may cause confusion for drivers, impact residents and bus service, and make pedestrian crossings more difficult
- + It was also suggested that too many traffic calming elements will cause congestion in the neighbourhood
- + Opinions are divided on whether more or less calming is needed along 105 Street



### Biking & Walking Connections

More residents and property owners agree than those who disagree, that the proposed changes to biking and walking connections in Pleasantview meet the needs of area residents and other users.

There is general support for the overall improvements to biking and walking connections within the neighbourhood, and residents and property owners are specifically looking forward to:

- + The north-south connection provided by the bike lanes on 106 Street
- + Protected, separated bike lanes on 106 Street
- + Sidewalks added where they are currently missing
- + Shared-use alleys
- + Pathways/trails provided through parks and green spaces
- + The shared-use path on 111 Street

The following suggestions were made about the 106 Street bike lanes:

- + Do not remove any or remove fewer trees
- + Change the design to a shared-use path on east side as there will be fewer impacts
- + Consider bike / student conflicts in front of the school

It was also suggested that too many shared-use paths are proposed in Mount Pleasant Park which divides the green space and adds unnecessary concrete.

Some suggest that removing fewer trees would make the plan better align with the Project Vision and Guiding Principles.



## Parks and Open Spaces

Most residents and property owners feel the changes to parks and open spaces in Pleasantview meet the needs of area residents.

There is general support for and residents and property owners indicated they are looking forward to:

- + The partial road closure to add green space to the park at 60 Avenue and 107 Street
- + The addition of an off-leash dog park which adds the amenity into the community and increases the use of underused green space
- + Improvements to Angus Murray Park
- + The addition of greenery: more trees, plantings, landscaping
- + The addition of benches / seating throughout the neighbourhood

In addition, the following suggestions, thoughts and issues were raised:

- + Remove some of the paths in Mount Pleasant Park as it is dividing usable greenspace
- + Use naturalized plantings that take up storm water and provide shelter from the elements

Some respondents are concerned that trees planted along 107 Street and 57 Avenue will bring negative impacts to property owners by disrupting existing landscaping and increasing maintenance. Respondents also suggest that new trees not be planted under utility lines.



## Off-leash dog park location

There is general support for both off-leash dog park locations, however slightly more residents and property owners are in favour of the 61 Avenue location.

Those that support the 61 Avenue location feel that:

- + The larger location will provide more space for dogs
- + A dog park will revitalize the green space
- + The location is less impactful on nearby residents

Those that oppose the 61 Avenue location feel that:

- + The location next to a busy road is not ideal for dogs
- + Clean up and maintenance will be an issue for other park users
- + The new function will impact how the space is currently used

Those that support the 105A Street location feel that:

- + The location is quieter, as it is not near a busy road
- + The location is more convenient, closer to the neighbourhood

Those that oppose the 105A Street location feel that:

- + The residential impacts (noise, traffic, parking, maintenance) will be too high
- + The area is too small for a dog park
- + Adding a dog park will impact how the park is used today

# Next Steps:

The Project Team will consider all comments as it refines the draft design. A final neighbourhood design will be shared in the summer of 2021.

Watch for information on the upcoming project stages:

**+ July 2021:**

Community Feedback on Final Design

**+ Early 2022:**

Preparing for Construction and Local Improvement Process

**+ 2022 – 2023:**

Construction on Your Streets

## Stay informed

Visit [edmonton.ca/BuildingPleasantview](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingPleasantview) for more information and to register to receive email updates throughout the project.

## Working together to make the most out of your neighbourhood.

This is your city and your neighbourhood. We want to understand how you experience your neighbourhood and ask for your input on what we might do to make it better. We will engage and work with you on the renewal of roads, sidewalks, street lights and park spaces and promote other community opportunities to enhance how people live and interact in your neighbourhood. We commit to being open and transparent about how your input is used. Let's make the most out of your neighbourhood.

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