# Chapter 2

# Neighbourhood Vision and Opportunities



## 4 Neighbourhood Vision and Opportunities

## 4.1 Neighbourhood Vision and Guiding Principles

During the **Building a Project Vision Together** and **Exploring Opportunities** stages, we met with residents and stakeholders to gather local knowledge and begin exploring opportunities for infrastructure improvements.

The Project Team has used this input to **CREATE** a draft Vision and Guiding Principles for Dunluce Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. This vision will be used to guide decision making for Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. The Guiding Principles are ideas that inform how the vision should be applied to the neighbourhood design and used to inform the choices for community–led initiatives.

Public input was also received during spring 2023 engagement to **REFINE** and finalize the Vision and Guiding Principles. Feedback was collected through an online survey, pop–up events, virtual public information event, in–person public engagement event and stakeholder meetings.

#### Vision

Dunluce is a friendly, mature neighbourhood with generationally and culturally diverse residents.

There are opportunities to engage in social, recreational and sporting activities in the many vibrant green spaces and parks throughout the neighbourhood.

Residents and visitors enjoy opportunities for all-season walking, rolling and biking in Dunluce. Sidewalks and pathways are smooth, accessible and comfortable, allowing leisurely movement through the streets and parks and providing connections to key destinations and amenities within Dunluce and to nearby neighbourhoods.

The roadways and alleys are smooth, user-friendly, easy to navigate and safe in all seasons.

#### **Guiding Principles**



- 1. All ages and abilities experience comfort when walking, rolling and biking
  - + Provide smooth sidewalks, paths and roads
  - + Improve accessibility (e.g. connections, curb ramps, wider sidewalks, no dead ends)
  - + Improve crossing safety (e.g. centre medians, curb extensions)
  - + Improve visibility (e.g. pedestrian lighting, clear sight lines, curb extensions)



- 2. Parks and green spaces are welcoming, accessible and feel safe
  - + Improve visibility (e.g. park lighting, clear sight lines)
  - + Beautify spaces (e.g. tree plantings, garbage cans)
  - + Create gathering spaces (e.g. benches, picnic tables, barbeques, amenities)



## 3. Drivers experience comfortable, safe roads and alleys

- + Provide smooth driving surfaces
- + Enhance safety/visibility at intersections
- + Design for 40 km/h speed limit
- + Encourage slower speeds (traffic calming)
- + Consider parking in high use areas
- + Consider snow removal/windrows

## 4.2 Opportunities and constraints analysis

The following opportunities and constraints were identified through a combination of public engagement and analysis by the Project Team during the **Building a Project Vision Together** and **Exploring Opportunities** stages. The purpose of the opportunities and constraints analysis is to generate as many ideas as possible to help address issues and achieve the Vision and Guiding Principles. Themes have been used to organize the various opportunities and constraints.

#### Walking, rolling and public transit

#### **Opportunities**

#### + Improve biking:

- + Add bike racks at key destinations in Dunluce such as parks, schools, playgrounds and the commercial area
- + Explore creating north-south and eastwest bike routes through Dunluce to connect with the nearby bike network and create opportunities for people who bike
- + Enhance connections:
  - + Replace and enhance existing breezeways to improve connectivity for people who walk, roll or bike
  - + Explore adding a new pathway to the existing breezeway between 156 Avenue and 153 Avenue
  - + Widen the existing north-south AltaLink utility corridor pathway
  - + Explore adding new pathways in all parks and along the east-west utility corridor to improve connectivity for people who walk, roll or bike
  - + Strengthen walking and rolling connections to bus stops and the future Metro Line Northwest Extension LRT stations
  - + Provide additional lighting and enhance existing lighting along pathways and crosswalks to improve visibility for people walking, rolling or biking when it is dark



- + Explore adding a shared street (shared alley) between the AltaLink utility corridor and 167 Avenue to create a comfortable connection for people walking, rolling, biking and driving
- + Replace existing sidewalks and widen sidewalks to current City standards to enhance connections for people who walk or roll
- + Add sidewalks to cul-de-sacs to improve connectivity for people who walk or roll
- + Explore adding wayfinding signage at park entrances and key pathway junctions

#### Constraints

- + Dunluce School Park and Herb Link Park have a number of existing sports fields that will impact the location of potential new pathways
- New or enhanced pathways or sidewalks may require tradeoffs due to existing conditions such as utilities, pipeline right-of-ways, mature trees and road right-of-way width
- Different bike route designs may have various tradeoffs due to existing conditions such as utilities, pipeline right-of-ways, mature trees, location of existing vehicular accesses and road right-of-way width





## Map 1. Opportunities: Walking, rolling and public transit



- Dunluce neighbourhood boundary
- Widen existing breezeway pathway
- New breezeway pathway
- Widen the existing north-south AltaLink corridor pathway
- New east-west pathway along the AltaLink corridor
- New shared street
- New sidewalks



- Add bike racks at key destinations
- P N
  - New pathways in parks



Strengthen walking and rolling connections to bus stops and the future Metro Line Northwest Extension LRT stations

- Additional lighting
- Explore wayfinding signage

#### Roads



#### **Opportunities**

- School drop-off redesign: Explore the redesign of pickup/drop-off areas in front of Dunluce and St. Lucy schools to enhance safety and reduce traffic congestion
- + Roadway redesign: Explore the redesign of collector and local roads to provide safe spaces for people who walk, roll, bike or drive (121 Street, 162 Avenue, 161 Avenue, 157 Avenue, 115 Street, Dunluce Road and Warwick Road)

#### + Intersection redesign:

- + Explore different designs for the intersections of 115 Street and 162 Avenue and 161 Avenue and 121 Street to improve traffic flow, reduce confusion and enhance safety for people walking, rolling, biking and driving
- + Explore enhancements to all intersections along curvilinear roads to improve sightlines
- + Crossings:
  - + Enhance safety at existing crosswalks with curb extensions, medians, no parking zones, painted zebra markings and new lights to increase the visibility of people walking to people driving
  - + Provide additional crosswalks to enhance connections for people who walk and roll
- + Traffic calming: Explore traffic calming features to encourage slower vehicle speeds

#### Constraints

- + Existing conditions such as utilities, mature trees and right-of-way width may require trade-offs for some roadway improvement opportunities
- + Certain traffic calming opportunities such as curb extensions, raised crosswalks and raised intersections may have implications for drainage infrastructure such as catch basins and fire hydrant locations, which may require additional review and coordination





## Map 2. Opportunities: Roads



- - Dunluce neighbourhood boundary

Redesign of school drop-off areas

- Roadway redesign
- Intersection redesign
  - Enhance existing crosswalks
- New crosswalks



#### Parks and open spaces

#### **Opportunities**

#### + Improve connections:

- + Explore adding pathways through Dunluce School Park, Dunluce Park, Dunluce Natural Area, Herb Link Park and Orval Allen Park to improve accessibility for people who walk, roll and bike
- + Widen the existing north-south AltaLink utility corridor pathway and add a new east-west pathway
- + Add greenery along the AltaLink utility corridor to add visual interest and support biodiversity
- + Create places for people to rest and gather along the AltaLink utility corridor
- + Enhance existing lighting and explore adding new lighting along pathways to enhance the safety of people who walk, roll and bike

#### + Enhance community gathering:

- + Provide seating areas with benches, picnic tables, BBQ pits, landscaping, lighting and waste bins to create gathering spaces for residents
- + Enhance the public realm near the corner store area at the intersection of 161 Avenue and 121 Street to create gathering spaces
- + Upgrade the existing playground in Dunluce Park and explore adding a new playground to Herb Link Park (community-led)
- + Add waste bins along pathways and in parks to improve cleanliness

#### + Protection from elements:

- + Integrate winter design elements such as enhanced lighting and positioning trees near seating areas and along pathways to provide protection from the elements
- + Explore adding new trees, shrubs and naturalization areas in open spaces

#### Constraints

- + Improvements to open spaces not owned by the City such as School Board lands and the Community League licensed area may require coordination
- + Design of new or widened pathways and seating areas must integrate with existing sports fields, mature trees and topography
- + The placement of seating areas, pathways and lighting in open spaces should consider potential impacts to nearby residents





## Map 3. Opportunities: Parks and open spaces





- Dunluce neighbourhood boundary
- Explore adding pathways through parks
- Widen the existing north-south AltaLink corridor pathway
- New east-west pathway along the AltaLink corridor
  - Corner Store Program area
    - Community-led playground upgrade

- - New pathways in parksNew seating areas
- **F**
- New trees, shrubs and naturalization areas
- Additional lighting
- Waste bins