



## CHAPTER 2

# NEIGHBOURHOOD VISION AND OPPORTUNITIES



September 2023

# 1.0 Neighbourhood Vision and Opportunities

## 1.1 Neighbourhood Vision and Guiding Principles

During the [Building a Project Vision Together](#) and [Exploring Opportunities](#) stages, we met with residents and others groups to gather local knowledge and begin looking at opportunities for infrastructure improvements.

The Project Team used this input to [CREATE](#) a draft Vision and the Guiding Principles for Hillview Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. This vision will be used to guide decision making for this project. The Guiding Principles are ideas that lay out how the vision should be applied to the neighbourhood design.

Public input was also gathered during a spring 2023 engagement period to [REFINE](#) and finalize the Vision and Guiding Principles. Feedback was collected through an online survey, pop-up event, virtual public information event, in-person public engagement event and other meetings.

### Vision

**Hillview is a welcoming community with excellent outdoor spaces including public parks, pathways and greenery. Public spaces, amenities and local businesses are easy to get to in many different ways: by walking, rolling, biking or driving. Hillview is a friendly and peaceful neighbourhood where people feel a sense of safety, belonging and community.**



## Guiding Principles



1. Create great outdoor spaces, including public parks, pathways and greenery where residents want to gather and recreate



2. Build a network of safe and accessible roads, sidewalks, pathways and crossings to support getting around the neighbourhood year-round



3. Improve connections to different places close to the neighbourhood, such as access to transit, trail networks, amenities and services



4. Provide more ways for residents to enjoy Hillview's outdoor spaces year-round



5. Design Hillview's neighbourhood roads to encourage slower traffic



## 1.2 Opportunities and constraints analysis

The following opportunities and constraints were identified through a combination of public input 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.

### Biking

#### Opportunities

- + **Bike routes**
  - + Replace and widen existing pathways to make space for all those who bike, walk and roll
  - + Add bike routes through Hillview that connect with the nearby bike route network and the Valley Line Millbourne / Woodvale LRT Stop while improving east-west and north-south travel
  - + Add a bike connection running along the pipeline corridor near Woodvale Road
  - + Look at improving crossings of nearby roads at 66 Street, 38 Avenue, 50 Street and 34 Avenue
  - + Add wayfinding signage for key places in and around the community
- + **Parking**
  - + Add bike racks in parks and near schools, playgrounds and businesses

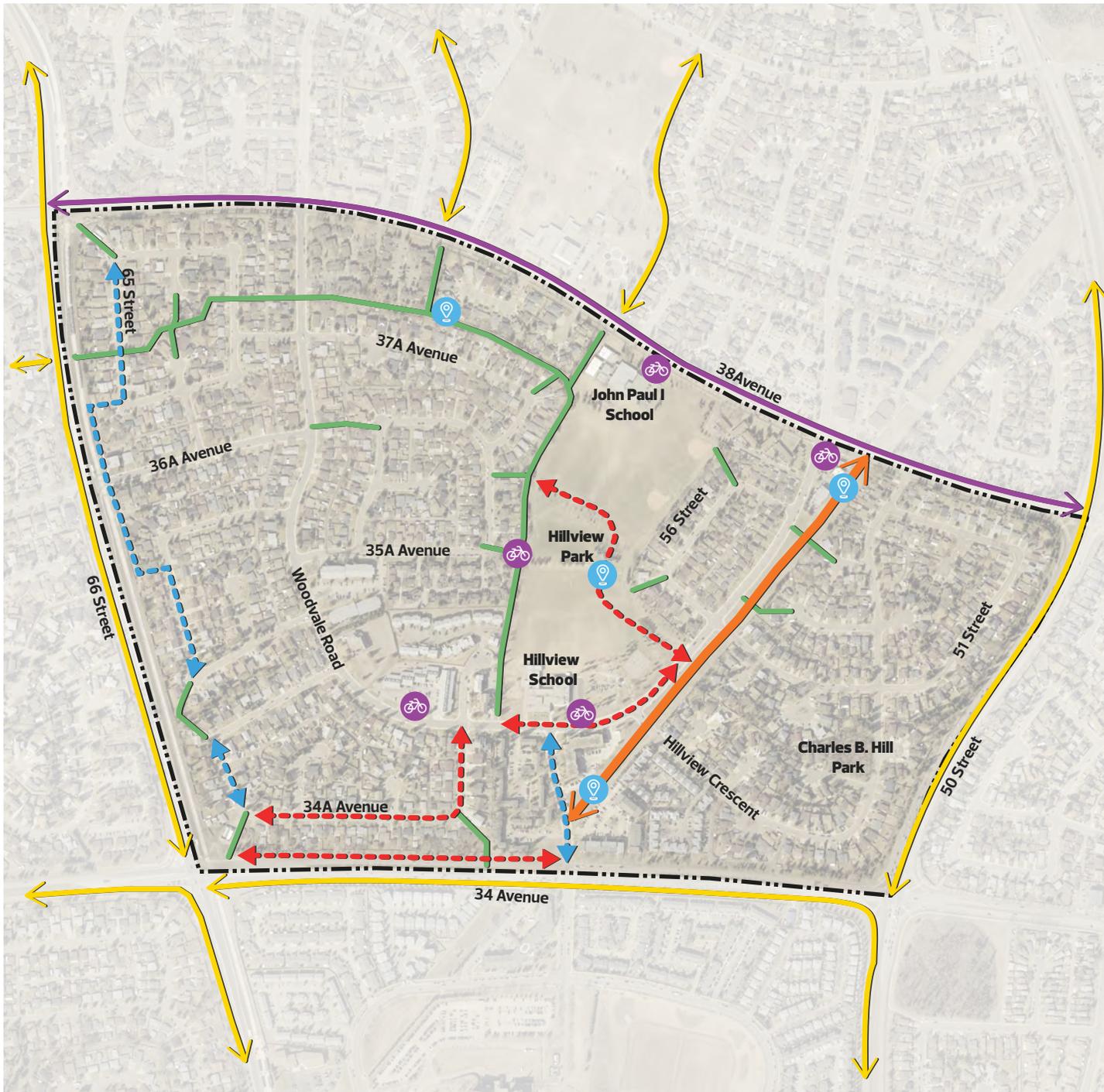


#### Constraints

- + Different bike facility 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
- + Hillview Park has a number of existing sports fields that will impact the location of wider or new pathways
- + The lack of an access point from inside Hillview to 50 Street requires looking into alternative bike routes to create a connection to the 50 Street shared pathway



Map 1. Opportunities: Biking



-  Hillview neighbourhood boundary
-  Replace and widen existing pathways and breezeways
-  Add bike routes through Hillview that improve north-south connectivity
-  Add bike routes through Hillview that improve east-west connectivity
-  Add a bike connection running next to the pipeline corridor
-  Add bike racks near key destinations
-  Surrounding shared pathways
-  Shared roadway
-  Add signage guiding residents to key places



## Walking/Rolling

### Opportunities

#### + Enhance connections

- + Add missing sidewalks to improve connectivity for people who walk or roll
- + Replace and enhance existing breezeways and pathways to give better access for people who walk, roll or bike
- + Build paths from sidewalks and alleys to bus stops and the Valley Line Millbourne / Woodvale LRT Stop
- + Add trees along sidewalks and pathways to beautify the neighbourhood and provide shade for people walking, rolling and biking
- + Put additional waste bins along pathways and sidewalks to help keep the neighbourhood clean
- + Look into creating an east-west pathway connection through Hillview that ties into the existing pathway west of the Hillview Park and leads to 66 Street
- + Look into creating a pedestrian crossing over 38 Avenue and a pathway connection between Hillview Park and Greenview Park
- + Look at adding raised crossings along all active transportation connections

#### + Safety

- + Provide more lighting while upgrading existing lighting along pathways and crosswalks to improve visibility for people walking, rolling or biking in the dark



#### + Enhance accessibility

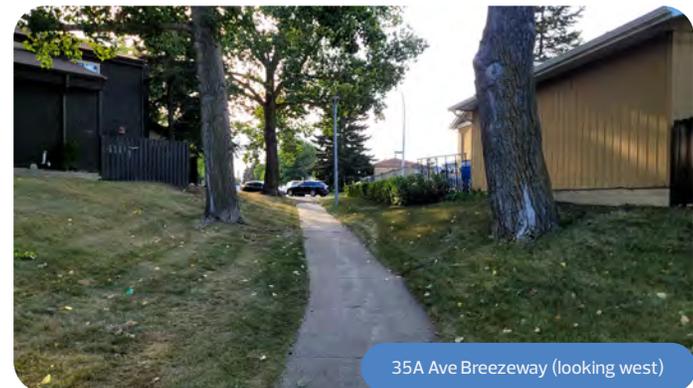
- + Widen existing sidewalks to make better connections for people who walk or roll
- + Have curb ramps at all intersections to increase accessibility for people who walk and roll
- + Upgrade the existing crossings along Woodvale Road while looking into new crossings for people who walk and roll
- + Add sidewalks to cul-de-sacs to improve access for people who walk or roll

#### + Snow storage

- + Add boulevards along roads and sidewalks to provide space for snow storage

### Constraints

- + Hillview Park has a number of existing sports fields that will impact the location of wider or new pathways
- + Existing utilities, mature trees and width of the road right of way may limit redesign options for new or rebuilt pathways and require tradeoffs





Map 2. Opportunities: Walking/Rolling

-  Hillview neighbourhood boundary
-  Replace and widen existing pathways and breezeways
-  Add missing sidewalk
-  Look into creating new shared pathways
-  Millbourne / Woodvale LRT Stop
-  Valley Line LRT tracks
-  ETS bus stop
-  Create active modes connection through alley
-  Provide more lighting / upgrade existing lighting
-  Add trees along sidewalks and pathways
-  Upgrade existing crossings
-  Look into new crossings

## Driving

### Opportunities

#### + Ways to slow traffic

- + Look at ways to slow vehicles down in school zones and along Woodvale Road, Hillview Crescent, 36A Avenue and 35A Avenue. These ways include raised crossings, two stage crossings, curb extensions and narrowing road widths

#### + Snow storage and climate resiliency

- + Add boulevards along roads and sidewalks to provide space for softscaping and snow storage
- + Look at adding grassed islands in cul-de-sacs to provide space for softscaping and snow storage

#### + Keep traffic flowing

- + Look at ways to improve larger vehicle turning movements at the intersection of Woodvale Road and 58 Street

#### + School drop-off areas

- + Look at reconfiguring the on-street parking and school bus zones near the schools to improve traffic flow
- + Look at changes to the school drop-off areas near Hillview School and John Paul I School such as adding concrete drop-off pads, curb extensions and flashing beacons
- + Explore creating a formalized school drop-off/pick-up area within the 60 Street cul-de-sac

### Constraints

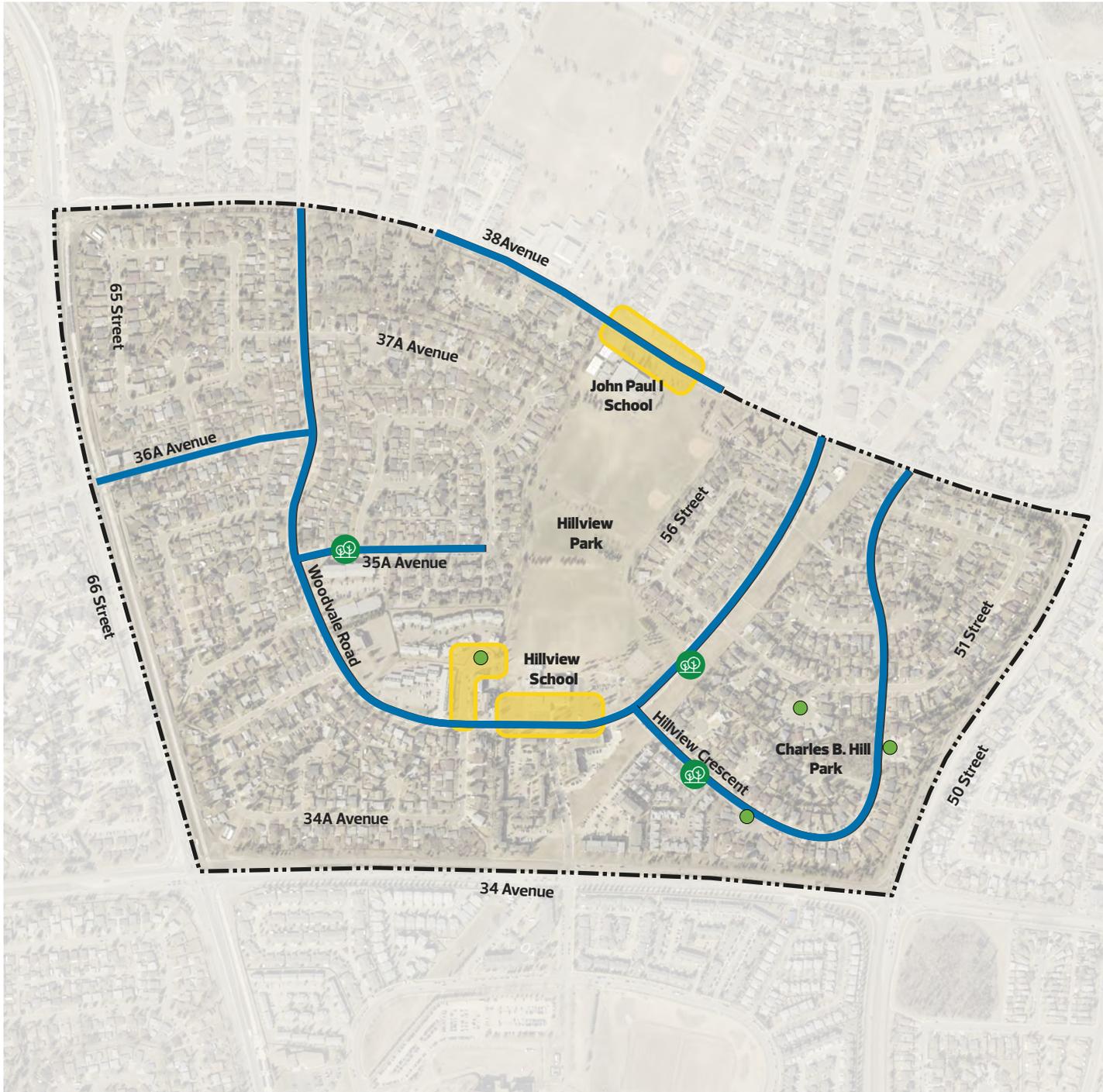
- + Existing utilities, mature trees and width of the road right of way may limit redesign options and require tradeoffs



Woodvale Road (looking northeast)



Map 3. Opportunities: Driving



-  Hillview neighbourhood boundary
-  Look at ways to slow traffic down
-  Look at reconfiguring school bus zones, drop off areas, and on-street parking
-  Look at adding grassed islands in cul-de-sacs
-  Add trees along sidewalks and pathways



## Parks and public gathering spaces

### Opportunities

- + **Enhance facilities and amenities**
  - + Look into adding amenities such as benches, toboggan hill, lighting, gazebos and picnic tables in Hillview Park and the green space along the pipeline
  - + Reserve space for community-led initiatives
  - + Look into adding a fence or soft landscaped barrier next to the off-leash dog park along Woodvale Road
  - + Look into adding naturalization areas, trees and shrubs in open spaces
  - + Put additional waste bins along pathways and sidewalks to help keep the neighbourhood clean
  - + Look at adding absorbent landscaping in Hillview Park and in the 60 Street cul-de-sac to help with drainage
- + **Hillview Park**
  - + Explore connections behind Hillview School and towards the park's playground
  - + Look at solutions for ponding (and ice) at back of Hillview School (LID, absorbent landscaping, overland drainage changes, etc)
  - + Look at possible east-west pathway connections from the breezeways across from the park



- + **Charles B. Hill Park**
  - + Look into the opportunity for a formal access and pathway into the park. Improve the existing seating area with new benches and a concrete surface
  - + Look into adding a boulevard adjacent to the park to create the impression that you are walking through the park and create separation from the roadway
  - + Look into adding an entrance feature to the park
- + **Support community gathering**
  - + Make changes to the green space along the pipeline corridor by adding a shared pathway, benches, waste bins and landscaping to create an enjoyable space for residents to gather
  - + Look into making improvements such as wider sidewalks, seating areas and additional landscaping near the businesses along Woodvale Road to create space for residents to gather

### Constraints

- + Design of new or wider pathways and seating areas must work with sports fields, mature trees and the natural area
- + Seating areas in open spaces should be located in well-lit areas with high visibility





Map 4. Opportunities: Parks and public gathering places

-  Hillview neighbourhood boundary
-  Parks & public gathering places
-  Add a shared pathway along the pipeline corridor
-  Look into adding a fence or landscape barrier next to the off-leash dog park
-  Look into adding seating areas
-  Look into adding a toboggan hill
-  Look into adding naturalization areas, trees and shrubs
-  Add lighting / enhance existing lighting
-  Look into public realm improvements
-  Add waste bins
-  Look into adding absorbent landscaping



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## Hillview Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal – Urban Design Analysis

