



This issue of Building Edmonton was sent on February 14, 2023

## Register for the February Building Blocks Session

Join us for the February session of the City's monthly Building Blocks information and discussion series:

Date: Thursday, February 23, 2023

Time: 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

Location: Online webinar via Google Meet

[Register for free today!](#)

Do you have questions about opening a small business in a commercial location? Join our Business Friendly team for a free lunch and learn webinar where we cover the planning and development process, SLIM maps and finding your zoning matrix, building and fire safety codes, arranging inspections, and finding professional support and grants.

Questions? Contact [businesssupport@edmonton.ca](mailto:businesssupport@edmonton.ca)

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## Red Tape Reduction and Service Improvements

### Outdoor Patio Program Now a Four-Year Term

We have refreshed the program for 2023 and your business can now apply for a patio on a City sidewalk or curbside space! Exciting updates include an extended four year Licence of Occupation and the option for either a seasonal (April to October) or year-round (365 days) patio! Once again, the City will continue to waive fees for all patio permits. Please read our new Patio Program Guide and information on [edmonton.ca/Patios](https://edmonton.ca/Patios).

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## NEW! City Building Video: Making Development Easier

The City of Edmonton was recently ranked number one in the [Canadian Home Builders' Association \(CHBA\) 2022 Municipal Benchmarking Study](#), which examines how local development processes, approvals and charges affect housing affordability and supply in major housing markets across the country—and the Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative is continuing the process improvement work.

Check out the latest video in the City Building video series, '[Making Development Easier](#)', to find out how the Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative is making the development process more balanced, accessible, consistent and equitable. To learn more, visit [edmonton.ca/zoningbylawrenewal](https://edmonton.ca/zoningbylawrenewal).

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## Get to "Know Your Zone"

The [draft Zoning Bylaw](#) proposes new zones citywide—get familiar with the zones that apply to you by typing in the address of your residence, business or favourite coffee shop using the “Know Your Zone” Rezoning Map below. Confirm the new proposed zone it's in and circle back to the draft Zoning Bylaw to understand how the new zone and regulations will apply to each area.

[EXPLORE THE MAP](#)

Please note, the content of these documents is subject to change as the draft Zoning Bylaw continues to be refined. Stay tuned for upcoming opportunities to share your feedback in the spring!

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## Old Strathcona Public Realm Strategy

Change is coming to Old Strathcona. The City of Edmonton is working with residents and businesses to gather input on how we can improve City-owned spaces—our parks, plazas, sidewalks, streets, and alleys—to make Old Strathcona more welcoming and special. We're also talking about the important role of bus-based mass transit along Whyte Avenue in shaping it into a more inviting and vibrant area. Join the conversation at [edmonton.ca/OldStrathPublicRealm](https://edmonton.ca/OldStrathPublicRealm).

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## What We Heard: Mass Transit Planning Engagement

Thank you to everyone who shared their feedback during the phase 2 [Mass Transit Planning engagement](#)—we heard from over 3,000 Edmontonians and stakeholders through workshops, pop-up events and a survey! Read the [What We Heard Report](#).

This round of engagement focused on better understanding people's priorities for non-LRT (bus-based) mass transit along four key corridors: Gateway Boulevard and Calgary Trail, 97 Street North of the Yellowhead, 97 Street South of the Yellowhead, and 87 Avenue near West Edmonton Mall.

Building non-LRT (bus-based) mass transit will provide Edmontonians with more mobility options for how they choose to move around the city and will contribute to realizing [The City Plan](#)'s goal of 50 percent of all trips being made by transit or active modes. Visit [edmonton.ca/masstransit](http://edmonton.ca/masstransit) for more information on the Mass Transit Planning project and next steps.

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## Safety Codes & Permit Updates

### Inspections of Underground Power Cables for New Homes

The electrical inspection department uses VOC (verification of compliance) forms to sign off on failed inspections for minor, non life-threatening infractions. The intent of the VOC program is to verify repairs of an identified infraction from an in-person inspection. It cannot be used for first time inspection replacement purposes. If a VOC request is received for a first-time inspection of covered installations, the City may require the installation to be exposed for an inspection and reinspection fees will be applied.

### Gas BTU Loads Required

Effective March 3, 2023, the gas rough-in inspections will require the BTU load to be attached to the roughed in gas line. This will provide clarity on gas line size for the City's inspection team during a first time pass. Please include the appliance and total length used to determine sizing.

### Career Opportunities!

Have you signed up to the job alert list to receive notifications about career opportunities at the City of Edmonton? The Safety Codes section hires plans examiners, field inspectors, administration staff and project specialists to engage with the needs of our growing industry. To stay current log into the [City's job page](#) and create your job profile to receive real-time job alerts within your industry.

Check the [Alberta Municipal Affairs website](#) for updates to codes and standards and [sign-up to be notified](#) when new Standata or other information is posted.

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## Building Edmonton Newsletter Past Issues

Looking for information from a previous Building Edmonton Newsletter? Read our back issues on the [Industry Communications](#) page.