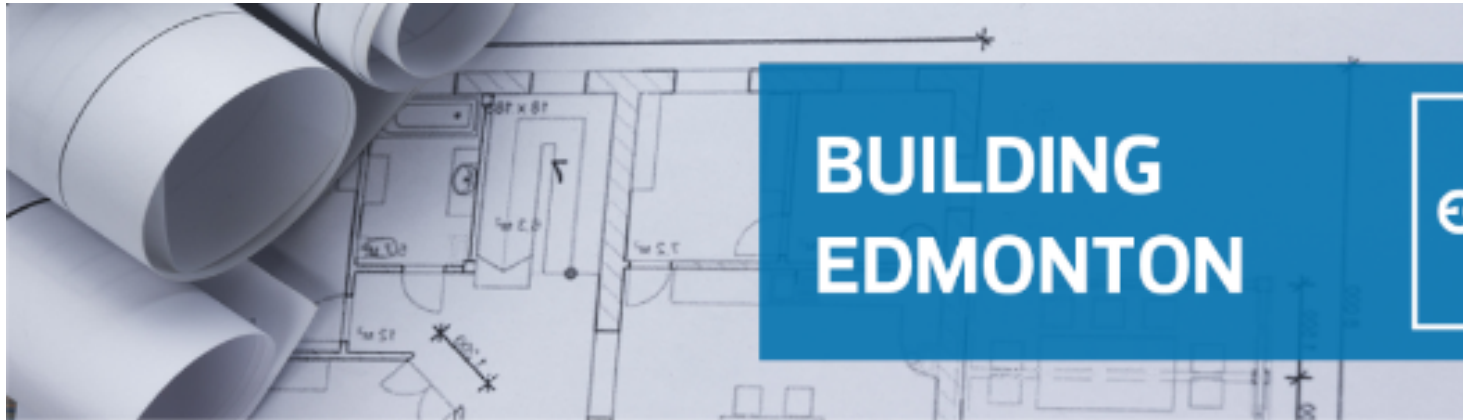


This issue of Building Edmonton has been sent on May 10, 2022



### Register for the May Building Blocks Session

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



**Date: Thursday, May 19, 2022**

**Time: 12 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Location: Online webinar via Google Meet**

[Register for free today!](#)

In the May session, Justin Phill from the City's Safety Codes, Permits and Inspections team will present what's new in the 2020 energy codes (National Energy Code of Canada for the energy code), how the changes improve the energy performance of buildings and how the codes will be implemented by the City of Edmonton.

Building Blocks is a series put on by the City's Safety Codes, Permits and Inspections team to create a forum for learning, questions and discussions on high-performance building industry best practices and more.

Questions? Contact Justin Phill at [justin.phill@edmonton.ca](mailto:justin.phill@edmonton.ca)

### Additional Rebate Funds Announced for Solar Program

In response to heightened demand for the [Change Homes for Climate Solar Program](#), the City of Edmonton is providing additional rebate funds for installing solar PV systems on homes and multi-family buildings. Solar industry installers and consultants are encouraged to let their clients know to apply as soon as possible to reserve their solar PV system rebate as funds are limited.

The Change Homes for Climate Solar Program launched in July 2019, providing rebate incentives for installing residential solar PV systems in Edmonton over three years. In June 2021, the City of Edmonton added funding to meet program demand during the COVID-19 pandemic. The program has supported over 490 residential solar PV systems in Edmonton with an estimated local renewable energy capacity of 3.9 megawatts since the program's launch.

In addition, your clients may be eligible for the Canada Greener Homes Grant, which offers up to \$5,000 in rebates to homeowners for installing solar PV systems and complements the Change Homes for Climate Solar Program.

Visit the [Change Homes for Climate Solar Program webpage](#) to check the program's rebate status and learn more.



### Infill Roadmap Action Plan Complete

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Infill Roadmap, with the accomplishments over the past four years, and what happens with infill now and into the future.

The Infill Roadmap was created in 2018 to help welcome more people and new homes into Edmonton's older neighbourhoods. Staff have worked extensively with residents and industry to achieve this objective through the 25 actions. Volunteers from representatives, staff at EPCOR and others have dedicated many hours to this work. Thank you to all those who have and homes into Edmonton's older neighbourhoods. [Read more.](#)



### Builder Education Program Training Dates Open for Registration

The next round of courses for the Builder Education Program, which qualifies you for the Expedited Infill Review Process, are being offered from June 22 to June 29, 2022. This is the Infill Development in Edmonton Association. To register, visit the [IDEA Certification Program website.](#)

After completing the Builder Education Program offered by IDEA, participants will have access to 21 calendar day review timelines for specific infill development permit applications through the Expedited Infill Review Process. If you would like more information, please visit the [Expedited Infill Pilot website.](#)



### Home Improvement Permit Customer Experience Survey

Over the next three months the City will be giving all contractors and homeowners that apply for home improvement permits an opportunity to share their experience. Surveys will be sent via automated email right after a home improvement permit is issued and again after the final inspection is complete.

This pilot survey is part of the City's work to improve customer service and experience under the [Permit and Licensing Improvement \(PLI\) Initiative.](#) Part of this work involves collecting and incorporating feedback from applicants on an ongoing and timely basis and using it to help identify and drive red tape reduction and continuous improvement opportunities.

At the end of the pilot, the project team will review the results and evaluate how best to incorporate customer satisfaction surveys into our day-to-day operations long-term, including permit and licensing services.

If you have questions or comments about the survey, please contact the PLI team at [permitimprovements@edmonton.ca](mailto:permitimprovements@edmonton.ca).

### Inspection Requesting

The City of Edmonton has made improvements to the way Safety Codes inspections are requested. The transition to capacity-based inspection requests for all disciplines (building and electrical) is now complete.

Previously, inspections could be requested on any business day even though the day may have been full. In contrast, the new system allows a permit holder to request an inspection within available inspection capacity. Once capacity has been reached, the calendar will show the day as unavailable and another day will need to be selected. The intent of these improvements is to make the inspection process more reliable and predictable, resulting in inspections typically being completed on the requested day. [Read more.](#)



### Underground Conduit Installations for New Services

The City of Edmonton is aware of the supply chain issues for obtaining 2.5 inch (63mm) conduit for new service installations. For the time being, 2 inch or 3 inch rigid PVC conduit installations, and you can go back to direct buried cable if unable to get conduit.

### Permitting for Lightning Protection Installations

A Standata has been jointly developed between the Building Discipline and Electrical Discipline for lightning protection. Starting April 2022, lightning protection falls under the Ele permit and inspections are required for all installations of lightning protection systems. [Review the Standata.](#)

### Schedules of Professional Involvement

In April 2022, Alberta Municipal Affairs released revised schedules of professional involvement authorized under Standata Building Code Variance 19-BCV-024. [Read more.](#)

### Updated Guidelines for Establishing Security for Servicing Agreements

The City has made some revisions to the guidelines for establishing security for servicing agreements. Separate guidelines have been created for servicing agreements security a development permit versus required as a condition of a subdivision. Also, the extra security requirements for projects, which have delayed engineering drawing approvals for C B developers, have been reduced.

[Read more about the guidelines for subdivisions.](#)

[Read more about the guidelines for development permits.](#)

### Building Permits and Inspections Processing Times Dashboard

It's peak construction season, and the City is currently experiencing a high volume of building and trade permit applications and application status inquiries. Industry professional can reference the [building permit and inspections processing time dashboard](#) to see when building permit applications will be assigned for review and when requests for building inspections will be scheduled.

Please note that processing time estimates on the dashboard apply to building permit applications and inspections only. For development permit application status updates, please call 311 (780-442-5311 outside Edmonton).

The City is in the process of updating the dashboard to display processing timelines for most permit application and inspection types and hopes to have this information available soon.

### Reminder: In-person Permit and Licence Inquiry Appointments Now Available

With Provincial health restrictions lifted, the City is now offering in-person permit and business licence inquiry meetings at the second-floor Service Centre in the Edmonton Tower **appointment only** on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Virtual permit inquiry appointments also still remain available on Tuesdays through Thursdays.

The way the development industry interacts with the City is changing, and we are offering services that align with customer expectations. This, coupled with changing public health restrictions, provided an opportunity to adapt service offerings and maximize resources.

The move to appointment-only services at the Service Centre allows for our industry customers to better plan their day with a specific appointment time as well as for more efficient resources to serve those customers. Industry members are encouraged to consider continuing to use [online application services](#) and phone, email and virtual appointment inquiry service needs.

To book a virtual or in-person inquiry appointment, visit the City's [Service Centre webpage](#).

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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