



Complete Streets Design & Construction Standards

Edmonton

Executive Change Summary
November 2025

INTRODUCTION

The **Complete Streets Design & Construction Standards** have undergone extensive modifications to re-align City of Edmonton policies, the needs of Edmontonians, requirements of utilities and leading accessibility practices. This document summarizes some of the most significant changes to provide a comprehensive view of the complex modifications made.

Active Transportation

- **Active Transportation Integration:** Encouraging protected bike lanes, bike paths, and shared pathways. A new facility selection process has been added.
- **Cycling Infrastructure:** Expanding bike lane widths when possible, providing guidance for grades, intersections and transitions, and updating facility selection and design guidance.
- **Shared Street Design:** Redefining shared streets for pedestrian and cyclist safety and introducing a new Local Street Bikeway facility.
- **Transit Integration:** Adding clearer guidance on transit stop design adjacent to bike lanes.

Roadway Design & Standards:

- **Speeds:** Aligning standards with new posted speed limits (30/40 km/h).
- **Turning Radii:** Providing guidance on swept path turning movements and clearance requirements.
- **Road Classification & Designations:** Ensuring consistency of terminology and classifications; clarifying the role of enhanced locals, aligning traffic volume thresholds, and updating roadway definitions.
- **Arterial Staging:** Validating intersection curb geometry for bus and truck turning movements.
- **Conflicts & Practicality:** Addressing the practicality of requirements in real-world contexts, such as shared pathways and snow storage, with additional guidance on shared pathways.

Traffic & Safety:

- **Designing Neighborhoods:** A new section was developed to provide guidance on traffic calming elements based on intersection type and land use.
- **Traffic Calming:** Providing guidance on how to apply traffic calming; design of traffic calming.
- **Emergency Access and Transit Compatibility:** Accommodating emergency access and transit.
- **Pedestrian & Cyclist Safety:** Supporting raised crosswalks and protected intersections.
- **Roundabout Impacts:** Considering the implications of a "roundabout first" policy on cost, staging, and land impacts; confirming that roundabout aprons are not acceptable for transit under regular operations.

Infrastructure & Functionality:

- **Alleys:** Clarifying the use of alleys for emergency response access. Updated alley designs to accommodate waste collection vehicles currently being used by the City.
- **Cul-de-Sac:** Confirming conditions for using cul-de-sacs and requiring design exceptions when necessary.
- **Drainage Infrastructure:** Considering the impacts of traffic calming on drainage infrastructure and access.
- **Noise Attenuation:** Adding clarity to noise berm dimensions and alignment with other City standards.



Complete Streets Design & Construction Standards

Edmonton

Executive Change Summary
November 2025

- **On-Street Parking:** Developing new cross-sections that provide options that do not require parking on both sides as the default.
- **Shared Pathway and Sidewalk Widths:** Providing adequate shared pathways and sidewalk widths.
- **Shared Pathway Gradients:** Confirming maximum grades for shared pathways and reviewing grade tables.
- **Snow Clearing:** Incorporating snow storage locations in standard details.
- **Utility Placement:** Ensuring practical and realistic placement of utilities while maintaining offsets.

Balancing Real World Usage & Current Policy:

- **Exceptions and Flexibility:** Providing flexibility through a design exception process for constrained areas or retrofit situations.
- **Inclusive Language:** Ensuring consistency in the use of inclusive language.
- **Indexing & Navigation:** Adding a clickable table of contents to the updated document.
- **Industrial Area Context:** Acknowledging variations in industrial areas and revising text accordingly.
- **Low Impact Development:** Updating terminology to align with EPCOR standards and ongoing discussions about LID placement.
- **Must vs. Should vs. Shall:** Ensuring consistency in terminology for requirements for clarity of prioritization.
- **Policy Alignment:** Aligning with the latest City policy documents and the City Plan.
- **Vision Loss Accessibility:** Considering detectability of features and transitions and providing more guidance on delineation and warning infrastructure.