

# What We Heard Report

Glenwood (163 Street West)  
Neighbourhood and Alley  
Renewal

Community Feedback on Draft Design

April 8 – April 29, 2024

REFINE

| **SHARE** YOUR VOICE  
**SHAPE** OUR CITY

Edmonton

# Project overview

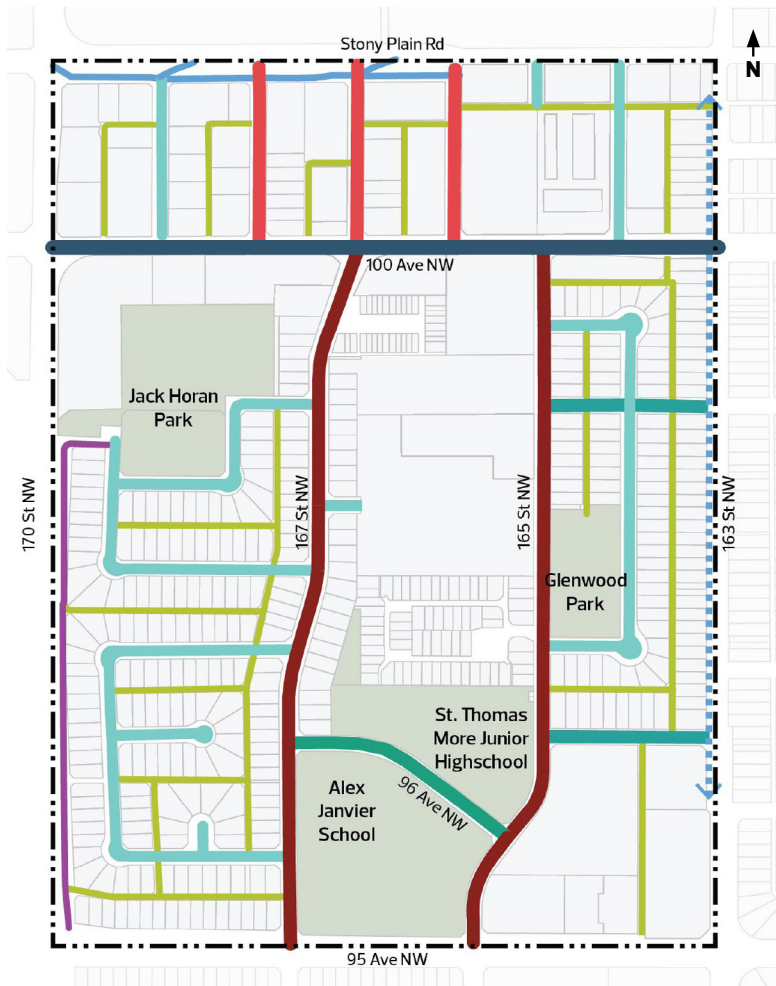
Planning is underway for Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal in Glenwood (163 Street West). The City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Renewal program will reconstruct roads, curbs, replace street lights, repair sidewalks and, where possible, complete active transportation links.

Alley Renewal will also be included as part of this project and involves alley reconstruction and repaving, improvements to surface drainage where possible and upgrading of existing lighting to LED fixtures.

Cost-sharing opportunities will be made available through the Local Improvement process for sidewalk reconstruction. Other opportunities to improve City-owned parks and public spaces will also be explored.

The new infrastructure will provide enhancements to the neighbourhood for the next 30 to 50 years.

## Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal Project scope map

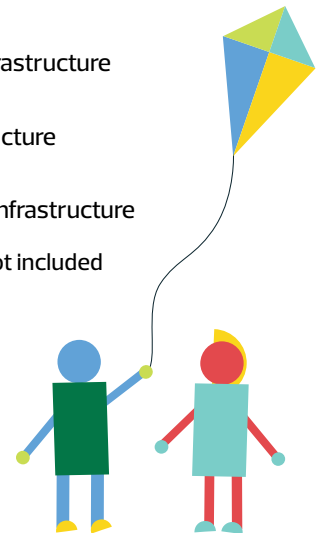
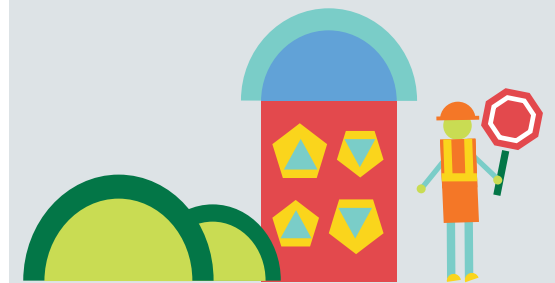


- Glenwood (163 Street West) neighbourhood boundary
- Parks and open space
- Arterial road
- Collector road
- Collector road with bike infrastructure
- Local road
- Local road with bike infrastructure
- Alley
- Alley with bike infrastructure
- Service road
- Service road with bike infrastructure

Note that arterial roads are not included in project scope

## Table of Contents

<b>Project overview</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Public Engagement Spectrum</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Decision making process</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>What we asked and how we asked</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>What we heard</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Additional feedback</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Next steps</b>	<b>11</b>



## Road map to Neighbourhood Renewal

The Neighbourhood Renewal program follows the road map below. At each step, the Project Team shares with you how your input will inform the decisions being made.

This report highlights the input received during the **Community Feedback on Draft Design** stage between April 8 and April 29, 2024.



### LEGEND

Public Engagement and Communications Opportunities

Concept Phase

Design Phase

Build Phase

Operate Phase

# Public Engagement Spectrum

The City of Edmonton seeks input from citizens to help guide the project. The City's Public Engagement Spectrum, below, shows the four levels of influence the public can have on decisions made by the City throughout the project.

The public was invited to provide input that would help:

- + **REFINE** the draft design into a final design

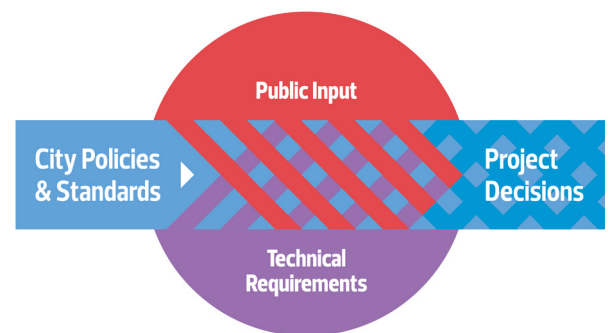
We commit to telling you how public input influences decisions according to the Public Engagement Spectrum.



## Decision making process

The City makes decisions using a combination of policy and program information, public input, technical requirements and available funding. This process helps to ensure the decisions we make are fiscally responsible, align with best practices, consider the existing public and private infrastructure, land uses and activities in the neighbourhood and result in the best outcomes for our city.

City policies and programs such as the Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards, Safe Mobility Strategy and Winter City Strategy provide the overall direction for Neighbourhood Renewal designs. As each neighbourhood is unique, the Project Team asks for input from residents who live, work and play in the neighbourhood and considers technical aspects such as roadway widths and conflicts with utilities and trees to determine what will fit in the neighbourhood.



# What we asked and how we asked

The Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal Project Team organized the following opportunities for the public to share feedback on the draft design for the neighbourhood. This input will help the Project Team **REFINE** the draft design into the final design.



## Survey

- + An online survey was available to the public from April 8 to April 29, 2024. We shared information about the draft design and asked you questions to help the Project Team **REFINE** the design
- + Paper copies of the survey were made available to community members upon request

**92 completed surveys**



## Project web page

- + We asked residents to visit the project web page to access information about the project, view the design materials and learn more about Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal.

**2,364 visits to the project web page**  
**614 design package clicks**



## Community conversations

- + An in-person event took place on April 27, 2024 at the Glenwood Community League
- + An online registered event took place on April 25, 2024
- + Business Improvement Area Stakeholder meetings were held virtually on April 27, 2024
- + Events introduced the draft design for Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. Project Team members shared proposed changes associated with the draft design and gathered feedback from the community

**94 neighbourhood conversations**



## How we communicated

- + 222 property owner letters
- + 3,520 postcards
- + 10 posters
- + 10 yard signs
- + Two road signs
- + 97,798 impressions on Facebook and Instagram
- + 111 mailing list subscribers
- + 1 advertisement in Stony Plain Road and Area News Network newspaper

# What we heard

The following summary has been developed to reflect the relevancy, frequency and diversity of the responses we received based on the questions that were asked to residents. It is important to note that while this is what we heard from residents, public engagement is not the sole deciding factor in creating the neighbourhood design. The Project Team will consider City policies and technical requirements, along with public engagement feedback. All designs are subject to final approvals and funding.

## 1.0 Roadways and crosswalks

Participants were asked to comment on the draft design for roadways and crosswalks which included:

- + New road surfaces for all local and collector roadways and alleys
- + Crosswalk upgrades such as raised crosswalks and new/modified curb ramps
- + Measures to slow traffic such as speed humps, raised crosswalks and curb extensions
- + Addition of shared pathways (pathways that allow for multiple modes of movement, like walking, rolling and biking)

### What we heard – roadways

- + Some participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants shared their desire to preserve mature trees in the neighborhood
- + Participants strongly support sidewalks and roads being repaired in the neighbourhood
- + Participants shared their desire to maintain current landscaping and driveways when referring to the addition of boulevards

*"Reducing vehicle speed is pertinent, as people regularly speed through the neighborhood. The widening of sidewalks and having the walkways buffered by the boulevard also makes pedestrian traffic safer and more appealing."*



## What we heard – crosswalks

- + Many participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants were excited to see traffic slowing measures in the community
- + A few respondents were concerned that raised crosswalks and curb extensions would result in a loss of parking

*"I'm really stoked to see the city finally take safety seriously. Raised crosswalks are awesome and the more the merrier."*

## What we heard – school drop-off zones

- + Some participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants suggested there may be increases in traffic congestion with a school-drop off zone on 167 Street
- + Participants were supportive of the proposed improvements, citing enhanced feelings of safety and movement of people in the area

*"School drop off zones will help with safety during congested times of the day, i.e. school arrival and dismissal times."*

## What we heard – cul-de-sac landscaping

- + A few participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants shared their desire to maintain on-street parking
- + Participants were excited about the increased green space and improved aesthetics due to the cul-de-sac landscaping
- + Participants indicated they would like to see access to roads and front street driveways maintained

*"Love to see it. Most neighbourhoods have way too much asphalt."*

*"95A Ave cul de sac isn't really wide enough to have a landscaped centre...would make it more difficult for owners to reach their front street driveways."*

**Did you know...** Boulevards have a variety of benefits and uses. They provide space for snow storage off the road and sidewalk. Treed boulevards provide shade, both for people walking and rolling and to help reduce the amount of heat absorbed by hard surfaces and released back into the urban environment (urban heat island effect). The design of boulevards is guided by City policies such as the **Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards**, **Urban Forest Asset Management Plan** and **Safe Mobility Strategy**.

## 2.0 Walking, rolling and biking connections

Participants were asked to comment on the draft design for walking, rolling and biking connections which included:

- + New and wider sidewalks within the neighbourhood
- + Addition of shared pathways (pathways that allow for multiple modes of movement like walking, rolling and biking)

### What we heard – sidewalks, shared pathways and breezeways

- + Many participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants were supportive of the sidewalk repairs saying the changes were much needed in the neighbourhood
- + Participants expressed their desire to maintain current landscaping and mature trees when referring to the addition of boulevards and wider sidewalks

*"I believe that we need better ways to get around our community. So many times as I walk around the sidewalks end or there is only grass to walk on. I would prefer to have seamless sidewalks. The drafts look amazing."*

### What we heard – biking connections

- + Some participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants shared that the neighbourhood bike paths currently do not experience much cycling traffic

*"Bike safety improvements are definitely needed."*

**Did you know...** There may be impacts to private landscaping if it is within the road right-of-way. If applicable, space for the proposed boulevards will be gained by adjusting the sidewalks towards the property line in some locations and by adjusting the curbline into the existing roadway in other locations. More specific details will be available as the design is finalized.





### 3.0 Commercial areas and alleys

Participants were asked to comment on the draft design for commercial areas and alleys which included:

- + New and wider sidewalks within the neighbourhood
- + New shared pathways

#### What we heard – commercial areas

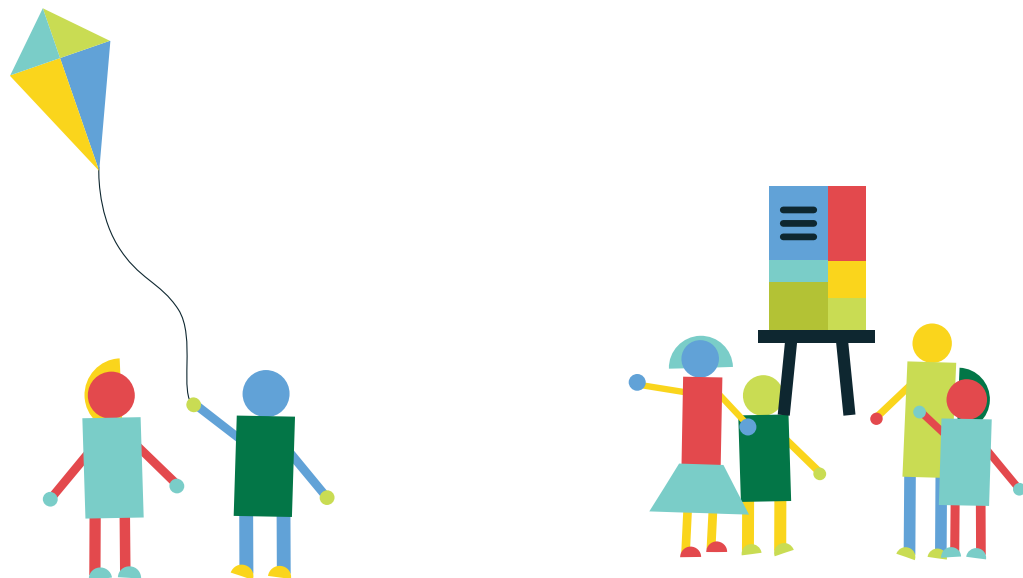
- + Some participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants were excited to see repairs to roads and alleys near the commercial areas, especially the repaving of roads and removal of potholes
- + Participants shared that they would like to see enhancements to create a more welcoming commercial area to attract more people to businesses

*"I would love for this to be usable space. As it is, walking and rolling is difficult and unappealing in Glenwood and adding features like this will bolster community engagement as well as draw more business since people will be more willing to spend time in these areas."*

#### What we heard – alleys

- + Many participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants were supportive of the draft design for a new shared pathway in the alley along 170 Street, with some participants indicating that the alleys are already used primarily for walking and rolling and not vehicles
- + Participants shared that additional lighting measures could improve feelings of safety and traffic to the area

*"This alley is an underutilized connection to the park and the crosswalk across 170 Street. I am very excited about this idea."*



## 4.0 Parks and open spaces

Participants were asked to comment on the draft design for parks and open spaces which included:

- + New pathways to improve walking, rolling and biking connections through the parks
- + Wider and improved existing pathways
- + Gathering spaces with new benches and waste bins
- + Naturalized planting
- + New tree plantings
- + Off-leash dog park in Jack Horan Park

### What we heard – Jack Horan Park

- + Many participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants shared a desire to see additional features such as seating and picnic tables in the park space
- + Participants were excited to see naturalized spaces and trees

*"This area would be a fantastic location for an off-leash park. I often take my dog to this area currently. I think it would get highly used! Excellent use of space!"*

### What we heard – Glenwood Park

- + Many participants believe the draft design reflects the community's current and future needs
- + Participants were excited to see sidewalk upgrades near the park

*"I'm very happy to see the proposed upgrades for these two parks that I transit through everyday with my dogs."*

**Did you know...** The draft design shows a net increase in the number of trees in Glenwood. All City-owned trees that are removed will be assessed and new trees will be planted in the neighbourhood to diversify the urban canopy and support the **Urban Forest Asset Management Plan's** canopy coverage goal of 20 per cent tree canopy coverage.

## Additional feedback

Some additional feedback was received related to the maintenance of landscaping and green spaces, as well as a desire to better understand the costs for property owners.

**Did you know...** Funding for the Neighbourhood Renewal program has come through a combination of City-wide property taxes and provincial funding over the past decade. Two specific improvements—decorative street lights and sidewalk reconstruction— are cost-shared by the City and the property owners in the neighbourhood. Decisions for these improvements are voted on by property owners. More information about Local Improvements is coming.

## Next steps

Thank you to all who shared their input during the **Community Feedback on Draft Design** stage of engagement.

In fall 2024, the public will be invited to the **Community Feedback on Final Design** stage of engagement for Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. At that time, the Project Team will return to the community to share the final design of the renewal changes for your neighbourhood.

Information will also be provided about cost-sharing opportunities for sidewalk reconstruction through the Local Improvement process. To learn more about the Local Improvement process go to [edmonton.ca/LocalImprovements](https://edmonton.ca/LocalImprovements).

For more information regarding the project, upcoming public engagement activities and to subscribe for updates, please visit [edmonton.ca/BuildingGlenwoodWest](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingGlenwoodWest).





## Working together to make the most out of your neighbourhood.

This is your city and your neighbourhood. We want to understand how you experience your neighbourhood and ask for your input on what we might do to make it better. We will engage and work with you on the renewal of roads, sidewalks, street lights and park spaces. We will also promote other community opportunities to enhance how people live and interact in your neighbourhood. We commit to being open and transparent about how your input is used. Let's make the most out of your neighbourhood.

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