What We Heard Report: Meyonohk Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal

Starting the Conversation and Building a Project Vision Together November 2023 – February 2024

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Project overview

Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal is coming to Meyonohk. Through the City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Renewal program, we will rehabilitate roads and alleys, replace street lights, curbs and gutters, repair sidewalks and connect missing sidewalk links where possible.

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



Meyonohk Project Scope Map



Where we are in the decision making process

The Neighbourhood Renewal program follows the road map shown below. Following each stage of engagement, the Project Team will share with you how your input was used to **ADVISE**, **REFINE**, **INFORM**, or **CREATE** project decisions.

This report highlights what we heard during the **Starting the Conversation** and **Building a Project Vision Together** stages between November 2023 and February 2024.





Public Engagement Spectrum

The City of Edmonton seeks input from residents to help guide the project. The City's public engagement spectrum, shown below, illustrates the four levels of influence that the public can have on decisions made by the City throughout the project.

In this phase of engagement, the public was invited to provide input that would help:

- + **REFINE** the public engagement and communication plan
- + **CREATE** a vision and guiding principles

We commit to telling you how public input influences decisions according to the public engagement spectrum:



How decisions are made

The Project Team makes decisions using a combination of policy and program information, public engagement input, and technical requirements. This process helps to ensure that the decisions made are fiscally responsible, follow best-practices, consider the existing infrastructure, land uses and activities in the neighbourhoods, 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 neighbourhoods and considers the technical aspects, such as roadway widths and conflicts with utilities and trees to determine what will fit in the neighbourhood.



What we did and how we did it

From November 2023 to February 2024, the Project Team engaged with residents in the following ways:

Community meeting



The Project Team attended a Lakewood Community League meeting on November 21, 2023, to introduce the project and gather information about the community. In attendance were community league board members, representatives from a local church and the principal of Meyonohk School

One meeting

Community Event



On January 18, 2024, we hosted a community drop-in event to start the Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal project. Key members of the Project Team attended to meet community members and introduce the project. We asked residents to share how they learn about events in their community and how they want to get involved in engagement events in the future

12 participants

Online survey



An online survey was available to the public from January 18 – 31, 2024, asking participants to share feedback on the best engagement and communication methods for the neighbourhood and what they love about Meyonohk

Over 80 responses

How we communicated



- Three road sings
- 10 yard signs
- 2,421 newsletters delivered
- 2,421 postcards delivered
- + 65,548 social media ad views
- + 598 unique views on the project web page

What we heard

The following sections include a summary of what we heard through public engagement event, online survey and community meeting. The summary has been developed to reflect the relevancy, frequency and diversity of the responses we received based on the feedback provided by participants.

How do you learn about events and activities happening in Meyonohk?



How do you prefer to participate in engagement activities?



Building a Project Vision Together

Ideas and insights were collected from participants to help us understand how people experience the neighbourhood today and what can be improved or added to **CREATE** a Vision and Guiding Principles to guide us in shaping the neighbourhood for the next 30 – 50 years.

- + A **Vision** is a short description that sets the direction for the community's future livability
- + Guiding Principles are ideas which inform how the Vision is applied to neighbourhood design

While the draft Vision and Guiding Principles will be shared in future stages of engagement, we saw a number of key themes following a review of input gathered during this stage:

What do you like best about your neighbourhood?

- Access to community spaces and pathways that connect the neighbourhood
- + People feel safe in Meyonohk
- + Friendly neighbours with diverse backgrounds who contribute to a welcoming atmosphere
- + Quiet and peaceful
- How easy it is to get to other parts of the city with Anthony Henday Drive and Whitemud Drive
- + Access to nearby amenities like schools, parks, South Edmonton Common, Millwoods Recreation Centre

"Lots of residents have lived here for a long time, multicultural neighbourhood with a safe and friendly atmosphere."

"Walking paths that make the whole area easy to walk around in."



What would you like to see changed or improved for the future?

- + Fix broken and cracked sidewalks so they can be used by everyone
- + Enhance community spaces for everyone to enjoy
- + Places to sit along pathways
- + Add garbage bins along pathways
- + Fix potholes and uneven roads

"More pathways through Meyonohk Park school field with trees and benches."

- + Add shared pathways around the neighbourhood to promote active modes of transportation
- + Better lighting along streets, alleys and near community mailboxes
- + Add greenery and trees to beautify the area



"Lumpy, bumpy streets"

"I am unable to take walks on our sidewalks as they are so broken up. I've tripped and fallen too many times."

Other feedback that was shared with the Project Team

Other feedback we heard about include maintenance of greenspaces, snow removal, addressing the needs of people experiencing homelessness and transit routes within the neighbourhood.

It's important to note not all feedback received will be achievable by the Neighbourhood Renewal Program alone, but is included for a full look at what we heard from Meyonohk residents.



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 how we might improve it. We will engage and work with you on the renewal of roads, sidewalks, street lights and park spaces and promote other community opportunities to enhance how people live and interact in your neighbourhood.

Let's work together to make the most out of your neighbourhood.

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