

CITY BUILDING

Engagement Recap: Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative Engagement

Phase 3: Finalize and Adopt | June - July 2023

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October 2023

SHARE YOUR VOICE
SHAPE OUR CITY

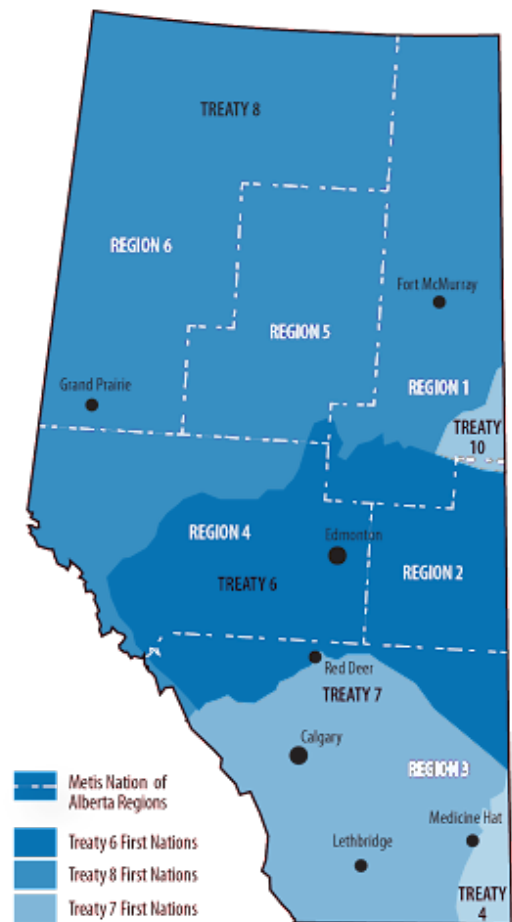
Edmonton

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the traditional land on which Edmonton sits, the Territory of the Treaty 6 First Nations and the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 4. We would like to thank the diverse Indigenous Peoples whose ancestors' footsteps have marked this territory for centuries, such as nêhiyaw (Nay-hee-yow), Dene (Deh-neyh), Anishinaabe (Ah-nish-in-ah-bay), Nakota Isga (Na-koh-tah ee-ska), and Niitsitapi (Nit-si-tahp-ee) peoples. We also acknowledge this as the Métis' homeland and the home of one of the largest communities of Inuit south of the 60th parallel. It is a welcoming place for all peoples who come from around the world to share Edmonton as a home.

Together we call upon all of our collective honoured traditions and spirits to work in building a great city for today and future generations. Edmontonians inhabit, share, and steward this land. We owe our presence here – the city's vitality and very existence – to the land itself and the cultures that help build this city. City planning and zoning are all about land. Land is used for many things, and is tied to the practice of culture. The City hopes the new Zoning Bylaw will address and reconcile regulations that may create inequities for First Nations, Inuit and Métis people in Edmonton and Treaty 6.

The Zoning Bylaw Renewal team thanks everyone who participated in public engagement activities. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and we are enthusiastic to share your values and ideas as reflected in these pages.



How This Document is Organized

This What We Heard report summarizes the City of Edmonton’s Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative’s city-wide engagement efforts and results that took place in June and July 2023.

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Previous public engagement summaries can be found in the following documents on edmonton.ca/zoningbylawrenewal:

- + [Public Engagement Summary \(2018 - 2023\)](#)
- + [Public Engagement Snapshot](#)
- + [What We Heard Report \(May 2023\)](#)
- + [What We Heard Report \(September - December 2022\)](#)
- + [Youth Engagement Report \(2022\)](#)
- + [What We Are Hearing \(June - July 2021\)](#)
- + [City Plan Engagement Data Analysis: Zoning](#)
- + [GBA+ & Equity Toolkit: Community Conversations Summary \(November 2020\)](#)
- + [What We Heard: Discussion Papers \(July - October 2020\)](#)
- + [Public Engagement Events: What We Heard \(2018 - 2019\)](#)

Introduction

PURPOSE OF THIS SUMMARY

This summary focuses on the results of the city-wide engagement activities that took place from June 1 to July 30, 2023, during Phase 3 of the Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative: Finalize and Adopt. During the **Refine-level** public engagement period in May, Edmontonians asked for the opportunity to continue sharing feedback on the draft Zoning Bylaw. In response, the City added a two-month **Advise-level** public engagement period **from June 1 to July 30, 2023**.

Focused research, community conversations, discussions with stakeholder groups and public engagement have been part of the Zoning Bylaw Renewal process since 2018. However, some Edmontonians identified that the Advise-level engagement period was their first time engaging with the Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative.

WHAT WE HEARD

The City received a total of **1,369 comments** from June 1 to July 30, 2023. Feedback was categorized by stakeholder type and sorted into **35 themes**, which were previously used to analyze feedback received in May 2023.

Feedback received from June to July 2023 reflected comments received in earlier phases of the Initiative, including feedback from May 2023. However, while the themes heard in May 2023 remained consistent with those heard in June and July, the priority of these themes (i.e. the top 12 themes) shifted from those presented in the [May 2023 What We Heard Report](#). For example, from June to July 2023, the majority of comments focused on the Public Engagement theme. However, in May 2023, the top theme was Landscaping.

A comparison of the top 12 themes (as determined by the highest number of comments) from the Refine-level to the Advise-level engagement period is outlined in the table below:

MAY 2023 TOP 12 THEMES (REFINE-LEVEL)	JUNE TO JULY 2023 TOP 12 THEMES (ADVISE-LEVEL)
1. Landscaping	1. Public Engagement
2. Public Engagement	2. City-wide Rezoning
3. Building Design	3. Neighbourhood Character and Heritage
4. Comprehension	4. Density
5. Setbacks	5. Building Height and Scale
6. Building Height and Scale	6. Affordability
7. Neighbourhood Character and Heritage	7. Landscaping
8. Implementation, Process and Technology	8. Housing Diversity
9. Vehicle Access and Parking	9. Vehicle Access and Parking
10. Density	10. Taxation
11. Site Dimensions and Coverage	11. Infrastructure Capacity
12. Housing Diversity	12. Sun Access

Who we heard from

The majority of the feedback (89 per cent) received from June 1 to July 30 came from stakeholders who identified as **residents**. In addition to residents, the City also heard from a wide variety of stakeholders, including those who identified as:

- + Community league representatives
- + Non-profit organizations
- + School boards and other public agencies
- + Business operators and owners
- + Developers and builders
- + Development industry representatives and consultants

The City also heard from stakeholders who chose not to identify which group best represented them.

How we listened

Edmontonians were invited to provide their feedback through a variety of online channels that allowed participants to submit feedback at their convenience, including:

- + Taking a short online survey on Engaged.Edmonton.ca
- + Submitting a virtual post-it using the 'Ideas' tool on Engaged.Edmonton.ca
- + Emailing the Zoning Bylaw Renewal team at zoningbylawrenewal@edmonton.ca
- + Asking questions online through the 'Question & Answer' tool on Engaged.Edmonton.ca

ENGAGED EDMONTON

The Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative's Engaged Edmonton webpage served as an engagement hub to collect feedback from stakeholders during the Advise-level engagement. A variety of resources to help residents and stakeholders engage more meaningfully were available through this webpage. The page was open for input from June 1 to July 30, 2023, and received **6,967 visits**.

Survey

An open-ended survey was used for Advise-level engagement, which opened on June 1, 2023, and closed on July 30, 2023. The survey allowed Edmontonians to provide general or detailed feedback on the refined draft of the proposed new Zoning Bylaw. A total of **1,214 comments** were received via the survey.

'Ideas' Tool: Virtual Post-its

Comments were also collected using the 'Ideas' virtual post-it tool on Engaged Edmonton. This tool allowed Edmontonians to post, view and respond to comments, encouraging dialogue between different stakeholders. A total of **49 comments were received via the 'Ideas' Tool**.

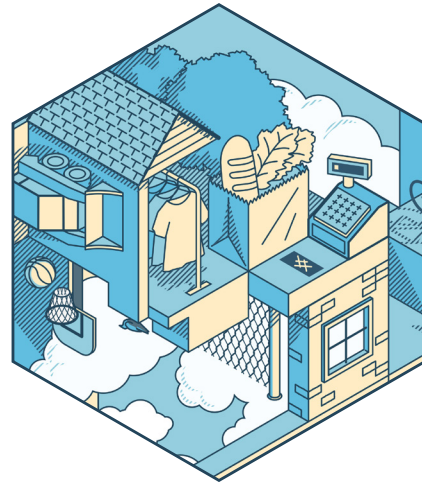
'Question & Answer' Tool

The 'Question & Answer' tool remained open in June for the public to ask the project team specific questions. The project team then reviewed the questions and privately answered them via email. A total of **3 questions** were received via the 'Question & Answer' Tool.

DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE ZONING BYLAW RENEWAL TEAM

Email

Edmontonians were invited to contact the Zoning Bylaw Renewal Team and provide their feedback by email at zoningbylawrenewal@edmonton.ca. The email was shared on the project website, social media posts, Engaged Edmonton pages, newsletters, Conversation Starters, presentations, workshops and via 311. A total of **103 comments** were received via email.



Next Steps

Edmonton's proposed new Zoning Bylaw (Charter Bylaw 20001) and the city-wide rezoning (Bylaw 21001) will be presented to City Council at a Statutory Public Hearing on October 16, 2023. Edmontonians are invited to join City Council at the Public Hearing as the new bylaws are considered. Pending the bylaw's approval at the public hearing, the new bylaw and map will come into effect on January 1, 2024.

For regular initiative updates and for information on the upcoming public hearing, please visit edmonton.ca/zoningbylawrenewal, call 311 or contact the Zoning Bylaw Renewal Team by email at zoningbylawrenewal@edmonton.ca.

Edmontonians can receive monthly updates about the Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative and related city-building projects by signing up for [The City Building Newsletter](#).