

NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL

Wihkwêntôwin ᐃᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (Oliver) Neighbourhood Renewal
May 2024

Edmonton

Neighbourhood name change

Truth and reconciliation is important to the City of Edmonton, and we recognize the neighbourhood name Oliver is difficult for some residents. In February 2024, City Council voted to approve the Wihkwêntôwin ᐃᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (formerly Oliver) Community League's recommendation to change the neighbourhood name to Wihkwêntôwin ᐃᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (pronounced We-Kwen-To-Win), which means circle of friends in Cree. We are pleased to phase in exclusive use of it in all Neighbourhood Renewal materials.

Neighbourhood Renewal: What it's about

The City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Renewal program will build new roads, curbs, gutters and sidewalks and install new street lights in the neighbourhood. The program will explore other neighbourhood improvements such as street crossings, additional bike connections, and enhancements to City-owned parks and open spaces.

Project update

Over the last several months, guided by learnings from City policies, technical data and public engagement, the Project Team has been preparing proposed design options. These options intend to update infrastructure to meet new City standards and guidelines and shape the neighbourhood for the next 30 to 50 years.

In the next stage of engagement, **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs**, these proposed design options will be shared for your feedback to help us understand your priorities, concerns and issues as we work towards the final neighbourhood design in 2026.

With the large number of opportunity areas being considered for enhancements, there are many proposed design options. Therefore, options will be presented in two rounds: June/July and September/October 2024. We encourage you to take part in both rounds of engagement to help shape your neighbourhood.

We will also share the draft project Vision and Guiding Principles for feedback during Round 1. These summarize the voice of neighbourhood residents and stakeholders and will help guide project decisions.

The Wihkwêntôwin ᐃᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (formerly Oliver) Community League is also doing some renewal and change alongside the new neighbourhood name. Be on the lookout at olivercommunity.com and in future newsletters about opportunities to engage with the new name and new branding for the League.



PROJECT SCHEDULE

WE ARE HERE

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2023

Starting the Conversation

Building a Project Vision Together

Exploring Opportunities

JUNE/JULY AND SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2024

Exploring Options & Tradeoffs

2025

Community Feedback on Draft Design

2026

Community Feedback on Final Design

Starting the Conversation, Creating a Project Vision Together, Exploring Opportunities

October to November 2023

Last fall we initiated Neighbourhood Renewal. We met with residents, property owners and community organizations, to gather local knowledge and desires for the future of the neighbourhood. These conversations will assist in exploring opportunities for infrastructure improvements and enhancements in Wihkwëntōwin ᐃᓕᓐᓴᓐᓴᓐᓴᓐ (Oliver).

Thank you to those who engaged with us at a pop-up, a meeting, the Community Walk and Workshop or through the online survey. Your input and insights are valuable and are being considered by the Project Team as design options are developed for the neighbourhood.

Review the **What We Heard** report at edmonton.ca/BuildingWihkwentowin

City policies

Multiple City policies and guidelines provide specific direction to the Neighbourhood Renewal Project Team to inform the development of the new neighbourhood design. These policies and guidelines encompass a wide range of elements such as standardizing widths for roads and sidewalks, to prioritizing where and when to add active transportation infrastructure and how to ensure the neighbourhood is accessible to people of all ages and abilities.

One of the key policies that provides direction is **The City Plan**. This plan sets the strategic direction for the way Edmonton grows, including direction on its mobility systems, open spaces, and employment and social networks. Neighbourhood Renewal helps to implement the plan by improving public spaces and the active transportation network, enhancing the urban forest and by seeking equity in project decision making. To find out more, go to edmonton.ca/TheCityPlan

Another key policy that directs Neighbourhood Renewal is **The Bike Plan**. This plan supports The City Plan's vision of a connected and accessible city by providing guidance for Edmonton's bike network including recommendations on missing links, the overall network and facility types. To learn more, check out edmonton.ca/BikePlan

The goal of the plan is to ensure bike accessibility for people of all ages and abilities and to invite people to bike for any reason in any season.



Technical considerations

Installing new infrastructure into mature neighbourhoods has challenges. The Project Team considers many technical factors to determine if and where new infrastructure is physically possible to install and where challenges may arise. For example, the available road right-of-way and the locations of overhead and underground utilities can limit where changes can take place.

Active transportation

The Bike Plan directs the Wihkwëntôwin ᐃᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (Oliver) Neighbourhood Renewal Project Team to build active transportation infrastructure that will meet existing and future demands and provide connections to the broader Edmonton bike network.

The Bike Plan specifically directs the following changes for Wihkwëntôwin ᐃᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (Oliver):

- + An all ages and abilities active transportation connection added to 100 Avenue and 121 Street
- + Two additional north-south active transportation connections
- + Upgrade of the current district connector route along 102 Avenue to meet standards

Did you know?

- + Current bike usage in Wihkwëntôwin ᐃᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (Oliver) is one of the highest in the City
- + The 102 Avenue bike lane regularly sees 1,000 – 1,200 trips per day and over 20,000 trips per month from April to October
- + Peak ridership on the 102 Avenue bike lanes was 26,000 trips in August 2023
- + A total of nearly 130,000 rental E-bike and E-scooter trips originated in Wihkwëntôwin ᐃᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (Oliver) in 2023
- + 102 Avenue bike lane saw an average of over 6,000 trips per month between November 2023 and February 2024 (November was over 9,300 whereas December to February was in the 4,600–5,500 range)





City projects

The Wìhkwèntòwin ᐃᓄᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ (Oliver) Project Team is working closely with other City projects in your neighbourhood to ensure project designs work together and construction schedules are coordinated to minimize impacts.

Valley Line LRT

In 2024, Marigold Infrastructure Partners entered its third year of major construction on Edmonton's Valley Line West LRT. This project represents the second phase of the 27-kilometre Valley Line, designed as a low-floor, urban-style LRT connecting Mill Woods to Lewis Farms.

In 2024, Valley Line West construction plans in Wìhkwèntòwin ᐃᓄᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ (Oliver) include drainage work along 104 Avenue north and roadwork along 104 Avenue north.

Stay up-to-date on the latest construction notices by having them sent to your inbox (you can sign up for updates on the entire alignment, or just your specific area) by visiting <https://marigoldinfra.ca/email-sign-up/>.

Questions? For questions about construction, contact public@Marigoldinfra.ca or call 780-412-2183. For questions about the Valley Line West project, please contact LRTprojects@edmonton.ca or call 780-496-4874.

Valley Line LRT Construction





Imagine Jasper Avenue Rendering

Imagine Jasper Avenue

Design of Phase II of Imagine Jasper Avenue is underway and includes Jasper Avenue between 114 Street and 124 Street.

Imagine Jasper includes two lanes of motor vehicle traffic in each direction, shorter pedestrian crossing distances at each street along Jasper Avenue, wider sidewalks, landscaping, benches and bike racks.

The design is similar to what was recently constructed on Jasper Avenue between 109 Street and 114 Street.

Utility relocation will begin later this year with road construction to follow in 2025. Construction is anticipated to take three years to complete.

For more information please visit: edmonton.ca/ImagineJasperAvenue

124 Street BIA Alley Renewal

Planning and design is underway for 124 Street Business Improvement Area Alley Renewal. Visit edmonton.ca/124StreetBIAAlleyRenewal to sign up for details and for project updates.

High Level Bridge Rehabilitation

Planning is currently underway for rehabilitation of the High Level Bridge to ensure it continues to operate. The rehab will also focus on improving safety and enhancing accessibility and usability. The project will ensure a safe, reliable and functional river crossing that balances the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, residents and businesses for the next 75 years.

Planning and design is expected to be complete in 2026. There is currently no timeline for construction.

For more information please visit: edmonton.ca/HighLevelBridgeRehab

Tree replacements

Tree replacements will be taking place in Wihkwëntôwin ᐃᓐᓇᓂᓐᓂᓐ (Oliver) primarily in June, with some replacements happening in August. Site prep work has begun which include utility locating, hydrovac exposure of utilities and stump removal.

More information can be found under the Urban Forestry Operations section at edmonton.ca/UrbanForestry.

Next steps: Exploring Options and Tradeoffs

The map below illustrates the opportunity areas being explored by the Project Team and what we're working on to share with you during our Options and Tradeoffs stage.



No.	Location
A	121 Street: 104 Avenue to 100 Avenue
B	119 Street: 104 Avenue to 100 Avenue
C	118 Street: 104 Avenue to 100 Avenue
D	112 Street: North of 104 Avenue to 98 Avenue
E	111 Street: 98 Avenue to 97 Avenue
F	102 Avenue: 124 Street to 121 Street
G	98 Avenue: 112 Street to Alley East of 110 Street
H	116 Street: South of 100 Avenue
I	97 Avenue: 111 Street to 109 Street
J	99 Avenue: 114 Street to 110 Street
K	Oliver Park
L	Kitchener Park
M	Monsignor William Irwin Park
N	103A Avenue: 116 Street to 112 Street
O	103 Avenue: 124 Street to 111 Street
P	102 Avenue: 121 Street to 111 Street
Q	100 Avenue: 121 Street to 116 Street
R	100 Avenue: 116 Street to 109 Street

Save the dates and watch for more details about the Round 1 engagement events and online survey coming soon!

Drop-in Public Engagement Event:	Tuesday, July 9	4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Workshops	Thursday, July 11	6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
(same content at both workshops):	Wednesday, July 17	6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Exploring Options and Tradeoffs: Round 2 will take place in September/October 2024.

Stay informed

For more information and to sign up for project updates, visit edmonton.ca/BuildingWihkwentowin*

*Residents who signed up for updates at edmonton.ca/BuildingOliver do not need to sign up again.

For more information:
Web: edmonton.ca/BuildingWihkwentowin
Email: BuildingGreatNeighbourhoods@edmonton.ca
Call: 311



**SHARE YOUR VOICE
SHAPE OUR CITY**

