

# PROJECT UPDATE

#### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

Envision 109 intends to create a roadway and streetscape concept design for the future of 109 Street from Saskatchewan Drive to 61 Avenue. The goal is to create a vision for a future urban street that residents will be proud of-one that is modern and sustainable, flanked by high quality architecture.

The 109 Street Corridor Area Redevelopment Plan requires that the street become more pedestrian-friendly, safe, attractive and supportive of local residents and businesses, while balancing the needs of vehicle commuters. 109 Street north of Whyte Avenue has a commercial Main Street character, while south of Whyte Avenue has a residential/mixeduse character.









LOCAL DESTINATION

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT **OPPORTUNITIES**



LOCAL BUSINESS

MAIN STREET

**OPEN HOUSE #2** MAY 12, 2016 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT **SUMMARY** 

The open house was organized as a drop-in format with two scheduled presentations and a large-scale mounted display panels. A total of 109 people attended the event.

We gathered feedback in the form of a comment form. This was available in a hard copy format at the open house, and online for two weeks after the event.

#### A SPACE FOR EVERYONE

Envision 109 is seeking a more balanced design solution that will address the needs of local residents, businesses and transit commuters. Making the street more walkable and aesthetically attractive will bring numerous social and community benefits for local residents and businesses - it will improve pedestrian comfort and safety, and will increase visits to local businesses. Streetscape improvements will add street trees and green boulevards, which will create a more pleasant experience for all Edmontonians.



### **TRADE-OFFS**

While widening the sidewalks and improving the streetscape would help local communities and the commercial Main Street, this change may impact driver commute times DURING RUSH HOURS. Preliminary estimates indicate that the widest expansion of the pedestrian realm may increase the rush hour commute by between 0.5 to 5 minutes.



# Design Approaches



Focus on pedestrian main street



APPROACH 2: VEHICLE Focus on vehicle movement



APPROACH 3: ACTIVE MODES Focus on space for everyone

We asked *which approach works best for 109 Street* - here's what we heard;

	Approach 1	Approach 2	Approach 3
North of Whyte Avenue	34%	13%	53%
South of Whyte Avenue	24%	15%	61%

# What we heard

Here's some highlights from the feedback we received following the open house;

- We heard from both locals (45%) and commuters (55%)
- 86% identified themselves as drivers who use 109 Street
- 71% indicated that reducing/narrowing vehicle lanes is Very Important or Important
- 61% asked for a buffer between the roadway and sidewalk
- 67% indicated that a cycle lane is Very Important or Important
- 12-17% told us that on-street parking is Very Important or Important
- 65% indicated that improvements to Saskatchewan Drive intersection is Very Important or Important
- 72% supported improved pedestrian crossings

#### PREFERRED APPROACH

Of the three Design Approaches presented, Approach 3 received the highest level of support, both North (53%) and South (61%) of Whyte Avenue, followed consistently by Approach 1. There is limited support (13%) for a six-lane roadway configuration by those who feel that vehicle capacity and traffic flow are priorities.

Many applaud the ability to cycle with families along 109 Street, while others suggest that greater separation of the bike lane would be beneficial.

It was consistently noted that focusing on all modes of travel, specifically, pedestrians and cyclists, is essential for this area's wellbeing, as it continues to increase in density. Safety is an key priority for respondents who recognize all efforts to increase safety in each of the design approaches.

Respondents welcome the suggested improvements to the pedestrian realm as it is felt the proximity to both Whyte Avenue and the University of Alberta make the area ideal for a pedestrian-focused, people friendly corridor. Respondents are encouraged by the addition of trees and the opportunity to create a destination along 109 Street, to support local businesses, and to encourage future development with the addition of wider sidewalks and potential for gathering spaces, and patios and cafés.

For more information please visit the project website: edmonton.ca/envision109





Instagram: #envision109

## PHASE 2 UPDATE - JUNE 5, 2016