

BUILDING A BRIGHTER 101 AVENUE

Edmonton

Location: Die Kleine Kinderschule (DKK) - Forest Heights - Preschool
10304-81 Street NW, Edmonton

Workshop Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2016 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Number of attendees: 212 (headcount)

All comments from the 101 Avenue Workshop are summarized anonymously below into broad topic categories. As much as possible, comments are recorded verbatim as they were provided, but duplicates of the same comment are not included. If you have any questions about this document or the 101 Avenue Vision and Corridor Study please contact Kirstin Pacheco, Project Manager at 780-508-9450 or kirstin.pacheco@edmonton.ca.

MOBILITY

VEHICLE

- Multiple attendees ask that traffic calming strategies should be implemented (including more speed limit enforcement) to slow down vehicles and encourage cyclists and pedestrians to use 101 Ave
- Attendees want improved traffic flow and safety on 101 Avenue, and rules enforced regulating heavy truck traffic (or have a height restriction)
- Attendees want the road to be repaired and maintained, lines should also be repainted to enable safe driving
- Attendees want the City of Edmonton to re-examine intersection design to ensure that drivers have clear view of sight lines
- Some attendees would like vehicular transportation to be eliminated along 101 Avenue and would like the surrounding 75th and 98 Avenue to be used as main arteries for cars

BICYCLE

- Many attendees want wide, accessible bike lanes that are separated and safe from vehicle traffic
- Attendees want cycling infrastructure which reflects and supports the attendees' active lifestyles
- Attendees state that more direct bike routes should be added so that attendees can be connected to key destinations (ex. river valley)

SAFETY

- Many attendees strongly support separated bike lanes that are wide and accessible in order to improve safety for new riders
- Multiple attendees want clean, wide, smooth (no cracks or large chunks missing), and safe sidewalks that are set back from the road and which pedestrians can feel safe traveling on

PEDESTRIAN

- Attendees want safe sidewalks with good lighting and further setbacks from cars, which attendees can safely travel on
- Attendees think the City of Edmonton should focus on improving neighbourhood walkability and implementing amenities that are easily accessible by foot
- Attendees suggest decreasing the number of driveways to lessen the number of interruptions along the sidewalks
- Attendees would like improved access to the new library by making it safe for pedestrians to cross the street

TRANSIT

- Attendees would like a more effective, redundant, and reliable transit system
- Implement dedicated bus and bicycle lanes during rush hour as a way of encouraging alternative forms of travel

UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY

- Attendees have expressed their concerns in regards to the design of new development. They urge that properties and businesses should be family and senior friendly (safe and accessible for both seniors and families to walk around)

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BUILT FORM

PUBLIC SPACE

- Many attendees suggest adding more parks in the neighbourhood to make it more walkable and provide a social place for people to meet and for their kids to have fun and hold small events
- Attendees suggest having green spaces undeveloped and open. Some attendees would like open green space for people and pets (ex. dogs) which would provide space for people to take a walk and meet new people
- Attendees want more trees to provide shelter from sun, rain and snow
- Attendees suggest that fruit trees should be added for communal sharing and that more space should be dedicated for urban farming, rooftop gardens, and vertical gardens
- Attendees request green space to be installed in between stores which invites families and pedestrians

STREETSCAPE

- Attendees do not support front surface parking lots as it ruins the streetscape, attendees want on-street parking
- Attendees would like the integration of green space along commercial zones
- Many attendees suggest that planters and trees lining the street will help provide a more unified street look
- In addition to beautifying the streetscape with trees, shrubs and flowers, attendees would like more and bigger trees to provide shade and protection from the elements
- Attendees suggest adding raised flower beds to allow for community gardening
- Attendees express the desire to implement boulevards that separate pedestrians and cars
- Attendees state that more benches are needed along the street to act as a resting place as well as shaded benches in parks
- Multiple attendees have stressed the need for better lighting in order to increase visibility at night
- Many attendees want more wayfinding signage/identification
- Attendees stress that ashtrays are needed to help combat litter and damages to their lawn
- Multiple attendees have stated the need for street furniture which would help unify the appearance of 101 Ave

COMMERCIAL AND RETAIL

- Many attendees strongly support the idea of increasing the number of local restaurants and cafes
- Many attendees have a strong desire for more family friendly shops, cafes and restaurants
- Multiple attendees want amenities that are easy to access by walking, as well as unique shops to increase interest in the neighbourhood
- Attendees do not want a corner stores program as it encourages strip mall, car-dependency, derelict buildings and sites that should be redeveloped
- There is currently an excessive amount of commercial businesses in the area that cannot be supported with the current residential density. Instead, attendees would like to have a smaller amount of commercial businesses of a higher quality

DENSITY AND FORM

- Many attendees are against high rise developments and want a transition from medium density to low density using forms with active frontages
- Many attendees support higher density along 101 Avenue as attendees believe that it would support local businesses and result in better services and more activity, higher school enrollment, and improved public transportation
- Attendees want the City of Edmonton to look for opportunities for mixed-use development with residential and commercial spaces
- Attendees would like to eliminate strip malls and old buildings and replace them with mixed use development with commercial/retail at ground level and residential above and suggest the new building on 106 Avenue as a good example
- Attendees encourage mixed use development with higher density in order to support a car-free lifestyle
- Attendees support infill opportunities as it will increase both residential and non-residential development along the corridor

SENIOR'S HOUSING

- Attendees want more senior's housing, especially for low income seniors
- Future developments should be senior friendly

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SENSE OF COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY FEEL

- Many attendees want a welcoming neighbourhood where people can feel a sense of community
- Attendees want a street that is inviting for people to walk on
- Attendees ask for intimate community spaces
- Many attendees want a family feel on 101 Avenue with small shops, cafes, and services for families and seniors

AESTHETICS

- Attendees want a more vibrant, welcoming (community-feel), and walkable neighbourhood with an attractive and unified appearance
- Attendees commented that building design should add character to the neighborhood (provide interesting architecture) and support the City of Edmonton's vision
- Some attendees are concerned about current and potential buildings/street furniture ("eye sores") that would negatively affect the neighbourhood's appearance (ex. strip malls, old buildings). Attractive buildings are encouraged
- Many attendees expressed the desire to have a welcome sign for the neighbourhood

FAMILY FRIENDLY

- Multiple attendees want a recreation or play centre for family indoor play and physical activity during the winter months
- Attendees want family friendly stores and restaurants
- Attendees want to be able to experience a sense of community and safety as well as a comfortable place for families to visit
- Attendees want a built environment that is both family and senior friendly

EVENTS

- Attendees want a festival/farmers market space in front of or by the library
- Attendees want a place where people can gather and sit while small events are held
- Attendees expressed interest in attracting lots of street festivals and unique businesses
- Attendees want events to bring people and businesses together

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Attendees ask that the built environment includes solar powered buildings, bike lanes, and community garden spaces
- Attendees ask that the City of Edmonton work on solar power regulations and restrictions which will help promote solar power and renewable energy sources usage

MAINTENANCE

- Attendees state that 101 Avenue should be maintained as a clean street
- Attendees state that both the road and sidewalks should be shoveled after snowfall
- Attendees request that the City of Edmonton maintain the condition of sidewalks for pedestrians
- Attendees are concerned about the potholes along 101 Avenue and find that the road surface is in poor condition
- Attendees want storefronts to be modernized and cleaned up
- Attendees want neglected and derelict properties to be fixed or removed
- Attendees state that the City of Edmonton needs to repave and repaint the lines on the road as the road currently has a lot of potholes

PUBLIC ART

- Multiple attendees have expressed a strong desire to increase the neighbourhoods exposure to art (ex. public art, private galleries, community created art, murals)
- Attendees would like to have art (in various forms) attract people to the neighbourhood, beautify the street and help create an incentive for people to walk