

# What We Heard

## Gariepy Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal

### Community Feedback on Final Design

February 2024

SHARE YOUR VOICE  
SHAPE OUR CITY

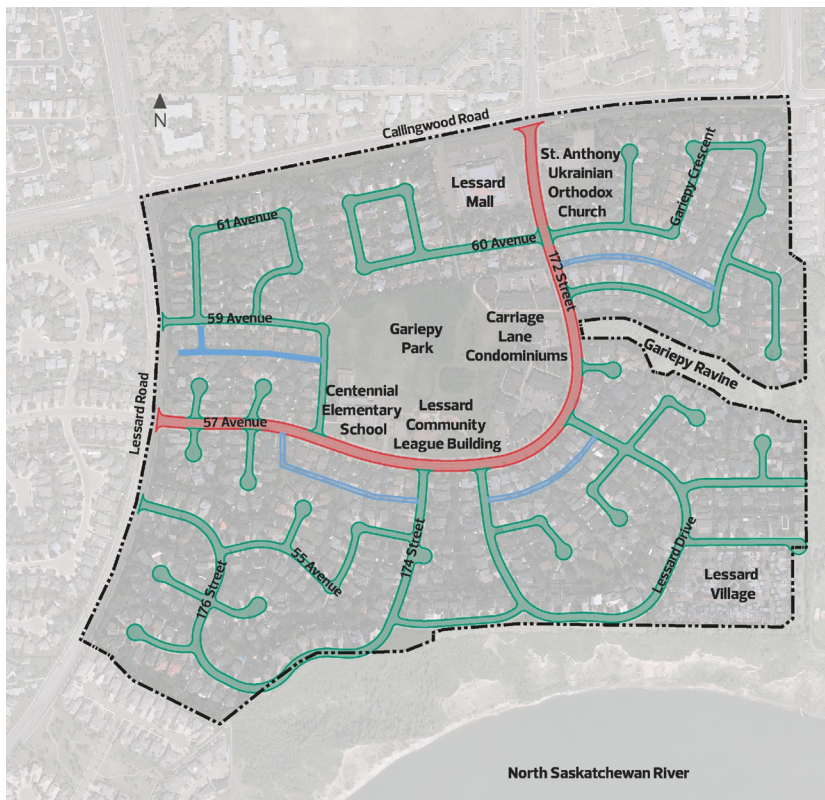
Edmonton



# Project overview

Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal construction in Gariepy is anticipated to begin in spring 2024. Through the City's Neighbourhood Renewal Program, we will reconstruct roads, curbs, replace street lights, repair sidewalks and, where possible, address missing links to support people who bike, walk and roll. Alley Renewal will also be included and involves alley reconstruction and repaving, improvements to surface drainage where possible and upgrading of existing lighting to LED fixtures.

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.



**All roads and alleys to be reconstructed:**  
 [Red line] Collector road [Green line] Local road [Blue line] Alley  
 [Dashed line] Gariepy neighbourhood boundary

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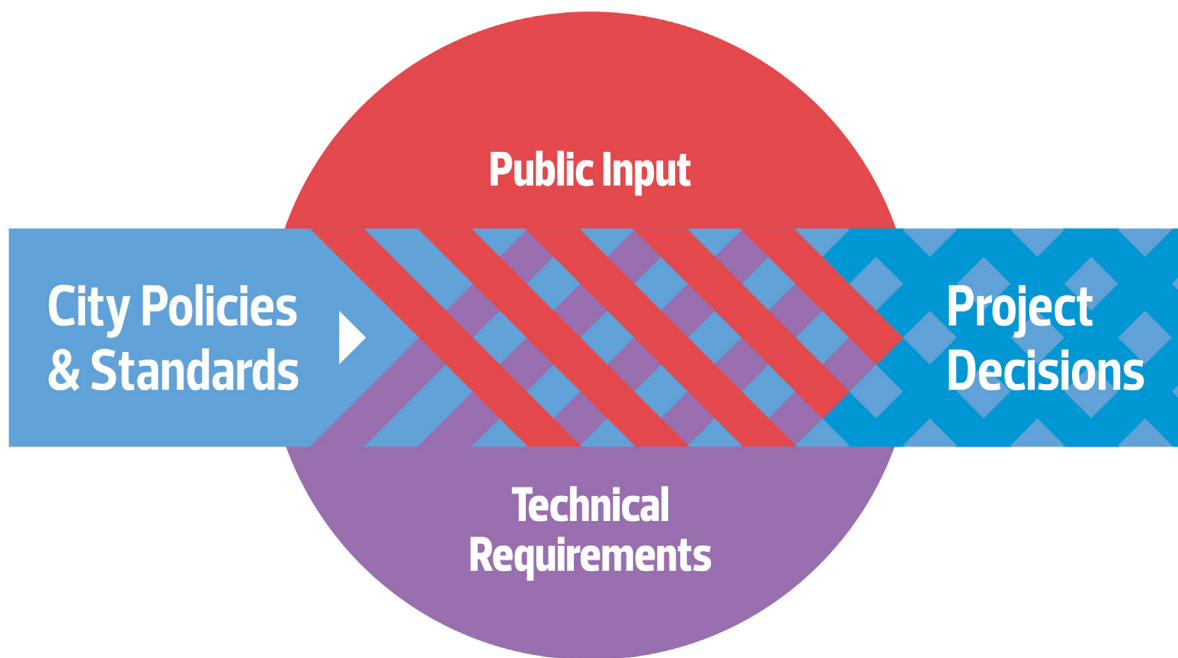


Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal in Gariepy is expected to be a two-year construction process in the area shown in the map. The new infrastructure will provide enhancements to the neighbourhood for the next 30 to 50 years.

# How we use your input

## Decision making process

The City makes decisions using a combination of policy and program information, public engagement input, technical requirements and available funding. This process helps to ensure the decisions we make are fiscally responsible, align with best practices, consider the existing public and private infrastructure, land uses and activities in the neighbourhood 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 and Alley Renewal designs. As each neighbourhood is unique, the Project Team asks for input from residents who live, work and play in the neighbourhood and considers technical aspects such as roadway widths and conflicts with utilities and trees to determine what will fit in the neighbourhood.

# Vision and Guiding Principles

During the **Community Feedback on Final Design** stage of engagement, we asked community members whether the final design aligns with the Vision and Guiding Principles for Gariepy.

## Vision

Gariepy is a welcoming, friendly, active and involved community that looks out for one another. Our neighbourhood is culturally and generationally diverse. Our residents are well connected to parks, ravines, schools, commercial services, neighbouring communities and the North Saskatchewan River Valley. We take pride in our community and value social gatherings with our neighbours. We enjoy actively experiencing the beautiful, safe, serene and peaceful surroundings that Gariepy has to offer.

## Guiding Principles



Maintain the existing vibrancy and connection to nature that characterizes the neighbourhood and makes it feel like a "hidden gem"



Ensure parks and open spaces are attractive, welcoming, safe and provide a range of recreational amenities that are usable for all ages and abilities



Create spaces in parks and commercial areas for residents to gather with friends and family and each other to build a sense of community and maintain the friendliness of the neighbourhood



Improve the condition, safety and accessibility of roadways, crossings and sidewalks for all users including people who walk, roll, bike and drive



Establish connections to destinations and amenities within and outside of the neighbourhood



Ensure infrastructure like pathways, roads and sidewalks, consider year-round use, improving winter useability and visual appeal



Protect existing natural spaces and improve neighbourhood sustainability and climate resiliency by adding vegetation, reducing hard surfacing and other innovations

# What we heard

The following sections include a summary of what we heard during the **Community Feedback on Final Design** stage. All designs are subject to final approvals and funding.

The what we heard summary is split into four topics:

**Roadway redesign** – including crossing enhancements, intersection improvements and measures to slow traffic

**Enhanced connections** – how you and your neighbours walk, bike, roll and move around the neighbourhood on sidewalks, breezeways, shared pathway connections and green alley connections

**Alley Renewal** – reconstruction to align with City standards and possible option for green alley connection

**Parks, open spaces and placemaking** – improvements to enhance access, function and connections for how you and your neighbours gather at and walk, bike and roll to and through parks and open spaces



# Roadway redesign

## Including crossing enhancements, intersection improvements and measures to slow traffic

### For the collector road of 57 Avenue and 172 Street

#### What we heard

- + Participants support widening sidewalks on both sides near the school and maintaining street parking
- + Many participants express concerns about a blind spot at Lessard Drive where it turns from 172 Street to 57 Avenue, highlight heavy pedestrian use at the crosswalk across 172 Street at 60 Avenue and at the marked crosswalk at the north intersection of 172 Street with Gariepy Crescent
- + Some participants suggest offset curb extensions at Lessard Road and 57 Avenue, viewing it as a driving pinch point
- + Some participants express safety concerns of not including a path through the west side of the commercial area parking lot
- + Many participants express a generally positive sentiment towards the design, noting improvements in walking and rolling experiences, enhanced safety, convenience, and better pedestrian movement
- + Participants have varied opinions on shared pathways and wider sidewalks. Some highlight an improved biking experience but also voice safety concerns about people biking and walking sharing the same space
- + Many participants oppose the proposed shared pathway through Gariepy Park, emphasizing the value of green space

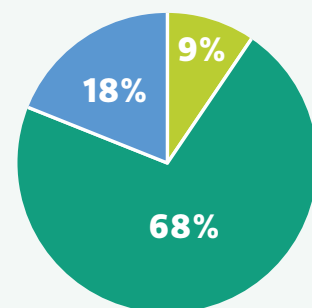
*“Concerned about narrowing roads as many people park on roads when visiting area to go for walk.”*

*“Good design and maintains the integrity of green spaces yet invites walkability throughout the neighbourhood.”*

#### Overall impression:

**68 per cent of survey respondents were very comfortable or comfortable with the proposed changes to the collector roadway.**

- Neither Comfortable or Uncomfortable (Neutral)
- Very Comfortable or Comfortable
- Very Uncomfortable or Uncomfortable



## Local roadway redesign

### What we heard

- + Participants support improvements to crossings in multiple locations (60 Avenue, Gariepy Crescent and 172 Street, 176 Street at 53 Avenue)
- + Some participants appreciate improved pathways along the riverfront
- + Some participants suggest parking be kept along both sides of the Top of Bank Park
- + Some participants look forward to seeing drainage system issues addressed
- + Participants express a generally positive sentiment, noting improvements in safety, access and aesthetics
- + Some participants suggest reduced road space may worsen road congestion and safety
- + Participants have varied opinions on shared pathways and wider sidewalks. Some participants say shared pathways are unnecessary and have safety, construction cost and access concerns. Some participants say they improve the neighbourhood

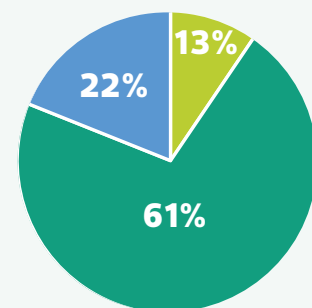
*"I wouldn't feel safe as a pedestrian on a shared pathway in this area. The bike commuters are traveling at high speeds and given the low traffic volumes, a shared pathway is not safe for pedestrians."*

*"It will improve non-car movement through the neighbourhood and yet is responsive to resident's concerns about narrowing roads and/or limiting street parking."*

### Overall impression:

**61 per cent of survey respondents were very comfortable or comfortable with the proposed changes to the collector roadway.**

- Neither Comfortable or Uncomfortable (Neutral)
- Very Comfortable or Comfortable
- Very Uncomfortable or Uncomfortable



## Enhanced connections

To enhance how you and your neighbours walk, bike, roll and move around your neighbourhood on sidewalks, \*breezeways, shared pathway connections and green alley connections.

Participants shared perspectives and feedback on the final design to enhance connections within and to surrounding neighbourhoods as part of Neighbourhood Renewal. What we heard in response to the final design is included below.

### Enhanced connections

#### What we heard

- + Some participants highlight use of the east ravine crossing for tobogganing
- + Some participants express concerns the timber walkway and new vegetation may reduce the natural area and community gatherings in these spaces
- + Some participants suggest the need for additional lights if a timber walkway is added
- + Some participants would like to see two lanes on Callingwood Road due to concerns about traffic and pedestrian safety – *widening Callingwood Road is not in scope for Neighbourhood Renewal*
- + Some participants oppose an island in a Gariepy Crescent cul-de-sac
- + Participants have varied views on enhanced connections, breezeways, and ravine crossings, recognizing positive changes in accessibility, safety, and aesthetics, but expressing concerns about potential loitering with added amenities
- + Participants support the shared pathways along Callingwood Road

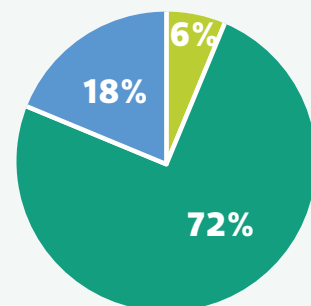
*“Easier to walk on breezeways that currently are just grass. Timber walkways better for accessibility and prevent slipping down the icy slope in the winter.”*

*“Grateful for additions to breezeways which are important connectors through our neighbourhoods, that make them safer and tidier.”*

#### Overall impression:

**72 per cent of survey respondents were very comfortable or comfortable with the proposed changes to enhance connections within Gariepy and to surrounding neighbourhoods.**

- Neither Comfortable or Uncomfortable (Neutral)
- Very Comfortable or Comfortable
- Very Uncomfortable or Uncomfortable



\* A breezeway is a public pathway between two private properties. Wider breezeways and pathways make it easier for people who walk and bike to move around the neighbourhood. They enhance accessibility and connectivity within the neighbourhood.



# Alley Renewal

## Including reconstruction of existing asphalt and gravel alleys, and a green alley connection.

All alleys in Gariepy will be reconstructed to align with City standards as part of Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. This includes a new gravel base and asphalt surface. Part of the alley west of 175 Street between 59 Avenue and 57 Avenue will be converted to a green alley connection. Participants shared perspectives and feedback on proposed changes to existing asphalt and gravel alleys including the green alley connection. What we heard in response to the final design is included below.




Alley Renewal
What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Some participants suggest additional measures to slow traffic be considered along 59 Avenue from 177 Street to 175 Street as students walk and cross the road in this area</li><li>+ Some participants indicate the need to address drainage for homes facing 57 Avenue and retaining space for garbage bins</li><li>+ All participants support implementing the green alley, with a few concerns related to maintenance</li><li>+ Some participants suggest additional lighting would enhance safety</li></ul>

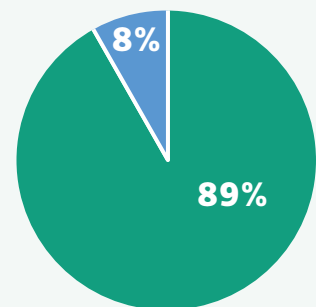
*“Really like the idea of transitioning alley space back to a green space.”*

*“I still don’t see the need to pave alleyways. But I appreciate that the green alleys will be maintained and even added too. These are lovely walkable and even bikeable routes through the community.”*

### Overall impression:

**89 per cent of survey respondents were very comfortable or comfortable with proposed changes to a partial green alley (green alley and asphalt alley).**

-  Neither Comfortable or Uncomfortable (Neutral)
-  Very Comfortable or Comfortable
-  Very Uncomfortable or Uncomfortable



## Parks, open spaces and placemaking

### Improvements to park and City-owned green spaces to enhance access and function. Enhanced connections for how you and your neighbours walk, bike and roll to and through parks and open spaces.

Participants shared perspectives and feedback on a series of proposed improvements to parks and City-owned green spaces as a part of Neighbourhood Renewal. What we heard in response to the final design is included below.

#### Parks, open spaces and placemaking

##### What we heard




- + Some participants suggest a shared use pathway connection from 60 Avenue connecting to the shared use pathway on Callingwood Road through the west side parking lot of the commercial area
- + Some participants express concerns about the breezeway on the north side of Gariepy Park impacting adjacent residents' connection to nature and privacy
- + Some participants would like to see additional amenities in Gariepy Park (picnic tables, shade structure, lighting, additional seating etc.)
- + A few participants would like a paved path from 175 Street across the field north of the school
- + Some participants suggest keeping the shared pathway along the road near Top of Bank Park
- + Some participants do not support the boulevard structure on Lessard Drive and 53 Avenue, emphasizing the importance of river views and avoiding hardscaping
- + Participants express the changes improve access to welcoming, safe and enjoyable outdoor green spaces
- + Participants express concerns about parking impacts near the Corner Store area, including traffic volume

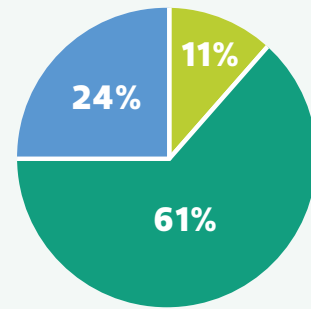
*“Great design for all three areas. Parks will be utilized even more and Corner Store has always been an eye sore and a source of traffic concerns.”*

*“Top of bank park is so nice now. I don't like it having a path cut through the middle of it where we'll have to watch for aggressive bikers. The no parking will be ignored completely.”*

### Overall impression:

61 per cent of survey respondents were very comfortable or comfortable with proposed changes to parks, open spaces, and placemaking.

-  Neither Comfortable or Uncomfortable (Neutral)
-  Very Comfortable or Comfortable
-  Very Uncomfortable or Uncomfortable



## Decorative Lighting

The City of Edmonton sent out an Expression of Interest regarding decorative street lighting and the majority of the votes received were against pursuing decorative street lighting in Gariepy. Standard galvanized poles with LED lighting will be installed.



## Stay informed

For more information regarding the Gariepy Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal and to subscribe for project updates, please visit [edmonton.ca/BuildingGariepy](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingGariepy).

Due to an unfortunate technical issue, information for people who were previously signed up for project updates was deleted. If you'd like to receive email updates throughout Gariepy Neighbourhood Renewal construction, please scan the QR to sign up, **even if you were signed up previously**.



# 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 what we might do to make it better. We will engage and work with you on the renewal of roads, sidewalks, street lights and park spaces. We will also promote other community opportunities to enhance how people live and interact in your neighbourhood. We commit to being open and transparent about how your input is used. Let's make the most out of your neighbourhood.

## Gariepy Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal schedule

### March 2022

Building a Community Vision Together and Exploring Opportunities

### November 2022

Exploring Options and Tradeoffs

### April 2023

Community Feedback on Draft Design

### Fall 2023

Community Feedback on Final Design

### Winter 2024

Preparing for Construction and Local Improvement Decisions

### Spring 2024

Construction on your Streets

[edmonton.ca/BuildingGariepy](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingGariepy)

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