

# What We Heard Report

Glenwood (163 Street West)  
Neighbourhood and Alley  
Renewal

Exploring Options and Tradeoffs  
August – September 2023

REFINE

SHARE YOUR VOICE  
SHAPE OUR CITY

Edmonton



# Project overview

Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal construction in Glenwood (163 Street West) is anticipated to begin in 2025. The Neighbourhood Renewal program will reconstruct roads, curbs, alleys, replace street lights, repair sidewalks and, where possible, complete active transportation links.

Alley Renewal will also be included as part of this project and involves alley reconstruction and repaving, improvements to surface drainage, where possible, and upgrading of existing lighting to LED fixtures.

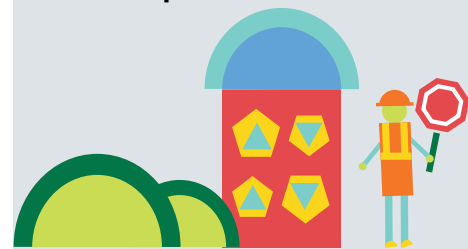
Cost-sharing opportunities will be made available through the Local Improvement process for sidewalk reconstruction and decorative street light upgrades in the neighbourhood. Arterial roads are not included in this scope of work. Other opportunities to improve City-owned parks and public spaces, such as Jack Horan and Glenwood Park, are also being explored.

The new infrastructure will provide enhancements to the neighbourhood for the next 30 to 50 years.

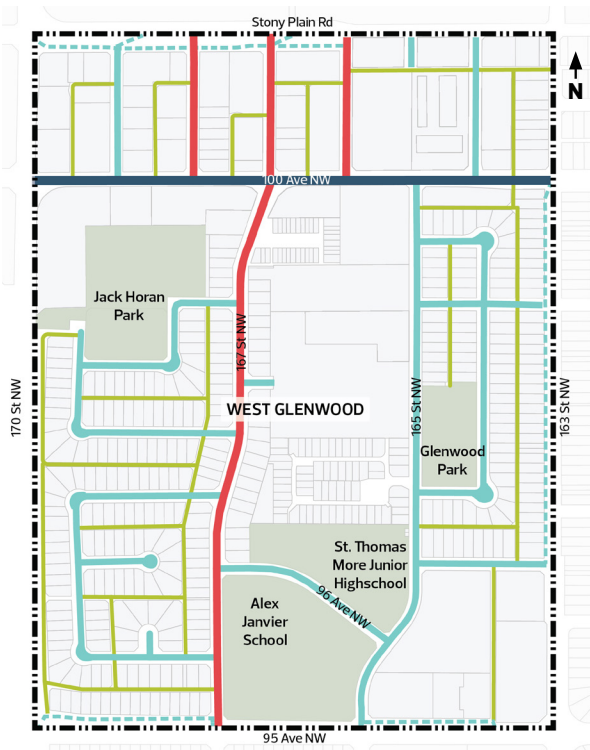
95 Avenue Renewal: Planning and design and public engagement activities are underway for the renewal of 95 Avenue. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2025 and includes changes to 95 Avenue near Glenwood between 170 Street and 163 Street. Visit [edmonton.ca/95Avenue](https://edmonton.ca/95Avenue) for details and engagement opportunities.

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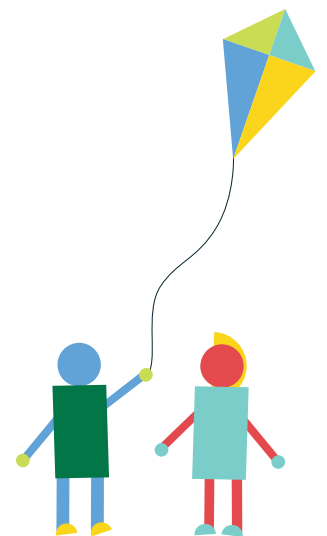
## Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal Project scope map



Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood Boundary

### ROAD CLASSIFICATION

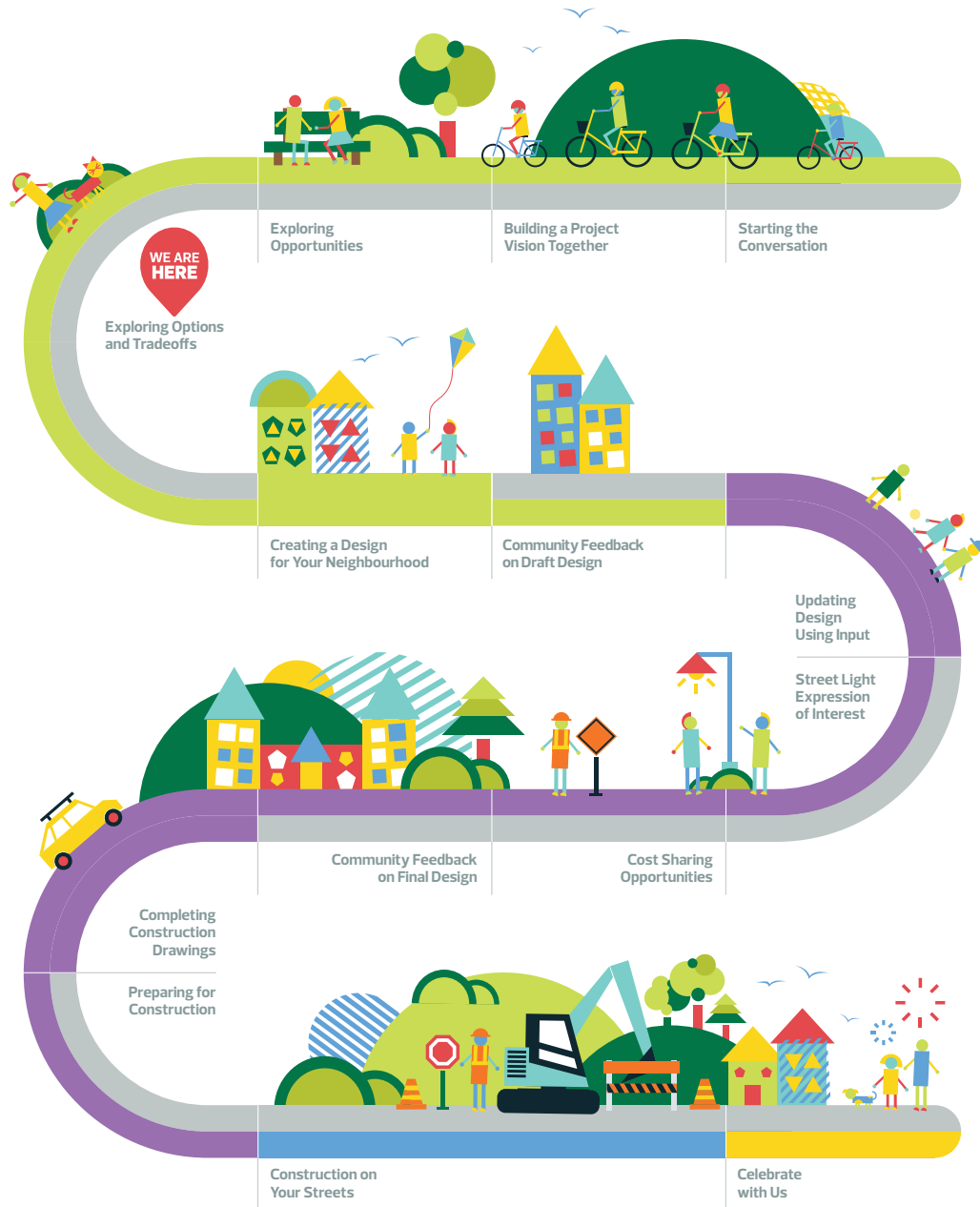
- Arterial
- Collector
- Local Residential
- Service Road
- Alley



## Neighbourhood Renewal Road Map

The Neighbourhood Renewal program follows the road map below. At each step, the Project Team shares with you how your input will inform the decisions being made.

This report focuses on public input during the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** stage between August and September 2023.



### LEGEND

Public Engagement and Communications Opportunities

Concept Phase

Design Phase

Build Phase

Operate Phase

# Public Engagement Spectrum

The City of Edmonton seeks input from residents to help guide the project. The City's Public Engagement Spectrum, below, shows the four levels of influence that the public can have on decisions made by the City throughout the project.

During the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** stage, the public was invited to provide input that would help:

- + **REFINE** the Project Team's proposed options for Glenwood (163 Street West)

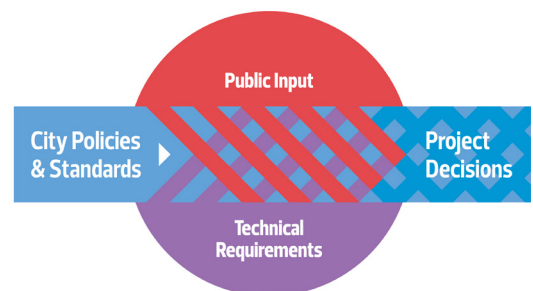
We commit to informing you how public input at each stage influences decisions according to the Public Engagement Spectrum.



## How decisions are made

The City makes decisions using a combination of policy and program information, public 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 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.



# What are options and tradeoffs?

**Options** are proposed ideas for you to consider.

**Tradeoffs** include what else is affected because of suggested changes to an existing space. How you feel about the tradeoff is important for the Project Team to understand.

Here are some examples:

**Option:** To improve the east-west walking and biking experience through the City-owned park, a new pathway with seating is proposed.

**Tradeoffs:** Some open green space may be reduced to make way for pathways and benches. Trees may also need to be moved or removed.

This helps us understand which tradeoffs are most important to the community and we use this information to help **REFINE** the design.

## What we asked and how we asked

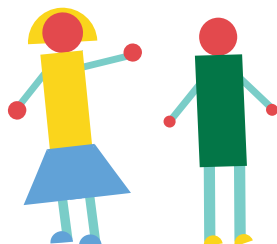
The Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal Project Team organized the following opportunities for the public to share their thoughts on the most important considerations when looking at benefits and tradeoffs for design options. This input will help the Project Team **REFINE** the options into a draft design for Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal.



### Online Survey

- + An online survey was available to the public from August 22 to September 19, 2023, asking for input on the proposed options for Glenwood (163 Street West). We also asked participants to confirm the draft Vision and Guiding Principles for Glenwood (163 Street West)
- + Paper copies of the survey were made available to community members upon request

**64 survey participants**



### Website

- + We asked residents to visit the project web page to learn more about Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal and invited them to provide feedback on options and tradeoffs via the project survey. Participants were able to vote on polls, share their thoughts and provide feedback on the proposed options for Glenwood (163 Street West).

**1,423 visits to [edmonton.ca/BuildingGlenwoodWest](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingGlenwoodWest)  
86 design package clicks**





## In-person and virtual engagements

The Project Team engaged with over 130 residents across the following in-person meetings and events:

### Community Members Open House at Glenwood Community League

- + Engaged approximately 40 community members

### St. Thomas More Junior High School Meet the Staff Night.

- + Engaged 23 parents and staff

### Benevolence Care Home & Villa Marguerite Seniors Intercept

- + Engaged 30 visitors and staff

### Food Trucks and Fireworks event

- + Engaged 40 members of the neighbourhood

### Stony Plain Business Improvement Area (BIA) Commercial Drop-In

- + Engaged 3 business area partners

### Virtual workshop

- + Engaged 4 participants



## How we communicated

- + 250 postcards delivered
- + Two road signs
- + 10 yard signs
- + Social media ads (Facebook and Instagram)
- + 64 email subscribers
- + 27 posters

# What we heard

## Confirmation of Vision and Guiding Principles

In the previous stage of engagement, we worked with the community to **CREATE** a neighbourhood Vision statement and set of Guiding Principles. This Vision will be used to guide decision making for Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. The Guiding Principles are ideas that inform how the Vision should be applied to the neighbourhood design.

During the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** stage of engagement, we presented the Vision and Guiding Principles to the community through Engaged Edmonton, an online survey, in-person events and during the virtual event.

Participants confirmed the Vision statement and Guiding Principles accurately reflect the current and future needs of the community.

## Vision

*Glenwood (163 Street West) is proud to be a safe, quiet, multi-generational and close-knit neighbourhood. Full of accessible connections to our City's services, amenities and attractions, Glenwood (163 Street West) will continue to provide opportunities for families to plant roots and enjoy all stages of their lives.*

*Glenwood (163 Street West) is a growing neighbourhood, expanding to include new and diverse neighbours with many open spaces to play, gather and enhance its distinct sense of community.*

## Guiding Principles

Glenwood (163 Street West) is:



### Safe

Residents feel comfortable walking and rolling throughout the neighbourhood at any time of day.



### Community-driven

Residents look out for one another, have fun together and build meaningful relationships while enjoying Glenwood's many amenities.



### Accessible

Residents and visitors of all ages and abilities can walk, run and roll here with ease along well-maintained streets and pathways.



### Welcoming

Glenwood has many green spaces to play, gather and enhance the distinct sense of community through all seasons.



### Proud

The community honours the past while evolving to meet the future needs and interests of a diverse community.

# Reporting back on public engagement

During public engagement, the Project Team held conversations with residents and interested parties to identify what the community deems important to maintain and what is flexible when making changes within the Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal design.

The input received is summarized in this report and will be considered in determining which design options will move forward, which design options require modification and which new design options should be considered as the draft design is developed.

The following sections include a summary of what we heard during this stage of engagement.

**All designs are subject to final approvals and funding.**

## 1.0 Movement: Walking and rolling, biking, driving and alleys

### 1.1 Walking and rolling

Walking and rolling routes can be designed with features that make movement easier for all, including those using strollers, scooters, wheelchairs or those with impaired vision. Changes were proposed to increase connectivity for people of all ages and abilities.

Proposed options	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Adding a new sidewalk or widening an existing sidewalk</li><li>+ Sidewalk, breezeway* and pathway upgrades</li><li>+ Additional or enhanced lighting</li><li>+ Additional boulevards with trees</li><li>+ Raised crosswalks/continuous crossings</li><li>+ Curb extensions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Participants value visibility, safety and accessibility at street crossings</li><li>+ Participants expressed support for additional lighting that could improve the experience for people moving around the neighbourhood at night</li><li>+ Participants recognized that new and improved walking and rolling connections will improve all-season access to transit stops, schools and businesses in and around Glenwood (163 Street West)</li><li>+ Participants shared concerns that widening sidewalks may result in narrowed streets or removal of parking in some areas</li></ul>

*\*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.*

*"The crosswalk on the northeast corner of 95 Ave/170 street should be raised, it is always under water."*



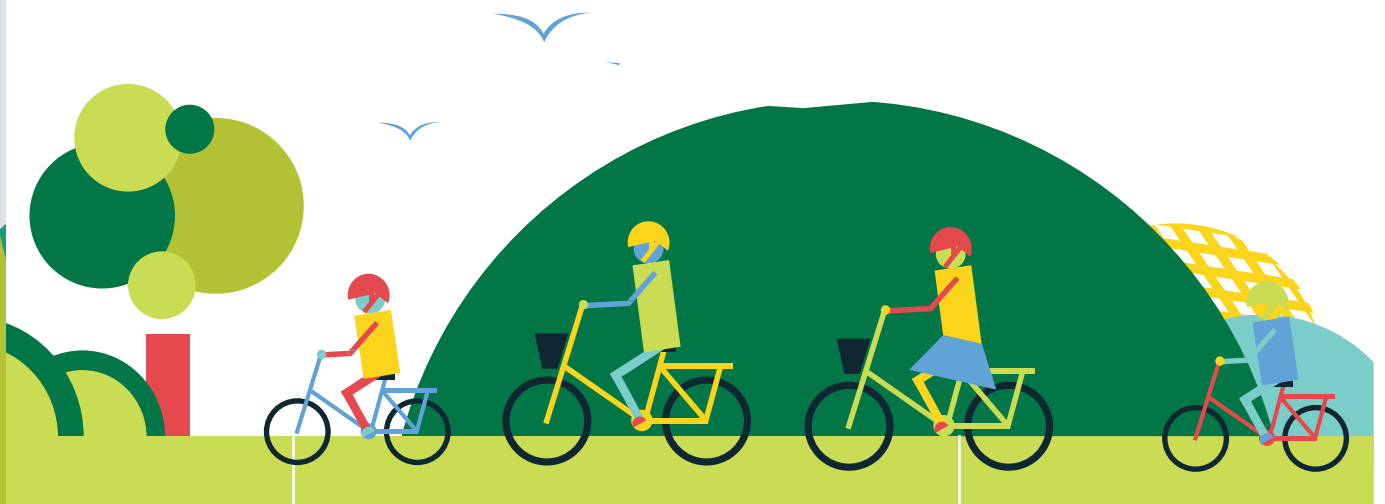
## 1.2 Biking

Changes were proposed to increase safety and connectivity for people of all ages and abilities who bike.

Proposed options	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Adding bike facilities* and routes in the following areas:</li><li>+ East – west routes:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ 99 Avenue NW</li><li>+ 100 Avenue NW</li></ul></li><li>+ North – south routes:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ 165 Street NW</li><li>+ 167 Street NW</li><li>+ Alley east of 170 Street</li></ul></li><li>+ Shared pathways</li><li>+ On-street protected bike lane (one or two-way)</li><li>+ Raised protected bike lane</li><li>+ On-street bike boulevard</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Participants indicated that separating people biking from people driving was important</li><li>+ Participants noted a desire for more lighting and snow clearing</li><li>+ Participants value that biking facilities encourage slower traffic by increasing awareness of shared users in the area</li><li>+ Participants are concerned about bike infrastructure creating a reduction in street parking</li></ul>

*“Safe, protected bike lanes need to be a priority city-wide.”*

\*Bike facilities are designated spaces within the street that are specifically designed for the movement of biking.



### 1.3 Driving

Changes were proposed to increase safety and connectivity for people who drive through the neighbourhood.

Proposed options	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Traffic calming with:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Raised crosswalks</li><li>+ Curb extensions</li><li>+ Chicanes*</li><li>+ Speed humps</li><li>+ Raised medians</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Participants would like to see additional traffic calming measures</li><li>+ Participants are concerned about narrowed streets or removal of parking</li></ul>

\*A chicane is a curve built into the road to reduce speed.

### 1.4 Alleys

Changes were proposed to increase the durability, safety and serviceability for alleys in Glenwood (163 Street West).

Proposed options	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Options for the 170 Street alley and the alley connecting 170 Street to 167 Street could include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Addition of walking and rolling connections (e.g. sidewalk)</li><li>+ Addition of shared pathway in alley</li><li>+ Converting alley to shared street</li><li>+ Naturalization along 170 Street alley</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Participants would like improvements for walking, rolling and biking along the 170 Street alley</li><li>+ Participants are concerned with the state of their alley infrastructure</li></ul>

*"Lack of drainage is my biggest concern."*

*"The alleys are always in terrible shape filled with many potholes that reappear within a short period of time after being patched."*

## 2.0 Parks and open spaces

### 2.1 Jack Horan Park and Glenwood Park

Changes were proposed to improve usability and connectivity of parks and open spaces for people of all ages and abilities.

Proposed options	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ <b>Jack Horan Park</b></li> <li>+ Passive upgrades*:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ New trees and plantings</li> <li>+ New/wider pathways</li> <li>+ Places to gather/rest</li> <li>+ Places to enjoy nature</li> <li>+ Picnic tables and benches</li> </ul> </li> <li>+ Active upgrades**:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ A plaza for community gathering</li> <li>+ A gazebo</li> <li>+ Community basketball court</li> <li>+ Interactive spaces such as natural music or art installations</li> <li>+ Community event space</li> <li>+ Pop-up activity space</li> </ul> </li> <li>+ <b>Glenwood Park</b></li> <li>+ Picnic and barbeque areas</li> <li>+ Add trees/shrubs to provide habitat for urban wildlife</li> <li>+ Garden with seating and sensory experiences (stimulating and engaging the senses of sight, smell, sound, touch and taste )</li> <li>+ Open area for activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Participants value adding shade and natural beauty to parks, helping all ages and abilities access the parks and supporting all-season enjoyment and movement</li> <li>+ Participants were concerned that there was a tradeoff that improving open spaces may attract more drivers to the area, resulting in more traffic and lack of parking in the area</li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid #2e8b57; padding: 10px; margin-top: 20px;"> <p><i>“Jack Horan Park could use some additional upgrades: access to and from the adjacent industrial areas on the north and west sides. I know many people cut through the park to access these areas and thus degrade the grass in those locations.”</i></p> </div>

\*A passive upgrade enhances opportunities for quiet and reflective use of an open space and usually focuses on new and existing natural elements.

\*\*An active upgrade enhances opportunities for recreation and play in an open space.

## 2.2 Dog off-leash area

Changes were proposed to improve usability and connectivity of parks and open spaces for people of all ages and abilities.

Proposed options	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Dog off-leash areas were proposed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Participants were supportive of a safe dedicated space for dogs so that user spaces are separated</li> <li>+ Participants were concerned that an off-leash area might cause discomfort for some park users</li> </ul>

*“Allen Park in East Glenwood. Everyone already uses it as an off-leash dog park. Would be nice and safer if it was fenced in.”*

*“I think that in the spring/summer and fall that it should be legal to run your dog off leash within community skating rinks. These rinks are unused except in the winter. The access doors to the rink should be closeable so that it would be a safe space for the dogs to run free without getting free. The community skating rink in Glenwood Community Park would be a candidate for this.”*

## 3.0 Commercial areas

Changes were proposed to improve connectivity and accessibility of commercial areas for customers, visitors and business owners of all ages and abilities.

Proposed options	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Improving walking and rolling connections/crossings</li> <li>+ Bike parking to encourage biking</li> <li>+ Community identification features such as branded signage</li> <li>+ Additional trees to add natural beauty and provide shade</li> <li>+ Flexible spaces for events, patios and programming</li> <li>+ Public seating and rest spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Participants valued improving the experience of walking, rolling and biking and improving connections to amenities</li> <li>+ Participants were concerned about road closures and changes in the number of driving lanes or travel direction</li> </ul>

*“Please add great active pathways to complement the work of the Edmonton Bike plan that will be doing a lot in west central! This will extend the benefits westward and create some key connections for neighbouring communities to these schools/businesses/amenities.”*

## 4.0 Community-led projects

### What are community-led projects?

A community-led project is an opportunity for the community to collaborate with a group of neighbourhood members. This group creates a vision for the project, a schedule and a budget. These projects can occur on or in public or private land and facilities. These projects can lead to programming or infrastructure. The City of Edmonton can help with these projects by providing staff and resources. Neighbourhood Resource Coordinators can help communities work on proposals for murals and artwork, community gardens, park enhancements and more.

Fundraising for community-led opportunities is done by residents of the community. Other organizations have grants available for community projects and partnerships with businesses or associations can also fund community projects.

Maintenance of community-led infrastructure may be the responsibility of the community or be a shared responsibility with the City. The level of support provided by the City is project-specific and would be identified through the community-led construction process.

### Initial engagement with the community identified the following opportunities for community-led projects:

- + Community garden
- + Winter cross-country skiing or skating loop in Jack Horan Park

### How to get started?

Community members interested in leading a project can contact their Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator at 311, or by sending your name and email address to [BuildingGreatNeighbourhoods@edmonton.ca](mailto:BuildingGreatNeighbourhoods@edmonton.ca).

## Next steps

Thank you to all who shared their input during the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** stage of engagement. Your feedback will be considered along with City policies, programs and technical requirements in deciding which design options move forward, which require modification and will be proposed as part of the draft design.

In spring 2024, the public will be invited to the **Community Feedback on Draft Design** stage of engagement for Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. During this stage, the Project Team will return to the community to share a draft design of proposed renewal changes and invite feedback that will be used to help **REFINE** the draft design for the neighbourhood.

Information will also be provided during upcoming project stages about cost-sharing opportunities for decorative street lights and sidewalk reconstruction through the Local Improvement process.

For more information regarding the Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal, upcoming public engagement activities and to subscribe for project updates, please visit [edmonton.ca/BuildingGlenwoodWest](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingGlenwoodWest).

### 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. For more information regarding the Glenwood (163 Street West) Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal, upcoming public engagement activities, and to subscribe to project updates, please visit [edmonton.ca/BuildingGlenwoodWest](https://edmonton.ca/BuildingGlenwoodWest).



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