

What We Heard Hairsine Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal

Building a Project Vision Together
Exploring Opportunities

Winter 2022

CREATE & REFINE

SHARE YOUR VOICE
SHAPE OUR CITY

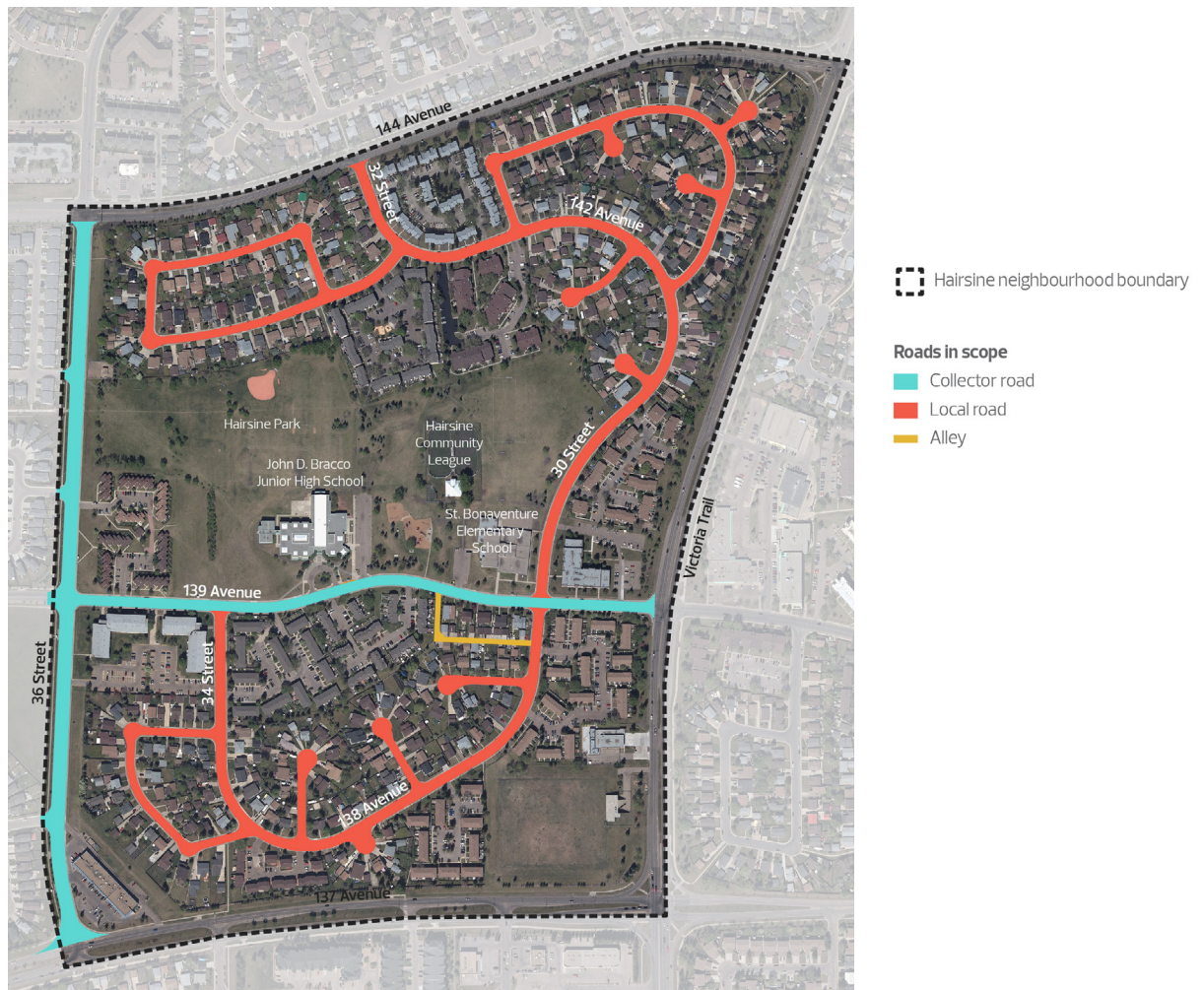
Edmonton

Project Overview

Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal in Hairsine will begin in spring 2024. Through the City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Renewal program, we will rehabilitate roads, replace street lights, curbs and gutters, repair sidewalks and connect missing sidewalk links where possible. 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 streetlight upgrades in the neighbourhood. Other opportunities to improve City-owned parks and public spaces will also be explored.

Hairsine Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal Project Scope Map



Roadmap to Building Great Neighbourhoods

The Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal program follows the roadmap below. At each stage, the project team shares with you how your input will inform the decisions being made.

This report highlights the input received during both the **Building a Project Vision Together** and **Exploring Opportunities** stages between December 2021 and March 2022.



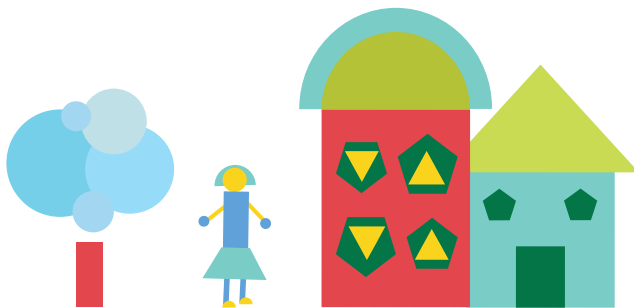
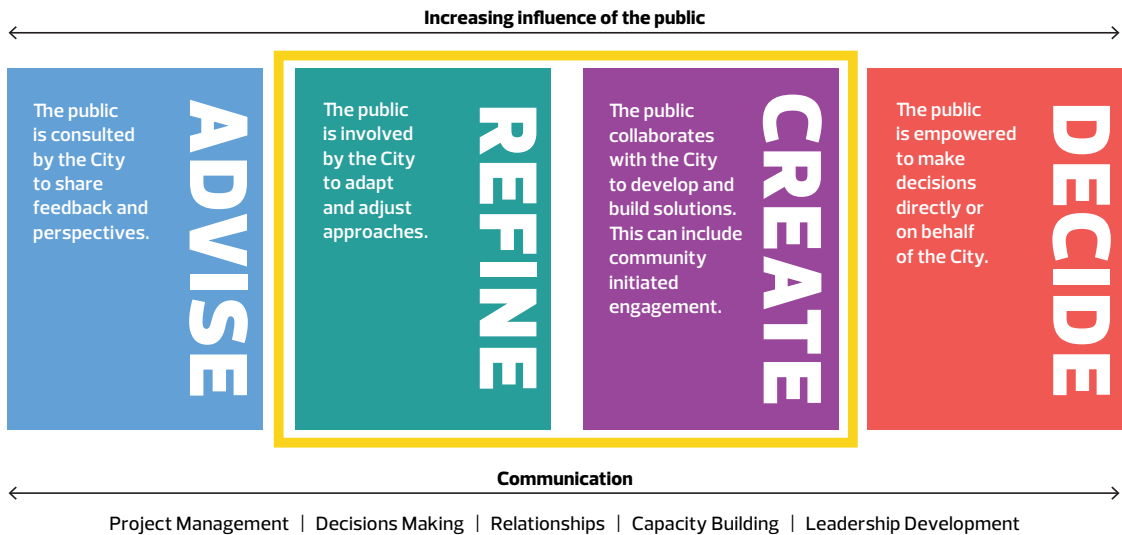
Public Engagement Spectrum

The City of Edmonton seeks input from citizens 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.

The public was invited to provide input that would help:

- + **CREATE** a Vision and Guiding Principles
- + **REFINE** the project team's knowledge of neighbourhood assets, opportunities and priorities

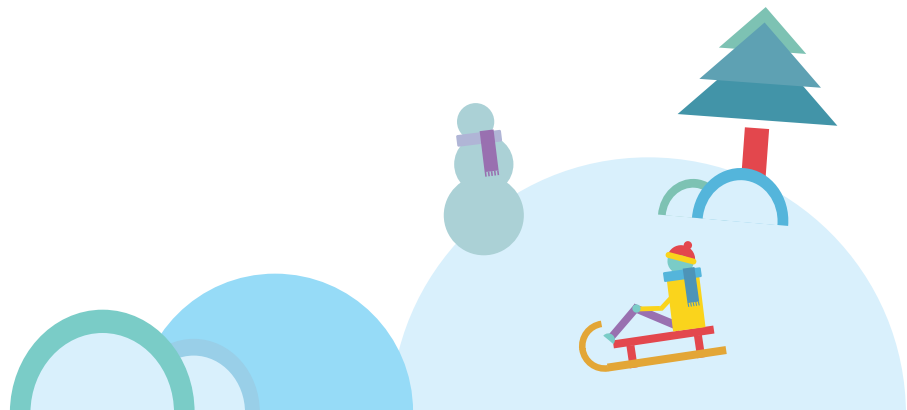
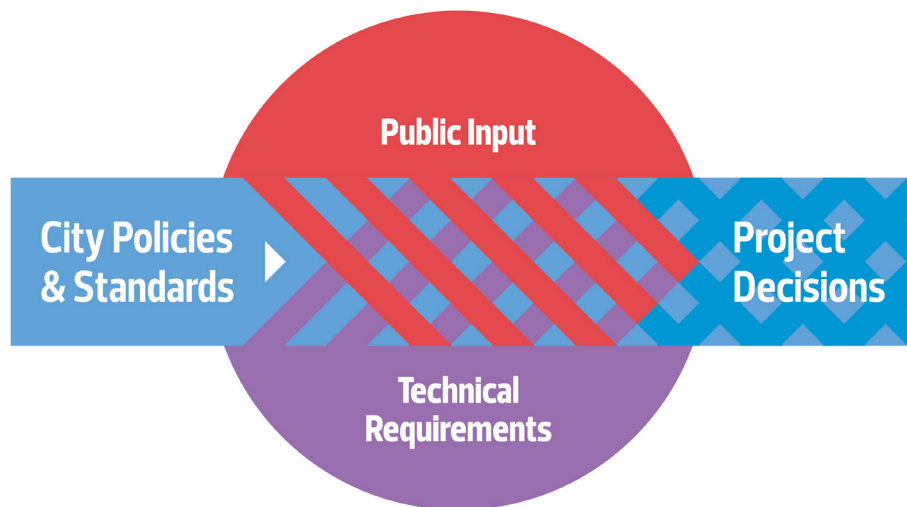
We commit to telling you how public input influences decisions according to the public engagement spectrum.



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 that 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 We Asked and How We Asked

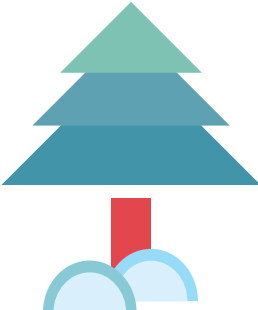
From March 17 to March 31, 2022 the Hairsine Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal project team organized the following activities to collaborate with Hairsine residents and stakeholders to **CREATE** a Vision and Guiding Principles for the project and to help **REFINE** the project team's understanding of the improvements and opportunities for the neighbourhood.



Survey

An online survey was available to the public from March 17 to March 31, 2022 asking people who live, work and play in Hairsine to help us **CREATE** a Vision and Guiding Principles for Hairsine's Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal. We also asked people to **REFINE** our understanding of their lived experience in Hairsine by identifying opportunities to improve or enhance the neighbourhood.

34 survey participants



Self-Guided Treasure Quest

People who live, work and play in Hairsine were invited to complete a self-guided treasure quest to help us understand the treasures of Hairsine. Key locations in the neighbourhood were identified as potential opportunities for renewal and were marked on a map and with a temporary sign. From March 17 to March 31, 2022 participants were invited to visit each location and provide their ideas for improvements and vision for renewal using a booklet, or through QR codes leading to an online question and answer form.

53 opportunities and ideas identified



Student Voices

From March 17 to March 31, 2022 students from John D. Bracco Junior High were invited to participate in the guided treasure quest to share their ideas for improvements and vision for renewal. 20+ grade six students were involved, and nine booklets were returned.

16 student opportunities and ideas





Community Conversations

Project team members reached out to several neighbourhood organizations including the Hairsine Community League, C5Hub, John D. Bracco Junior High, local faith groups, and businesses in the area.

On March 19 and 23, 2022, project team members visited six locations throughout the neighbourhood to invite conversations with people who live, work and play in Hairsine about the treasure quest, survey and other opportunities.

140+ conversations



How We Communicated

- + 960 newsletters
- + 960 doorknockers
- + 12 lawn signs
- + 20 signs with treasure quest information and QR codes
- + 250 treasure quest booklets
- + drop box with treasure quest information, survey information and treasure quest booklets
- + 84 visits to the project webpage
- + 441 Facebook link clicks

4259+ outreach

500+ comments received





What We Heard

The following sections include a summary of what we heard through public engagement pop-up events, self-guided treasure quest booklets, online question/answer form and the online survey. The summary has been developed to reflect the relevancy, frequency and diversity of the responses we received based on the questions that were asked to residents.

Building a Project Vision Together

Ideas and insights were collected from participants to help us understand how people experience the neighbourhood today and what can be improved or added to create a neighbourhood for the future.

A **Vision** is a short description that sets the direction for the community's future liveability.

Guiding Principles are ideas which inform how the vision is applied to the neighbourhood design.


Here is what we heard from engagement participants:

How would you describe your neighbourhood?

- + Hairsine is a diverse community with many diverse languages and cultures
- + Hairsine is friendly and welcoming
- + Hairsine has family friendly spaces and amenities for people of all ages to enjoy
- + Hairsine has many enjoyable green spaces and parks with mature trees

What do you like best about your neighbourhood?

- + Hairsine has great access to and from other neighbourhoods and nearby businesses and amenities including the recreation centre, parks and playgrounds
- + Hairsine has easy access to transit and to connecting highways
- + Hairsine is well connected to the river valley for walking and biking



Thinking about a renewed Hairsine, what would you like to see in the future? Upgrades will be required to support the community for the next 30 to 50 years.

- + Improved lighting and sightlines in parks, at crosswalks and along walking paths to enhance safety and reduce crime
- + Enhanced connections to and through parks, shared walking and biking pathways, widened walkways and pathways to improve accessibility and connectivity
- + Enhanced green spaces and parks in Hairsine with more trees and shrubs, benches and gathering places, as well as more community amenities, including a washroom in the park
- + More amenities for the many children in Hairsine to enjoy including additional playgrounds and a spray park
- + Improvements to the parking and school drop-off zones at John D. Bracco and St. Bonaventure to enhance safety for students
- + Enhanced connections and vibrancy to new and existing business areas

The Project Team will use this input to **CREATE** a draft Vision and Guiding Principles for the Hairsine Neighbourhood Renewal project which will be shared with the community to gather feedback at the next engagement stage in fall 2022.

Accessible Gathering spaces Walkable
Connected pathways Diverse
Vibrant Kid-friendly
Abundant amenities **Welcoming** Safe
Well connected Family-friendly
Parks and playgrounds



Exploring Opportunities

The following section includes a summary of what we heard throughout all of the engagement opportunities. Residents shared ideas and thoughts on various issues and opportunities which could be considered for the Hairsine Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal Project.

The following key themes were raised as opportunities by residents: walking, rolling, public transit, driving, parks and open spaces.

Walking, rolling and public transit

- + Wider paths that are connected to and through the neighbourhood to improve accessibility and movement
- + Concerns about the sidewalks as they are cracked, uneven and collapsing in many areas making it unsafe for people who walk and roll
- + Participants would feel safer with more lighting on streets, pathways and parks as well as better visibility of crosswalks in Hairsine
- + More trees, flowers, shrubs, art, benches and picnic tables along walking and rolling routes
- + More transit stops and options for on-demand transit for people with mobility concerns

"Wider sidewalks, would prefer multi-use so I could ride my bicycle more safely"

Biking

- + Shared pathways for people who walk, roll and bike to improve movement around Hairsine
- + Participants shared safety concerns about people who bike on busy roads and would like to see widened sidewalks, shared pathways, connected pathways and bike lanes to improve safety
- + More bike racks in Hairsine to improve safety from theft and to encourage more biking

Parks and open spaces

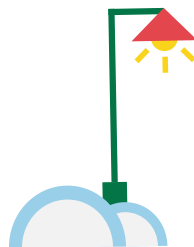
- + More spaces to gather with family, friends and neighbours at benches, picnic tables and green spaces
- + Updated playgrounds and more amenities for children and families in Hairsine
- + A dog park to reduce the number of dogs and waste in other parks



"We could use more green spaces and trees and shrubs to beautify our neighborhood"

Driving

- + There are significant potholes that are causing damages to vehicles
- + Participants are concerned about the safety of students getting to and from school at John D. Bracco and St. Bonaventure
- + Speeding is a concern in Hairsine. Participants would like to see more speed bumps, no exit signs and yield signs throughout the neighbourhood to improve safety
- + Upgrades to the crosswalks to increase visibility for people who drive and increase safety for people who roll and walk



"More visibility on crosswalks, more crosswalks with lights"

Next steps

Thank you to all who shared their input during the **Creating a Project Vision Together** and **Exploring Opportunities** stages of engagement.

In fall 2022 the public will be invited to the **Exploring Options and Tradeoffs** stage of engagement for Hairsine Renewal. The project team will return to the community to confirm the Vision and Guiding Principles and explore options and tradeoffs to understand the preferences of the community. During this stage we will invite you to provide feedback on the design options and to share insights to help **REFINE** the options.

Information will also be provided about **Cost-sharing Opportunities** for decorative street lights and sidewalk reconstruction through the Local Improvement process.

For more information regarding the Hairsine Neighbourhood and Alley Renewal, upcoming public engagement activities and to subscribe for project updates, please visit edmonton.ca/BuildingHairsine

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.



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