



RIVER VALLEY PLANNING MODERNIZATION

Ribbon of Green & **River Valley ARP**

Phase 4 Workshop | June 2024

Edmonton



Housekeeping Items

- Please use the raise hand function if you would like to speak during Q&A
- Use reactions to show agreement or appreciation
- Use chat for comments and questions as well
- Mute microphone unless speaking



Guidelines for Respectful Discussion

- Speak to be understood
- Listen to understand
- Create space for opinions that may be different from our own
- Step back, step up

Workshop Agenda

10 min.

Session Overview, Introductions and Top of Mind Areas of Interest

15 min.

Project Overview and Ribbon of Green Update

30 min.

River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan Overview and Update

60 min.

Group Discussion and Polling Questions

5 min.

Next Steps & Close

Top of Mind Areas of Interest



RVPM Phase 4 Engagement: June 2024

- + Online survey
- + Interactive map
- + Virtual Workshop #2 June 27th
- + Intercept (Pop-up) Engagements

Visit edmonton.ca/RibbonofGreen
for more engagement opportunities



RIBBON OF GREEN

WHAT we are going to do to protect, access, and celebrate the River Valley

STRATEGY

Long-term planning and policy guidance for the River Valley

RIVER VALLEY ARP

HOW we are going to implement these actions

GOVERNANCE

Who makes decisions

REGULATION

The rules that guide decisions

DECISION-MAKING

The process by which decisions are made



Edmonton's North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine System

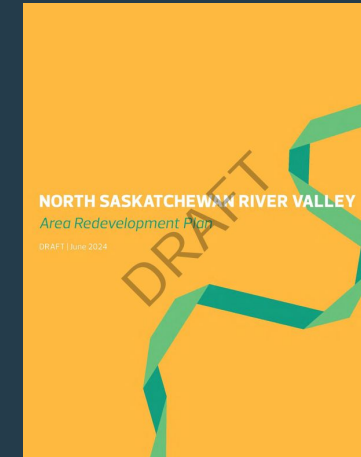
- + RVPM asks: *How will we ensure that the River Valley remains **vibrant and ecologically resilient** as the city grows?*

RIBBON OF GREEN PLAN



High level planning **guidance** for River Valley protection, access and use

RIVER VALLEY AREA REDEVELOPMENT PLAN



How we **regulate** and **make decisions** about proposed River Valley development



An integrated approach to River Valley planning and decision-making



Plan Content

RIBBON OF GREEN

- + Vision and guiding principles
- + System-wide policies
- + Land management classifications
- + Site guidance
(program/ecological)

Strategic and aspirational.

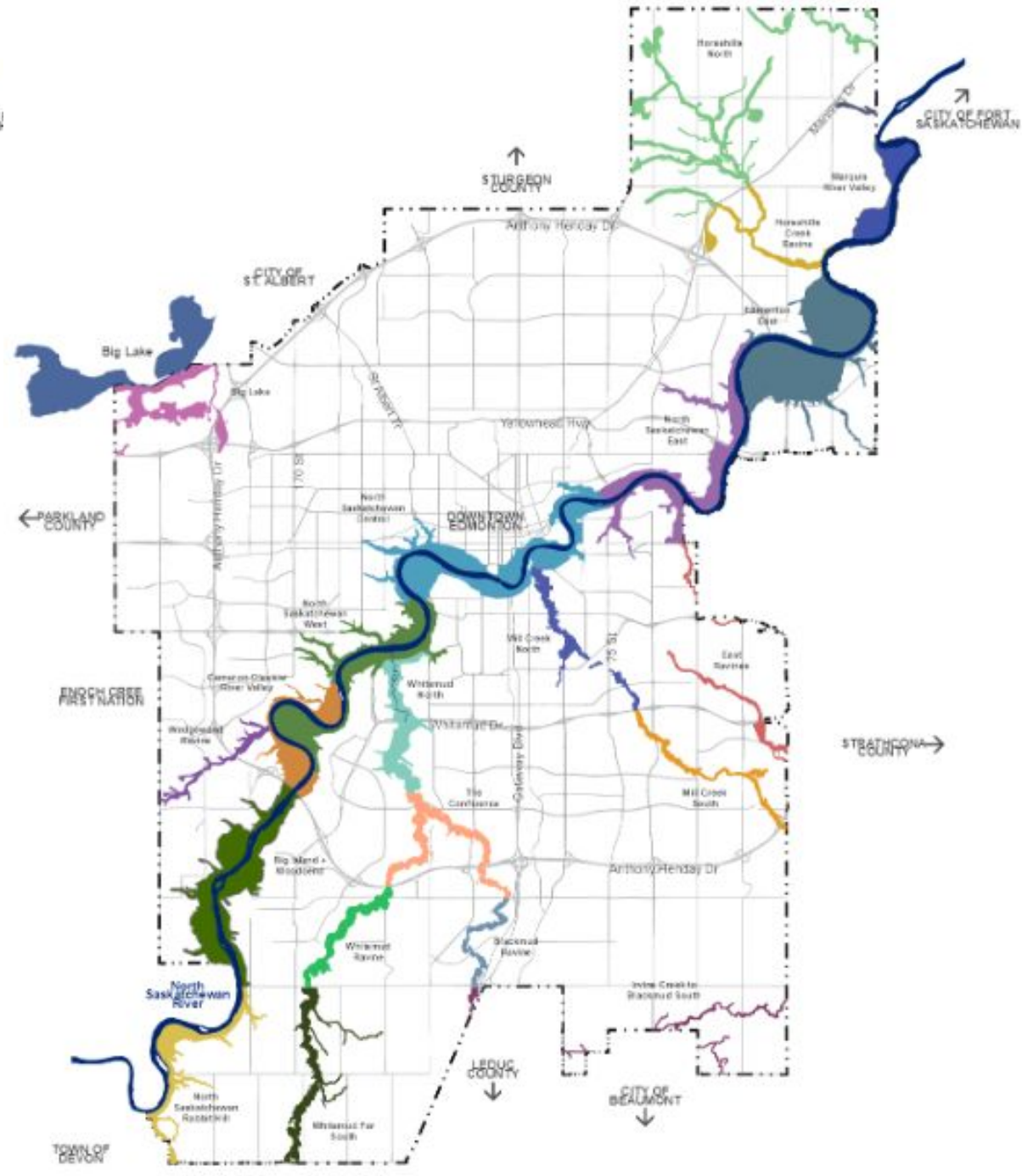
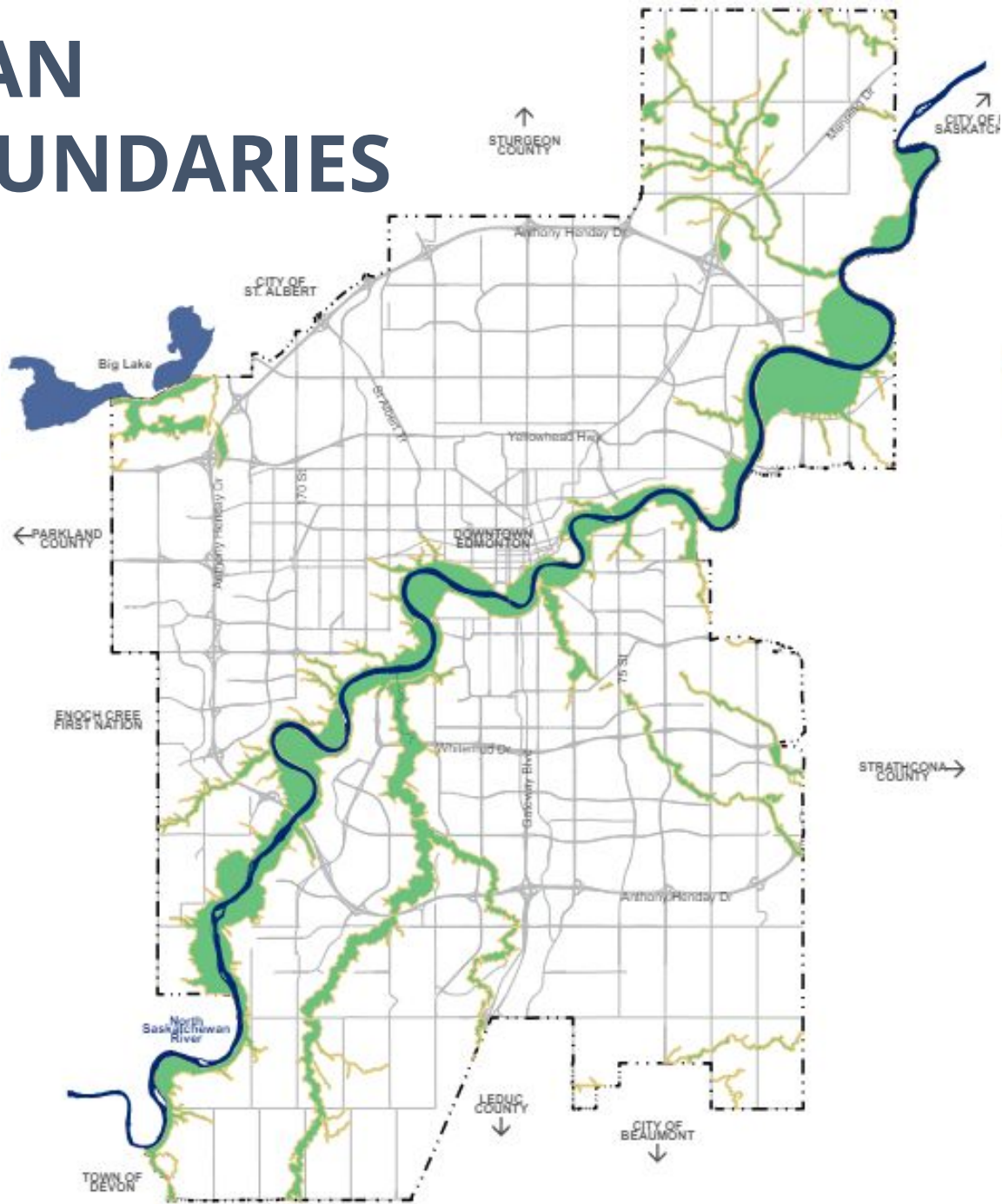
RIVER VALLEY ARP

- + Goals and objectives
- + Land use concept and policies
- + Development proposal requirements and review process
- + Strategic and environmental assessment framework

Legally binding.

Focused on land use, not activities and behaviours.

PLAN BOUNDARIES



RIBBON OF GREEN

Overview and Update

Continuum of River Valley Planning



RIBBON OF GREEN

Desktop Analysis Only:
Direction is based on remote sensing, aerial imagery, historical records, and engagement.

Vision, Principles + System-Wide Policies:
Guides decisions to ensure all actions support a healthy and sustainable System.

Land Management Classifications:
Provides policy direction for individual sections of the System.

Program Guidance:
Provides initial high-level direction for the System, including the strategic location of amenities (parking, access, etc.).

FUTURE SITE-SPECIFIC PLANS

Field Assessments/ Environmental Studies/ Technical Studies:
Detailed site specific analysis to be used to confirm and revise the direction in the Ribbon of Green, including the delineation of the Land Management Classifications and sub-classifications, and Program Guidance.

Concept Designs:
Implements the Ribbon of Green by developing more detailed Concept Designs that confirm the layout, programming, amenities, restoration, and budget for a site through technical studies and engagement.

Detailed Design:
Detailed technical drawings to guide construction based on the Concept Designs.

Build:
Building the infrastructure and improvements, as per the detailed design, as well as restoring important habitats.

Operate:
Ongoing operation, programming, and management of the site in alignment with the Ribbon of Green, site-specific plan, and applicable policies, procedures, and guidelines.

Ribbon of Green

INTRODUCTION VISION + PRINCIPLES

Section 1

SYSTEM-WIDE POLICIES

Section 2

Site Direction:

LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 3

Site Direction:

PROGRAM GUIDANCE

Section 4

IMPLEMENTATION

Section 5

VISION

The North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine System is a protected, connected, ecologically resilient landscape that honours our collective history and promotes healthy living through diverse opportunities for recreation, active transportation, learning, and gathering in the tranquility of nature.

PRINCIPLES

Ecological Integrity

Low-Impact Amenities

Access and Connectivity

Collaboration

Heritage

Indigenous Perspectives

Ribbon of Green

INTRODUCTION VISION + PRINCIPLES

Section 1

SYSTEM-WIDE POLICIES

Section 2

Site Direction:

LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 3

Site Direction:

PROGRAM GUIDANCE

Section 4

IMPLEMENTATION

Section 5

1. ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY
2. SAFE + INCLUSIVE
3. VIBRANT SPACES
4. EDUCATION + AWARENESS
5. DISTRIBUTION + SUPPLY
6. PUBLIC ACCESS + CONNECTIVITY
7. ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT
8. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
9. COLLABORATIVE PLANNING
10. SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

Ribbon of Green

INTRODUCTION VISION + PRINCIPLES

Section 1

SYSTEM-WIDE POLICIES

Section 2

Site Direction:
**LAND
MANAGEMENT
CLASSIFICATIONS**

Section 3

Site Direction:
**PROGRAM
GUIDANCE**

Section 4

IMPLEMENTATION

Section 5

PRESERVATION

Ecosystem Protection
Trail-based Recreation

CONSERVATION

Trail-based Recreation
Natural Recreation

ACTIVE / WORKING LANDSCAPES

Intensive Recreation
Agriculture + Horticulture
Urban Services + City-wide
Attractions



Ribbon of Green

INTRODUCTION VISION + PRINCIPLES

Section 1

SYSTEM-WIDE POLICIES

Section 2

Site Direction:
**LAND
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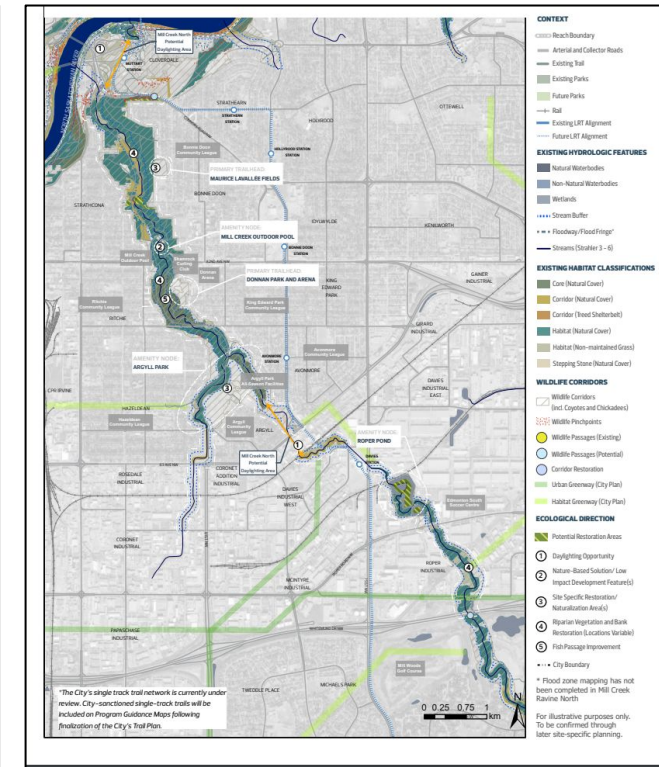
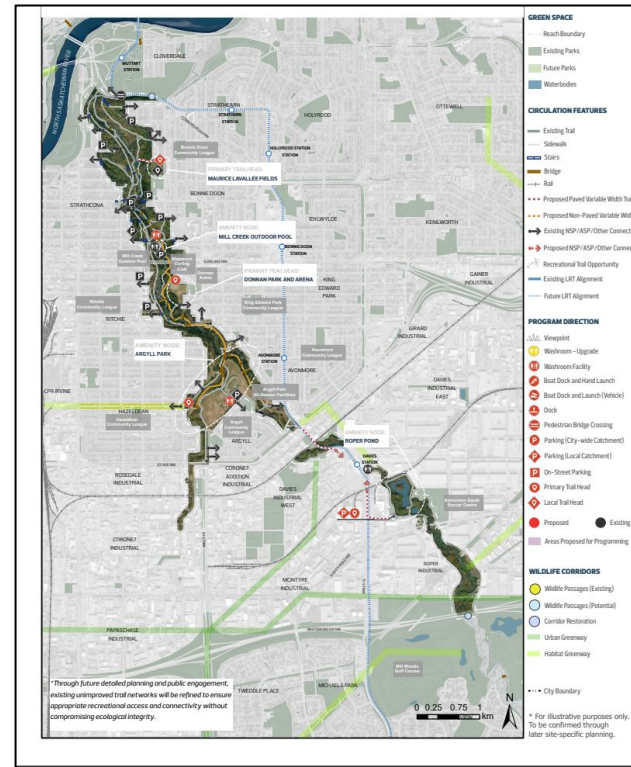
Section 4

IMPLEMENTATION

Section 5

PROGRAM GUIDANCE

ECOLOGICAL GUIDANCE



Ribbon of Green

INTRODUCTION VISION + PRINCIPLES

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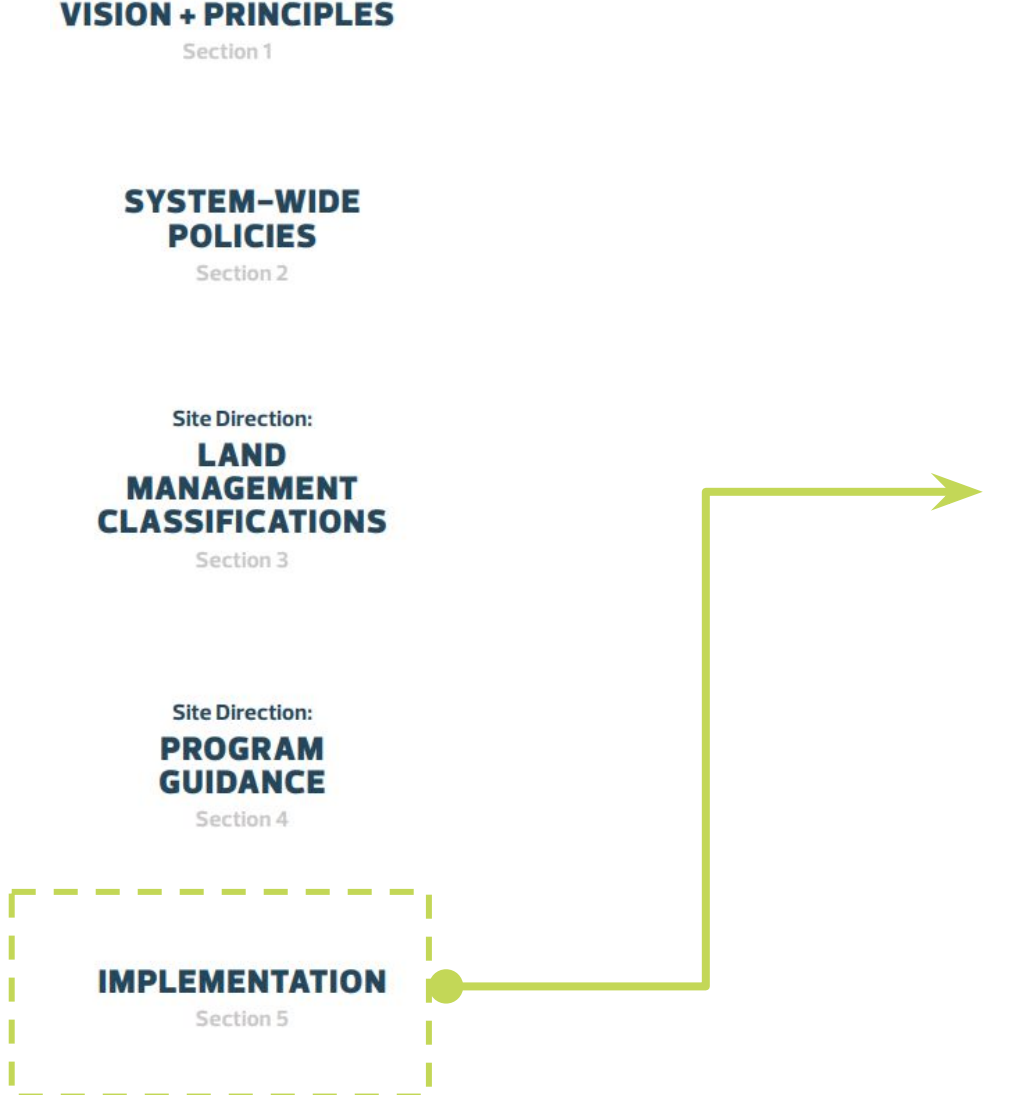
Site Direction:

PROGRAM GUIDANCE

Section 4

IMPLEMENTATION

Section 5

- 
- Program Guidance
Implementation Principles
 - Plan Monitoring, Evaluation +
Review

Project Update: Technical Work

RIBBON OF GREEN

- + Bringing ROG SW+NE and RVPM content together
- + Refinement of system-wide policy
- + Land Management Classification
- + Program + Ecological Guidance updates

RIVER VALLEY ARP

Draft changes to:

- + Decision-making
- + Land use policies
- + Proposal assessment



RIVER VALLEY AREA REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Overview and Update

What is a “Statutory Plan” ?

- Statutory plans must be approved by City Council through a public hearing process and are legally binding.
- Intended to **guide future land use and land use planning decisions.**
- Do not dictate or regulate behaviours or activities.



Province of Alberta

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT

Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000
Chapter M-26

Current as of December 8, 2021

Office Consolidation

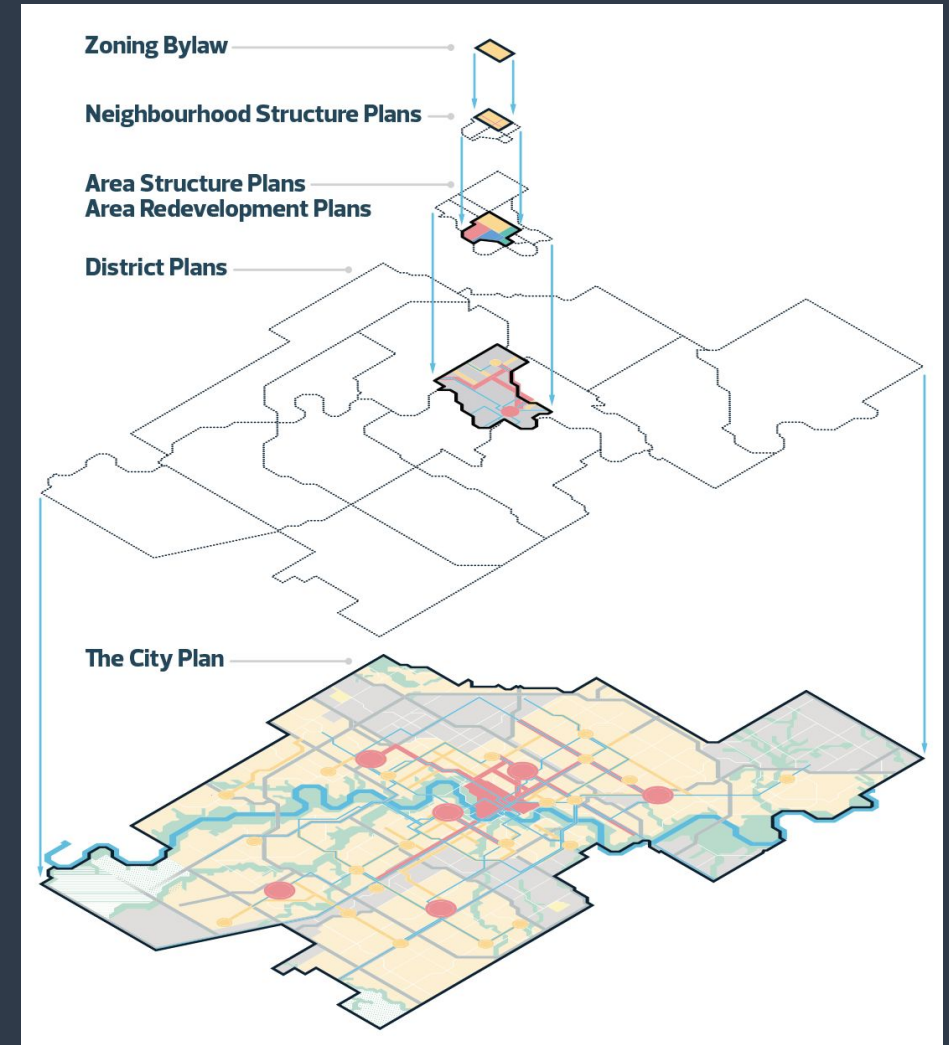
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What is the River Valley ARP?

- Provides high level land use planning direction for the River Valley and Ravine System
- Additional detail for specific places in the River Valley is then developed through site-specific mechanisms such as zoning, master plans, and concept plans.
- Decisions guided by the direction of the ARP, the Ribbon of Green, and other City policies.



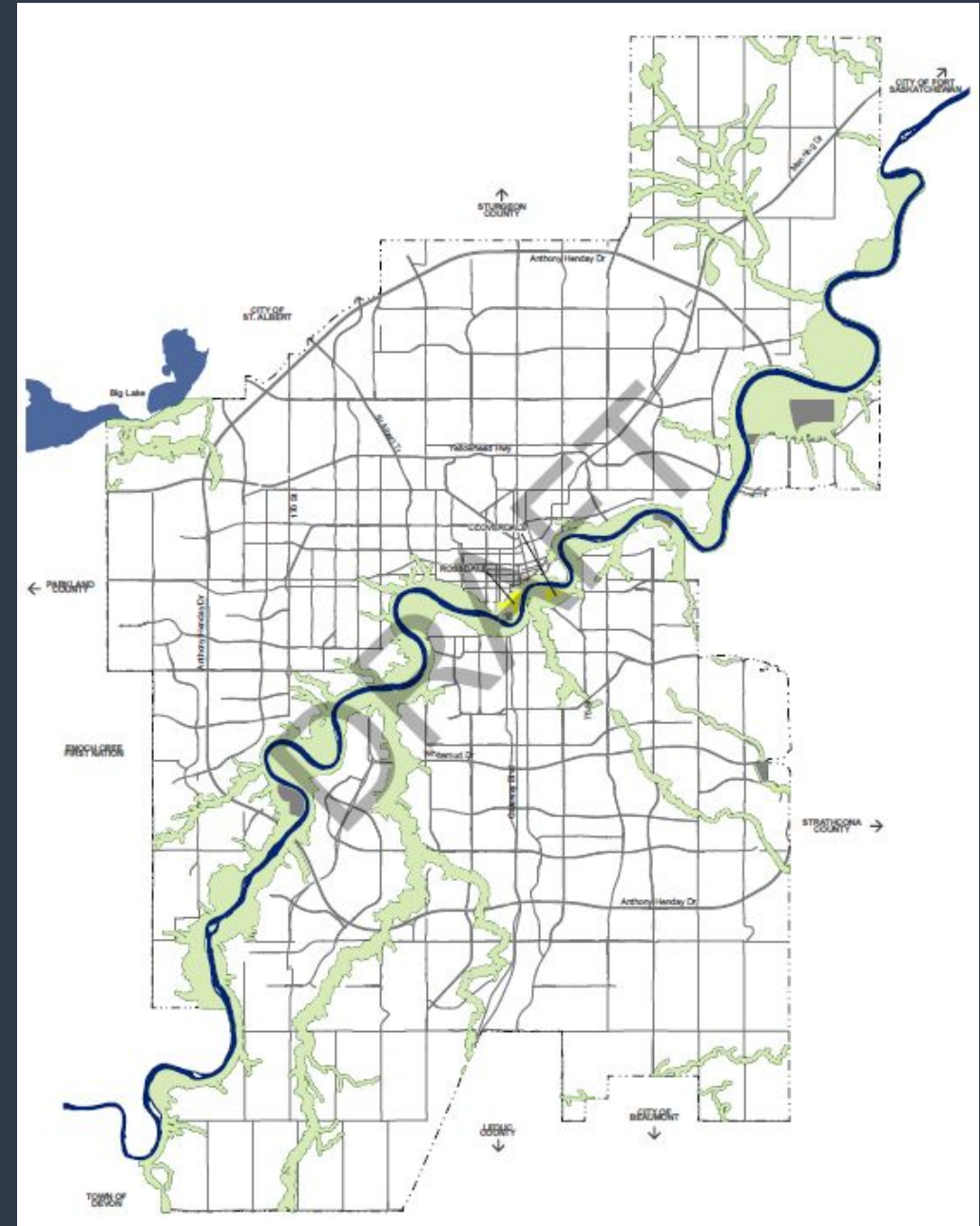
Plan Objectives and Vision

- Ensure the environmental protection of the North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine System; and,
- Provide public access to the North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine System for celebration and wellness.

The North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine System is a protected, connected, ecologically resilient landscape that honours our collective history and promotes healthy living through diverse opportunities for recreation, active transportation, learning, and gathering in the tranquility of nature.

Land Use Concept

- Majority of plan area designated for open space use (ecology, celebration, wellness)
- ARP formally refers to the Ribbon of Green for more detailed planning direction
- Boundary updated to include river valley and ravine lands south of 41 Ave SW



Land Use Policies

- No new natural resource extraction
- Residential land use limited to Rossdale and Cloverdale
- Discourage intensive open space facilities, intensive utility infrastructure, and intensive transportation infrastructure
- Other type of development may be considered if compatible with environmental protection, recreation, or culture / heritage
- Ribbon of Green guides more detailed planning



Development Proposals

- All proposed development on lands that are currently designated as River Valley Open Space or Public Utility must complete a strategic assessment and an environmental assessment
- Assessments help City Administration decide whether, and how, the proposed development should proceed
- In some cases, City Council approval may also be required



STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

- Evaluate alignment with City policy and strategy, including River Valley ARP and Ribbon of Green
- Evaluate rationale for the proposal and whether a location outside the River Valley would be more appropriate
- Evaluate potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures at a high level
- Set overall direction and vision
- Decide whether the project is supported and should proceed to further design and environmental assessment stages



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- EAs completed in support of proposed development must describe current conditions, potential impacts of the proposal, and appropriate mitigation measures
- Categories include:
 - water
 - soils and slope stability
 - vegetation
 - wildlife
 - historical resources
 - noise, odour, and visual impacts
 - climate change adaptation and mitigation



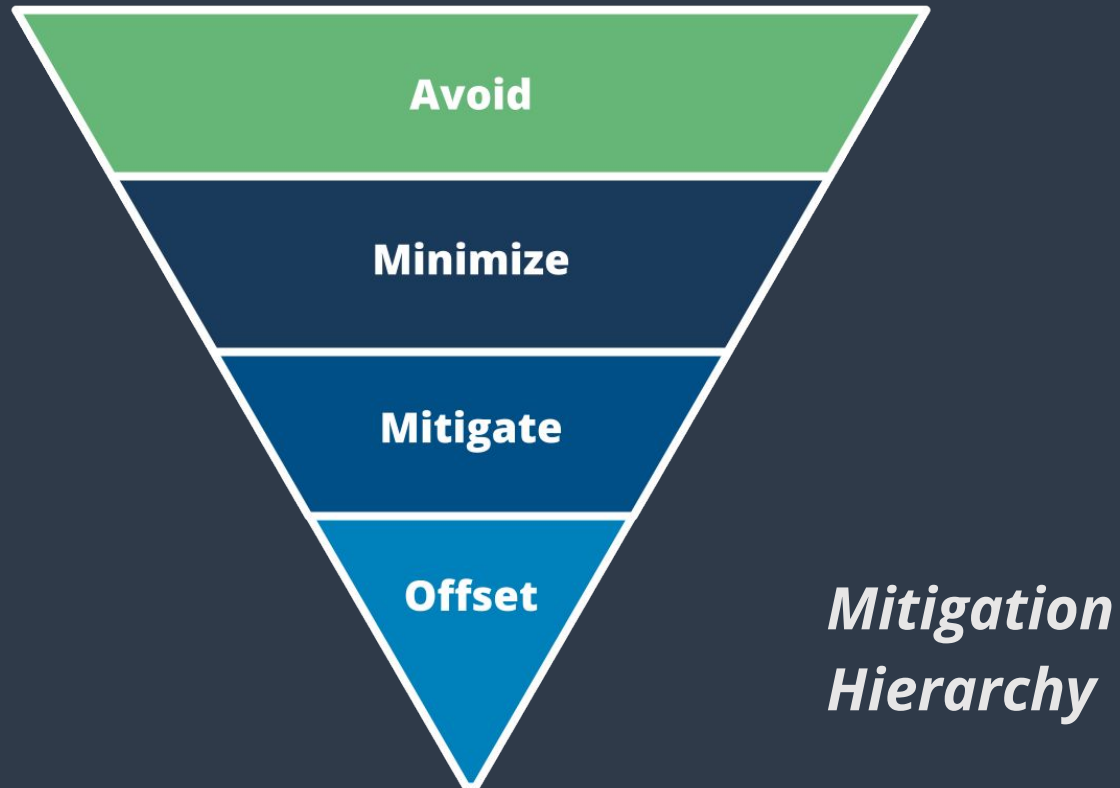
City Council Approval Requirements

- For some development, City Council approval of the strategic assessment may be required, in addition to reviews completed by subject matter experts, such as planners and engineers, in City Administration.
- Council would weigh whether the proposed development:
 - a. meets the goals, objectives, and policies of the ARP;
 - b. requires a River Valley and Ravine System location; and,
 - c. is in the public interest.



Mitigating Environmental Impacts

Adopt and apply the *mitigation hierarchy*



Recommended RVPM Implementation Work Plan

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

- Monitoring and Reporting Plan
- River Valley Trail Strategy
- Land Assembly Program
- Capital Program
- Indigenous Partnerships
- Zoning Recommendations and Implementation
- Floodplain Management Policies

PLAN ADMINISTRATION

- Residential communities review
- Lot consolidation
- Updates to other City plans, policies, procedures, etc. to incorporate ROG and ARP guidance

Clarifying Questions

Shared Opportunity for Feedback

- Share speaking time evenly by:
 - Raising **virtual hand**
 - Two minute waves
- Jot down your thoughts
- Share comments and ideas using **chat function**

Any Clarifying Questions?



Question #1

Please share **one point** you **agree with** about the *Ribbon of Green* and *River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan* approach and why.

Question #2

Please share **one point** you **disagree with** about the *Ribbon of Green* and *River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan* approach and why.

Polling Questions

#3: Land Use Concept

The draft River Valley ARP sets out how we'll use land in the River Valley and Ravine System in the future.

The proposed future land use concept for the River Valley and Ravine System shows most of the land as "River Valley Open Space." Remaining lands are reserved for existing residential, commercial, and public utility uses. This shows the City's intent to:

- Protect existing City-owned land for nature, recreation and culture
- Set rules for how River Valley and Ravine System lands can be used

How much do you agree or disagree with this approach to land use? *Please answer using the pop-up Zoom poll.*

#4. Discouraging Intensive Development in the River Valley

Development that would no longer be allowed in the updated plan includes:

- Natural resource development
- Creating new residential lots within the boundaries of the River Valley and Ravine System, except in existing River Valley neighbourhoods

Development that would be discouraged, but not prohibited, by the updated plan includes:

- New or significantly expanded intensive open space facilities, including major visitor attractions and large recreation centres, typically over 20,000 m² in size, and sports fields, including golf courses
- New or significantly expanded intensive utilities, such as power, water or waste treatment plants
- New or significantly expanded intensive transportation facilities, such as roadways, bridges, or transit centres

How much do you agree or disagree with the proposed approach of limiting intensive development in the River Valley? *Please answer using the pop-up Zoom poll.*

Next Steps

- + Refine ARP content (July/August)
- + Update to UPC (Fall 2024)
- + Public Hearing (Dec)
- + Implementation planning (ongoing)

Session Feedback



Thank You!

For more information, please visit
[edmonton.ca/**RibbonofGreen**](http://edmonton.ca/RibbonofGreen)