

What We Decided Report Beaumaris Neighbourhood Renewal

November 2021

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Edmonton

What We Decided Report

Beaumaris Neighbourhood Renewal

What is Neighbourhood Renewal?

Through the City of Edmonton's Building Great Neighbourhoods branch, the Neighbourhood Renewal program will rehabilitate roads, replace street lights, curbs and gutters, repair sidewalks and, where possible, connect missing sidewalk links. Other opportunities to improve parks and public spaces will also be explored, such as:

- + Trees
- + Play spaces
- + Pathways
- + Park furniture
- + Walkways
- + Sports fields

Purpose

This report shares how the City of Edmonton arrived at the final designs for the Beaumaris Neighbourhood Renewal.

It describes when and how the City used policy and program information, public engagement input and technical requirements to make design decisions. The report also illustrates how the design decisions align with the community-created Vision for Neighbourhood Renewal in Lorelei and Beaumaris. A similar report will be provided for the final designs in Lorelei.

Message from the Project Manager

Beumaris Neighbourhood Renewal construction began in spring 2021, with completion scheduled for 2023.

The Neighbourhood Renewal program reflects the City's commitment to support our mature neighbourhoods, and ensure that we take a cost-effective, long-term, strategic approach to addressing neighbourhoods infrastructure needs.

To honour this commitment, the City takes time to get to know the neighbourhood, as well as the community's vision for the future. We worked to understand what people like about living in Beumaris, where there are opportunities for enhancements, and turned these ideas into designs for Neighbourhood Renewal. The designs are created to reflect a combination of City policies and programs, public engagement input and technical requirements (e.g., current standards, best practices and limitations presented by existing and planned infrastructure and assets, such as mature trees). Additionally, the designs consider available funding and identify ideas that can be explored outside of Neighbourhood Renewal as part of community partnerships or other City programs.

Planning in Beumaris began in late 2018, when we introduced the Neighbourhood Renewal project to the community and initiated conversations with key stakeholders. Over the planning process, we co-created a Vision and core values for the neighbourhood with the public, asked people for their Neighbourhood Renewal ideas and then returned with draft designs for their feedback. We held public engagement sessions and community conversations, invited survey input and engaged with residents to share information and gather feedback. We've walked the neighbourhood,

completed traffic studies and collaborated with infrastructure service providers—such as underground and above ground utilities. We've learned as much as we could about the neighbourhood to better inform our conversations with the community and our design decisions.

Our learning through the public engagement process culminated in February 2021, when we presented the final designs for Beumaris Neighbourhood Renewal and shared information on construction. The final designs reflected what we had learned since late 2018. We received a lot of positive feedback on the designs and public engagement process and would like to thank you for your role in the project.

Through this report, we will share what will be constructed in Beumaris and how we made these decisions. I'm proud to say that much of what we decided is based on public input and in support of the Beumaris Neighbourhood Renewal Vision.

As a City, we undertake these projects to support the needs and quality of life of our residents. As a City Project Manager, I am grateful to everyone for sharing their ideas and feedback, and helping our plan evolve into what it is today. It is an honour to be a steward of infrastructure improvements in Beumaris and to help bring you and your neighbours' vision for a great neighbourhood to life.

Thank you,
Chase Gingles
Project Manager,
Beumaris Neighbourhood Renewal

Building Great Neighbourhoods

Working together to make the most out of your neighbourhood.

Great neighbourhoods are the building blocks of a great city, and the City of Edmonton is committed to building great neighbourhoods by investing taxpayer dollars in reconstructing neighbourhoods to enhance their livability and longevity.

Building Great Neighbourhoods is designed to improve infrastructure and increase vibrancy in Edmonton's mature neighbourhoods. It is a cost-effective, long-term, strategic approach to address infrastructure needs such as rebuilding and renewing roads, sidewalks and street lights.

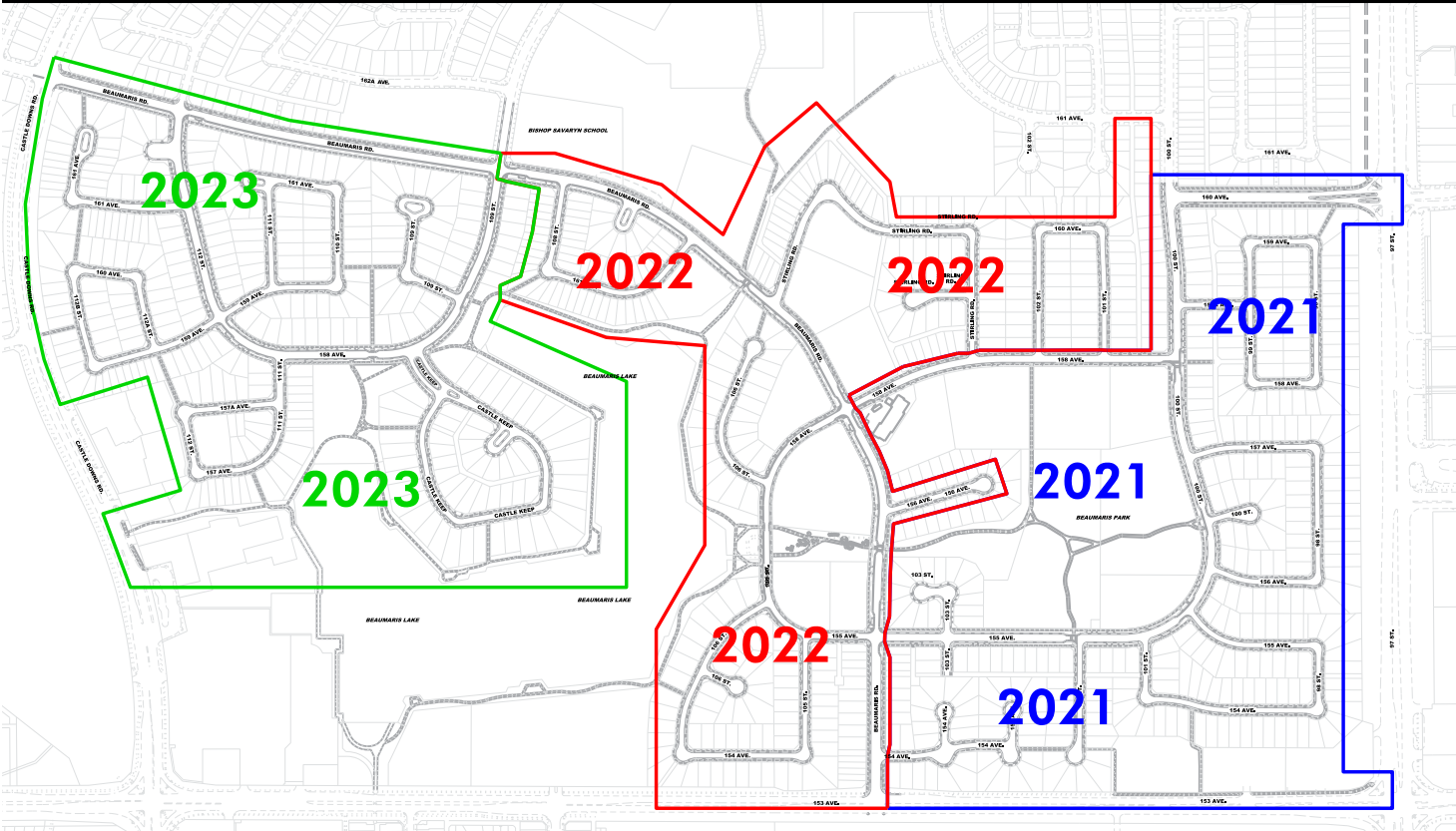
Neighbourhood Renewal in Beaumaris

Neighbourhood Renewal construction in Beaumaris began in the spring of 2021 and includes the following:

- + Upgrades to residential streets, including measures to slow traffic and make it safer to get around the neighbourhood
- + Increasing the number of trees and green spaces, while preserving mature trees
- + Providing lighting to improve safety and accessibility
- + Improving connections to local and regional destinations for people who walk and bike, including the creation of new pathways and wayfinding signs and
- + Creating spaces for the community to gather, visit, play and enjoy nature

The reconstruction in Beaumaris is expected to be a three-year renewal, with anticipated completion in fall 2023.

Planned construction staging for roads and sidewalks



Beaumaris Neighbourhood Construction Year Split

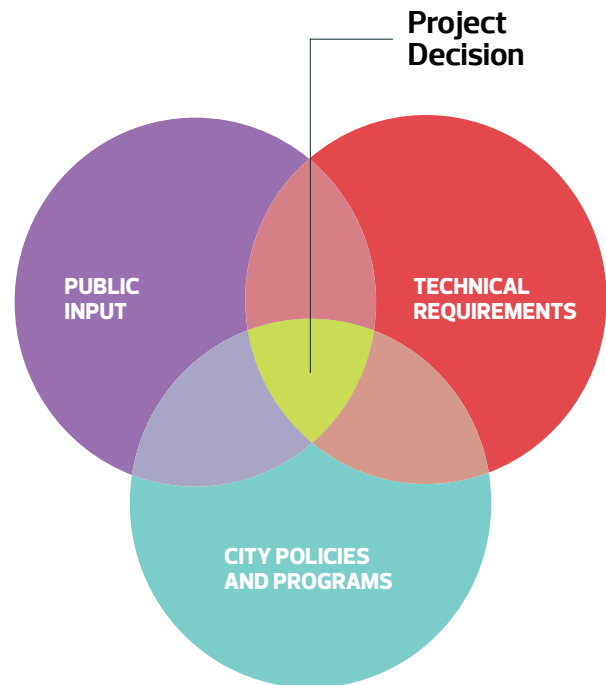
The planned construction staging is subject to change depending on weather conditions, coordination with utilities and unforeseen design and construction issues.

Making Neighbourhood Renewal decisions

Policy and program information, public engagement input and technical requirements

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.

The role of public engagement input is to help the City consider what is important to people with an interest in Beaumaris, as well as how the Neighbourhood Renewal construction decisions will affect them. The City policies and programs, technical requirements and public engagement input include:



City policies and programs

- + City Plan
- + Active Transportation Policy (Sidewalk Strategy, Edmonton Bike Plan)
- + Local Improvement Policy
- + Public Engagement Policy
- + Breathe – Green Network Strategy
- + Winter City Guidelines
- + Safe Mobility Strategy
- + Community Traffic Management Policy
- + Snow and Ice Control Policy
- + Dogs in Open Spaces Strategy
- + Corporate Tree Management Policy

Public engagement input

- + **ADVISE** on approach to public engagement
- + **CREATE** the Neighbourhood Renewal Vision and core values
- + **REFINE** the understanding of neighbourhood assets, opportunities, and priorities
- + **REFINE** the draft designs and neighbourhood priorities
- + **ADVISE** on preliminary plans
- + **ADVISE** on possible construction issues and solutions
- + **DECIDE** on Local Improvements

Technical requirements

- + Infrastructure assessments
- + Universal design (i.e., Access Design Guide)
- + Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
- + Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards

The City's approach to public engagement input

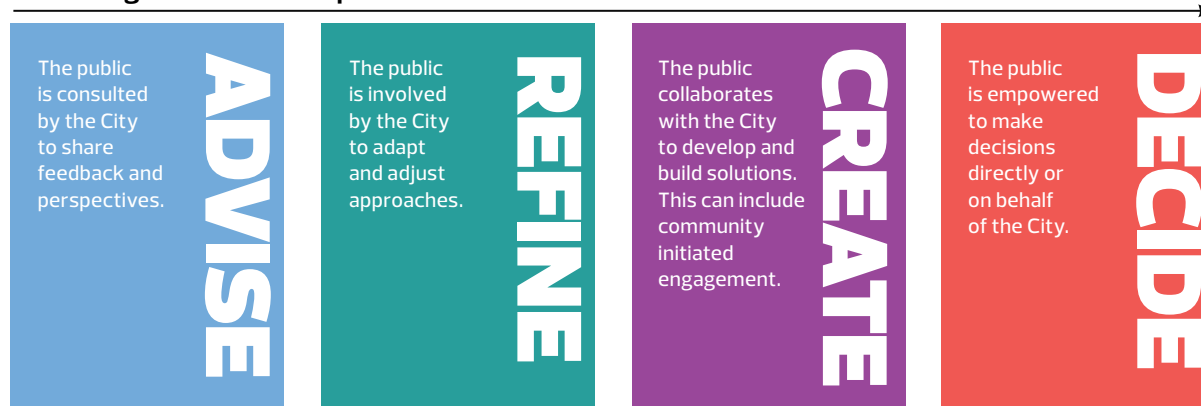
People living in, and with an interest in, Beaumaris were invited to provide input into the City's decision-making process for Neighbourhood Renewal at various stages along the roadmap below.



Increasing influence of the public

The City of Edmonton solicited input from residents to help guide the project. The City's public engagement spectrum below shows the four distinct levels of influence that the public had on decisions made by the City throughout the project.

Increasing influence of the public



The Beaumaris Neighbourhood Renewal public engagement input opportunities included:

Timeline	Steps	Public engagement	Number of participants	Outcome
October 2018	<p>Starting the Conversation</p> <p>Share information about the project and invite input for the approach to public engagement</p>	<p>Outreach took place with the Lorelei-Beaumaris Community League and other neighbourhood stakeholders to introduce Building Great Neighbourhoods and the Neighbourhood Renewal project</p>		<p>A public engagement plan</p> <p>A stakeholder list with an understanding of the roles, interest levels, and communication needs</p>
November 2018 – January 2019	<p>Vision, Guiding Principles and Community Knowledge</p> <p>Invite public input to understand the needs of the community.</p> <p>Use public input to support the development of a draft Vision and Guiding Principles, and ideas for the urban design analysis</p>	<p>Community walk and online survey to REFINE our understanding on what exists and what is needed for infrastructure in the neighbourhood</p> <p>Workshop-style public engagement session and online survey to explore opportunities, issues, and ideas and CREATE a draft Vision and Guiding Principles</p>	<p>Over 35 event participants</p> <p>20 online survey respondents</p>	<p>A draft Vision and Guiding Principles that describes what the community should look like in the future and what is most important to the community</p> <p>A compilation of opportunities, issues, and ideas for Neighbourhood Renewal</p>

Timeline	Steps	Public engagement	Number of participants	Outcome
February 2019	<p>Vision Confirmation and Community Options</p> <p>Invite public input to improve and finalize the draft Vision and Guiding Principles</p> <p>Adapt and adjust our approach to identify opportunities and challenges</p>	Drop-in public engagement session to confirm the draft Vision and Guiding Principles and explore ideas for options and opportunities	Over 35 participants	<p>A final Vision and Guiding Principles for Neighbourhood Renewal in Beaumaris</p> <p>Draft designs and urban design analysis based on the opportunities and options discussion</p>
May 2019	<p>Community Feedback on Draft Designs</p> <p>Use public input to improve and prioritize the draft designs and finalize the urban design analysis</p>	Drop-in public engagement session to REFINE the draft designs, and determine which improvements are most important to residents	Over 95 participants	<p>List of prioritized draft designs</p> <p>Refined (preliminary) designs</p> <p>Finalized urban design analysis</p>
October 2019	<p>Community Feedback on Final Designs</p> <p>Use public input to finalize the refined designs and share information on the Local Improvement process</p>	Drop-in public engagement session to ADVISE on the refined (preliminary) designs to confirm that they align with the Vision and Guiding Principles, and share information on the Local Improvement process	Over 125 participants	Final designs that detail what the City is intending to construct in the neighbourhood for renewal
February 2021	<p>Preparing for Construction</p> <p>Share information on the final designs and plans for construction and use public input to confirm sidewalk reconstruction</p>	Online public engagement session to ADVISE on construction for Neighbourhood Renewal and for property owners to DECIDE on the Local Improvement for sidewalk reconstruction through the petition process	7 participants online	A plan for construction that has considered the needs of the community and the results of the sidewalk reconstruction petition process

Public engagement also incorporates input that the City of Edmonton project manager received via email, letters and phone calls.

Beumaris Neighbourhood Renewal Vision and Guiding Principles

The Vision and Guiding Principles for Neighbourhood Renewal were created using input from the public and refined throughout the public engagement process. The vision identifies what the public imagines for the future of Beumaris. The guiding principles indicate the aspects of the neighbourhood that are most important to maintain and improve.

Vision

Lorelei and Beumaris are family-friendly neighbourhoods that welcome people of all ages and backgrounds. We are a safe and walkable community that is connected to key destinations like parks, schools and commercial areas. We are an active and vibrant community that enjoys nature and getting together with our neighbours.

Guiding Principles

- + Celebrating nature and preserving trees and open spaces
- + Feeling safe and having well-lit spaces
- + Making the roads safe for all users (people who walk, bike, drive)
- + Improving connectivity by having viable options to walk, bike and drive within and surrounding the neighbourhood
- + Creating places for the community to come together and gather
- + Creating easy access to neighbourhood destinations such as commercial areas, schools, parks and Beumaris Lake

The guiding principles were shared with the public at multiple events throughout the public engagement process for them to refer to when sharing feedback. At the final online event in February 2021, we asked participants to tell us if the final designs align with the vision and each guiding principle. Participant responses are as follows:

To what extent do you feel the final designs shown reflect the Vision and Guiding Opportunities for Beumaris? % Responses

Strongly Agree	14%
Somewhat Agree	43%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	14%
Somewhat Disagree	14%
Strongly Disagree	0%
I don't know	14%

What we decided

This section presents the final design decisions for Neighbourhood Renewal in Beaumaris, including the key City policies and programs, public engagement input and technical requirements that informed the City's decisions related to each topic.

To view the final designs, please visit edmonton.ca/BuildingLoreleiBeaumaris

Legend for “What we accounted for to make our decisions”

The City uses policies and programs, public engagement input and technical requirements to make Neighbourhood Renewal decisions.

This report uses three coloured icons to illustrate which decision-making criteria is a policy or program, public engagement input, or a technical requirement. You will see these icons attached to each point in the “What we accounted for to make our decisions” column in each table on the following page:

The decision making criteria are:



Public engagement input/What we heard



Technical requirements



City policies and programs

What we heard along the way

The Lorelei and Beaumaris Neighbourhood Renewal project team published three What We Heard reports and presented a summary of what we heard on displays. These reports and displays were created to keep people informed about what public input the City heard and how it informed the process. The What We Heard reports can be viewed at edmonton.ca/BuildingLoreleiBeaumaris

Beaumaris Park to Beaumaris Lake

What we decided

To add a new shared-use path between 106 Street and Beaumaris Road to enhance connections between Beaumaris Lake and Beaumaris Park

To add new curb extensions at road crossings along 155 Avenue and 100 Street, at the Beaumaris Road and 106 Street intersection, and the midblock crossings at 106 Street and Beaumaris Road

To add raised crosswalks at the Beaumaris Road midblock crossing, the west crossing at the 155 Avenue and 102 Street intersection, and the south crossing at the 158 Avenue and 100 Street intersection

To enhance the crosswalk at the 106 Street midblock crossing

To maintain the existing concrete pathway connection in Beaumaris Park

To not add a decorative crosswalk on 106 Street

What we accounted for to make our decisions



In alignment with the project vision:

Adding the shared-use path helps to provide “viable options to walk and bike” and supports an “active and vibrant community that enjoys nature”

Adding new tree and shrub plantings to “celebrate nature”

Adding curb extensions, an enhanced crosswalk and raised crosswalks to make “the roads safer for all users” and create “easy access to neighbourhood destinations”

What we heard:

People like the new boulevard and tree plantings

People have concerns with the maintenance implications of the new infrastructure



Tree, boulevard and curb extension plantings need to consider sightlines and landscaping design standards

All new infrastructure needs to consider existing underground and above ground utilities

Curb extensions and raised crosswalks need to be designed to minimize impacts on parking and accommodate emergency services and drainage



The City follows universal design (i.e. Access Design Guide) to support access and use for people of all ages and abilities

The City of Edmonton's 2010 Corporate Tree Policy supports the orderly development and growth of the City's tree inventory and the protection of the tree canopy

Beaumaris Road

What we decided

To add new curb extensions along Beaumaris Road

To add new raised crosswalks at the public utility lot path crossing between 161 Avenue and Stirling Road and the public utility path crossing leading to Beaumaris Park

To add new, wider sidewalks on both sides of the street

To add new, wider grassy boulevard areas and tree plantings

To maintain driveway access, two-way travel, and parking along Beaumaris Road

What we accounted for to make our decisions



In alignment with the project vision:

Adding new tree and boulevard plantings to “celebrate nature”

Adding wider sidewalks and boulevards, curb extensions, and raised crosswalks to make “the roads safer for all users” and create “easy access to neighbourhood destinations”

What we heard:

People have concerns with curb extensions and their impact on vehicle traffic

People have concerns about the reduction of road width



Tree plantings need to consider sightlines and landscaping design standards

All new infrastructure needs to consider existing underground and above ground utilities

Curb extensions and raised crosswalks need to be designed to minimize impacts on parking and accommodate emergency services and drainage



The City follows universal design (i.e., Access Design Guide) to support access and use for people of all ages and abilities

The City of Edmonton's 2010 Corporate Tree Policy supports the orderly development and growth of the City's tree inventory and the protection of the tree canopy

Section 8 of The Edmonton City Plan promotes a walkable environment and bike friendly city

Community Traffic Management Policy supports curb extensions and raised crosswalks to:

- + improve visibility by ensuring that parked cars maintain a distance from the intersection
- + reduce driver speeds
- + reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians

Castle Downs to Beaumaris Lake

Seating Node at Castle Downs Road, south of 157 Avenue

What we decided

To construct a new seating area/ entrance plaza at the shared-use path beside Castle Downs Road and south of 157 Avenue

To include new wayfinding signage at the seating node to direct people to the lake and other destinations

To include new feature plantings to highlight the entrance to the pathway

What we accounted for to make our decisions



In alignment with the project vision:

Providing a seating area with benches will improve the experience of walking and rolling in the neighbourhood, promoting “viable options to walk and bike within and surrounding the neighbourhood”

This seating area provides a place “for the community to come together and gather”

Adding new feature plantings to “celebrate nature”

Adding new wayfinding signage “improves connectivity surrounding the neighbourhood”, especially to Beaumaris Lake.

What we heard:

People like the feature plantings to improve the visual appearance of the area

People like the new wayfinding signage, as some people do not know where the lake is in the neighbourhood

People like that these improvements create an attractive entrance to the lake



Tree plantings need to consider sightlines and landscaping design standards

All new infrastructure needs to consider existing underground and above ground utilities

Seating areas should consider winter city design including material choice for benches (wood), orientation of benches to block wind and maximize sun exposure, and use of colour



The City follows universal design (i.e., Access Design Guide) to support access and use for people of all ages and abilities

The City Plan supports the creation of community and public spaces to connect people and build vibrant communities

The City of Edmonton's 2010 Corporate Tree Policy supports the orderly development and growth of the City's tree inventory and the protection of the tree canopy

Section 8 of The Edmonton City Plan promotes a walkable environment and bike friendly city

Local Improvements in Beaumaris

Street Lights

The Neighbourhood Renewal Program has been paid for through City-wide property taxes by creating a reserve fund dedicated to the program. In conjunction with the program, the City offered cost-sharing opportunities between the City and property owners of Beaumaris for two Local Improvement options—decorative street light upgrades and sidewalk reconstruction. Local improvements and the cost-sharing opportunities offered by the City were part of the Neighbourhood Renewal discussion with you and your neighbours.

Property owners in Beaumaris had the opportunity to upgrade to their community's choice of decorative street lights through a community-initiated Local Improvement process.

The Lorelei-Beaumaris Community League submitted their choice of decorative lighting (Decorative Arm: Heritage, Pole Style: Octagonal, Pole Colour: Black, Luminaire: Renaissance) to the City for consideration in August 2020. In September 2020, the City sent an Expression of Interest (EOI) package containing estimated costs, asking registered property owners in Beaumaris to indicate if they were supportive or not of the Local Improvement and to return the EOI to the City by November 15, 2020. The EOI package included a form with a "yes" or "no" indication for responses. The City did not receive greater than 50+1% responses in support for the Local Improvement to pass, and therefore the decorative street light Local Improvement process concluded. Upgrades to the existing street lights will still meet the current City standards which include:

- + New galvanized poles
- + New underground wiring
- + Energy efficient LED lights



Sidewalk reconstruction is a City-initiated Local Improvement. It is less disruptive to property owners and more cost effective to replace infrastructure, such as sidewalks, as infrastructure work in Beaumaris is already intended.

In January 2021, the City sent out a Local Improvement Tax Notice to all registered property owners in Beaumaris which contained information needed to decide whether they wanted to proceed with sidewalk reconstruction or not, including approximate cost. Property owners had until February 24, 2020 to petition against the Local Improvement, by completing and returning the provided petition form.



Sidewalks

Beaumaris was divided into nine sidewalk renewal "project areas", which were defined in the Local Improvement Tax Notice. Of the 1397 property owners within the nine project areas, 93 valid petitions against sidewalk reconstruction (approximately 6.67% of the neighbourhood) were received. Therefore, since the City did not receive a majority (50% +1) of petitions against the Local Improvement, sidewalk reconstruction will take place in all three years of construction. Final assessments and notification of the additional amount that will be added to your tax assessment will be done the year following construction completion.



Beaumaris Neighbourhood Renewal pre–construction information

Construction is scheduled in Beaumaris over three years starting in spring 2021. You may have seen a few activities in your neighbourhood prior to construction, including:

- + Utility companies completing their work before construction begins. This minimizes cutting into the street after it is reconstructed.
- + Trees being pruned if they are in the way of the construction equipment. If a tree on private property requires pruning, the City will notify the property owner.
- + Existing street lights being removed and installation of some new poles and street lights may occur prior to construction.

How will the City communicate with you?

Before construction starts in your neighbourhood, construction bulletins will be distributed to all residents.

The City's Delivery Project Manager will be your point of contact during construction. Contact information may be found online at edmonton.ca/BuildingLoreleiBeaumaris

The Delivery Project Manager can assist you with answering questions or addressing specific needs or concerns about construction.

Preparing for construction in front of your house

Now that the design and cost sharing opportunities have been finalized, the City asks that you start to prepare for construction. There are many things you can do to help prepare your property to make it easier for the City's contractor and you during this time. The construction consists of removal and replacement of sidewalks, curbs, gutters and reconstruction and paving of the road.

You can prepare your property for construction by:

- + Marking all underground sprinkler systems
- + Removing landscaping from street right-of-way
- + Removing plants and flowers before construction so they do not get damaged
- + Pulling back any mulch or rocks

If you have special access requirements, such as DATS, please advise your Delivery Project Manager during construction as soon as possible. Their contact information may be found on the construction bulletin, at edmonton.ca/BuildingLoreleiBeaumaris, or by calling 311.

For more information:

Web: edmonton.ca/BuildingLoreleiBeaumaris

Email: buildinggreatneighbourhoods@edmonton.ca

Call: 311



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 streets, sidewalks, street lights, and park spaces, and 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.

SHARE YOUR VOICE
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