

What We Heard/ What We Did

Eastwood/ Elmwood Park Neighbourhood Renewal

Refined Design

Fall 2019

SHARE YOUR VOICE
SHAPE OUR CITY

Edmonton

ADVISE

What we asked

In the Fall of 2019, we shared the refined design for Eastwood and Elmwood Park Neighbourhood Renewal projects. We invited the public to provide feedback on the overall benefits and impacts of the design and whether it aligned with the vision and guiding principles. This input was used to help us move toward finalizing the design.

The refined design was influenced by the feedback we received from the Exploring Options and Trade-offs stage of the renewal. This input is summarized in our previous What We Heard/What We Considered Report which can be found at edmonton.ca/BuildingEastwoodElmwoodPark.



How we asked



Community conversations

- + From May–October 2019, we engaged in conversations about Neighbourhood Renewal with representatives of Delton School, St. Gerard School and Eastwood Community League.



Community pop-ups

- + On September 15, 2019, we attended the Kaleido Family Arts Festival along 118 Avenue.
- + Attendees were invited to learn more about the scope, timelines, vision, and guiding principles for Eastwood and Elmwood Park Neighbourhood Renewal.
- + We promoted and shared details about the October 24 and November 7, 2019 public engagement events.
- + Attendees were invited to provide feedback about considerations and improvements to infrastructure that need to be made in order to create a community that is inclusive and safe.

Over 70 participants



Public engagement

- + On October 24 and November 7, 2019, we hosted public engagement events (drop-in) at the Eastwood Community League.
- + We shared the refined Neighbourhood Design and gathered feedback and input to consider before finalizing the design for the neighbourhoods.
- + Eastwood and Elmwood Park residents were also invited to learn about Local Improvement options available for decorative street lighting and sidewalk reconstruction, and how to proceed with the Local Improvement Process.

Over 65 participants



Online engagement

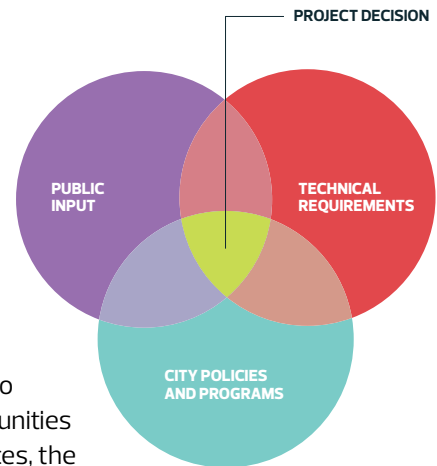
- + An online engagement tool was available on the Eastwood and Elmwood Park Neighbourhood Renewal webpage from October 24–November 21, 2019, to give people the opportunity to provide feedback on the refined neighbourhood design.

11 submissions

How we make decisions

Your input helped us to create the vision and guiding principles for the renewal of Eastwood and Elmwood Park neighbourhoods. We consider this vision and your feedback, along with technical requirements and City policies and programs, as we make project decisions.

As part of the decision-making process, multiple sources of funding will also be identified. The Neighbourhood Renewal tax levy from all property owners in the City will be used for the neighbourhood's rehabilitation of roads, replacement of standard street lights, curb and gutter, bike infrastructure, new sidewalks and sidewalk repair (subject to the sidewalk reconstruction Local Improvement). Other funding opportunities will be explored for improvements like changes to parks and public spaces, the addition of traffic calming measures, and other possibilities. Some projects may be completed in the short term and others will be considered in the future, depending on the available funding. Coordination with Neighbourhood Renewal is the most cost effective time to add infrastructure that can last for the next 30 to 50 years, so the project team will seek out opportunities through other City programs to make the most out of the neighbourhood.



Vision:

Eastwood and Elmwood Park are proud to be safe, prosperous, and self-reliant neighbourhoods. Many generations are welcome to set down roots in this quiet and inviting area of Edmonton, known for its vibrant parks and greenery.

Guiding Principles: For each design option, we considered how these guiding principles are represented.



Safety: Eastwood and Elmwood Park are safe areas where residents feel comfortable walking throughout the neighbourhoods at any time of day.



Amenities: Eastwood and Elmwood Park residents have access to a range of amenities, businesses, and resources located within the community.



Connectivity and accessibility: Eastwood and Elmwood Park are both connected and accessible, while offering a peaceful and serene quality.



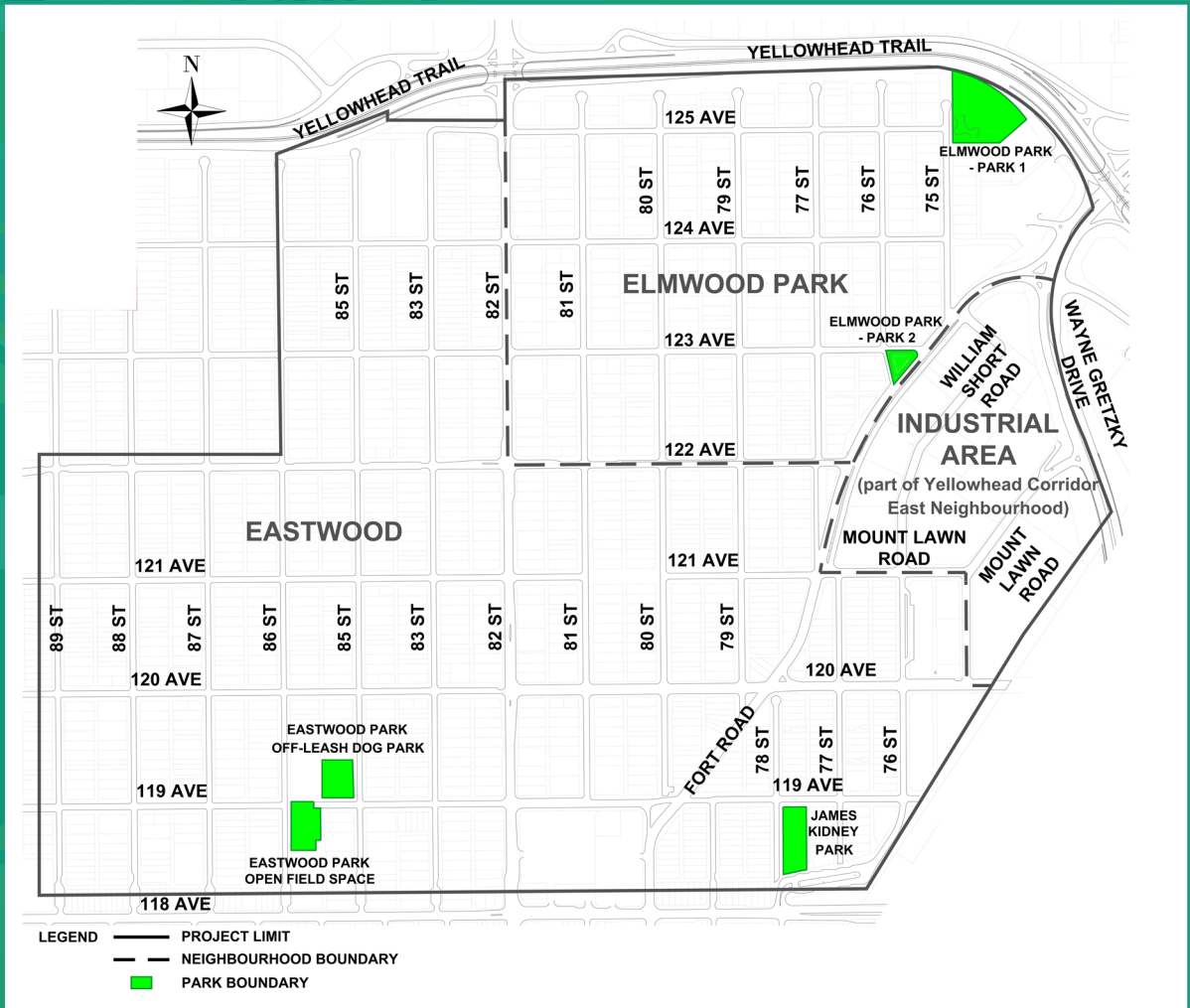
Multi-generational: Eastwood and Elmwood Park are multi-generational neighbourhoods, where families can grow with the community.



Natural beauty: Eastwood and Elmwood Park feature a natural beauty within their parks, open spaces, and community garden.



Parks



What we heard/what we did

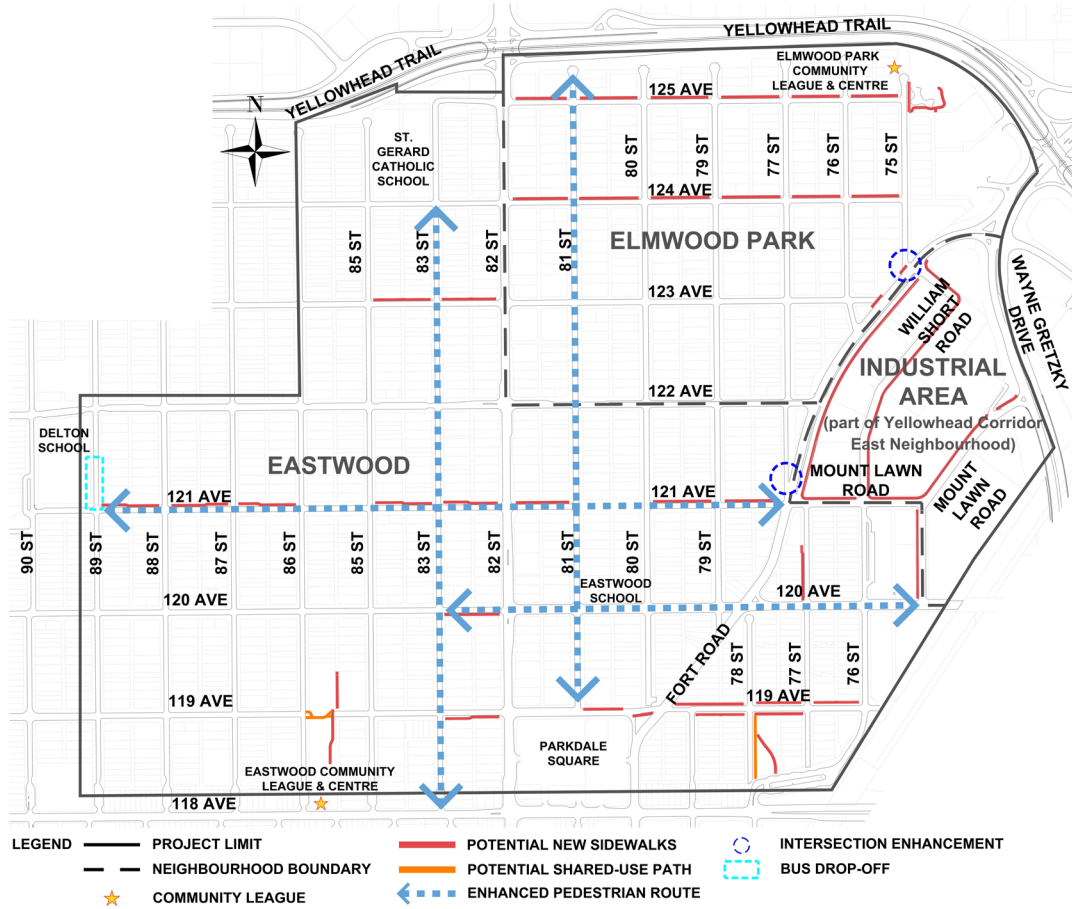
The table below identifies the key themes we heard in the Fall of 2019 from public engagement event attendees and through the online engagement tool. The table also outlines what we considered and what we did.

Focus area	What we heard	What we considered/what we did
<p>Park features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + These include amenities such as seating and greenery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Participants noted their appreciation for added benches and lighting within the parks. + Others questioned how much people would use benches in the winter time. + Some participants did not support any existing trees to be removed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + We considered that additional park amenities create a more welcoming park space and encourage multi-generational use. + We considered that additional landscaping and greenery enhance the natural beauty of parks. + Additional and appropriate amenities (i.e., benches, waste receptacles, pedestrian oriented lighting) and landscaping will be installed in green spaces in Eastwood and Elmwood Park. + Other additions will include new sidewalks and shared-use paths, as well as fencing around the off-leash dog park and a mini soccer field.





Pathways



What we heard/what we did

The table below identifies the key themes we heard in the Fall of 2019 from public engagement event attendees and through the online engagement tool. The table also outlines what we considered and what we did.

Focus area	What we heard	What we considered/what we did
<p>New sidewalks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + These include the reconstruction of existing sidewalks in the neighbourhoods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Residents appreciated the reconstruction of aging sidewalks. + Some property owners were concerned with the responsibility of clearing snow from new sidewalks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + We considered that reconstructing aging sidewalks and adding new sidewalk connections improves accessibility for people of all ages and abilities. + Sidewalks in Eastwood and Elmwood Park will be reconstructed (subject to the sidewalk reconstruction Local Improvement). + New sidewalk connections in Eastwood and Elmwood Park will be constructed at identified locations. This links to the guiding principle of connectivity and accessibility that is important to residents of Eastwood and Elmwood Park.
<p>Intersection enhancements and traffic calming features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + These include features such as the addition of curb extensions, proposed new marked crosswalks, and bus drop-off pads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Participants supported the added safety measures such as raised crosswalks, amber flashers, and a bus drop-off bay to improve safety and visibility. + Others felt that adding curb extensions would narrow the road and may affect comfort for people who drive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + We considered that appropriate intersection enhancements will improve safety for people who walk and drive in Eastwood and Elmwood Park at the following intersections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Fort Road and 75 Street + Fort Road and 77 Street + Fort Road and 123 Avenue + Fort Road and 76 Street + Traffic calming features will be installed to enhance safety for people who walk, bike, and drive along the following routes and at the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + 120 Avenue + 81 Street + 83 Street + 121 Avenue + Delton School + St. Gerard School

What we heard/what we did

The table below identifies the key themes we heard in the Fall of 2019 from public engagement event attendees and through the online engagement tool. The table also outlines what we considered and what we did.

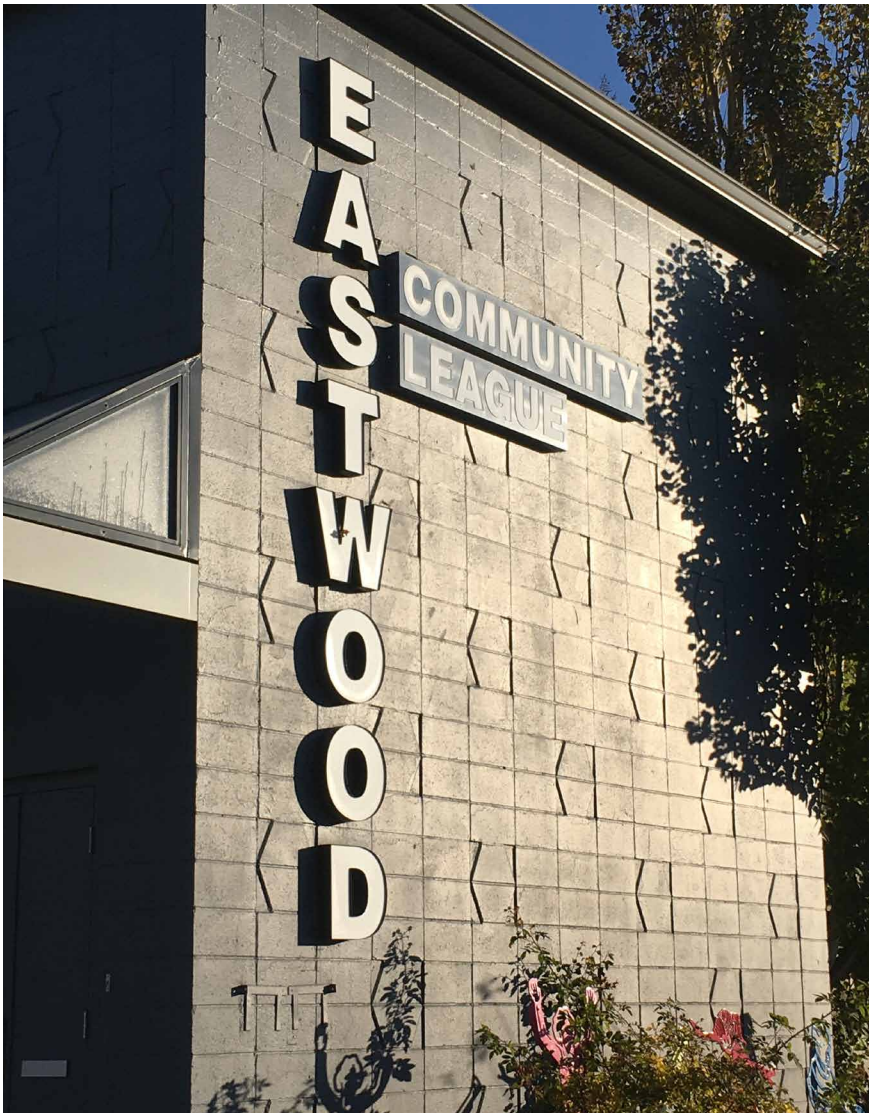
Focus area	What we heard	What we considered/what we did
<p>Bike infrastructure features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + This includes protected and raised bike lanes along 119 Avenue and on-street shared bike infrastructure along 81 Street. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Residents noted that separation between people who walk and bike would improve safety for both groups. + Some noted that the infrastructure may not get much use due to the current lack of bike riding in the neighbourhoods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + We considered that enhanced bike routes will provide connectivity for Eastwood and Elmwood Park residents through their neighbourhoods. + We also considered that enhanced bike routes will provide connections to routes beyond the neighbourhoods. + Improved bike routes will enhance safety and comfort for people of all ages and abilities. + An enhanced bike route will be implemented on 119 Avenue. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + two one-way protected bike lanes from 89 Street to 86 Street, for continuity with Alberta Avenue + a shared-use path through Eastwood Park connecting the bike lanes on the east and west sides of the park + two one-way raised bike lanes from 85 Street to 75 Street that will fit within space constraints and provide continuity from Alberta Avenue to the Capital Line LRT shared-use path + An enhanced bike and pedestrian route will be implemented on 81 Street that will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + a shared roadway for people who drive and bike between Yellowhead Trail and 119 Avenue with curb extensions to help slow traffic

Final considerations

The Eastwood and Elmwood Park Neighbourhood Renewal project team heard from residents about neighbourhood concerns that cannot directly be resolved through infrastructure built through neighbourhood renewal.

Some residents were concerned that infrastructure upgrades would not change or improve the social aspects of Eastwood and Elmwood Park.

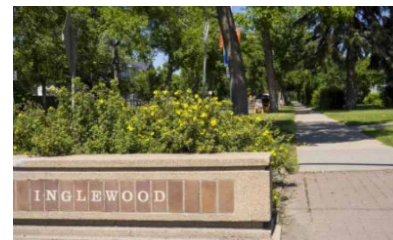
We will share these concerns with the appropriate City departments or agencies for their attention.



Eastwood design features

During previous engagement, we heard from members of the Eastwood Community League that there is interest in the installation of artistic elements in the neighbourhood. Your input helped us to understand if there is interest for these features throughout the community. We asked attendees to provide input on the potential benefits and impacts of the following artistic design elements and we received seven responses. Based on public engagement best practices, minimal feedback on particular items indicate a lower priority/importance for those who participated.

Entry features



Feature	What we heard	What we considered/what we did
Entry features that would be viewed as people enter and exit Eastwood.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Majority of respondents supported adding entry features in the long term (10+ years). + Residents felt that entry features would give Eastwood a unique look. + Some believed that these would be vandalized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding artistic elements with neighbourhood renewal is subject to available funding. + The project team will review potential funding opportunities before making a final decision for inclusion with the project. + Future artistic elements may be explored as funding becomes available with the Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator.

Sidewalk imprinting



Feature	What we heard	What we considered/what we did
<p>Sidewalk imprinting as a decorative sidewalk feature</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Respondents equally supported and did not support adding sidewalk imprinting either in the short term (1–3 years) or long term (10+ years). + Respondents in support of sidewalk imprinting felt they would provide a unique look on sidewalks, especially near parks and on main walking connections. + Opposite to this perspective, some respondents felt that the cost would not justify adding the imprints. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding artistic elements with neighbourhood renewal is subject to available funding. + The project team will review potential funding opportunities before making a final decision for inclusion with the project. + Future artistic elements may be explored as funding becomes available with the Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator.

Artistic fencing for dog park

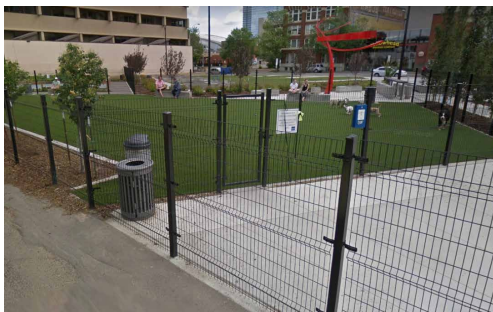
Option A



Option B



Option C



Chain link (planned)



Feature	What we heard	What we considered/what we did
Decorative dog park fencing options other than chain link.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Respondents equally supported and did not support adding decorative dog park fencing either in the short term (1-3 years) or long term (10+ years). + The expressed interest/preference over the three different options were not significantly different. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Adding artistic elements with neighbourhood renewal is subject to available funding. + The project team will review potential funding opportunities before making a final decision for inclusion with the project. + Future artistic elements may be explored as funding becomes available with the Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator.

Next Steps

In the next stage of the Eastwood and Elmwood Park Neighbourhood Renewal process, we will consider your feedback from previous steps to finalize and share the design. The final designs will be shared at a public event in early 2020 where the community will also be provided information about what to expect for construction.

For more information about the Eastwood/Elmwood Park Neighbourhood Renewal and to subscribe for project updates, please visit edmonton.ca/BuildingEastwoodElmwoodPark.

Tentative construction staging:

