



50 Street Widening and CP Rail Grade Separation



NEWSLETTER 2, Spring 2021

PROJECT TIMELINE

Funding Approved

Concept Design

Preliminary Design

Early Works



Detailed Design

Completion

PROJECT UPDATE

The City of Edmonton is sharing the roadway design for the widening of 50 Street and the new overpass that will separate 50 Street from the CP rail tracks at 82 Avenue in east Edmonton. Raising the 50 Street roadway up and over the rail tracks is called a grade separation.

Early construction is anticipated to begin in 2021. This involves relocating utilities along the corridor and building the detour which will ensure traffic continues to flow along 50 Street during construction of the overpass.

No significant traffic delays are expected and vehicle and pedestrian access to all neighbourhoods and businesses will also be maintained.

PUBLIC ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION

Join us for our Online Public Information Session where the project team will provide an overview of overpass design and construction activities, as well as provide an opportunity for you to ask questions directly to the project team.

Wednesday, April 21, 2021
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Register online at edmonton.ca/50StreetWidening

BACKGROUND

The existing 50 Street ground-level crossing of the CP Rail tracks at 82 Avenue was identified as Edmonton's top priority for grade separation based on current and future traffic volumes, traffic delays and frequency of train crossings.

There are approximately eight trains that cross 50 Street at this location daily, in addition to dozens of switching operations, which result in this section of 50 Street being blocked between 35 and 64 times per day.

An estimated 32,000 to 35,000 vehicles travel along this corridor daily, and this is projected to grow over the next several decades.

Separating the vehicle traffic from the train will improve traffic flow, safety and the reliability of 50 Street.

It will support the movement of goods and commuter travel by increasing the overall capacity of 50 Street, while enhancing safety, improving walking and biking connections.

In 2018, the City secured funding, began planning and design work, and started talking to Edmontonians about what was important to them when considering this change to the roadway.

50 STREET WIDENING AND OVERPASS DESIGN



- Lanscaped and naturalized area
- Shared-use path
- Sidewalk

RENDERING OF OVERPASS LOOKING NORTH



PROJECT DETAILS

Here's what you can expect as this project moves forward over the next few years:

- Widening 50 Street from four lanes to a six-lane divided roadway from the Sherwood Park Freeway to 90 Avenue. This will allow for a greater volume of traffic as is projected in the future.
- The overpass will start at Sherwood Park Freeway and slowly increase in height carrying traffic over the CP Rail tracks and 82 Avenue, before returning to the current roadway elevation at 90 Avenue. The overpass will be approximately 10 meters at its highest point.
- Once the overpass is completed, vehicles will no longer need to stop for any trains at the rail tracks.
- The posted speed limit on 50 Street will not change.
- A shared-use path will be constructed along the east side of the overpass and sidewalk on the west side which will provide new safe walking and biking paths that connect to existing connections north and south of the overpass.
- A new road connection will be built under the overpass to connect 82 Avenue to 84 Avenue providing a new link into and out of the business area.
- Two dedicated left turn lanes will be added at 90 Avenue eastbound to 50 Street northbound to assist with traffic flow.

ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

2021 – 2022: Utility Relocation and Detour Construction

Utilities along 50 Street need to be relocated before construction of the overpass and the road widening can begin. A detour will also be built to ensure two lanes of traffic in each direction continue to flow along 50 Street during the overpass construction. These construction activities are expected to begin in 2021 and continue for one year.

No significant traffic delays are expected and vehicle and pedestrian access to all neighbourhoods and businesses will also be maintained.

2022 - 2026: Overpass, Shared-use Path, Sidewalk Construction and Minor Roadway Changes

During construction, the City of Edmonton's Urban Traffic Noise Policy C506A will be followed which directs noise from construction during the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. daily, with the exception of Sunday which is 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

PROJECT STAGE	TIMELINE	DEFINITION
Concept Plan	COMPLETE	Develop a plan for what will be built and what it will look like, including changes to the broader roadway network.
Preliminary Design	COMPLETE	Develop the concept plan in more detail. Explore and find solutions to issues and constraints. Prepare schedule and budget.
Detailed Design	2021	Develop detailed plans and specifications that can be used to guide construction and ensure that standards are met.
Early Construction	2021	Prepare to build the plan
Construction	2022–2026	Build the plan

URBAN FOREST

The City is committed to growing, sustaining, acquiring, maintaining, preserving and protecting our urban forest. This includes the trees along the green space between Kenilworth and 50 Street, which will be preserved and the green space retained through this project.

STAY INFORMED

Visit edmonton.ca/50StreetWidening to:

- Register for the Online Public Information Session
- View the preliminary design plan
- Watch the overpass video
- Watch the video flythrough