



**October 18, 2017**

**September 30, 2017 Healthy Connectivity Lecture, Workshop & Wayfinding Walk  
with Dr. Karen Lee**

## **SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS**

### Summary:

#### Workshop

There was lively discussion among workshop participants. Each table actively participated in breakout activities, including identifying participants' top two ideas for what could be done on the 105<sup>th</sup> Ave corridor between 116<sup>th</sup> and 96<sup>th</sup> Streets to improve health and wellbeing of people and businesses. Several tables had overlapping ideas.

When each table's ideas were presented to the whole group of workshop participants, and participants were then given the opportunity to vote on their favourite idea, the following two ideas had the largest number of votes:

1. Creating new active outdoor spaces (such as community gardens, play spaces, and spaces for winter recreation) using un-used spaces, with a total of 14 votes.
2. Improving north-south active transportation connections using 110<sup>th</sup> St, 108<sup>th</sup> St, 106<sup>th</sup> St and 102<sup>nd</sup> St, with a total of 11 votes.

When the ideas and votes were further analyzed after the workshop, the above ideas were determined to overlap with additional ideas from the breakout activities in the workshop, in particular:

- Creating more park spaces using under-utilized spaces, with an additional 2 votes
- Extending bike lanes on 110<sup>th</sup> St to 111<sup>th</sup> Ave, with an additional 3 votes

A related idea with 4 votes that could and should be integrated with the above top two ideas is the activation of space at 105<sup>th</sup> Ave and 108<sup>th</sup> St.

On the post-workshop surveys, 25 participants provided their contact information for follow-up in volunteer opportunities or participation in future events. Thirteen participants specifically signed up to participate in creating new active outdoor spaces using un-used spaces. Eleven participants signed up to participate in improving north-south active transportation connections on 110<sup>th</sup>, 108<sup>th</sup>, 106<sup>th</sup> and 102<sup>nd</sup> Streets.

### Wayfinding Walk

Challenges encountered included the lack of sidewalks west of 109<sup>th</sup> St.

Moving west to east on 105<sup>th</sup> Ave, the following spaces were found to be un-used or under-utilized, and to provide potential opportunities for activation into new active outdoor spaces and more connected active transportation corridors:

- Various empty or under-utilized lots encountered on 105<sup>th</sup> Ave
- Roger's Place building frontage and site, which were underutilized, particularly on the side of 105<sup>th</sup> Ave
- The east-west quiet street east of 101<sup>st</sup> St and just north of the new EPCOR building, which can provide an opportunity for a connecting active transportation corridor with bike lanes east of 101<sup>st</sup> St to connect the existing multiuse and bicycle path on 105<sup>th</sup> Ave west of 101 St that ends at 101 St to the multiuse and bicycle path that also already exists east of 97<sup>th</sup> St behind Edmonton Police Headquarters
- The space currently above the EPCOR building parking lot immediately south of and adjacent to the above quiet street
- The currently empty land owned by Qualico behind (east of) the EPCOR building that extends from the EPCOR building at 101<sup>st</sup> St to 97<sup>th</sup> St
- The currently under-tended community garden space on the overpass over 97<sup>th</sup> St
- The currently empty old Edmonton Remand Centre building behind Edmonton Police Headquarters
- Multiple empty lots with graffiti and litter on 96<sup>th</sup> St south of 105<sup>th</sup> Ave and connecting to the Quarters

### Next Steps:

A Summary of final attendee numbers, affiliations and demographics captured on EventBrite registration information and from attendee sign-in should be provided by the local partners involved.

Voluntary Pre- and Post-Workshop Surveys were provided before the lecture/workshop and at the end of the workshop day. The data captured from participants completing the surveys need to be entered, cleaned, analyzed and disseminated, but some funding is needed to complete these items.

Use the momentum and ideas generated by the workshop to begin next steps immediately, including:

- Securing sponsorship dollars and planning for two early 2018 follow-up workshops facilitated by Dr. Karen Lee's team working in partnership with local partners:
  1. Focused on creating new active outdoor spaces using un-used and under-utilized spaces identified above; and
  2. Focused on improving north-south active transportation corridors on 110<sup>th</sup>, 108<sup>th</sup>, 106<sup>th</sup> and 102<sup>nd</sup> Streets.
- Use these follow-up targeted workshops to engage more residents from diverse backgrounds from the surrounding community also.
- Consider adding a youth-specific workshop also focused on the above two topics. In addition to engaging youth and future generations, a youth-specific workshop may further assist in engaging their adult parents from the surrounding community who may otherwise be less engaged.
- The goal of each workshop is to organize pilot projects of above with co-benefit evaluations to be enacted during the Summer of 2018 and extending into and ending at Design Week in Fall 2018. The pilot projects and initial evaluation can be presented as part of Design Week 2018 events and can be used to help inform the 4-year capital budget debates in Fall of 2018 by City Council.
- Securing sponsorship dollars for the implementation and evaluation of the above pilot projects in Summer 2018, as well as for the 3 above workshops to organize them.
- Expanding the Healthy Connectivity conversation beyond downtown Edmonton by working with and in one or more non-downtown communities in the Edmonton region (e.g. such as Hazeldean in South Edmonton & Strathcona County) to hold a Healthy Walkable Community Lecture, Workshop & Wayfinding Walk in September 2018 as part of Design Week 2018.