

Council Initiatives 2017-2021 End of Term Update

Active Transportation	2
Arts, Heritage and Culture	4
Child Friendly Edmonton	6
City Design	8
Community Hubs	9
Edmonton in Bloom	10
Edmonton's Next Gen	13
Edmonton's Poverty Elimination	15
Energy Transition and Climate Resilience	17
Food and Agri-Business Diversification	20
Gender-Based Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention	22
Housing	25
Indigenous Peoples Strategy	27
Literacy	29
Live Active, Health and Recreation	30
Multiculturalism	32
Northern Relations	34
Public Engagement	36
Seniors	38
Traffic Safety (Safe Mobility)	40
Transportation Innovation	42
Urban Isolation/Mental Health	43
Winter Cities (WinterCity Strategy)	46
Women's Initiative	48

Active Transportation

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

The Active Transportation Council Initiative was established in 2018 to support the accommodation of active transportation modes to ensure that Edmontonians can walk, roll, and cycle throughout the City regardless of age, ability, or socioeconomic status.

Active mobility contributes to a high quality of life in Edmonton. Communities that are bike, walk and roll-friendly result in greater joy, fitness and a wider range of transportation options for people and businesses.

Planning and designing for active transportation enhances safety, inclusivity and diversity, supports healthy and active lifestyles, contributes to transforming our urban form, and strengthens Edmonton's position as an energy sustainable city.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Established and implemented the policy framework and design guidelines to support and direct the planning of the active transportation, transit, and roadway and goods movement networks with a focus on creating opportunities for active mobility.
- Enhanced active transportation network accessibility, safety, security, comfort and convenience through strategic improvement, expansion, and maintenance of the infrastructure and facilities that support active transportation.
- Improved the active transportation network to create connections that allow people to access destinations, amenities, daily needs and recreational opportunities by walking, rolling or biking.
- Undertook actions to ensure that Edmontonians understand how to use and interact with active transportation infrastructure, navigate the active transportation network and learn more about neighbourhood, City and River Valley features through wayfinding signs and various map tools.
- Reflected Edmontonians' support for the active transportation network as part of our mobility system.
- Developed and posted the Discover YEG map, an interactive and mobile friendly map to discover the river valley parks and bike routes citywide.
- Developed and implemented pedestrian wayfinding signs throughout Downtown Edmonton.

Attachment #1

- Organized and led several Jane's Walks, an annual event to bring people together and discover what makes a neighbourhood by participating in free walks led by locals.
- Developed the Bike Plan over two years with contributions from Edmontonians through public events including workshops, pop up events, drop in sessions, surveys and community conversations.
- Reviewed and contributed to many capital projects through the planning and design process
- Provided strategic direction to policies, plans and strategies including The City Plan, Safe Mobility Strategy, Sidewalks, Pathways and Stairs Asset Management Plan.
- Part of the multi-municipality project team that developed the Alberta Bicycle Facilities Design Guide, an Alberta-specific design guide for bike lanes, bike signing and other bike-related design considerations.

Arts, Heritage and Culture

Status: Next Council Decides

Overview

The Arts, Heritage and Culture Council Initiative was established in 2008 to support and advance the many facets of Edmonton's arts, live music, film industry, and heritage and culture industries.

The three desired outcomes are:

- Ensuring a vibrant and thriving arts, heritage and culture environment as an integral part of the life of Edmontonians.
- Edmontonians are proud of their arts, heritage and culture.
- A long term plan is in place for improving Edmonton's arts, heritage and culture environment

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- In October 2018, Council approved *Connection & Exchanges: A 10-Year Plan To Transform Arts and Heritage In Edmonton*. The plan seeks to infuse culture, arts and heritage into every aspect of Edmonton's civic fabric, support cultural makers and interpreters, and grow Edmonton's arts and heritage audiences. The ambitions, aims and actions of *Connections and Exchanges* are intentionally aligned with Council's Strategic Goals.
- Also in October 2018, Council approved a Major Events Strategy, including a new Events Policy C603, Event Growth and Attraction Strategy, and action plans for Edmonton Events Sport and Cultural Attraction Plan and Festivals and Events Delivery.
- Updates to the Festival and Events Delivery Action Plan, to better support festivals and events, reduce red tape and costs, and adapt to COVID-19 impacts presented to CPSC on June 30, 2021.
- Continued support of Edmonton Heritage Council with the approval of a new service agreement, effective January 2020
- Establishing a direct funding relationship between Arts Habitat Edmonton and the City of Edmonton to better support their mandate through the City's more in-depth experience with infrastructure projects and facility management, effective April 2020.
- Arts Habitat Edmonton is a key partner in the City's rehabilitation of the historic Ortona Armory to provide a new home for the creative arts within Edmonton. They are also a key partner in the Professional Artists Access Program at the Orange Hub.

- In 2019-2021, Administration and Edmonton Arts Council undertook a review of the Percent-for-Art program in order to make improvements to the program in alignment with *Connection & Exchanges: A 10-Year Plan To Transform Arts and Heritage In Edmonton* and the new City Plan. Improvements to the Public Art Policy and Procedure brought to Executive Committee on August 9, 2021.
- Over the term of the Initiative, Administration has continued to support art, heritage and culture in operational areas, for example: City Arts Centre, Community Mural Grant Program, Historic Resources Management Program, Poet and Historian Laureates, Yorath House Artist in Residence Program and the Indigenous Artist-in-Residence Program.

Child Friendly Edmonton

Status: Next Council Decides

Overview

The Child Friendly Edmonton Initiative was established in 2009 and approved as a Council Initiative in 2012 to support values that recognize children as the future of Edmonton and works towards creating a more child friendly city, which benefits everyone.

The initiative is led by a cross sector advisory committee that develops strategic action plans that are implemented by the Child Friendly Edmonton Office and guided by Working Groups.

Some pieces of the Council Initiative have been partially incorporated into Administration regular business. More focused efforts would be required to continue this initiative, pending the next City Council's approach and direction on this initiative.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Contributed to the development of the City Plan's comprehensive children's engagement process, including a designed storybook and policy intention/direction review
- Incorporated child friendly principles in the City Plan, including ensuring vibrant and inclusive communities where children, youth and families can live, learn and grow together. and various Directions related to building, ensuring, promoting and supporting a child friendly city
- Conducted over 42 child focused meaningful engagement activities
- Continued to work with City administration to incorporate a child, family and intersectional lens in all work; including recreation, outdoor experiences, engagement and city building, urban design
- Included child friendly lens and principles in Access Design Guidelines
- Ongoing collaboration with GBA+ implementation to support supplementary information on child friendly impact assessment
- Utilized data to evaluate, identify and explore strategies to address barriers, gaps downtown in regards to child/family safety and public spaces downtown.
- Increased Child Friendly Business Recognition Program to over 150 businesses.
- Collaborated with Downtown Plan to define Downtown boundaries and

- map child friendly public spaces
- There were 820 attendees at Child Friendly Edmonton events, including workshops, play streets, pop up parks webinars and training
 - Collaborated with community to support the development and implementation of an Edmonton specific Play Declaration
 - Completed scoping to develop child friendly design principles to spark ideas, inspiration and intersectionality
 - Provide ongoing internal consulting to pilot and evaluate innovative child friendly engagement practices with CoE projects
 - Collaborated with partners to implement action in the Economic Action Plan to promote affordable, accessible, high-quality, and inclusive early learning and child care.
 - Collaborated to embed child friendly lens within corporate policies
 - Supported community work to develop an approach for promoting communication of services and supports for families/caregivers in navigating mental health for families

City Design

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

The City Design Council Initiative was established in 2017 to explore opportunities to enhance the usefulness, efficiency, and attractiveness of the built environment by focusing on making changes to existing policies and practices. The City of Edmonton strives to maximize the value and impact of its infrastructure investments through excellence in the design of City buildings and public spaces like streets, parks and plazas. It also supports good architecture and urban design for private developments through design guidelines and zoning regulations.

The goals of this Council Initiative are to:

- Maximize the value and impact of infrastructure investments through excellence in the design of public spaces.
- Enhance the usefulness, efficiency, and attractiveness of the built environment by focusing on making changes to existing policies and practices.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Council support for the creation of an Architecture School at the University of Alberta.
- Review of entry roads redevelopment projects, initiatives, guidelines, zoning requirements.
- Review scope and mandate of the Edmonton Design Committee.
- Review consultant procurement methods with a focus on design excellence.

Community Hubs

Status: Completed Spring 2021

Overview

The Community Hub initiative was established in 2018, as a continuation of work done as part of the ELEVATE Council Initiative (2013-2017).

The purpose of the Community Hubs initiative was to create public gathering spaces for people to congregate and connect in planned and incidental ways. The initiative included a focus on reducing social isolation and emphasized the importance of having a hub within walking distance.

Goals of the Community Hubs Council Initiative included:

- Connecting residents and communities
- Maximizing public infrastructure
- Identifying pilot projects
- Filling policy and program gaps

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- In 2018 *Future Neighbourhood Integration - A proposed Approach for the Advancement of Community Hub* was completed and presented to the Executive Committee. The Approach included:
 - Definition of a community hub
 - Principles, goals and outcomes, success factors
 - A model for future development based on scale: neighbourhood, district, metropolitan levels
 - Recommendations for future pilot programs, public engagement, and the creation of an FTE “navigator position”
- In 2019, a current state assessment was completed, which included a policy review and lessons learned from existing public and non-profit hubs.
- In 2019, a pilot project for neighbourhood level hubs was developed that would include a call for interest and be funded through CM-40-4040 BGN Planning & Design and CM-40-9000 BGN Delivery. Total funding allocated was \$1,136,000. The pilot project ceased when the budget was cut in December 2019.
- District and metropolitan level hub development are now included in City Plan

Edmonton in Bloom

Status: Next Council decides

Overview

The Edmonton in Bloom Council Initiative was established in 1999 as Front Yards in Bloom, a beautification program where homeowners are nominated for recognition of their attractive front yards.

Edmonton in Bloom is focused on the beautification and environmental stewardship of green spaces (landscapes, trees, natural areas, and streetscapes) which enhance the look and feel of Edmonton. It promotes community engagement, volunteerism, environmentally-responsible actions, and increased vibrancy of urban spaces. Edmonton in Bloom includes oversight over the Edmonton in Bloom awards to celebrate the generous contributions of volunteers, gardeners, businesses, sponsors, and community organizations, who work hard to beautify our city, and Communities in Bloom, which celebrates flourishing communities through a national competition to foster civic pride, local beauty and environmental responsibility. This Council Initiative also supports the ConnectEdmonton strategic goal of Healthy City.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

Front Yards in Bloom

- One of the longest running City of Edmonton and partner volunteer programs (active since 1999)
- Adapted program delivery to continue through the pandemic in 2020 and 2021
- Current Partners: Edmonton Horticultural Society, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, Native Plant Society, Sustainable Food Edmonton,
- Funded in part through a sponsorship program that engages the local business community
- 2020 Accomplishments
 - 5,574 nominations received (5% increase from 2019) which breaks into the following categories:
 - 4885 General Yards
 - 167 Natural Yards
 - 127 Edible Yards (200% increase from 2019)
 - 95 Public Spaces
 - 400 Tiny Yards
 - 23 Balconies

- 84 volunteers reported 451 hours of service

Communities in Bloom (National Program)

Increased profile of the City of Edmonton for beautification, urban forestry, environmental and cultural initiatives, and heritage preservation within Canada.

2019 Accomplishments (paused for 2020/2021 due to Covid)

- Participated in the non-competitive category with 17 other Canadian municipalities
- Edmonton received a number of accolades and awards including the following:
 - 5/5 Leaves and Bronze standing in the Communities in Bloom rating system
 - The City of Edmonton received 86.28% , a 5 Blooms – Bronze
 - A special mention for Heritage Conservation during the 2019 National/International Symposium and Awards Ceremonies in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.
 - The City of Edmonton participated in the Circle of Excellence - Evaluated category.
 - The community also received an Outstanding Achievement Award for the Home Hardware Beauti-Tone Heritage Conservation Award

2019 partners

- Partners: Communities in Bloom organization
- Supporters:
 - COE: Parks and Roads Services, Urban Forestry, Horticulture, Muttart Conservatory, Civic Events, Environmental Management, Edmonton Valley Zoo, Partners in Parks, City Archives, Integrated Pest Management, Waste Services, Borden Natural Swimming Pool, Urban Growth & Open Space Strategy
 - External: University of Alberta, Sustainable Food Edmonton, Edmonton Community Foundation, Edmonton Native Plant Group, Edmonton Horticultural Society, River Valley Alliance, Zocalo, ISL Engineering, Landscape Alberta, University of Alberta, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, Edmonton Convention Centre, Elders, and various program volunteers (FYiB, PIP, EHS - Valley Zoo Garden, Baah'd Plant Management and Reclamation)

Edmonton in Bloom Awards Ceremony

2019 Accomplishments (paused for 2020/2021 due to Covid)

- 350 people attended (similar to previous years)
- 59 awards given to recipients including mail-outs for those not in attendance
- 45 awards accepted on stage including 33 Front Yards in Bloom, 4

Winterscapes and 8 special awards

2019 partners

- Edmonton Horticultural Society and Canadian Union of Postal Workers
- Seasonal sponsors of the 2019 Edmonton in Bloom program: ATCO, Cameron Development Corp., Canadian Union of Postal Workers - Edmonton Association, Cancom Development (previously Live Better Homes), Classic Landscape, Duncan Craig LLP, DynaLIFEDx, Enmax Corporation, Hopewell Development GP Corp., Kimberley Homes, Landscape Alberta Nursery Trades Association, MLC Group Inc., Morguard Investments Ltd. Scribble Maps, Suez.
- Supporters:
 - COE: Capital City Clean-Up, Urban Forestry, Parks and Roads Services, Waste Management Services
 - External: Sustainable Food Edmonton, Operation Fruit Rescue, Edmonton Permaculture Guild, Edmonton Native Plant Group, WinterCity Edmonton

Edmonton's Next Gen

Status: Completed Spring 2021

Overview

Edmonton's NextGen started in 2005 as a way to engage young Edmontonians and help them see that they have an important role to play in building a vibrant city now and in the future. The initiative consists of a group of volunteers, from various backgrounds, educations and careers, that care deeply about building our community.

Goals of NextGen Council Initiative included:

- Creating and sustaining a network of engaged citizens, ages 18 to 40,
- Providing a platform for the sharing and advancement of new and emerging ideas,
- Giving voice to the interests and perspectives of a diverse demographic,
- Serving as a conduit between the next generation and the City of Edmonton, including Administration and City Council, and
- Bring Edmontonians together and creating connections to make the ideas of Edmonton's NextGen a reality.

In 2020, the work of the Next Gen Council Initiative shifted to a community-led organization registered under the Societies Act called the Edmonton's NextGen Committee. All assets have been transferred to this external committee, and in 2020, the City provided one-time funding to help assist with start-up.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- In 2019/20, 60 volunteers contributed over 8,400 hours, and helped bring to life all of the NextGen projects, events and community engagements.
- In partnership with Age Friendly Edmonton and the Edmonton Youth Council, NextGen hosted diversity and inclusion training with the University of Alberta's Institute for Sexual Minority Studies & Services (ISMSS) and two members from the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC). Attendees received training on how to make events more accessible by considering social and physical barriers.
- City Jam 2019 was hosted in partnership with SONiC 102.9. By offering a spot on the guestlist at Sonic Field Day, City Jam raised 13,600 volunteer hours at 165 nonprofits and charities, with 15 percent of participants volunteering for the first time. 426 people signed up to participate: 9 percent were under 18 years old, 19 percent were between 18-24 years

- old, 24 percent were between 25-30 years old.
- Timeraiser helped Edmontonians support nonprofits and local artists by bidding volunteer hours on original artwork. At the event 100 attendees bid a total of 1,300 volunteer hours on 14 pieces of art.
 - Over 80 new participants attended the Ignite: Your New Life in YEG gatherings hosted by Edmonton's Next Gen. These events helped new Edmontonians explore the city and meet other new residents.
 - In 2019 hosted three Pecha Kucha Nights that featured 28 different presenters. Over 750 people attended these events, raising a total of \$9,138 in ticket sales.
 - Formed new partnerships with Work Nicer, SONiC 102.9, Creative Mornings, Pecha Kucha Night Global, Volunteer Alberta, Futurecite, Goethe-Institut Montreal, Roundhouse, The Local Good, Age Friendly Edmonton, Edmonton Youth Council, Timeraiser, Alberta School of Business, Accessibility Advisory Committee, ISMSS, United Way, Office of the City Clerk, CBC, GoldenVoice and Apathy is Boring.
 - Members of Edmonton's Next Gen visited City Hall and attended an Urban Planning Committee meeting on the First km/Last km challenge and on-demand transit. Members also met with the Office of the City Clerk and Councillor Andrew Knack to learn about City Council and the civic and administrative process for making city governance decisions.
 - RBC reached out to Edmonton's NextGen after a recommendation from Wassman, a public relations and marketing company in Toronto who identified NextGen as the top of their list across Canada of organizations that engage young people. For 2020, NextGen received \$30,000 from RBC to support their projects as part of RBC's Future Launch program that focuses on young people in the workplace and community.
 - Edmonton's Next Gen received \$5,150 from sponsors for projects and events.
 - Edmonton's Next Gen events raised a total of \$11,775 in ticket sales.
 - Social media stats: Facebook: 2,550, Twitter: 13,361, Instagram: 1,851 Newsletter: 2,848

Edmonton's Poverty Elimination

Status: Next Council decides

Overview

The Edmonton's Poverty Elimination Council Initiative was established in 2014 to advance the social, community and economic well-being of those who are struggling with poverty with the goal of ending poverty within a generation. This community based initiative led to the formation of EndPovertyEdmonton, which coordinates the activities of community members. The City of Edmonton leads the implementation of 19 of the 35 EndPovertyEdmonton Road Map actions, with the broad goal of ending poverty within a generation.

EndPovertyEdmonton will embark on a strategic plan before the end of 2021. With the original 5 year EndPovertyEdmonton Road Map coming to an end in 2021, City Council will need to determine how the initiative will proceed in the future.

Administration has work underway to evaluate the implementation of the road map and the city-owned road map actions which will be completed prior to Fall SOBA and presented to the new City Council. Within this evaluation there will be a recommendation on how the City should proceed with work within the poverty profile in alignment with the strategic goals of the Social Development branch and the City Plan.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- The City of Edmonton demonstrates sustained commitment to the bold vision of ending poverty by implementing City-led actions of the Road Map. The City of Edmonton has 19 City-led actions in the EndPovertyEdmonton Road Map. As of March 2020, 3 are completed, 11 are on track, 1 is initiated and 4 are deferred. The goal is to have our actions completed (implemented) by the end of 2021.
- Administration's response is an integrated and cross-corporate approach to reducing barriers that impact Edmontonians who are experiencing poverty. Some examples of successfully completed (or on track) actions include:
 - Worked with Prosper Canada to integrate financial empowerment opportunities, this includes Social Workers providing support to citizens to help access financial resources they may not have been aware of.
 - You Can Benefit app was launched in 2019.

- Transit is more accessible to many Edmontonians through initiatives such as low income transit pass discounts, free passes for agencies to distribute to vulnerable youth and adults and free transit for children 12 and under.
 - The Indigenous Framework works to address many of the Indigenous focused road map actions, and demonstrates a commitment to learning and growing as a corporation.
 - Increasing opportunities for welcoming and inclusive public spaces as well as getting connected with well being programs, services and supports through Community Social Workers being located in Community and Recreation Facilities
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- Additional evaluative results on the implementation of the EndPovertyEdmonton Road Map will be available later this year. EndPovertyEdmonton presented their 2020 Annual Report on August 11, which outlines the work they have done (external to the city-led actions), and their plan for moving forward.
 - With city staff at multiple tables within the EndPovertyEdmonton governance structure, as well as through funding and the efforts to complete road-map actions, Administration has supported the growth and development of EndPovertyEdmonton in its collective efforts to mobilize Edmontonians to end poverty in a generation.
 - Administration and EndPovertyEdmonton will continue to work together to take a human rights-based approach to ending poverty.

Energy Transition and Climate Resilience

Status: Next Council decides

Overview

The Energy Transition and Climate Resilience Council Initiative was established in 2017 with a mandate to maintain and increase City Council support for the implementation of Edmonton's Energy Transition Strategy and implementation of Edmonton's Community Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy.

The goals of this initiative are to support Edmonton's transition to a low-carbon future, ensure Edmonton has clean air and water, and to adapt to a changing climate. Council has approved two strategies and a Policy related to these goals:

- Energy Transition Strategy (low carbon future);
- Climate Resilient Edmonton (adapting to a changing climate); and
- Policy C627: Climate Resilience.

These two strategies and policy look at how Edmonton can reduce GHG emissions which are causing climate change, and look at how Edmonton can prepare for changing temperatures, precipitation, weather extremes and ecosystems.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Increased Council and community leadership in community energy transition.
- Edmonton has begun to prepare for climate change through adaptation and becomes increasingly resilient, both for City and community infrastructure and programs.
- In August 2020, City Council declared a Climate Emergency
- In November 2020, City Council Approved the Climate Resilient Edmonton: Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan, which is the City's first adaptation strategy
- In December 2020, City Council approved City Plan which includes a target to achieve a total community-wide carbon budget of 135 megatonnes
- In April 2021, City Council approved an updated and more ambitious Energy Transition Strategy that sets new targets and outcomes
- In April 2021, City Council approved the City's first integrated Climate Resilience Policy

- In March 2018, Edmonton hosted the first ever Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) international climate change conference for cities and climate science
- The Edmonton Declaration (2018) is a bold call-to-action for mayors to take the mantle of leadership on climate change, and amplify the message that rising greenhouse gas emissions severely impact cities. Over 3,400 municipalities from around North America have endorsed the Edmonton Declaration.
- Launch of various programs and initiatives including:
 - Adoption of Edmonton's Electric Vehicle Strategy and roll out of electric vehicle charging facilities;
 - Development of protected bike lanes in the downtown core;
 - Extension of Edmonton's LRT network and Edmonton Transit Services deployment of its first battery electric buses into service, and single largest purchase of electric buses (60) in Canadian history;
 - Ongoing development of Blatchford – planned to be a carbon-neutral community for 30,000 residents that uses 100 per cent renewable energy;
 - Approval and funding of the Downtown District Energy System;
 - Launch of Change Homes for Climate: Residential Solar Program that offers a rebate to install rooftop solar and the launch of an online solar potential map;
 - Launch of Change Homes for Climate: Home Energy Plan Program that offers a rebate for EnerGuide evaluations and the launch of an online home energy map;
 - Launch Change Homes for Climate: Home Energy Retrofit Accelerator (HERA), a program that offers rebates to homeowners for energy efficiency retrofit investments;
 - Launch of Change Buildings for Climate: Building Energy Retrofit Accelerator (BERA), a program that provides rebates for energy efficiency retrofits on commercial buildings 10,000 sq ft and larger;
 - Launch of Change Mobility for Climate: A program that provides rebates for electric vehicle charging infrastructure;
 - Launch of Building Energy Benchmarking Program, a rebate for a voluntary program that invites Edmonton's large commercial, institutional, industrial, and multi-family buildings to submit their energy performance data to the City for benchmarking and disclosure purposes – the first program of its kind to be hosted by a municipality in Canada;
 - Launch of Corporate Climate Leaders Program, where Edmonton corporations come together to analyze their own carbon footprints, create a reduction plan, and report their progress towards targets in

a public forum so successes and challenges can be shared with their peers;

- Launch of a community Eco-City Grant Program to support the community to take action to reduce GHG emissions;
- Launch of CitiesIPCC Legacy Research Grant Program which provides research grants to advance knowledge on how Edmonton can become an energy sustainable and climate resilient city.
- Launch of Green Leagues Program to provide support to the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues;
- Launch of Change for Climate Community Outreach and Engagement Program, a community outreach program that encourages climate action through activities including public events, newsletters and video storytelling;
- EPCOR's development of a 20-year flood mitigation plan with the goal to slow, move, secure, predict and respond to flooding events;
- Developing climate change adaptation resources for residents, such as the Climate Resilient Home website climateresilienthome.ca;
- Preparing community organizers by hosting a series of workshops for community leagues, corporate climate leaders and others to prepare and plan for climate change;
- Applying a climate adaptation lens to City decision making such as City Plan, Zoning Bylaw Renewal, Design and Construction Standards, and Asset Management Plans;
- Creation of an in-house climate analysis and projection tool, making Edmonton one of the first cities in Canada to have this capability;
- The City's first ever TCFD reporting (climate related financial disclosures);
- Resilience research including ecoroofs, community vulnerability and resilience in older adults and immigrants, wildfire risk modelling, high-resolution precipitation projections, regional tree vulnerability assessment and a guide to urban forest management in a changing climate, pest vulnerability assessment and a guide for managing invasive species and pests in a changing climate; a preliminary water security assessment and best practices guide.
- Initiated a carbon accounting framework which will be used to develop the recommended 2023 - 2026 budget for the City

Food and Agri-Business Diversification

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

The Food and Agri-Business Diversification Council Initiative was established in 2017 with a mandate to anticipate and respond to strengths and opportunities in agri-business, food processing and Edmonton's food sector/food industry in order to support a thriving food economy and develop resilience to future climate impacts. In alignment with regional initiatives and advocacy, the goals of this initiative include:

- recalibrating the City's approach to urban agriculture,
- strengthening the City's ties to work in the region on agri-business and food sustainability, and
- advancing the City's interests in climate adaptation within Edmonton and the region.

The work of this Council Initiative has been integrated into Administration's work plan and the Economic Action Plan.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Neighbourhood Services is receiving increasing inquiries from groups, including community leagues, looking to establish more gardens, orchards, and fruit forests
- Edmonton Public Schools (EPSB) is engaging citizens in conversations about developing orchards on school board land
- Supported Edmonton Food Council and related activities
- Assisted more than 100 food related businesses with establishing or growing businesses in Edmonton
- Partnered with various food related groups and post-secondary institutions on activities
- Procured and showcased local food and beverage products at multiple events at City Hall
- Celebrated multiple local food businesses at City Council as protocol items
- Launched Veg Instead!, a pilot project to encourage and help Edmontonians to grow vegetables in non-traditional areas of their private property

Attachment #1

- Launched the Temporary Outdoor Patio and Retail Space Program that has supported over 100 businesses in both 2020 and 2021
- Contributed to the development of the Regional Agriculture Master Plan
- Supported Edmonton Independent Hospitality Group and other food businesses through COVID-19
- Developed this work into Edmonton Economic Action Plan through Action 15: Advance a coordinated approach to growing the local food economy.
- Supported Council's direction to fund The Public, Food Incubation Hub (currently still pending execution of funding agreement).

Gender-Based Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention

Status: Next Council decides

Overview

The Gender-based Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Initiative was established in 2015 with the purpose of ending gender-based violence and sexual assault in Edmonton. As Edmonton has the second highest rate of sexual violence, and missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in the country, the goals of the initiative include:

- Understanding the state of gender-based violence in Edmonton.
- Supporting the community sector engaged in service delivery.
- Addressing root causes by changing norms/attitudes through education, and
- Advocating for systemic change through laws and policies to prevent violence.

This Council Initiative works with multiple partners, including the provincial and federal governments, Indigenous, sexual assault, men's organizations, and academics. The City also funds "Community Initiatives Against Family Violence (CIAFV)" so that partners such as Children's Services, YWCA, Today Centre, Edmonton Police Service, REACH Edmonton, Edmonton John Howard Society, Alberta Works and Shelters can implement a coordinated response to reduce violence.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

Outcome #1: Enhanced collection of research and data to inform policy and programmatic solutions to reduce gender-based violence.

- Gender-based violence perception surveys: In 2017, a baseline research study was conducted to understand public perspectives on gender-based violence. In 2021, another survey indicated that the public had an increased awareness of gender-based violence in Edmonton.
- Safe City Scoping Study: In 2017, a comprehensive Scoping Study was undertaken to understand the state of sexual violence in Edmonton which identified priorities for 2021-2023.
- International Global Forum: In 2018, this Initiative hosted 288 international delegates from 22 countries to share research/best practices of how to make public spaces safer for women and girls.
- SafeCity YEG (2019-2021): development of online web-based application which allows citizens to identify where they feel safe and unsafe. Administration is using this data and applying GBA+ to improve current

and develop new infrastructure to support feelings of safety amongst women and girls.

Outcome #2: The Edmonton public has increased awareness of, and understanding of gender-based violence and sexual assault.

- It's Time Website, Gender-based Violence and Edmonton: Safe City web pages provide information on gender-based violence and community resources.
- Developed an online educational toolkit that discusses gender-based violence, workplace violence, consent, and where to access help for survivors of violence.
- In 2019, the City partnered with the Edmonton Public Library to deliver EPL's Forward Thinking Speaker Series hosted "It's Time: A Conversation about Domestic Violence in Edmonton".
- In 2020, an informative Interfaith Gathering was hosted and attended by 50 faith leaders. Reverend Miles identified family violence and how to support survivors. During the pandemic, the City developed and shared an information sheet with faith leaders on how to respond to family violence.

Outcome #3: City employees have increased awareness of and understanding about gender-based violence and sexual assault.

- Implemented the Domestic Violence in our Workplace Initiative, which supports city staff who may be facing domestic violence.
- In 2020, the City implemented 10 days of paid leave for staff facing domestic violence.
- Developed and implemented a workplace violence policy and protocols on how to respond to survivors of violence.
- Developed Toolkit and Educational Resources for staff/management to respond to incidents of domestic violence, including training for people leaders on supporting survivors of violence.

Outcome #4: Increased engagement of men and boys as allies in ending gender-based violence and sexual assault in our community.

- In 2020, the City provided support to Men Sheds, Men Edmonton, and Alberta Father Involvement Initiative to engage men and boys to become allies, and develop online resources to build healthy relationships.
- In 2019-2020 the City worked with Men Edmonton and University of Alberta to develop an artificial intelligence bystander project which will allow participants to virtually view simulations of violence and learn how to respond.

Outcome #5: Increased commitment and support to private, public and not-for-profit organizations in reducing gender-based violence and sexual assault.

- In 2016-2020, the City funded Community Initiatives Against Family Violence, which supports collaborative efforts to reduce family violence and hosts educational workshops for community agencies on how to identify and support individuals facing family and sexual violence.
- In 2020, the City provided funding through the Family and Community Support Services program to support sexual assault and Indigenous organizations that are engaged in gender-based violence prevention.

Outcome #6: Increased safety for women and girls in public spaces.

Edmonton: Safe City Project:

- In 2017, Edmonton became a member city of the United Nations Women's Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Global program.
- In 2020, the City published the community's recommendations on how to make public spaces safer for women and girls: The Community Response to Preventing and Addressing Sexual Violence Against Women and Girls in Public Spaces.
- In 2020, collaborated with ETS to implement Transit Watch, a formalized Edmonton Transit Service reporting line where transit riders can call or send a text to report safety concerns.
- Completed Indigenous Safety Audits and awarded grants to Indigenous organizations that completed safety audits of public infrastructure from an Indigenous perspective.
- Worked with Edmonton Transit Service to develop training for transit peace officers and bylaw officers on how to respond to sexual violence.
- Supported the development of EPS's online sexual assault reporting tool (2019-2020), which allows victims to report current and historical sexual crimes for information or investigation.

Housing

Status: Next Council decides

Overview

The Housing Council Initiative was established in 2008 with the objective of ensuring that the City meets the diverse housing needs of its growing population, and providing proactive solutions to address the issues of homelessness and housing affordability in Edmonton. Being securely housed provides stability and allows individuals and families to participate socially, culturally, and economically in their communities. The provision of accessible, suitable and affordable housing contributes to a range of public policy objectives and enhances the lives of all Edmontonians. To ensure our most vulnerable citizens are cared for, housing options are required across the full spectrum of the housing continuum to contribute to complete communities.

Administration continues to work to keep those experiencing homelessness safe while connecting as many to social services and housing as possible. Additionally, the City has advanced the development of new affordable and supportive housing units through multiple funding streams from higher orders of government. The work of advocacy and intergovernmental relations continues in collaboration with key stakeholders in the sector and may be further supported by new representatives of City Council taking on this advocacy role.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

The City has a goal of approving 2,500 new units of affordable housing by 2022, including 600 new units of supportive housing by 2022 and a further 300 units of supportive housing by 2024.

The Housing Initiative has followed the Corporate Outcomes listed below to achieve these goals:

- Increased supply of affordable housing units in all areas of the city - Measured by the # of new **affordable** housing units supported:
 - 2021: 159
 - 2020: 286
 - 2019: 648
 - 2018: 189
 - *Target: 2,500 from 2019 to 2022*
- Increased supply of affordable housing units in all areas of the city - Measured by the # of **supportive** housing units under development approval:
 - 2021: 72

- 2020: 210
- 2019: 79
- 2009-2016: 201
- *Target: 916 units from 2019 to 2024*
- Edmontonians have safe and adequate housing - Measured by the # of people experiencing homelessness
 - March 2021: 2,092
 - March 2020: 1,611
 - March 2019: 1,153
 - *Target - Decrease year over year*

Specific Projects under the updated Affordable Housing Investment Plan (2019)

Supportive Housing:

- Belvedere
- Evansdale - Homes4Heroes
- Elizabeth House
- Westmount
- King Edward Park
- McArthur
- Inglewood
- Grace Village
- Terrace Heights

Affordable Housing:

- Sakaw Terrace
- Brentwood
- Londonderry
- Symphony
- Hollick Kenyon- Habitat
- Sundance- GEF
- Jockey Dorms
- Grace Village - Transitional Housing
- Westwood

Indigenous Peoples Strategy

Status: Next Council decides

Overview

The Indigenous Peoples Strategy Council Initiative was established to support Indigenous communities and citizens in the pursuit of their economic, social, and cultural aspirations moving forward, and to strengthen existing initiatives and relationships.

The Indigenous Peoples strategy has identified 3 major areas in which to support Indigenous peoples in the pursuit of their economic, social, and cultural aspirations:

1. Support cultural wellness and celebrations,
2. Promoting community economic development, and
3. Nurturing new and existing relationships.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- **Cultural Wellness & Celebrations:**
 - Continued partnership with Edmonton's Indigenous Peoples Festival, which will be in a virtual format in 2021.
 - Since 2020, Administration has promoted Indigenous History Month as a banner and website for the many Indigenous events and celebrations happening in Edmonton during the month of June.
 - Administration continues to partner with the school boards (EPSB and ECSD) and EPL on Orange Shirt Day programming.
 - Continued support for the Belcourt Brosseau Métis Awards in a virtual format.
 - Ongoing commitments to promote Treaty 6 Recognition Day and Métis week with community partners.
 - Through the Indigenous Framework, have partnered with EIERN (Edmonton Indigenous Employee Resource Network) to bring in Indigenous Elders to share teachings and cultural knowledge with City staff.
 - Support for the development of Kichicy Askiy Ceremonial Site.
- **Community Economic Development:**
 - Continue to provide funding to AKSIS - the Aboriginal Business & Professional Association.
 - Indigenous Relations is working with Corporate Procurement Services to develop an Indigenous Procurement Framework with

the guidance of a steering committee including Enoch, Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations, Metis Nation of Alberta, as well as AKSIS.

- **Nurturing New and Existing Relationships:**
 - Big Island Park Development with Enoch Cree Nation and the Government of Alberta.
 - Indigenous Knowledge and Wisdom Centre - Kihciy Askiy development.
 - Continue to build/nurture relationships through the development and implementation of the Indigenous Framework, including Elders, youth, community members and service providers.

Literacy

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

The Literacy Council Initiative was established in 2017 to support work to improve basic literacy, which is essential to enable Edmontonians to have the skills necessary to improve their quality of life and in many cases end the cycle of poverty. This initiative is aligned with EndPovertyEdmonton's work and the City of Learners initiative that the Edmonton Public Library is leading on behalf of the City.

The goals of the Literacy Council Initiative included:

- Ensuring awareness, connection, and information sharing of literacy programs and services in the city
- Increased understanding of financial literacy through a financial empowerment approach to poverty elimination

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Council representation on Edmonton Public Library (EPL) City of Learners Steering Committee
- Designed and now implementing a new Financial Empowerment Program
- Coordination of Financial Empowerment Activities between EPL and Social Development
- Financial Empowerment presentations provided to Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) funded agencies in 2019 and 2021
- Successful coordination of first Learning Symposium & Literacy Fair and increased promotion/awareness of literacy programs available through Literacy Fair, 211.
- Increased coordination of effort through participation in the Edmonton Community Adult Learning Association (ECALA) community needs assessment & City of Learners Symposium

Live Active, Health and Recreation

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

The Live Active, Health and Recreation Council Initiative was established in June 2018 to ensure that Edmonton is a city that thrives, where every member of our community has equitable opportunities to be healthy and fulfilled. The Initiative further supported the Live Active Strategy, which was approved by Council in 2016 as part of a direction to develop a 10 year plan to work with the Edmonton Sport Council and other external partners to promote active recreation, sport and leisure opportunities contribute significantly to the quality of life in Edmonton, and Edmontonians value active, healthy lifestyles. Edmontonians want their municipal government to commit to both physical and mental health and wellness by providing active living opportunities that are readily accessible to all.

The goals of this initiative included:

- Creating conditions for Edmontonians to embrace and benefit from active living
- Increasing the quality and quantity of active recreation opportunities available to Edmontonians
- Approaching recreation from a holistic and sustainable perspective to address the broad continuum of community recreation needs required by citizens
- Retaining existing and attracting new professional sports teams by creating an environment that supports teams/organizations while advancing the development of high performance athletes and programs.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Confirmed the importance of strategic investments in sport and active recreation, while dealing with the financial impact of COVID-19 and declining provincial financial transfers. Including:
 - Reimagine the Community Investment Operating Grant to create an operating subsidy that aligns with and advances the goals and outcomes of the City Plan and the social priorities identified by the Social Development branch.
 - Engaging with interested community partners for the potential operations and maintenance of facilities and services currently provided by the City of Edmonton.

- Aligned and embedded Live Active in policies, plans and strategies - eg. Bike Plan, shared streets, City Plan.
- Created the Live Active Champions Group, which includes leaders from partner organizations and was initially led by Councillors Walters and Cartmell and is now shared around the membership.
- Developed a Live Active Communications Framework to provide an understanding of how the many sectors involved can contribute to the initiative through the sharing of Live Active stories and other advocacy efforts.
- Live Active Day - February 2 2020, Live Active was launched at Rundle Park to kick off the year and support the many opportunities Edmontonians have to be active, the importance of physical activity, and the Live Active Strategy. Over 500 participants had an opportunity to try many winter activities. Intention was to continue with these targeted days, however, COVID-19 impacted this element.
- Coordinated sport support service organizations to collaborate to find efficiencies and ways to reduce red tape barriers to accessing subsidies to sport.
- In response to COVID-19, hosted six “Re-Activating Edmonton” webinars for the Edmonton sport and active recreation community.
- Active at Home resources were collected and made available to Edmontonians.
- In 2020, the City of Edmonton hosted five lunch and learn webinars for all City employees working from home. The webinars included how to intentionally Live Active, build physical activity into your day, and utilize inclusive physical activity workouts.

Multiculturalism

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

The Multiculturalism Council Initiative was established to support cross-cultural education and relationship building to encourage new experiences and conversations. The goal of the initiative was to ensure that newcomers and established immigrants thrive within their communities while actively participating and contributing to the civic life of Edmonton.

The approach for this initiative was to create cross-cultural education and relationship building which encouraged new experiences and conversations. The desired outcomes included:

- Supporting gatherings and events within the multicultural, immigrant, established and newcomer communities
- Supporting and facilitating multi-sector efforts towards inclusion and cohesion through the Edmonton Local Immigration Partnership (ELIP)
- Encouraging civic engagement and advocacy for multicultural, immigrant, established and newcomer communities.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Refreshed the *Edmonton Local Immigration Partnership*, a federally funded initiative that creates a local council of stakeholders involved in the immigration and settlement ecosystem. The goal is connections, and building partnerships with the end goal of creating a local immigration and settlement strategy. The City and various community partners have formed a “Shared Secretariat” to assist in the administration and development of the Local Immigration Partnership Council.
- Mill Woods Intercultural Dialogues were fostered and hosted from 2017-2019 that brought together communities in Mill Woods (Leefield, Lee Ridge, Richfield, Hillview Park, Greenview, Tamarack, Silverberry, and Wildrose) to better focus on the following outcomes:
 - Increasing service providers' knowledge of diversity issues;
 - Strengthening relationships and collaborative efforts of service providers
 - Enhancing awareness of existing resources and community supports;
 - Increasing accessibility of existing community services and

- resources;
 - Identifying existing/emerging diversity issues and concerns;
 - Identifying new ways of delivering services to diverse communities
- The City supported the Annual Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers RISE Awards (Recognizing Immigrants' Success in Edmonton) and Gala event through title sponsorship. The awards celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of newcomers, immigrants, Individuals and local organizations for their commendable service to building strong communities through social, cultural and economic development.
- A review of the Emerging Immigrant and Refugee (EIRC) Grant Program was conducted in 2019. However, with the pandemic response in early 2020, the program review recommendations and implementation had been delayed. The review called for a less traditional grant program, and more of a developmental community capacity building approach. The implementation is currently underway in 2021, with some elements from the previous program still in place such as space rental subsidies and support to the Out of School Time initiative.

Northern Relations

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

- The Edmonton Northern Partnership (ENP) was initiated to build and strengthen committed relationships between Edmonton and northern communities in order to help foster shared economic, social, and cultural prosperity.
- The initiative was developed as a partnership between the City of Edmonton, Edmonton Economic Development Corporation, Edmonton Chamber of Commerce, Edmonton International Airport and the University of Alberta and a recognition that shared strategy in relation to connections with northern Canada was a common interest to all partners. Edmonton Global assumed the Edmonton Economic Development Corporation seat in 2019.
- Partnerships related to this work will continue after this Council Initiative is concluded.
- The value of ENP is the relationship building that happens between member partners. This work continues irrespective of being a Council Initiative. Both Council sponsors support this work being shifted to regular administrative business when the initiative is sunset at the end of council term.
- ENP partners meet quarterly or more, depending on business needs (25 meetings).
- The Chair of the ENP rotates annually. The City is currently the Chair of the ENP and is working to refine mandate, scope, and future direction.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- ENP members hosted the Opportunities North conference in Edmonton (2) and presented/participated in the Opportunities North conference in both Yellowknife (2) and Whitehorse (2).
- ENP assisted the Government of the Northwest Territories with advocacy for federal government funding to support transportation infrastructure that had positive impacts on EIA and cargo to northern Canada.
- ENP partners have hosted a range of delegations and meetings with representatives from Northern Canada including officials from municipal governments (3), territorial governments (2) and territorial businesses interested in growing presence in the Edmonton region (6).
- ENP led a delegation to Yellowknife and Whitehorse in 2017 that included

20 leaders from Edmonton's private, education, and public sectors (including Mayor and City Manager). This delegation included meetings with government officials, and business and community leaders in both cities, fireside chats between Mayors, and receptions.

- ENP members attended Yellowknife Spring Tradeshow (2)
- Sponsored and attended Banff Forum conference in Yellowknife, including presentation on value of ENP model to delegates from across Canada (1)
- ENP members jointly presented at 55 North conference on value of ENP model to business leaders from across Alberta.

Public Engagement

Status: Completed Spring 2021

Overview

In 2017, City Council passed a new Public Engagement Policy for the City of Edmonton as a result of collaboration under the Council Initiative on Public Engagement. Council members, members of Administration and members of the public expressed a strong desire to continue the Public Engagement Council Initiative during implementation of the new Policy to build upon the transparency and shared accountability achieved through the Initiative.

The goal for the second term of the Public Engagement Council Initiative was to ensure community perspectives remain forefront throughout the implementation of the City's Public Engagement Policy.

The Public Engagement Council Initiative led to the creation of a Guiding Coalition for Public Engagement in 2018 which continues the active collaboration between City Administration and the public. The purpose of the Guiding Coalition for Public Engagement is to enhance transparency and accountability with respect to public engagement culture and practices at the City of Edmonton.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

The Guiding Coalition for Public Engagement is a group of diverse people with a keen interest in the relationship between governance and public engagement. The Coalition fulfills the mandate of the Council Initiative on Public Engagement by:

- Monitoring the City's progress on delivering on its public engagement Action Plan through reports and performance measures.
- Ensuring the perspectives of the Administration, the public and City Council remain forefront throughout the implementation.
- Providing advice, feedback, and recommendations to City Administration as it plans and delivers public engagement processes and activities.

The Guiding Coalition on Public Engagement continues to meet regularly to support public engagement delivery. Some of the highlights include:

- Feedback and insights on Public Engagement Policy refresh and transformational projects like Zoning Bylaw Renewal.
- Insights and lessons learned on the Holyrood Gardens project and the

- Bus Network Redesign project.
- Dialogue on the tools used in Public Engagement including the Engaged Edmonton digital platform.
 - Discussion on the impacts of COVID and how Diversity and Inclusion shapes our work.

The Guiding Coalition and work with stakeholders is a key part of continuous improvement. The group has recently been renamed the ***Coalition for the Advancement of Public Engagement (CAPE)*** whose activities will continue after the Council Initiative ends.

Seniors

Status: Next Council decides

Overview

The Seniors Initiative was established in 2013 and was mandated by City Council through the Seniors Declaration to work towards making Edmonton more age-friendly and to have a more integrated, sustainable and livable city. The initiative continues to support seniors in Edmonton by ensuring they are respected and included, are safe and well in their homes and communities, and are engaged and contributing members of society.

The goals of the Seniors Initiative include:

- Increasing collaboration opportunities in the seniors sector to meet the diverse needs of current and future senior residents
- Creating an age-friendly city that removes age related barriers to accessing the services, housing, and programs needed to age well in Edmonton
- Increase opportunities for seniors in Edmonton to participate in public life

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Increased number of opportunities for collaboration in the seniors sector to best meet the changing and diverse needs of current and future seniors in Edmonton. This has included ongoing support for senior serving and community organizations to implement existing tools and resources; and participation in the rollout of the Edmonton Senior Services Pandemic Response Model.
- Supporting the Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council, as they incorporate learnings from the pandemic, to work with the community and key stakeholders to further enhance a coordinated approach to seniors' services that promotes healthy aging in Edmonton.
- Working towards an Age-Friendly City where age is not a barrier to access services, housing, and programs needed to age well in Edmonton. This has included:
 - Implementation of a revised Age Friendly Edmonton 2.0, focused on aging in place, intergenerational programming, increased awareness of diversity in seniors and the impacts of ageism.
 - Implementation of the new Access Design Guidelines procedures and practices adopted by IIS and integrated into the new

Accessibility Policy

- Partnered with internal groups (Accessibility Advisory Committee, Child Friendly Edmonton, EndPovertyEdmonton) to reduce barriers when accessing City services, spaces and programs.
- Integrated the seniors work into the Community Resources Section through the Family & Community Support Services (FCSS) Team.
- Refreshed the City of Edmonton's Seniors Declaration on October 1, 2020.

Traffic Safety (Safe Mobility)

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

The Traffic Safety (Safe Mobility) Council Initiative was established to guide and support the City's Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy 2016-2020. Safe, livable streets are essential to a healthy, vibrant city, and Vision Zero seeks to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all.

The goals of the Traffic Safety (Safe Mobility) Council Initiative include:

- Enhancing safety for all road users through strategic infrastructure and operational improvements.
- Increasing awareness of the roles and responsibilities of all road users and their contribution to a culture of traffic safety, with an increased focus on vulnerable road users.
- Create shared responsibility for the provision of infrastructure, programs and initiatives to support and encourage traffic safety and to design safer streets and communities.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- The Road Safety Strategy 2016-2020 has guided us for the past five years, and its data driven approach to addressing high collision locations, unsafe speeds, and their contributing causes has contributed to a significant reduction of fatalities and serious injuries on Edmonton's streets.
- The Safe Mobility Strategy 2021-2025 was built on the success of the Road Safety Strategy and will guide the City for the next five years with an increased focus on equity. Ensuring that our data driven approach is applied equitably across the City will help to make Edmonton's streets safer for everyone in all seasons, regardless of their age, abilities, or modes of transportation.
- Since 2015:
 - Fatalities on our streets have decreased by 63%, serious injuries have decreased by 40% and pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries have decreased by 54%.
 - Our data-driven investments in safety are making our streets safer and more livable. We have completed 248 crosswalk upgrades, improved 105 signalized intersections, completed 237 school safety

- projects, and much more.
- City Council, Administration, and community groups took action to establish a safer speed limit on residential streets and in high pedestrian areas in Edmonton. The new 40 km/h default speed limit will come into effect in early August.
 - The City has developed new, interactive ways for Edmontonians to explore the improvements that increase safety and livability on our streets - the Crosswalk Upgrade Dashboard and the Automated Enforcement Dashboard.
 - The Vision Zero Annual Report was released in May 2021 to align with National Road Safety Week (May 18-24). This year's report reflects on five years of action in support of Vision Zero.

Transportation Innovation

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

The Transportation Innovation Council Initiative was established in 2018 to support and enhance how people and goods move around Edmonton by using technology, innovation and collaboration to enhance this experience. This initiative will align city-building with technology advancements, and potentially autonomous vehicles, to provide a spectrum of personal travel, mass transit and goods movement services that enhance the quality of life for citizens.

The goals of the Transportation Innovation Council Initiative were to:

- Support and accommodate the testing of autonomous vehicles.
- Consider and, where appropriate, incorporate autonomous and/or technologically advanced vehicles into its transportation systems, budget processes and planning frameworks
- Enter into partnerships to participate in ongoing research and development opportunities and initiatives

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- City Plan is outcome oriented, technology agnostic plan. This promotes selecting the best technology to meet the defined outcomes, recognizing that technological disruption will happen.
- Partnered with business to support and promote innovation in the transportation sector. Actions include: advocating for the allowance of e-scooters on roadways and then developing a permit process for e-scooters, partnering with business to install EV chargers along roadways, and partnering with business to test adaptive traffic signals.
- Partnered with Pacific Western Transportation (PWT) to pilot an Electric Autonomous vehicle (ELA); autonomous vehicle pilot was completed in 2019
- The Smart Transportation Action Plan's Guiding Principles, which are well aligned with City Plan, will continue to guide Administration's work in relation to new mobility opportunities.

Urban Isolation/Mental Health

Status: Completed before end date of public-facing activities for Council term (September 7, 2021)

Overview

The Urban Isolation/Mental Health Council Initiative was established to advance activities that decrease urban isolation and promote mental health and wellness through prevention, education, and harm-reduction approaches.

The Urban Isolation & Mental Health Initiative aims to work with community and provincial partners to support initiatives that intervene at multiple points on the mental health continuum from prevention and early intervention, to treatment and recovery. Activities within the Initiative recognize the importance of prevention and education for long term public health outcomes, but also support utilizing harm-reduction approaches for those who may already be struggling with addiction and mental health issues.

The Initiative acknowledges the strong link between social connectedness and well-being. When people feel connected to a supportive community, when they know their neighbours and when their neighbours know them, people are less likely to experience stress, depression, loneliness and isolation. Social connectedness, one of the cornerstones of individual and family resiliency, helps support strong communities, families and individuals.

The goals of the Urban Isolation/Mental Health Council Initiative were to:

- Increase awareness and understanding about urban isolation and mental health.
- Increase understanding of how urban form impacts mental health and well-being.
- Build partnerships with the community and internally that develop, support and promote mental health and wellness, prevent mental illness and utilize harm reduction approaches.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Increased awareness and understanding about urban isolation & mental health
 - Public Awareness
 - Coordination and leadership on the City's response to the Overdose Crisis

- Develop & launch drug poisoning awareness campaign
- Launch Community Outreach Transit Team (Aug 2021)
- Second Response Project with Edmonton Fire Rescue
- Support planning and implementation of Addictions Don't Discriminate
 - Partnership with Edmonton Public Library (*Forward thinking Speaker Series, Mental Health Week displays*)
 - Hello, How are you social media
 - Videos (*Random Acts of Connection, Buddy Benches, Hello, How are you?*)
 - Hello, How are you? Board Game
 - Presentations/Events (*City Hall School*)
 - Buddy Benches (*benches were placed in high traffic areas to encourage connecting with others*)
- Develop and test innovative approaches to addressing urban isolation in Edmonton
 - Men's Sheds (*Living Hope provided a start up grant and the program is growing*)
 - Hello, Let's Eat (*shifted to virtual during Covid*)
 - Sense of Community - (*Annual survey completed by Abundant Community Edmonton, used as a baseline to measure sense of community & connectedness + integration with Neighbourhood Services - ACE*)
- Build on and assist in disseminating local research related to urban isolation and mental health in Edmonton
 - Actively participate in the provincial psychosocial committee
 - Support training opportunities for internal City staff to increase organizational competency in mental health
 - Working Mind Training
 - Psychological first aid (*Staff provide tailored 2 hour workshops for community agencies, internal branches and community organizations monthly, and on an upon request basis*)
 - Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace Training
- Increased understanding of how urban form impacts mental health
 - Develop partnerships with academic institutions to generate and share knowledge on mental health and urban design
 - Continue to pursue opportunities resulting from the completed U of A literature review - Promoting Positive Mental Health through Design

- Bring the mental health and urban isolation perspective to city-led projects on urban design
 - Seek opportunities to incorporate the Dialogue Community Wellbeing Framework into City initiatives/projects
 - Provided input into the downtown public places plan
 - Worked with RECOVER to enhance spaces identified for public space interventions
- Build partnerships with community and internally that develop, support and promote mental health and wellness, prevent mental illness and utilize harm reduction approaches
 - Coordinate the implementation of all actions outlined in Living Hope: A Community Plan to Prevent Suicide in Edmonton
 - Continue to act as a key partner and backbone support in implementation
 - Community training delivered on suicide prevention (ASIST, QPR, Mental Health First Aid & START)
 - Participate in National Suicide Prevention Framework, Roots of Hope
 - Provide representation from Living Hope project team
 - Co-lead the implementation of actions identified in the Community Mental Health Action Plan
 - Supported the expansion of 211 services across the province and enhanced the website
 - Developed a comprehensive training framework that includes QPR, Compassion to Action, and Trauma Informed Care
 - Created a starting place for mental health resources (Need Help for Mental Health Tool)
 - Specialized resources for mental health supports during Covid-19
 - Participate as a partner in addressing youth mental health
 - Youth hubs
 - Youth council (*work with Youth Council on reports that are linked to mental health & addictions and the impacts it has on youth*)
 - Participate on Edmonton Region Post Secondary Mental Health Committee as a community partner
 - Support harm reduction initiatives
 - Co-Chair the Community Liaison Committee
 - Funding & collaboration to implement mobile overdose prevention teams

Winter Cities (WinterCity Strategy)

Status: Next Council decides

Overview

Edmonton's WinterCity Strategy is a 10-year strategy designed to transform Edmonton into a great winter city. It was approved by City Council in 2012 and the implementation plan was adopted in 2013.

With 10 goals and 64 actions across four pillars, the approach is holistic and broad, touching on how we live and play in our city in winter, design for our northern context, support our winter economies, and embrace our winter identity.

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

The 2018 Keep the Snowball Rolling: WinterCity Strategy Evaluation & Report found that the WinterCity Strategy has made a positive impact on Edmonton.

- It's a story changer: It has laid the groundwork for thinking and acting differently in our city in order to minimize winter's negative aspects and create a more livable, vibrant city year-round.
- It's an influencer: The strategy has created significant social license for others to do things that are outside of the old winter "box".
- It's an award winner: The strategy is a provincial and national award winner for planning, including the 2014 provincial Minister's Award for Municipal Excellence. It has also put Edmonton at the forefront of the global winter cities movement.

Notable work since the 2018 mid-term report includes:

- Worked with the City Plan team to integrate Edmonton's identity as a winter city into the new City Plan (Intention 1.3.2).
- Worked with the Bike Plan team to integrate four-season cycling into the plan.
- Continued to work with City administration to incorporate a winter lens in all work, including social development, and city building and urban design language as it relates to reviewing and processing applications (e.g. rezoning, development permits).
- Supported winter cycling campaigns and education.
- Assisted community leagues with skating and cross-country skiing opportunities.
- Developed three winter toolkits (Be Active, Be Social & Be Creative) to

- give Edmontonians tips and tools for hosting outdoor events in winter.
- Continued to support local ski hills to introduce newcomers, underprivileged youth, and persons with disabilities to skiing.
 - Continued to support established and emerging winter festivals and markets.
 - Continued to build a robust social media suite that supports local events, businesses, community groups, and individuals. Added Instagram and created a podcast, *Snow & Tell*.
 - Developed a winter patio campaign to be released in fall 2021.

Women's Initiative

Status: Next Council decides

Overview

The Women's Initiative was established in 2014 following over a year of consultation with women in Edmonton, and this work was undertaken through Administration via the various Council Initiatives action plans. The Women's Initiative fosters and promotes equality, opportunity, access to services, justice and inclusion for women in Edmonton. Two further streams of work complementing the Women's Initiative were added:

- The creation of the *Women's Advocacy Voice of Edmonton*, an advisory committee of City Council.
- *Women@theCity*, later moved to the Employee Services department and now established as an Employee Resource Network.

Through the establishment of the Women's Initiative, the City of Edmonton affirms its commitment to municipal leadership on women's issues, engagement and leadership. This initiative explores and advances these issues and opportunities by advocating on behalf of women in municipal life and enhancing its leadership role on gender based issues.

The goals of the Women's Initiative include:

- Applying an intersectional gender lens is applied to civic policies, issues, programs, services, and practices
- Increasing awareness and understanding of women in municipal life and leadership roles
- Ensuring that Edmontonians receive communication and are engaged with women's issues

Outcomes, Achievements and Successes

- Worked with WAVE, City Council sponsors, and administration to adopt Gender based analysis+ (GBA+). GBA+ imbeds use of an Intersectional gender lens and fulfills goal #1 as set out by the initiative.
- The initiative advised on policy and program reviews and acted as a resource for gender-based issues. Examples of work include; Bus Network Redesign and gender options for the 2019 Municipal Census.
- The initiative hosted 2 Women's Symposiums, *Finding your Impact*,

Influence, and Inspiration (2018) and *Celebrate Women and Leadership* (2016). Both events had approximately 300 attendees and covered a variety of topics focused on leadership, civic engagement, intersectional feminism, and women's issues.

- The initiative expanded and reimagined a version of *Opening the Potential* over the course of 8 months with approximately 60 women participating. The program was designed to engage more women in municipal politics and was open to women and gender minorities.
- Hosted a variety of events and educational programs in partnership with other organizations. Partnerships included: Equal Voice, ParityYEG, SkirtsAFire, and AUMA.
- Facebook, Twitter, and an external webpage with a blog used to engage with Edmontonians.
- Developed videos on Feminism, GBA+, and The Women's Initiative
- Released two *Women's Quality of Life Scorecards* (2017, 2019).