

## **BYLAW 19996**

### **To close a portion of road, Malmo Plains**

#### **Purpose**

To close a portion of road (alley) north of Whitemud Drive, south of Malmo Park and between 116 Street NW and 115A Street NW.

#### **Readings**

Bylaw 19996 is ready for three readings after the public hearing has been held. If Council wishes to give three readings during a single meeting, Council must unanimously agree "That Bylaw 19996 be considered for third reading."

#### **Advertising and Signing**

This Bylaw was advertised in the Edmonton Journal on February 25, 2022 and March 5, 2022. The Bylaw can be passed following third reading.

#### **Position of Administration**

Administration supports this proposed Bylaw.

#### **Report**

Bylaw 19996 proposes to close a portion of road (alley) north of Whitemud Drive and between 116 Street NW and 115A Street NW (Attachment 2). The proposed closure area would remain as road right-of-way, but be closed to vehicle traffic and a renewed shared use path will be constructed that includes landscaping. This proposed closure is part of the City's Building Great Neighbourhoods - Malmo Plains project (neighbourhood renewal/reconstruction). Through engagement, many stakeholders expressed a preference for improving conditions for people walking and biking on shared use paths. In response it was decided to close the alley to vehicular traffic, improve lighting, widen the shared use path and improve landscaping. It was noted that the trade off would be that residents that use that portion of the alley to drive on would have to use one of the alternate routes. Several residents have expressed concerns about this which is captured in the Community Insights section.

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The closure area would become a pedestrian only section that includes a renewed shared use path, enhanced landscaping including benches and waste bins and improved lighting. The closure area is part of the overall pathway network which connects to adjacent paths which are also undergoing renewal (attachment 3).

All other comments from civic departments or utility agencies regarding this proposal have been addressed.

### **Community Insights**

This proposed closure was included in engagement activities surrounding the 2019 - 2021 Building Great Neighbourhoods - Malmo Plains project (neighbourhood renewal/reconstruction). It was included in the January 28, 2020 Exploring Options and Trade-offs Public Engagement Event and the June 2020 Community Feedback On Draft Design feedback.

Advance Notice was sent to surrounding property owners and the president of the Malmo Community League on October 20, 2021. Seven responses that are opposed, one neutral and one in support were received and are summarized below.

- Alley should not be closed because it is regularly used and it already contains a pedestrian walkway.
- Police, garbage and emergency vehicles will no longer be able to use it.
- Crime will increase.
- Area is very loud as it borders Whitemud Drive. Nobody will gather there because it is too loud.
- Closure will eliminate one of the access points to the rear of several properties.
- Landscaping will create hiding places and become full of garbage.

### **Attachments**

1. Bylaw 19996
2. Aerial Map
3. Building Great Neighbourhoods Plan