

# Project Connection

## Executive Summary

Project Connection – aptly named to reflect the connections between the Edmonton Police Service and the communities we serve, will focus on the areas of Alberta Avenue, Chinatown, Downtown Core and Downtown LRT Stations (113 St – 79 St / 118 Ave – 100 Ave). These communities have historically been subject to high levels of victimization and crime which has been magnified as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Several factors including reduced ridership on transit, economic challenges, and difficulty in accessing social and mental health supports by individuals experiencing homelessness and/or addictions may be contributing to this upward trend. Project Connection will commence in a phased approach, ensuring all aspects of evidence-based community focused and human centered policing will be utilized.

In **Phase I (May 23 – June 30, 2022)**, the community will see a highly visible police presence within the identified areas to decrease victimization, increase acceptable public behavior and improve perceptions of safety. Phase I will involve community members and police connecting to identify problematic locations, situations and individuals which require focused crime management initiatives.

**Phase II (July 1 – August 31, 2022)** will continue with high visibility community policing with the expressed intent to identify and assign problematic locations, situations, and individuals to the various proactive crime management teams within Community Policing Bureau, Community Safety & Wellbeing Bureau, and Investigative Support Services Bureau. Throughout Phase II, Project Connection stakeholders will continue to build partner organization relationships to facilitate the progress into Phase III, which acknowledges no one organization can be the sole owner of solutions for the complex societal problems Edmonton is facing.

**Phase III (Beginning September 2022)** will see a continuation of both Phase I & II, with the expressed intent to engage our partner organizations towards the fulfillment of dedicated Multidisciplinary Community Safety Teams. The multidisciplinary focus of the Community Safety Teams will allow the organization who has the appropriate authority and is best suited to solve a specific problem, take the lead, with all other partner organizations in place to provide support.

# Geographical Boundaries

## Alberta Avenue

- 118 Avenue – 79 Street to 103 Street

## Downtown

- 113 Street – 80 Street / 111 Avenue to 97 Avenue

