

CAPITAL PROFILE REPORT

PROFILE NAME: **BALWIN AND BELVEDERE REVITALIZATION**
 PROFILE NUMBER: **23-40-9030**
 DEPARTMENT: **Integrated Infrastructure Services**
 LEAD BRANCH: **Building Great Neighbourhoods**
 PROGRAM NAME:
 PARTNER:
 BUDGET CYCLE: **2023-2026**

UNFUNDED

PROFILE STAGE:	Entry - Create Profile
PROFILE TYPE:	Standalone
LEAD MANAGER:	Nicole Wolfe
PARTNER MANAGER:	
ESTIMATED START:	January, 2023
ESTIMATED COMPLETION:	December, 2026

Service Category:

Major Initiative:

GROWTH

RENEWAL

PREVIOUSLY APPROVED:	-
BUDGET REQUEST:	-
TOTAL PROFILE BUDGET:	-

PROFILE DESCRIPTION

Between 2019-2022, the City of Edmonton’s Neighbourhood Revitalization Program’s Capital Investment Plan provided planning and design resources to support the physical infrastructure development in the new revitalization areas of Balwin and Belvedere. Residents, businesses, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders of the Balwin and Belvedere neighbourhoods contributed to the development of ideas and recommendations for the capital investment.

Five (5) areas of parkland and four (4) areas of transportation infrastructure were identified as opportunities for capital investments in Balwin and Belvedere.

The immediate priority within each of the parkland locations is to increase the participation and improve safety of the public on parkland and within their neighbourhoods. These opportunities are driven by addressing amenities and site design within existing parks to allow these spaces to better serve local needs. Investments will support safer experiences for park users and people walking/wheeling around and through the park, improve and expand amenities for social connection, passive use, expand the recreation opportunities of the park to improve sport and play activities for diverse users.

The goal of the transportation investments is to support the overarching goals of the community recommendations for capital investment. These goals are:

- Opportunities for the installation of new streetlights (pedestrian oriented lighting)
- Identify “missing link” sidewalk sections
- Opportunities to upgrade existing sub-standard sidewalk conditions
- Opportunities for traffic calming measures

PROFILE BACKGROUND

In the early 2000’s City Administration began to contemplate the challenges of a growing city with increasing diversity, significant infrastructure expansion and increasing numbers of mature neighbourhoods requiring investment to address aging infrastructure. In December 2009, City Council approved the Great Neighbourhood Capital Program, allocating \$150 million over 10 years. Neighbourhood Revitalization was a key component of this program.

The total approved 2019-2022 Neighbourhood Revitalization capital budget was \$13.4 million for strategy, planning and design and delivery within two revitalization areas (Inglewood and Balwin/Belvedere). The majority of capital funding allocated to delivery for the 2019-2022 capital budget cycle was identified to be spent within Inglewood as there were more immediate alignment opportunities between Inglewood and 124 Street renewals. Alignment opportunities in Balwin and Belvedere were complex and less immediate and, as a result, the majority of Balwin and Belvedere delivery was planned for 2023-2026.

PROFILE JUSTIFICATION

This funding request is a continuation of the Great Neighbourhood Capital Program that has supported the reinvestment and renewal of mature neighbourhoods for over a decade. The Neighbourhood Revitalization Program represents a crucial part of community development initiatives in the City and advances Council’s objective of creating pedestrian-friendly, connected, attractive and vibrant communities. Funding the delivery of the capital investments for the Neighbourhood Revitalization within Balwin and Belvedere will result in the following outcomes:

- Allows residents to strengthen existing connections and establish new ones within their diverse communities
- Leverage existing resources to build and maintain attractive and healthy neighbourhoods
- Improves the safety, wayfinding, and cleanliness of these neighbourhoods
- Physical environment improvements enhance walkability and improve accessibility to local amenities, gathering spaces, and open spaces
- Improves infrastructure connections to create and maintain a vibrant, diverse local economy
- Increased quality of life within these neighbourhoods

CAPITAL PROFILE REPORT

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

As the implementation of the Neighbourhood Revitalization will enhance five (5) existing green spaces available within these neighbourhoods, it supports the criteria of the Big City Move of Greener As We Grow. In addition, the improvement of sidewalk infrastructure, lighting, wayfinding is projected to increase the volume of pedestrian traffic in the area and reduce the reliance on vehicles by residents in the neighbourhoods.

The improvement of existing sidewalk infrastructure as well as the addition of the “missing pieces” of the sidewalk network will improve the walkability of these neighbourhoods. This is especially important for those residents with reduced mobility. As such this project supports the Inclusive and Compassionate Big City Move.

Improving the ability of residents of the Balwin and Belvedere neighbourhoods to foster connections with each other will enhance the overall sense of community within these areas.

This project supports the Big City Move of Rebuildable City by demonstrating the City’s commitment to reinvest and enhance existing mature neighbourhoods.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The primary alternatives for the implementation of the Neighbourhood Revitalization are as follows:

- Delay this Project to a Later Date:

Under this alternative, projects would be paused at Checkpoint 3 in the Project Development and Delivery Model process and placed on hold until delivery funding becomes available in a future budget cycle.

- Complete the Individual Projects in a Phased Fashion:

The individual scopes of work with this profile could be completed on a gradual basis over a longer period. While this alternative would require less initial commitment of capital and resources, implementing the project in this fashion is less efficient and would increase the level of disruption to the community

COST BENEFITS

The attractiveness of Balwin and Belvedere will be directly enhanced through these improvements, in turn creating pedestrian-friendly, connected, attractive and vibrant communities. The projects will enhance livability and safety and will contribute to placemaking.

KEY RISKS & MITIGATING STRATEGY

The key risk of not proceeding forward with this profile is the prioritized capital projects identified in the Balwin and Belvedere Strategy would not be implemented. This outcome would result in the Balwin and Belvedere Strategy not being realized which can result in potentially less uplift in social conditions.

RESOURCES

Project management of the will be completed by in-house City resources. Procurement of a consultant and contractor is required for the detailed design and construction, respectively.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommend approval of this Balwin and Belvedere Revitalization profile, to deliver on capital projects as outlined in the Balwin and Belvedere Revitalization Strategy and in alignment with the City Plan and City goals.

CAPITAL PROFILE REPORT

PROFILE NAME: **Balwin and Belvedere Revitalization**
 PROFILE NUMBER: **23-40-9030**
 BRANCH: **Building Great Neighbourhoods**

UNFUNDED
 PROFILE TYPE: **Standalone**

CAPITAL BUDGET AND FUNDING SOURCES (000's)

APPROVED BUDGET		Prior Years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Beyond 2030	Total
	Approved Budget	Original Budget Approved	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Current Approved Budget	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

BUDGET REQUEST													
Budget Request		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

REVISED BUDGET (IF APPROVED)													
Revised Budget (if Approved)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

CAPITAL BUDGET BY ACTIVITY TYPE (000's)

OPERATING IMPACT OF CAPITAL

Type of Impact:

Branch:																
	Rev	Exp	Net	FTE	Rev	Exp	Net	FTE	Rev	Exp	Net	FTE	Rev	Exp	Net	FTE
Total Operating Impact	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

CAPITAL PROFILE REPORT

PROFILE NAME: **NATURE BASED CLIMATE SOLUTIONS**
 PROFILE NUMBER: **CM-30-0001**
 DEPARTMENT: **Integrated Infrastructure Services**
 LEAD BRANCH: **Infrastructure Planning and Design**
 PARTNER: **Planning and Environment Services**
 BUDGET CYCLE: **2023-2026**

UNFUNDED

PROFILE STAGE:	L2 - CapBud Review
PROFILE TYPE:	Composite
LEAD MANAGER:	Nicole Wolfe
PARTNER MANAGER:	Kent Snyder
ESTIMATED START:	January, 2023
ESTIMATED COMPLETION:	December, 2026

Service Category:		Major Initiative:	
GROWTH	RENEWAL	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED:	-
		BUDGET REQUEST:	-
		TOTAL PROFILE BUDGET:	-

PROFILE DESCRIPTION

Carbon capture and nature based solutions is one of four climate pathways in the Energy Transition Strategy and Preparing for changing ecosystems is one of five pathways in the Climate Resilient Edmonton Adaptation Strategy. Nature based solutions are actions and tools to protect, manage, and restore ecosystems in ways that address climate change challenges, as well as provide both human and ecological benefits. This profile supports climate action through accelerating the planning, design and delivery of nature based climate solutions efforts including ecosystem restoration, conservation, naturalization and daylighting. Nature based solutions work by increasing carbon storage (removing carbon from the atmosphere), or by avoiding greenhouse gas emissions. The intent of this profile is to provide a capital composite to accelerate nature based solutions implementation and support adaptation efforts. The profile will act as a composite to allow for design and delivery of ecosystem restoration, conservation, naturalization or day lighting projects to advance. The composite also enables Administration to leverage partnership funding announcements linked to nature based solutions/green infrastructure.

PROFILE BACKGROUND

Climate change is changing everything. This is a critical decade requiring rapid and significant scaling up of climate action. At the same time the climate crisis is unfolding, so too is a biodiversity crisis. The climate and biodiversity crises are inextricably linked. The recent 2022 IPCC report indicates that global warming would cause unavoidable increases in multiple climate hazards and present multiple risks to ecosystems as well as humans. This same report indicates that biodiversity loss, degradation, damage, and transformation of ecosystems are already key risks for every region due to past global warming, and will continue to escalate with continued warning. Research from the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute predicts that, as early as the 2040s, Edmonton's ecosystems could be unrecognizable from what they are today, having a climate more conducive to supporting grassland ecosystems (similar to what is currently present in southern Alberta). A climate change vulnerability and risk assessment identified natural areas such as the urban forest in the river valley, manicured parks, trees, terrestrial habitats and ecosystems, aquatic habitats and ecosystems as some of the assets at highest risk due to a changing climate.

PROFILE JUSTIFICATION

City Council approved Edmonton's Community Energy Transition Strategy, Climate Resilient Edmonton Adaptation Strategy, and Climate Resilience Policy (C627) which requires urgent accelerated and ambitious climate action. Nature based solutions have been estimated to have the potential to provide up to 30% of the global climate change mitigation needed to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and globally could generate trillions of dollars in benefits. Nature based solutions work by removing and storing carbon from the atmosphere or by avoiding greenhouse gas emissions. Nature based solutions also offer several other important benefits including water regulation, stormwater management, urban heat island mitigation, habitat protection and restoration, and access to nature for urban residents. A United Nations report in January 2022 found that G20 countries need to scale-up annual nature-based solutions spending to \$285 billion (USD) by 2050 to tackle the interrelated nature, climate, and land degradation crises. Urban nature based solutions can be instrumental in sequestering and storing carbon, while simultaneously contributing to climate adapted, healthy communities and provide access to nature for Edmontonians. Nature based solutions use the power of healthy and functioning ecosystems as infrastructure to provide natural goods and services that benefit both society and the environment. This profile will advance the implementation of these nature based solutions in order to meet multiple city building goals, including our climate change commitments. Accelerated and scaled up investment in nature based solutions is needed for achieving Edmonton's local carbon budget and to prepare for Edmonton's changing climate.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

City Council approved Edmonton's Community Energy Transition Strategy, Climate Resilient Edmonton Adaptation Strategy, and Climate Resilience Policy (C627) which requires urgent accelerated and ambitious climate action. Nature based solutions work by removing and storing carbon from the atmosphere or by avoiding greenhouse gas emissions. Nature based solutions also offer several other important benefits including water regulation, stormwater management, urban heat island mitigation, habitat, and access to nature for urban residents. Urban nature based solutions can be instrumental in sequestering and storing carbon, while simultaneously contributing to climate adapted, healthy communities and provide access to nature for Edmontonians. Nature based solutions use the power of healthy and functioning ecosystems as infrastructure to provide natural goods and services that benefit both society and the environment. This profile will advance the implementation of these nature based solutions in order to meet multiple city building goals, including our climate change commitments. Accelerated and scaled up investment in nature based solutions is needed for achieving Edmonton's local carbon budget and to prepare for Edmonton's changing climate.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Nature based solutions can provide a more cost effective and robust alternative to technological solutions (such as carbon capture), while simultaneously contributing to multiple urban benefits. For this reason, investment in nature based solutions should be prioritized.

CAPITAL PROFILE REPORT

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COST BENEFITS

Nature based solutions can provide a more cost effective and robust alternative to technological solutions (such as carbon capture), while simultaneously contributing to multiple urban benefits. For this reason, investment in nature based solutions should be prioritized.

KEY RISKS & MITIGATING STRATEGY

Nature based solutions take time to reach their peak carbon sequestration potential, as these assets (such as trees), take time to grow. There is a risk that if this work is delayed, we will miss the carbon sequestration potential needed by 2030 and beyond. This work also includes the risk that land that should be conserved for nature based solutions, due to carbon sequestration potential or important ecological benefit, gets developed. Work should be undertaken to secure those important areas before this occurs.

RESOURCES

Design and project management of the nature based solutions will be completed in-house by Open Space Planning and Design and Delivery teams. Procurement of a contractor is required for the delivery.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This profile will allow the City to advance Edmonton's Community Energy Transition Strategy, Climate Resilient Edmonton Adaptation Strategy, and Climate Resilience Policy (C627) specifically as it relates to Nature Based Solutions.

CAPITAL PROFILE REPORT

PROFILE NAME: **Nature Based Climate Solutions**
 PROFILE NUMBER: **CM-30-0001**
 BRANCH: **Infrastructure Planning and Design**

UNFUNDED
 PROFILE TYPE: **Composite**

CAPITAL BUDGET AND FUNDING SOURCES (000's)

APPROVED BUDGET		Prior Years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Beyond 2030	Total
	Approved Budget	Original Budget Approved	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Current Approved Budget	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

BUDGET REQUEST													
Budget Request		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

REVISED BUDGET (IF APPROVED)													
Revised Budget (if Approved)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

CAPITAL BUDGET BY ACTIVITY TYPE (000's)

OPERATING IMPACT OF CAPITAL

Type of Impact:

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Total Operating Impact	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-