

Windermere North HOA

Presentation to Urban Planning Committee

Colin Van Buskirk

March 21, 2023



One at Windermere HOA

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HOA Objectives



Create a strong and welcoming community



Preserve the value of our investment



Enhance the enjoyment and beauty of our community

Enjoyment of Community

Our park is a social area where neighbours stop to visit and chat

Each day hundreds of people exercise, walk their dogs, bike, picnic, bird watch, play on the grass, and enjoy the beauty of the community



Enjoyment of Community

Daily we have visitors from other districts come to enjoy the beauty of our community



Pride and Sharing

As if it were a competition, community homeowners take great pride in planting and showcasing their beautiful gardens



Pride and Sharing





Pride and Sharing

Community volunteers plant and maintain our community flowerbeds, clear weeds, and pick up debris



Our HOA





UNDER THE ADVICE AND DIRECTION OF THE HOA ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS, THE HOA & MANAGEMENT COMPANY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR: COLLECTION OF ANNUAL FEES

MANAGE THE HOA'S ADMINISTRATION, ACCOUNTING, AND PAYMENT OF INVOICES

FIELD CALLS FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS

LIAISE WITH CITY OF EDMONTON, HOA CONTRACTORS, ACCOUNTANTS, INSURANCE, LEGAL COUNSEL, ETC.

HOA Enhanced Maintenance Services

Windermere North &

The One at Windermere

Since 2013, the HOA has collected funds for, and has provided the following services:

- Lawn, tree, and shrub maintenance in the boulevards, storm pond, and pathway areas
- Replacement of dead shrubs, and mulch
- Weed management
- Work with EPCOR to manage the algae in the storm pond
- Plant, maintain, and water entry flowerbeds
- Maintain and repair the gazebo and main entry structures and signage
- Maintenance of seasonal lights
- Maintain and repair fountain, garbage receptacles, dog waste stations, benches, selective fence painting in public areas, etc.
- Payment of electricity for the fountain, gazebo, and entry feature lighting

HOA Enhanced Maintenance Services

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The One at Windermere

- Conduct site visits and investigate community issues
- Source, direct, and manage contractors
- Conduct Annual General and Board meetings
- Ensure the HOA is compliant with legislation
- Source and maintain insurance and audits as required
- All other tasks required to maintain the community to a high standard



Windermere North HOA

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Rose Herman

March 21, 2023



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Path Forward in Developing a City Partnership

- The HOA provides enhanced services to the community at our own expense.
- This frees up funds for the City to address issues in other areas of the City.
- We are asking for a Maintenance Agreement that fits our unique situation, is not onerous, restrictive, financially crippling, or punitive, and does not hold the HOA to a standard that the City of Edmonton would not hold itself to.
- Please support us in the ongoing development by removing restrictive obstacles and threats of penalties.
- We have noted multiple legal and technical issues with the 2019 Maintenance Agreement template. We have submitted our applications and offered to provide comments, however there was no interest in hearing our concerns.
- The community is strongly opposed to forced naturalization.

In direct opposition to the current community recreational use



- Our community is known for it's beautiful, well maintained appearance
- The intent of naturalization is to reduce the cost of mowing and maintaining public green spaces
- Although well-intentioned, naturalization consequences include but are not limited to:
 - Transition from pro-active to reactive management
 - Unmaintained community = abandoned appearance
 - Loss of our community's ONLY recreational area

Noxious Weeds



Weed Management

Identified as the number one concern by the Farmer's Advocate Office



Noxious Weeds

- Increased weeds = increased residential herbicide, pesticide, and antihistamine use, as well as increased commercial farm use of herbicides.
- Transition from controlled, professional weed management to reactionary homeowner weed management. The City risks relinquishing control to thousands of frustrated homeowners.
- Decreased property values = decreased taxation revenues.

Damage to infrastructure

Weeds coupled with our northern freeze thaw cycle, exponentially accelerates the deterioration of residential driveways, concrete sidewalks, curbs, catch basins, and pavement. Replacement and repair have a significant environmental and financial cost.











Safety Concerns

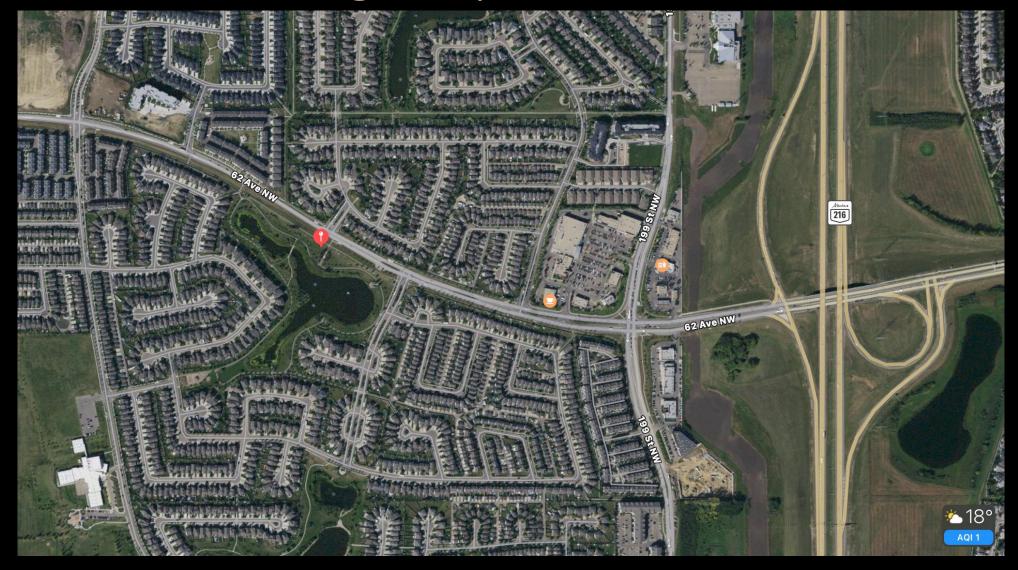
Although well-intentioned, naturalization safety concerns include but are not limited to:

- Increased herbicide, pesticide, and antihistamines in our water and on our foods.
- Tall weeds and poplar trees (suckers) growing within inches of roadways obstructing crosswalk and traffic sightlines. These become expensive to remove as they quickly grow into tree trunks.
- Foxtails and thistles are well known to cause injury to pets and children often resulting in the need for medical attention.

Safety Concerns

- Our community is adjacent to the river and ravines and already has a prospering coyote and rabbit population. Naturalization of the storm pond area would create a welcoming and cozy residential environment for coyotes, foxes, deer, moose and rodents.
- Residents fear losing pets to coyotes even within their fenced yards (4' chain link fence).
- We do not want to lose our clear unobstructed view of the storm pond, which currently has no hiding places for predatory animals or persons.
- Concern for curious children who want to explore the pond's edge behind tall weeds.

Naturalized Doug Kelly Park



HERBICIDE This area is being treated to manage regulated weeds and protect biodiversity. Target Weed Noxious weeds Lontrel & 2,4D-Amine Product Aug 05 CliAM Applied 24 hrs Ready For Use Edmonton edmonton.ca/parkcare







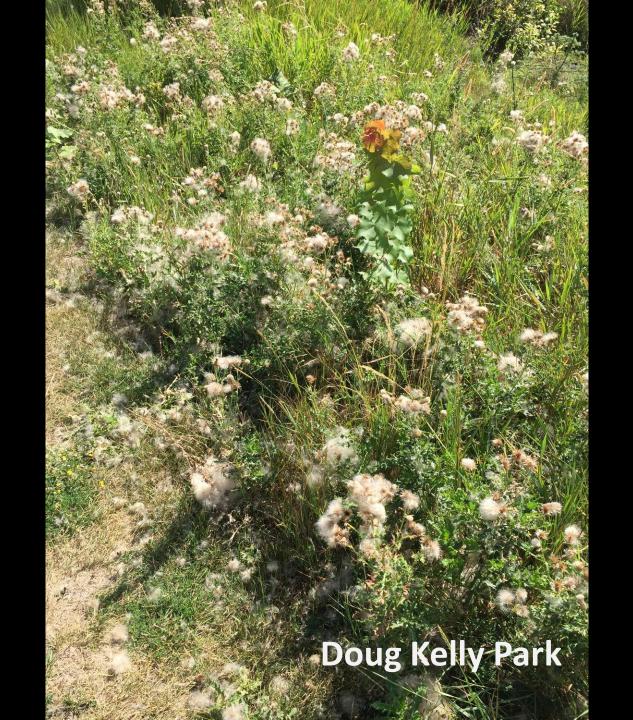






Doug Kelly Park











Doug Kelly Park

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