

2018 Complete Streets Standards Engagement Process

The development of the Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards ('Standards'), published in 2018, was a multi-year process. This work consisted of an extensive update, informed by engagement with stakeholders, and review of best practices, guidelines and standards (international, national and municipal).

In addition to the engagement outlined in this memo, extensive consultation with internal City experts provided a comprehensive and balanced update to the Standards in alignment with City of Edmonton policies, programs and procedures.

The Standards update process consisted of the following key phases, with engagement being critical to the process throughout.

1. Phase One - Framing Workshops (internal and external) - 2016:

- Deliver educational information about the Standards to ensure all participants have a clear understanding of which items to review, consider and/or provide input/solutions.
- Share feedback heard during the 2015 roll out of the Complete Streets Guidelines, which was used to inform the Standards.
- Identify the most critical areas requiring additional updates within the Standards (gaps; insufficient information; errors or inconsistencies; unclear or difficult to interpret; general improvements; ways to help increase uptake and use on projects).
- Engagement with external stakeholders to inform the scope of the update to the Standards. External stakeholders involved in workshops and surveys included:

Advisory/Advocacy Groups:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Alberta Avenue Business Association
- Alberta Transportation
- Edmonton Public School Board
- Paths for People
- University of Alberta

Consulting Firms:

- Al-Terra Engineering Ltd
- Bunt & Associates Transportation Planning
- CIMA+
- DES Engineering
- MMM Group / WSP
- Stantec Consulting Ltd.
- TAL Stone Fence
- Watt Consulting Group

Development Firms:

- Cameron Development Corporation
- Canada Lands Company
- David Murray Architect
- Qualico
- Rohit Group
- Sherrick Management
- United Communities

Franchise Utilities:

- ATCO Gas
- EPCOR Distribution
- EPCOR Water
- Rogers Communications
- Shaw Communications
- Zayo / MTS Allstream

2. Phase 2 - 1:1 Engagement (Surveys and Interview Focused Questionnaires) - 2016:

- Individual and small group engagement (through surveys and interview focused discussions) intended to solicit specific, concrete input to guide and ensure highly-valued, well-supported success with the updates to the Standards.
- This included meetings and surveys with many of the groups noted above, including representatives of the development industry, utility companies, consulting industry and special interest groups.

3. Phase 3 - Analysis and Reporting - 2016:

- Review of input gathered during earlier phases to determine the scope of the Standards update. The content was carried forward to guide the supporting consulting team and a design advisory group in the update and development of the Standards.
- Updates provided to internal and external stakeholders outlining the feedback gathered and a summary of the content to be addressed in the Standards update.

4. Phase 4 - Standards Development (Technical) - 2017:

- This technical phase of work reflected the process where updates to the Standards were being reviewed and developed.
- A variety of meetings and discussions were held related to specific aspects of the Standards development and to discuss specific requirements with internal and external stakeholders, such as those listed in Phase 1, who have infrastructure within the road right-of-way.

5. Phase 5 - Feedback Phase - 2017:

- Draft standards update ready for review. Original participants from Phase One were able to review the various draft revisions to the Standards.
- Review of the draft was supplemented with a workshop for internal and external stakeholders to identify opportunities to strengthen the content before it was finalized.

The Complete Streets Design and Construction Standards¹ was published in 2018, with a recognition that ongoing updates (small and large) would be required to ensure the Standards remain current.

A larger-scale update to the Standards is in the early stages of planning at this time, along with key stakeholder engagement. A communication and engagement plan will be developed to ensure that users of the Standards are provided opportunities to inform the update.

¹ City of Edmonton's Complete Street Design and Construction Standards.
https://www.edmonton.ca/sites/default/files/public-files/assets/PDF/COE-IM-GUIDE-0011_DSOPEGPWP.pdf?cb=1678734972