

Urban Planning and Economy

National Urban Park - Outcomes of Pre-Feasibility Phase

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Item 7.1
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Background

- *Pre-feasibility phase*
 - Partners explored initial interest for a national urban park
 - Identification of preferred study area
- Discussions with Parks Canada and partners
 - Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations
 - Métis Nation of Alberta
 - Government of Alberta (observer role)
- Informed by technical work, as well as internal and external engagement



Site Options

- River Valley identified as preferred study area by partners
- Scope and scale need to match funding availability
- Preference for a phased approach



Governance

- Driven by local needs and context
- Range of flexible governance options preferred
- Parks Canada - predicted to be non-ownership partner
- Local administration expected
- Opportunities for Indigenous co-management and co-stewardship to be explored further



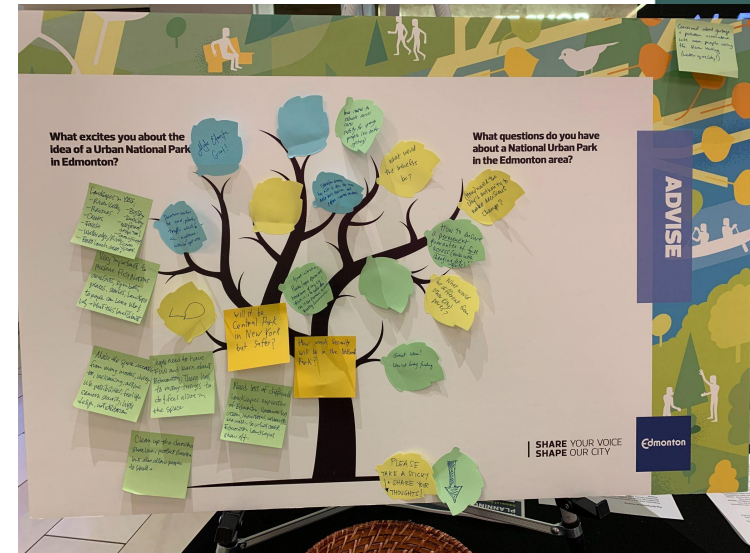
Impacts to Park Users

- Existing City of Edmonton plans and strategies will continue to guide land uses and permitted activities
- Management of the park would align with the national urban park program while respecting local needs
- Free to access and open to the public
- Continue to explore alignment with national urban park policy and designation requirements

Pre-feasibility Engagement - What We Heard

The following were identified consistently across all engagement opportunities and audiences:

- Protect nature and restore degraded ecosystems
- Address physical, economic and social barriers to accessing nature
- Access a national urban park using multiple modes of transportation
- Maintain local governance over Edmonton's River Valley

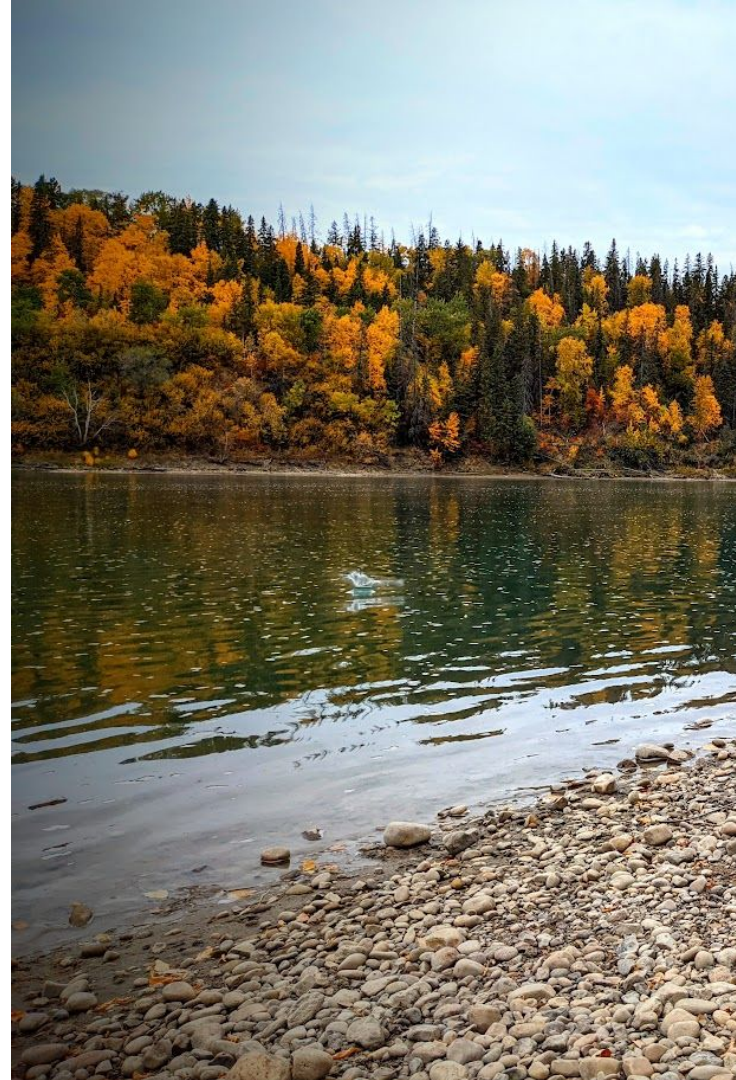


Designation Process

- Interest in proceeding to the *planning phase*
 - Park vision
 - Governance model
 - Refined park boundary
 - Public and stakeholder engagement
 - Indigenous engagement
 - Draft budget and priority investments
 - Initial operational planning
- Timelines
 - *Planning phase: 2023-2024*
 - *Designation phase: 2024-2025*

Next Steps

- Administration recommends City of Edmonton continue with Initiative
- Committee / Council decision needed to proceed to *planning phase*
- Pending confirmation of support from Parks Canada and other partners
- Proceeding to *planning phase* would allow further exploration of: park vision, governance model, site boundary, budget and priority investments



Thank You. Questions?

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