



Edmonton

# Urban Planning and Economy

## North Saskatchewan River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan Bylaw 20996

### August 18, 2025 Public Hearing

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Planning and Environment Services

## River Valley Planning Context

- Growing population
- Evolving outdoor recreation needs
- Demand for events, commercial opportunities, facilities, and urban services
- Pressure on wildlife and ecosystems
- Evolving planning considerations and processes



## The City Plan

“Maintain the North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine System’s key role as an environmental protection area and for open space, cultural and recreational uses.”

## Breathe: Green Network Strategy

“The River Valley and Ravine System form the core of the green network, and provide important habitat for plants and animals, regional connectivity throughout the City and beyond, as well as cherished open spaces.”



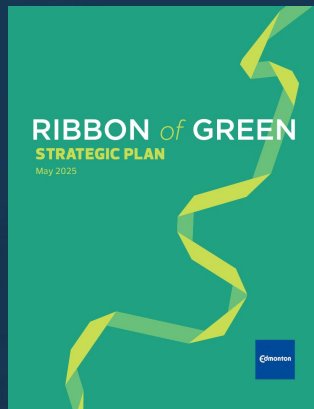
# RENEWED RIVER VALLEY PLANNING FRAMEWORK

## RIVER VALLEY ARP



Statutory land use concept and policies

## RIBBON OF GREEN



Long-term guidance for protection, access, and use

Renew and clarify planning processes and priorities

Recommit to environmental protection

Renew approach to environmental stewardship

Address gaps in programming and access



# OUR VISION FOR THE NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER VALLEY

"The North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine System is a protected, connected, ecologically resilient landscape that honours our collective history and promotes healthy living through diverse opportunities for recreation, active transportation, learning, and gathering in the tranquility of nature."



# ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



**533** WORKSHOP  
PARTICIPANTS



**463** POP-UP  
ENGAGEMENT  
CONVERSATIONS



**9705** SURVEY  
RESPONDENTS



**443** INTERACTIVE  
MAP COMMENTS



## INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT



**39** MEETINGS WITH  
**23** INDIGENOUS NATIONS  
AND ORGANIZATIONS



**2** GROUP WORKSHOPS  
+ SITE VISITS WITH  
INDIGENOUS NATIONS

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# River Valley ARP Renewal

- Updates the North Saskatchewan River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan, Bylaw 7188 (February 1985)
- Sets overall land use pattern for the River Valley and Ravine System
- Limits development for purposes other than open space
- Identifies high-level decision making framework for development proposals





## Plan Objectives

- Ensure the environmental protection of the River Valley and Ravine System
- Provide public access for celebration and wellness





## Plan Direction

- Provides direction to City Administration and City Council when evaluating development proposals
- Existing uses and development rights acknowledged
- New uses, other than those compatible with open space use, are discouraged or not supported outside of Rossdale and Cloverdale



# River Valley Open Space

Lands that are part of the public open space network are designated as **River Valley Open Space** and planned in accordance with the Ribbon of Green Strategic Plan

## Ribbon of Green Strategic Plan

### RIVER VALLEY VISION + PRINCIPLES

#### LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATIONS



#### ECOLOGICAL GUIDANCE



#### PROGRAM GUIDANCE



### SYSTEM-WIDE POLICY

## Decision-Making Framework: Technical Reporting Requirements

- Development on River Valley Open Space or Public Utility lands
- Rezoning applications for primary uses other than open space
- Plan boundary amendments
- Development permit applications

STRATEGIC  
ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSESSMENT

SITE-SPECIFIC TECHNICAL STUDIES  
AS APPROPRIATE

## Decision-Making Framework: City Council Approval Requirements

- Intensive open space, intensive transportation, or intensive utility facilities
- Development with long-term or permanent environmental or community impacts that cannot be mitigated
- Plan amendments
- Rezoning applications for zones other than A - River Valley Zone or NA - Natural Areas Zone







# Thank you

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