

# What We Heard Report: Waste Reduction Roadmap '30

December 2025

**SHARE** YOUR VOICE  
**SHAPE** OUR CITY

**Edmonton**

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## Land Acknowledgment

The City of Edmonton acknowledges the traditional land on which we reside is in Treaty Six Territory. We would like to thank the diverse Indigenous Peoples whose ancestors' footsteps have marked this territory for centuries, such as nêhiyaw (Cree), Dené, Anishinaabe (Saulteaux), Nakota Isga (Nakota Sioux) and Niitsitapi (Blackfoot) peoples.

We also acknowledge this as the Métis' homeland and the home of one of the largest communities of Inuit south of the 60th parallel. It is a welcoming place for all peoples who come from around the world to share Edmonton as a home. Together we call upon all of our collective, honoured traditions and spirits to work in building a great city for today and future generations.

### About This Report

This What We Heard report provides an overview of how the City outlines actions taken to engage Edmonton residents and representatives of businesses and non-governmental organizations (referred to as interest groups throughout this report) to create the 2026 – 2030 Waste Reduction Roadmap, or Roadmap '30. It also summarizes the engagement results.

# What We Heard Report: Waste Reduction Roadmap '30

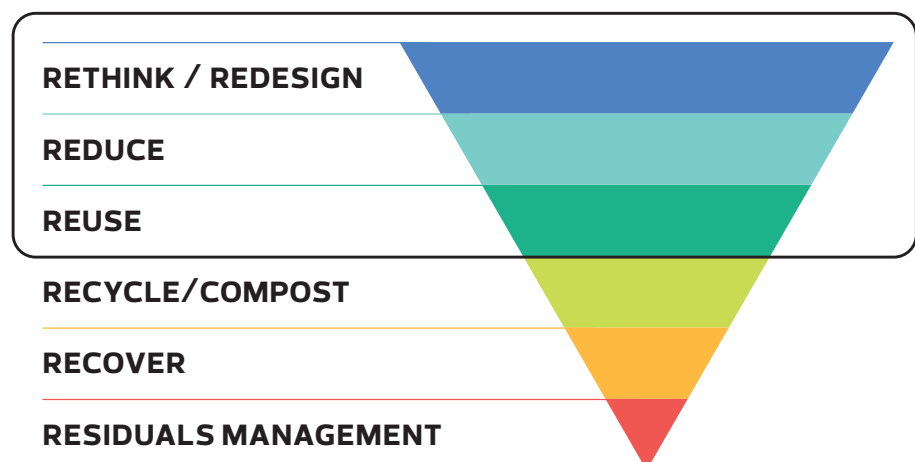
## Executive Summary

In fall 2019, City Council approved the Edmonton 25-year Comprehensive Waste Management Strategy, which described the pathway Edmonton would take to achieve its goal of 90 per cent diversion from landfills across all regulated and non-regulated sectors. The strategy established the Zero Waste Framework as the City's Waste Hierarchy, for which the top three tiers are devoted to waste reduction. The Strategy also complements the desired outcomes of The City Plan: to “avoid waste at its source, improve diversion rates and reuse and recover resources” and “partner and strategize to reduce waste from the food system”.

The Waste Reduction Roadmap is a five-year plan consisting of actions the City of Edmonton will take towards a Zero Waste future. The first Waste Reduction Roadmap, also known as Roadmap '24, established two goals:

- + Achieving zero per cent growth in residential waste generation from 2021 to 2024.
- + Reducing residential waste generation per capita by 20 per cent over 25 years – by 2044 from the 2019 baseline. Roadmap '24 identified ten actions Waste Services would complete to reduce waste generation per capita.

**Figure 1** City of Edmonton Waste Hierarchy with Waste Reduction Focus Areas Highlighted



## What Was Done

From 2026 through 2030, Roadmap '30 will guide new actions to continue to meet the 20 per cent waste per capita reduction goal. Roadmap '30 is being developed over three phases of engagement that build on each other to identify, refine and finalize the actions, allowing Edmontonians the opportunity to review and provide feedback on potential actions.

City staff completed research and environmental scans followed by **Phase 1** internal engagement with City subject matter experts between October to November 2024 to identify more than 200 potential waste reduction actions. That list was refined to 16 proposed actions through a systematic review process that considered practicability, operational feasibility, strategic alignment, financial and environmental impacts, and best practices. These shortlisted actions were organized into four **focus areas**:

1. Reduce household food and yard waste
2. Promote reuse and repair
3. Support public events to reduce waste
4. Optimize waste reduction and circular economy initiatives in City projects and operations

Public engagement centred on the proposed actions associated with the first three focus areas. The fourth focus area is exclusive to the City and was not included for public input.

In **Phase 2**, public engagement was conducted between April to June 2025 with both Edmonton residents and targeted interest groups, including representatives of business and non-governmental organizations that operate in food services, food security, reuse and charitable services for durable goods, festivals and events. The engagement was at **REFINE-level** on the City's Public Engagement Spectrum and the **objective** was for residents and interest groups to help the City refine the 16 proposed actions, by identifying which actions they support most. Public input was gathered through an **online survey**, a discussion hub and Q&A forum on **Engaged Edmonton**, **four pop-up events** held at shopping centres across Edmonton, and **four interest group** workshops dedicated to waste reduction focus areas or topics. The results of these engagements were analyzed to produce a summary of findings, which at their broadest level, are as follows:

- + Overall, Edmontonians have a desire to reuse more and reduce waste.
- + Educational and supporting resources are wanted, specifically on how to reduce food and yard waste at home.
- + Participation in waste reduction needs to be convenient, namely for reuse and repair activities.
- + Accessibility is an important factor in finding information on and participating in waste reduction activities.
- + Reducing waste generated at events is a priority

For **Phase 3**, which is not included for the purposes of this What We Heard Report, the City conducted an internal review to validate and finalize the draft actions that will be brought forward in Roadmap '30. Through this phase, public priorities and input gathered in Phase 2 was reviewed along with a variety of internal inputs, including technical and feasibility assessment, and City policies and procedures. This work was completed in late 2025. The draft Roadmap '30 will be presented to City Council for approval in early 2026 and once approved, the City will begin implementing actions.

**Figure 2** The Public Engagement Spectrum**REFINE**

The public is involved by the City to adapt and adjust approaches to policies, programs, projects, or services.

**Public Engagement Approach**

Roadmap '30 public engagement is categorized as **REFINE-level** along the City's Public Engagement Spectrum.

In Phase 2, the public was invited to refine the list of 16 waste reduction actions that the City of Edmonton proposed through Phase 1 internal engagement. The purpose of the **REFINE-level** public input was to prioritize the proposed actions that are most critical to achieving long-term waste reduction goals, while assessing their perceived feasibility, effectiveness and alignment with public values and those of impacted interest groups. Public engagement activities explored the anticipated benefits and potential challenges of each action and opportunities for improvement to capture a comprehensive understanding of public priorities. The insights and perspectives gathered through these activities are critical in shaping final recommendations and informing the City's decisions on waste reduction strategies for the development of Roadmap '30.

**Who Was Engaged**

Engagement activities were designed to gather input from residents and interest groups across Edmonton to ensure support for actions brought forward into Roadmap '30. Targeted interest groups included representatives of business and non-governmental organizations that operate in food services, food security, reuse and charitable services for durable goods, festivals and events. These interest groups were engaged because they are the most likely to be impacted or involved in the implementation of waste reduction actions.



The following public engagement activities gathered input from Edmonton **residents**:



An online survey was available from May 14 – June 11, 2025 on an Engaged Edmonton page and shared through Edmonton Insight Community. The survey generated **4,223 responses**.



An Engaged Edmonton page was made available from May 14 – June 11, 2025. It hosted **244 visitors**. Visitors could post comments in a discussion hub and ask questions for the City to answer in a Q&A forum.



In May 2025, the City offered four pop-up events at Southgate Centre, Kingsway Mall, West Edmonton Mall, and Northgate Centre. These pop-ups generated **1,114 interactions** primarily through sticker-voting activities.

## How We Engaged

A Gender-Based Analysis (GBA+) process was used to better understand the experiences and diverse needs of Edmontonians. The project incorporated engagement approaches that broaden outreach and ensure equitable participation, including the following tactics:

- + Pop-ups were held in easily accessible shopping centres during and after standard work hours in all quadrants of the city.
- + Workshop events were accessible by multiple modes of transportation or virtually.
- + Facilitation techniques were employed to ensure all participant voices were heard – not just dominant ones.
- + Invitations to select Indigenous groups and organizations were sent with guidance from the City of Edmonton's Indigenous Relations Office

The following engagement activities gathered input from targeted **interest groups**:



One in-person and three virtual workshops took place through April – June, 2025 and were structured around the following four topics: Food Waste, Reuse and Repair, Events and Reusable Cups. **Fifty-three participants** of targeted interest groups attended one of the workshops (see Appendix A for list of workshops and interest groups that participated).



One in-person conversation took place with **a representative** of the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations on October 29, 2025.

The City communicated the above engagement activities in the following ways:

- + To reach residents across Edmonton, the engagement was promoted through social media, the City of Edmonton website, an advertising campaign, roadway signs and print materials, community outreach and through local media.
- + To reach targeted interest groups, the City sent emails to organizations inviting them to participate in a focus area workshop. Follow-up emails were sent to priority organizations in cases where the City did not receive a response. The number of organizations invited to each workshop is as follows: Food Waste (68), Reuse and Repair (142), Events (8) and Reusable Cups (38).

## What We Heard

Below is a summary of the key findings, opportunities and challenges for the three waste reduction focus areas, as identified by residents and interest groups through engagement activities:

### **Reduce Household Food And Yard Waste**

Engaged residents want to participate in local programs and services for food waste reduction. They want to connect with local organizations and opportunities to effectively use and distribute surplus household food and homegrown produce. They are open to using organic materials such as grass or leaves on their property instead of disposing of them, and want to learn about home composting.

*Engaged interest groups indicated education is key to reducing household food waste (e.g. information about best before dates, cooking classes that aim to reduce food waste, etc). They recognize local efforts already exist in food waste reduction and that collaboration among organizations working in this space is important to avoid duplication. They view community-level actions as sometimes more successful than efforts requiring partnership with an organization or business. In their eyes, City of Edmonton facilities are well positioned to support this work (e.g. recreation centres and libraries).*

### **Promote Reuse and Repair**

Residents that were engaged are keen to participate in reuse and repair activities, but require accessible resources and educational support. They are looking for more convenient locations to drop off donations, including opportunities for the City to partner with organizations for collecting secondhand items in good condition at events like Big Bin Events and at Eco Stations. Additionally, residents desire new resources, events and spaces for reusing, repairing and swapping, including pilot projects for curbside giveaway events and textile collection. They also want to see businesses supported and incentivized to use reusable cups on-site.

*Engaged interest groups recognize that existing reuse and repair systems are in place, but emphasize the need for increased support and public awareness. The success of reuse programs hinges on the convenience of their pick-up and donation services. Key challenges include the financial costs and accessibility issues related to storing and distributing donated items.*

*Additionally, many non-profit organizations face funding and volunteer shortages. Piloting programs in specific neighbourhoods is seen as a viable strategy for testing and public education. The expansion of reusable cup initiatives is also recognized as an opportunity, despite barriers such as cup retention, local supply, washing infrastructure, design and cost.*

### **Support Public Events to Reduce Waste**

Residents want to see resources and support dedicated to helping events in Edmonton reduce waste. Interest groups were also open to actions to reduce waste generated at events; however, there are significant challenges that need to be overcome, including public cooperation, financial cost and operational requirements (e.g. infrastructure, signage and human resources).

The table below lists the 16 proposed waste reduction actions under the three focus areas for Roadmap '30 and identifies (checkmark) the actions that received majority-level support (greater than 50 per cent) from residents and interest groups across all engagement tactics.

The resident response is based on the results of the online survey and pop-up events, while the interest group response is based on the results collected in the workshops.

**Table 1** Respondent support for proposed waste reduction actions

Waste Reduction Focus Area	Proposed Waste Reduction Actions	Majority-Level Support (>50%)	
		(survey and pop-up sessions) Residents	Interest Groups
<b>Reduce Household Food and Yard Waste</b>	Work with food organizations and Edmontonians to minimize food waste by finding opportunities to rescue or distribute surplus household food.	✓	
	Promote and develop resources that support and encourage residents to share surplus household food with food rescue organizations.		
	Increase awareness of how residents can reduce food waste at home by creating and sharing information, guides and tips.		✓
	Work with City partners to share food waste reduction tips with residents through cooking and baking classes offered in Edmonton.		✓
	Encourage and educate residents on home composting, using organic yard waste (e.g. grass, leaves) rather than disposing of them.	✓	✓
	Connect residents to organizations that can put excess homegrown fruit and vegetables to good use.	✓	✓
<b>Promote Reuse and Repair</b>	Research the waste-reduction impacts of "buy nothing" communities, collaborate with reuse organizations to understand material flows, map material donation sites, and identify barriers to maximizing thrift and reuse.		✓
	Look at opportunities to work with external partners to expand reusable item drop-off locations, improving reuse accessibility and participation.	✓	✓
	Develop resources and training to support residents in multi-unit buildings to reduce their waste through sharing, swapping, repairing and donating materials.		
	Using existing City communications and resources, talk about good, better and best practices for reducing, reusing and donating goods.		✓
	The City partners with organizations that accept donations to explore the possibility of offering resident drop off of good condition, secondhand items at selected City events and/or drop-off events.	✓	
	Develop new resources, events and spaces for reusing, repairing or swapping, such as investigating curbside giveaway events and textile collection pilot projects.	✓	✓
	Support the creation and expansion of a 'library-of-things' where residents can borrow items (such as tools, toys, kitchen appliances) in collaboration with partner organizations.		
	Support and incentivize businesses to use reusable cups on-site.	✓	✓
<b>Support Public Events to Reduce Waste</b>	Establish event guidelines for event organizers to determine how to reduce their event waste.	✓	✓
	Support events in preventing and reducing waste with in-person education and resources, consultation and other supports as identified by the event organizer community.	✓	✓

## Detailed Findings

To identify priority waste reduction actions, quantitative and qualitative data collected from both residents and targeted interest groups were analyzed. Detailed findings below are categorized based on method of engagement.

An online survey invited residents and property owners to provide feedback on the proposed shortlisted actions from May 14 – June 11, 2025 and generated 4,223 responses. These responses provided insights into behaviors, levels of support and associated opportunities and challenges

with proposed waste reduction actions. This section highlights the proposed waste reduction actions and methods to achieve those actions that received majority-level support (greater than 50 per cent) in the survey according to their focus areas. The detailed survey results are included in [Appendix B](#).

**Table 2** Proposed methods and actions with majority-level support on the survey: Food and Yard Waste

Proposed Waste Reduction Action	Proposed Method to Achieve Action	Resident Support (%)
<b>Encourage and educate residents on home composting, using organic yard waste (e.g. grass, leaves) rather than disposing of them.</b>	Incentives to compost at home or not place items out for collection would encourage them to leave grass, leaves and yard waste on their property.	<b>61%</b>
	Residents would be more likely to leave grass, leaves and yard waste on their property if they knew the benefits.	<b>60%</b>
	Getting help to plant low-maintenance plants and landscaping would encourage them to leave grass, leaves and yard waste on their property.	<b>57%</b>
	Knowing how to compost and use yard waste in a way that looks good would encourage them to leave grass, leaves and yard waste on their property.	<b>62%</b>
	Given the right resources, they would consider leaving grass, leaves and yard waste on their property.	<b>56%</b>
<b>Connect residents to organizations that can put excess homegrown fruit and vegetables to good use.</b>	Knowing what organizations accept property grown food would encourage them to donate food grown on their property.	<b>76%</b>
	Donation sites that are conveniently located would encourage them to donate food grown on their property.	<b>75%</b>
	Connecting them with organizations to collect the produce would encourage them to donate food grown on their property.	<b>66%</b>
	Having help collecting produce from their yard would encourage them to donate food grown on their property.	<b>54%</b>

**Table 3** Proposed methods and actions with majority-level support on the survey: Reuse and Repair

<b>Proposed Waste Reduction Action</b>	<b>Proposed Method to Achieve Action</b>	<b>Resident Support (%)</b>
<b>Look at opportunities to work with external partners to expand reusable item drop-off locations, improving reuse accessibility and participation.</b>	A map or directory showing where to donate or repair specific items would make it easier to donate, repair and reuse.	<b>69%</b>
	More convenient and accessible drop-off locations for reusable items would make it easier to donate, repair and reuse.	<b>63%</b>
	Transparency about where donated items go and who benefits (e.g., nonprofit vs. for-profit, reuse vs. recycling) would make it easier to donate, repair and reuse.	<b>60%</b>
<b>Develop new resources, events and spaces for reusing, repairing or swapping, such as investigating curbside giveaway events and textile collection pilot projects.</b>	The City should encourage and promote organizations to host swap events.	<b>67%</b>
	Residents would attend swap events if they were held close to their home or work.	<b>67%</b>
	The City should pilot a curbside giveaway event.	<b>65%</b>
	The City should pilot a community textile collection event.	<b>62%</b>
	Residents would dispose of broken things and buy new items instead.	<b>51%</b>
<b>Support and incentivize businesses to use reusable cups on-site.</b>	Support exempted* businesses to shift to reusables.	<b>62%</b>

**Table 4** Proposed methods and actions with majority-level support on the survey: Event Waste

<b>Proposed Waste Reduction Action</b>	<b>Proposed Method to Achieve Action</b>	<b>Resident Support (%)</b>
<b>Establish event guidelines for event organizers to determine how to reduce their event waste.</b>	Ensure organizers have sustainable event guides and tools to reduce waste.	<b>80%</b>
<b>Support events in preventing and reducing waste with in-person education and resources, consultation and other supports as identified by the event organizer community.</b>	Ensure organizers have access to City staff support to plan low-waste events, track and reduce their waste.	<b>75%</b>

The survey also invited residents to suggest additional actions, besides the ones proposed by the City, towards reducing waste in Edmonton. The majority of responses referenced actions that were either already captured in the proposed shortlist of actions for Roadmap '30 – largely in the category of Reuse and Repair and Food and Yard Waste – or were unrelated to the topic of waste reduction.

## Pop-Up Events

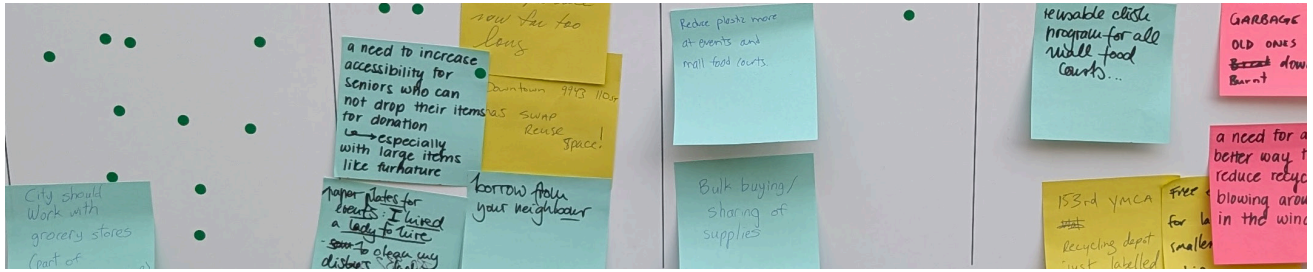
Four pop-up events took place in shopping centres across city quadrants in May 2025 and generated 1,114 interactions. Residents were invited to participate in a sticker-voting activity to indicate support for the 16 shortlisted waste reduction actions. Participants were encouraged to fill out the online survey and contribute additional ideas. Residents who participated in pop-up events indicated higher levels of support for the proposed actions noted in bold in Table 5 below.

Pop-up events also included opportunities for residents to suggest additional actions for consideration. Overall, the comments emphasized a shift from simply disposing of waste to actively reducing, reusing, repairing and recycling, supported by robust infrastructure, clear education and incentivized participation from both Edmontonians and businesses. Many of the contributions included out-of-scope actions related to waste diversion and processing, and actions for the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) community.

**Table 5** Sticker-Voting Results | Pop-up Events

Proposed Waste Reduction Action	Total =2,477	Resident Support (%)
<b>Work with food organizations and Edmontonians to minimize food waste by finding opportunities to rescue or distribute surplus household food.</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Encourage and educate residents on home composting, using organic yard waste (e.g., grass, leaves) rather than disposing of them.</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>10%</b>
Connecting residents to organizations that can put excess homegrown fruit and vegetables to good use.	133	5%
Promote and develop resources that support and encourage residents to share surplus household food with food rescue organizations.	109	4%
Increase awareness of how residents can reduce food waste at home by creating and sharing information, guides and tips.	106	4%
Work with City partners to share food waste reduction tips with residents through cooking and baking classes offered in Edmonton.	81	3%





Proposed Waste Reduction Action	Total =2,477	Resident Support (%)
<b>The City partners with organizations that accept donations, and offers resident drop off of good condition, secondhand items at events such as Big Bin Events, and facilities like Eco Stations.</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>10%</b>
Support the creation and expansion of a 'library-of-things' where residents can borrow items (such as tools, toys, kitchen appliances) in collaboration with partner organizations.	188	8%
Develop new resources, events and spaces for reusing, repairing or swapping, including investigating curbside giveaway events and textile collection pilot projects.	139	6%
Develop resources and training to support residents in multi-unit buildings to reduce their waste through sharing, swapping, repairing and donating materials.	116	5%
Look at opportunities to work with external partners to expand reusable item drop-off locations, improving reuse accessibility and participation.	93	4%
Research the waste reduction impacts of "buy nothing" communities, collaborate with reuse organizations to understand material flows, map material donation sites, and identify barriers to maximizing thrift and reuse.	77	3%
Use existing City communications and resources to talk about good, better and best practices for reducing, reusing and donating goods.	74	3%
Support and incentivize businesses to use reusable cups on-site.	73	3%

Proposed Waste Reduction Action	Total =2,477	Resident Support (%)
<b>Establish event guidelines for event organizers to determine how to reduce their event waste.</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Support events in preventing and reducing waste with in-person education and resources, consultation and other supports.</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>9%</b>

## Interest Group Workshops

The purpose of the workshops was to bring together interest groups that are most likely to be impacted or involved in the waste reduction actions proposed in Roadmap '30. Workshops dedicated to the focus areas of Food Waste, Reuse and Repair, Events and Reusable Cups were held through April – June, 2025 and hosted 53 representatives of

targeted interest groups operating in areas that are tied to the workshop topic (see Appendix A for list of workshops and interest groups that participated). Participants were split into breakout groups to explore opportunities and challenges related to each of the proposed actions. The groups were then asked to vote on the top actions their organizations support moving forward.



## Reuse and Repair Workshop

An in-person interest group workshop on the topic of Reuse and Repair took place on April 23, 2025. Twenty-six participants discussed the eight proposed actions associated with this focus area in six breakout groups. The breakout groups voted as follows for the top actions that they are most likely to support:

**Table 6** Sticker-Voting Results | Reuse and Repair Workshop

<b>Proposed Waste Reduction Action</b>	<b>Breakout Group Votes n =6</b>
Research the waste reduction impacts of "buy nothing" communities, collaborate with reuse organizations to understand material flows, map material donation sites and identify barriers to maximizing thrift and reuse.	6
Use existing City communications and resources to talk about good, better and best practices for reducing, reusing and donating goods.	5
Look at opportunities to work with external partners to expand reusable item drop-off locations, improving reuse accessibility and participation.	4
Develop new resources, events and spaces for reusing, repairing or swapping, such as investigating curbside giveaway events and textile collection pilot projects.	4

### Summary of themes from facilitated discussions:

- + Many organizations and City facilities already have collection systems in place. Further work can be done to support these initiatives and increase awareness for residents.
- + Acquiring the space needed for storage and distribution of secondhand items can be challenging and expensive.
- + For programs to succeed, residents need easily accessible pick-up and donation locations.
- + Digital technology like creating a "hub" or expanding the Reuse Directory could support reuse with those who use the internet.
- + Sharing statistics with Edmontonians may help make the problem more real because there is a lack of statistics in the industry. If residents had a better understanding of material flows they may be more inclined to donate.
- + Many non-profit organizations are already stretched thin on funding. Some organizations rely heavily on volunteers.
- + Piloting in one neighbourhood would allow for increased time to educate and test appetite.
- + Changing consumer behaviour is challenging; people like to own things and may have concerns regarding the cleanliness of secondhand items.

## Food Waste Workshop

A virtual interest group workshop on the topic of Food Waste took place on May 23, 2025. Ten participants discussed the five proposed actions associated with this focus area in two breakout groups. The breakout groups voted as follows for the actions that they are most likely to support:

**Table 7** Sticker-Voting Results | Food Waste Workshop

Proposed Waste Reduction Action	Breakout Group	Participant Votes n=5
Increase awareness of how residents can reduce food waste at home by creating and sharing information, guides and tips.	1	5
Work with City partners to share food waste reduction tips with residents through cooking and baking classes offered in Edmonton.		4
Connect homegrown fruit and vegetables to organizations that can put them to good use.	2	4
Promote and develop resources that support and encourage residents to share surplus household food with food rescue organizations.		2

The action "Encourage and educate residents on home composting, using organic yard waste (e.g. grass, leaves) rather than disposing of them" pertains to Food and Yard Waste; however, it was not included due to its focus on yard waste instead of food waste.

### Summary of themes from facilitated discussions:

- + Education and knowledge building are key (e.g. best before dates, cooking classes) in particular with international students and newcomers.
- + Food waste reduction work is already taking place in the city – it is important to collaborate and not duplicate work.
- + Community-level actions sometimes work better than partnering with an organization or business.
- + The City of Edmonton has many facilities that could support this work (e.g. Recreation Centres and libraries).

## Event Waste Workshop

A virtual interest group workshop on the topic of Event Waste took place on May 26, 2025. Ten participants discussed the two proposed actions associated with this focus area in a plenary group format. Since only two actions are relevant to this topic, the discussion focused exclusively on understanding the associated opportunities and challenges instead of ranking them.

### Summary of themes from facilitated discussions:

#### Noted opportunities include:

- + There is a clear desire for a more structured approach that could involve examples such as early engagement, pilot programs where feasible, in-person education and formalized guidelines

#### Noted challenges include:

- + While there is a desire to reduce event waste, the discussion centred on the challenges of this work.
- + A central theme was the difficulty in effectively diverting organics and recyclables. Key issues include: public behaviour and how to influence it at an event, the variety of services provided by contracted haulers, logistics for managing large volumes of waste, and processing compostables.
- + Costs and lack of available funding opportunities are significant barriers to implementing more sustainable practices. Examples of cost include reusable dishes, conducting waste audits and hiring additional staff. Operational challenges include bin infrastructure, signage, staffing/ volunteers and collaboration with haulers.



## Reusable Cups Workshop

A virtual interest group workshop on the topic of Reusable Cups took place on June 5, 2025. Seven participants discussed the proposed action of supporting and incentivizing businesses to use reusable cups on-site in a plenary group format. Since this workshop centred exclusively on a single proposed action from the Reuse and Repair focus area, the discussion was dedicated to understanding the barriers and opportunities associated with this action.

### Summary of themes from facilitated discussions:

All participants were open to expanding reusables on their sites and discussed this proposed action according to their operations.

#### Noted opportunities include:

- + Reusables can elevate consumer experience.
- + Considerations on design and collection of reusable cups include:
  - The material and design is important (e.g. metal vs. plastic, insulated or uninsulated, etc.).
  - Reusable cups provide advertising opportunities.
  - Printed fill lines can be helpful.
  - Standardized cup collection bins help ensure cups are returned.

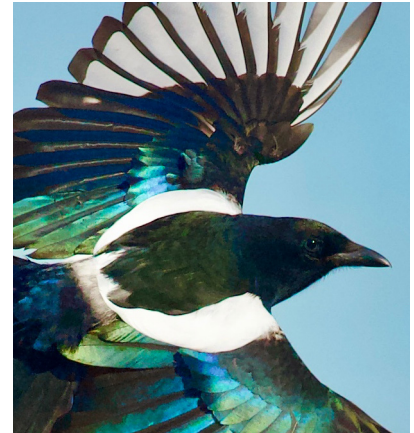
#### Noted barriers include:

- + Challenges and strategies to increase retention of cups (i.e. prevent from going in the trash).
- + Supplier for reusable cups services is not readily available in Edmonton.
- + Washing infrastructure is required and presents an additional financial burden.
- + Reusables require a startup cost, which is another financial burden to absorb.



## Indigenous Engagement

In the spirit of reconciliation and in shared responsibility of being respectful stewards of the land, the City reached out to three Indigenous Nations and Councils with the invitation to share their perspectives on the Waste Reduction Roadmap '30. An initial in-person conversation was held with the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations Municipal Affairs Coordinator on October 29, 2025 to present Roadmap '30 and discuss engagement opportunities. To ensure that Indigenous perspectives inform this plan and its future implementation, a commitment was made to hold ongoing conversations with interested representatives of the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations.

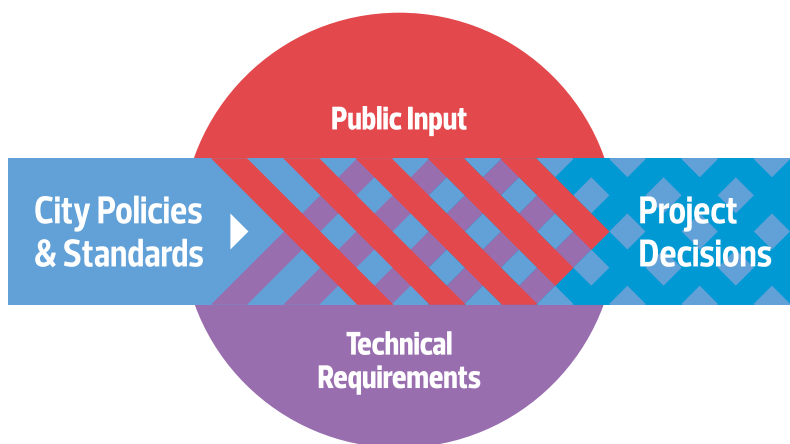


## Next Steps

An internal review of the proposed actions refined through public engagement took place in fall 2025. The purpose of Phase 3 internal engagement was for City staff to validate and finalize the draft actions that will be brought forward in Roadmap '30. That review considered a variety of inputs, including technical and feasibility assessment, City policies and priorities

and perspectives gathered in public engagement conducted in Phase 2 to finalize the list of draft actions put forward in Roadmap '30 (see Figure 3 below). This draft Roadmap '30 will be presented to Edmonton City Council for approval in early 2026. Once approved, the City will commence implementation of Roadmap '30 actions.

**Figure 3** Inputs into City of Edmonton decision-making



To stay up to date, please keep an eye on [edmonton.ca/WasteReduction](https://edmonton.ca/WasteReduction) and [sign up for our newsletter](#) where we share project updates, tips for reducing, community spotlights, useful resources and other Waste Services news.

## APPENDIX A

### Interest Group Workshop Participants

\*City of Edmonton representatives participated with focus on external engagement.

<b>Reuse and Repair Workshop</b> April 23, 2025	<b>Food Waste Workshop</b> May 23, 2025	<b>Events Workshop</b> May 26, 2025	<b>Reusable Cups Workshop</b> June 5, 2025
Architectural Clearinghouse	Alberta Parks and Recreation Association	124th Street Business Improvement Area (BIA)	Citadel Theatre
Blenderz Garment Recyclers	City of Edmonton – Community Safety and Well-Being*	Cariwest Western Carnival Development Association	Explore Edmonton Corporation
Canadian Mental Health Association	Edmonton's Food Bank	Downtown Business Improvement Area (BIA)	Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium
Alberta Computers for Schools	John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights	Edmonton Folk Music Festival	Northgate Centre
Edmonton Public Library	Leftovers Foundation	French Quarter Business Improvement Area (BIA)	Rabbit Hill Snow Resort
Edmonton Public Schools	Second Harvest	Taste of Edmonton	West Edmonton Mall Waterpark
City of Edmonton Recreation Centres*			
Explore Edmonton Corporation			
Find Edmonton			
Goodwill Industries of Alberta			
IKEA			
MCC Thrift			
Mission Thrift Store			
Reimagined Fabrics			
Salvation Army – Edmonton Centre of Hope			
Sport Central			
The Mustard Seed			
Triovest			
Unbelts			
University of Alberta			

## APPENDIX B

### Online Survey Results

[Detailed Online Survey Report](#)





**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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Please visit [edmonton.ca/WasteReduction](http://edmonton.ca/WasteReduction)