

## Update: Community Sustainability

<b>Initiative Title:</b>	Community Sustainability – Elevate: Report of the Community Sustainability Task Force
<b>City Council Lead(s):</b>	Mayor Mandel and Councillor Batty
<b>Department Lead(s):</b>	Heather McRae, Community Services

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### Objective:

The Elevate Report is an examination of community sustainability offering recommendations as a foundation for future leadership and partnerships to achieve ongoing community vitality. In collaboration with the Province of Alberta, School Boards, parents, individuals and community groups, the Community Sustainability Task Force recommended courses of action for supporting and enhancing the viability of neighbourhoods that are community based, break down boundaries, share resources, and build effective community partnerships.

### Key Outcomes, Projects or Activities and their Status as of May 2013:

- **Elevate Vision**  
Edmonton is a city in which engaged and informed citizens work together to create strong and sustainable neighbourhoods and communities. Our community will embrace diversity, will provide a physical and social environment where we can live, learn, work and play, and will meet the needs of current and future Edmontonians through their entire lifetime.
- **Elevate Draft Implementation Framework**  
At the February 6, 2013, City Council meeting, the Elevate Report and Draft City of Edmonton Framework was received as information. The draft implementation report provided an update on the status of Elevate, highlighted partnership initiatives, and current neighbourhood priorities in the City of Edmonton.
- As of May 2013, examples of work undertaken within the Elevate Implementation Plan include:
  - City of Learners Initiative – With a clearly established vision and direction, the Edmonton City of Learners Initiative is responsible for stimulating lifelong learning opportunities for Edmontonians. To advance this vision, the Community Foundational-Learning Plan has been established which represents a strategy to engage and coordinate learning goals across groups and agencies in the City of Edmonton. As this initiative moves forward, the network of organizations and partners will be lead by the Edmonton Public Library who will serve as the “home” of the coalition of entities under the City of Learners umbrella.

Jasper Place Area Redevelopment Plan – The Area Redevelopment Plan is building on the work of the Jasper Place Revitalization Strategy and will focus on policies and principles for land use, developing local implementation strategies for city-wide land use policies, and providing clarity on how the Jasper Place neighbourhoods will re-develop in the coming years. The Area Redevelopment Plan supports the objectives of *The Ways Plans*, in particular *The Way We Grow* and *The Way We Move*

- - The Area Redevelopment plan is being developed in collaboration with community members and other local stakeholders over the next twelve months.
  - Jasper Place Housing Assessment – Enabling opportunities for new housing development is a key element in re-invigorating and reinvesting in established neighbourhoods. Building on the work of the City’s Neighbourhood revitalization initiatives, the Jasper Place Housing Assessments will allow residents and administration to identify housing programs and appropriate strategies that will achieve desired neighbourhood outcomes. The housing assessment process will help to achieve City Policy objectives, including the need for community-driven approaches to strengthen neighbourhoods.
- **Elevate Interim Steering Committee**  
One of the main recommendations of the Elevate Report is to create greater collaboration between all orders of government. Representatives from the Federal Government, Province of Alberta, City of Edmonton, Edmonton Public, Edmonton Catholic, and Edmonton Francophone School Districts are working to advance the Elevate goals, and are creating a new governing body for Elevate – the Edmonton Community Sustainability Coalition (ECSC).

A coalition-based governance framework has been drafted to describe the collaborative relationship between four orders of government committed to working together in a new and modern relationship to achieve Elevate recommendations through joint priorities. The Interim Steering Committee is scheduled to meet in June to finalize the governance framework.

- **Edmonton Community Sustainability Coalition**  
The Edmonton Community Sustainability Coalition is the convergence point to bring government agencies together with a common interest of creating a livable, vibrant, and sustainable Edmonton.

Creating conditions necessary to ensure that a relationship exists that will build on the collaborative strengths of one another, identifying how new and proposed policies and programs may advance the collective objectives of jurisdictional partners, and engaging with community are of primary importance within the mission of the Edmonton Community Sustainability Coalition.

- **Elevate Working Committee of Senior Administrators**

City of Edmonton and School Board Senior Administrations are focusing efforts on sharing information, and maximizing use of existing community infrastructure and resources to advance the collective objectives of partnering jurisdictions. Joint capital and operational planning priorities will be discussed at this table. Recommendations will be brought forward to the Edmonton Community Sustainability Coalition for concurrence and development of a coordinated approach to implementation.

**Future Steps:**

Additional future steps of Elevate Include:

- Edmonton Public School Board meeting with Edmonton City Council to discuss Elevate – June 7, 2013.
- A joint meeting between senior administrations of City of Edmonton and three School Divisions is scheduled for June 6, 2013. The purpose of this meeting is to share capital plan information, and to jointly plan and make recommendations to Edmonton Community Sustainability Coalition for future.
- Regular ongoing meetings of the newly established Edmonton Community Sustainability Coalition.
- The Edmonton Community Sustainability Coalition will develop a coordinated action plan to identify joint priorities within the nine Elevate recommendations. This plan will direct the work that the Coalition will address in 2013 and beyond.

