

Bylaw 19601

To close a portion of a road, Strathcona

To close a portion of 100 Street NW south of Saskatchewan Drive NW

Readings

Bylaw 19601 is ready for three readings after the public hearing has been held. If Council wishes to give three readings during a single meeting, Council must unanimously agree “That Bylaw 19601 be considered for third reading.”

Advertising and Signing

This Bylaw has been advertised in the Edmonton Journal on February 26 and March 6, 2021. The Bylaw can be passed following third reading.

Position of Administration

Administration supports this proposed Bylaw.

Report

Bylaw 19601 proposes to close a portion of 100 Street NW immediately south of Saskatchewan Drive NW. The proposed closure area would remain as road right-of-way, but be closed to vehicle traffic and landscaped. This proposed closure is part of the City’s Building Great Neighbourhoods - Strathcona project (neighbourhood renewal/reconstruction - see Attachment 3). Through the various engagement activities of the project, many residents expressed concern that this intersection was unsafe to use as a pedestrian, cyclist and driver, and this closure is a response to those concerns.

The closure area would become a “paved plaza enlargement” to the adjacent Fred A. Morie Park, which will also be going through a redesign and enhancement (see Attachment 4). This area will also feature a low impact development (LID) facility, installed in partnership with EPCOR Drainage, to reduce flooding risk in the area by collecting stormwater runoff and delaying its flow into the drainage system. The LID, landscaping and paving of the closure area will be done in a way that ensures all existing utilities (both above and below ground) are not impacted, and can be accessed for maintenance, as required.

The closure would remove the 100 Street NW vehicle connection at Saskatchewan Drive NW. Active travel modes would still be able to access this area, and the overhead pedestrian light on Saskatchewan Drive NW would remain in place. The intersection of Saskatchewan Drive NW/90 Avenue NW will be upgraded to a full traffic

signal and 90 Avenue NW will be converted to one-way westbound road west of 100 Street NW to support diverted traffic and increase safety. A two-way raised bicycle lane will be constructed on the southside of 90 Avenue NW between 100 Street NW and Saskatchewan Drive NW to further support active modes of travel.

The closure may result in a loss of approximately 1 to 2 on-street parking spaces in the closure area.

All other comments from civic departments or utility agencies regarding this proposal have been addressed.

Public Engagement

This proposed closure was included in engagement activities surrounding the 2019 - 2021 Building Great Neighbourhoods - Strathcona project (neighbourhood renewal/reconstruction). It was included in the February 5, 2019 Preliminary Design Event, and the March 4, 2019 Pre-Construction Event.

With this particular application, Advance Notice was sent to surrounding property owners and the presidents of the Strathcona Community League and Central Area Council of Community Leagues on July 14, 2020. Four responses were received with the concerns heard summarized below.

- Don't want more spaces for the homeless to hang out and also for criminal activity.
- Not enough street parking already, this would reduce it further.
- Waste of money when budgets are tight.
- Concerned about impact on traffic patterns for one way traffic on 100 Street.
- Connection vital to keeping morning traffic moving in the area. Having all traffic use 90th ave to go both east and west on Sask drive will be a bottleneck.
- Park space looks nice but isn't used much.

Attachments

1. Bylaw 19601
2. Plan Context Map
3. Aerial Map
4. Building Great Neighbourhoods Plan
5. Fred A. Morie Park Development - 100 Street NW Road Closure