Hillhurst-Sunnyside Streetscape & Public Realm Improvements

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard Phase 1 of 3: June 2021

Project Description

As part of the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Streetscape and Public Realm Improvements, we are looking to make a series of community-level improvements within the communities of Hillhurst and Sunnyside. This includes the following area:

- West of the Calgary Curling Club,
- North of Memorial Drive,
- South of the bluff, and
- East of 18 Street NW.

Both the City of Calgary and the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association (HSCA), through technical evaluation and engagement with the community, have identified a series of potential streetscape and public realm improvements within your communities. We would like your help to prioritize and refine these projects.

Engagement for this project will take place over three phases:

- **Phase 1 -Project prioritization:** we will ask you to prioritize the projects identified by The City and HSCA.
- **Phase 2 Refining designs:** we will ask you to help use refine the designs for a short list of projects identified during Phase 1 engagement.
- Phase 3 Final designs: we will present the final project designs to the community.

This project is part of the <u>Established Areas Growth and Change Strategy</u>, a program that provides funding to support short-term (1-3 years) public realm improvement projects in established communities where growth and change are happening.

Engagement overview

This phase of engagement is the first of the three planned phases. This initial phase was designed to:

- Inform the public about the project; and
- prioritize the projects identified by The City and HSCA.

Given physical distancing considerations due to COVID-19, all engagement in this phase was completed online. Online feedback for this phase of engagement was open from March 1 to April 19, 2021.

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What we asked

Using the funding function on the City's Engage Portal, respondents were asked to prioritize the potential improvements identified by both The City and HSCA. Those improvement projects were (Project descriptions – Appendix 1):

- Hillhurst/Sunnyside Street Calming Initiatives
- 12 ST NW Upgrade to Complete Street Standards
- Gladstone Road NW Upgrade to a Living Street
- 14 Street NW Upgrades
- Urban Tree Planting
- Sidewalk and Ramp Accessibility Improvements
- Riley Park Year-Round Programming
- Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Association Building Programming
- Community Garden Improvements
- Riley Park Restaurant and Outdoor Patio
- Hillhurst Sunnyside Urban Mural Project

What we heard

The first step in the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Streetscape and Public Realm Project is to prioritize the potential improvements identified by both The City and HSCA.

Since there is not currently enough funding to complete the full list of projects listed above, respondents were asked to prioritize which projects they felt were most beneficial to the community. We will be using this information, alongside our ongoing technical evaluations of these improvements to select a short list of projects for further discussion during Phase 2 engagement.

The activity

The activity included the presentation of a full list of projects identified by The City and HSCA. Each project was been assigned a certain number of points that roughly corresponds with its budget. Respondents were been assigned 12 points, equivalent to our overall program budget, to assign to these projects. The projects were prioritized by the number of votes:

# of Responses	Project Title (project descriptions – appendix 1)
506	Urban Tree Planting
489	Riley Park Restaurant and Outdoor Patio
436	Hillhurst Sunnyside Urban Mural Project
371	Riley Park Year-Round Programming

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332	Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Association Building
	Programming
279	Hillhurst/Sunnyside Street Calming Initiatives
272	Community Garden Improvements
246	Sidewalk and Ramp Accessibility Improvements
186	14 Street NW Upgrades
147	Gladstone Road NW Upgrade to a Living Street
37	12 ST NW Upgrade to Complete Street Standards

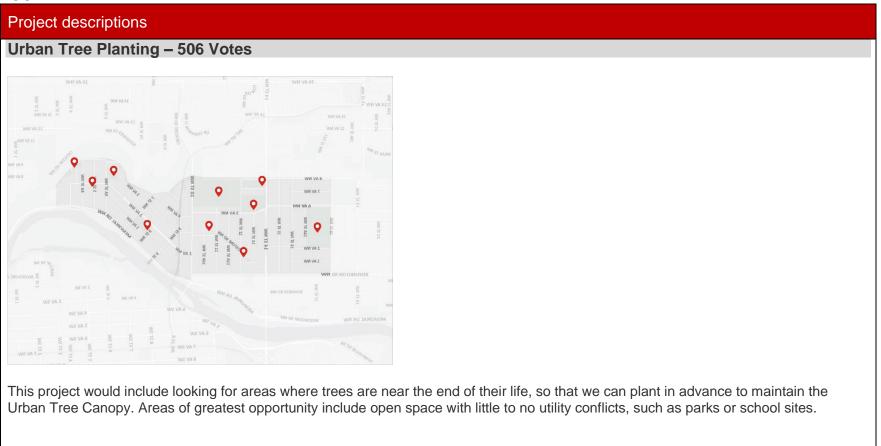
Next steps

Results from Phase 1 engagement will be used to inform a list of potential projects for you to help prioritize during Phase 2 engagement

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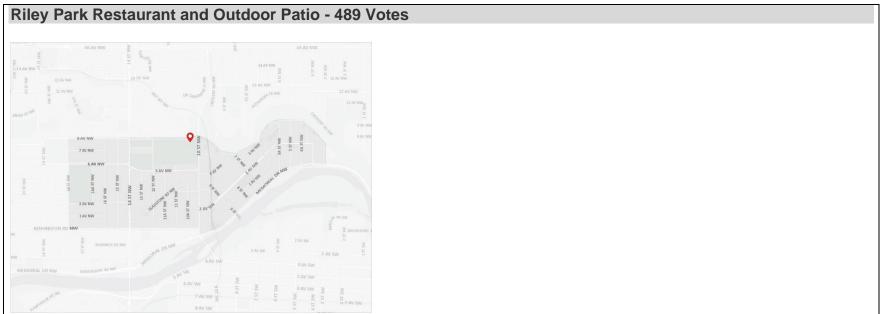
Appendix 1



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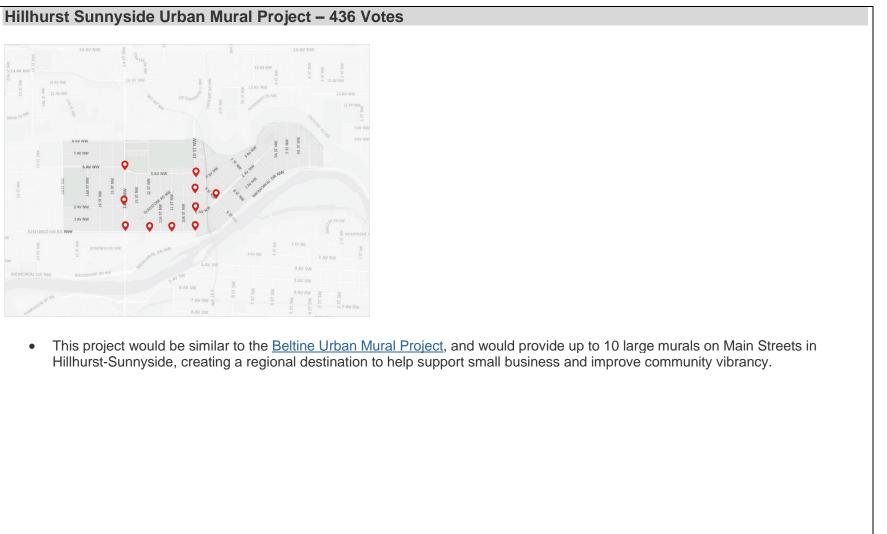
This project would be a collaboration between Parks and Water Resources to transform a concrete pad into an outdoor café with a patio space.

- The café would be created from a small footprint sea can, and would be rented out by a local company considering a brick and mortar startup.
- Planters and moveable furniture will be used to add function and decorate the space.
- If this project moves ahead, there would be separate engagement program specific to the design of the sea can cafe.

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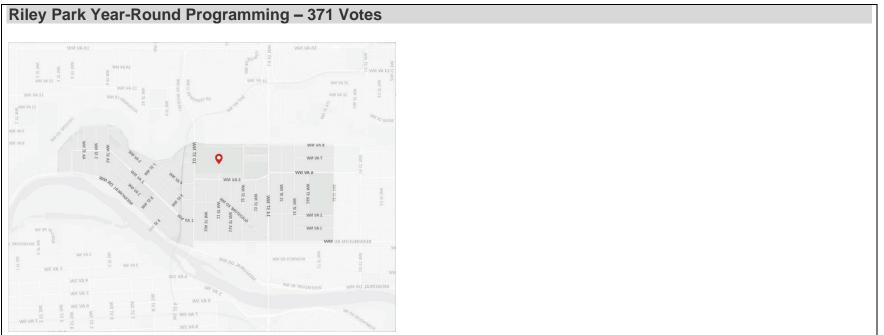
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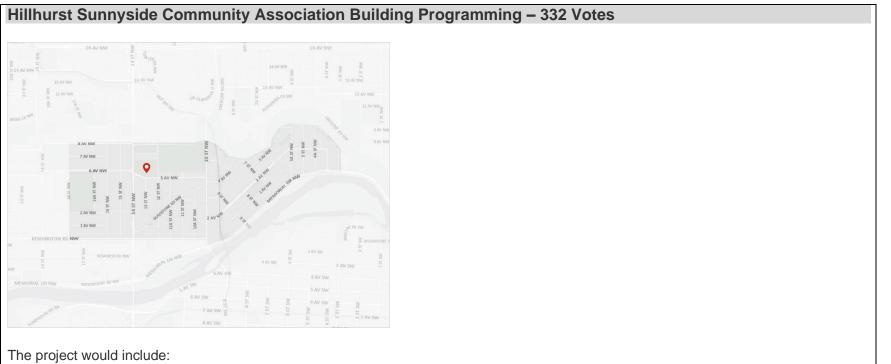
This project would provide programs for year round activities at Riley Park to support an active and healthy lifestyle. Some examples may include but are not limited to:

- crokicurl,
- music festivals,
- cross-country track setting,
- yoga & paint in the park,
- spin in the park,
- hillside wooden staircase,
- bootcamp equipment & storage, and
- ping pong tables.

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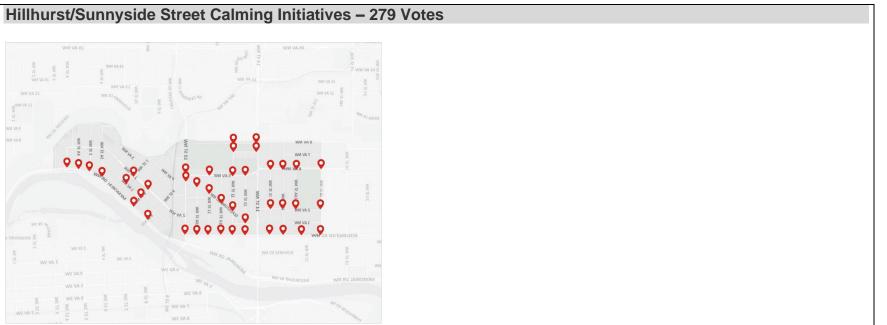


- Outdoor shelter installation with amenities such as harvest tables, barbecues, bread ovens and flexible open space.
- Paint and façade to add vibrancy to the HSCA building.
- Live music and entertainment
- to help support existing programming on site such as the Hillhurst Sunnyside Farmers' Market.

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- This project would implement low-cost and high value street calming to high priority locations in Hillhurst-Sunnyside.
- Street calming methods may include but are not limited to: angled parking, road closures (fencing), vertical pylons, road paint, temporary curb extensions, traffic circles, etc.
- The <u>2 ST SW project in Mission</u> is an example of a similar project.

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- Green house installation at two sites to support growth of perennial plants.
- Improving accessibility to sites with installation of asphalt pathways and accessible planter beds.
- The addition of accessible amenities such as picnic tables, benches, and water.
- Improved lighting.

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- Sidewalk and Ramps Accessibility and Repairs making the existing public realm more user friendly for all people.
- Focusing on alignments connecting pedestrians to transit, the hospital, schools and Kensington Road (which has recently been upgraded for accessibility standards).
- Evaluating sidewalks and ramps with slipping, tripping, or falling hazards that do not meet accessible standards for improvements.

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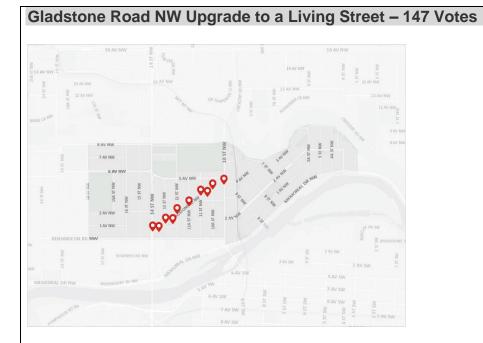


- The addition of a devoted left turn light in southbound direction onto 6 AV NW.
- Upgrading several bus stops to have shelters and provide unimpeded sidewalk.
- Upgrading sidewalks adjacent to civic owned properties to better match improved sidewalks of newer private developments.
- Providing low cost and high impact decorative improvements to the chain link fence at the SW corner of Kensington Road.
- Due to the size of this project's area, further discussions would be needed in the next stage of engagement to prioritize where improvements should happen on 14 ST NW.

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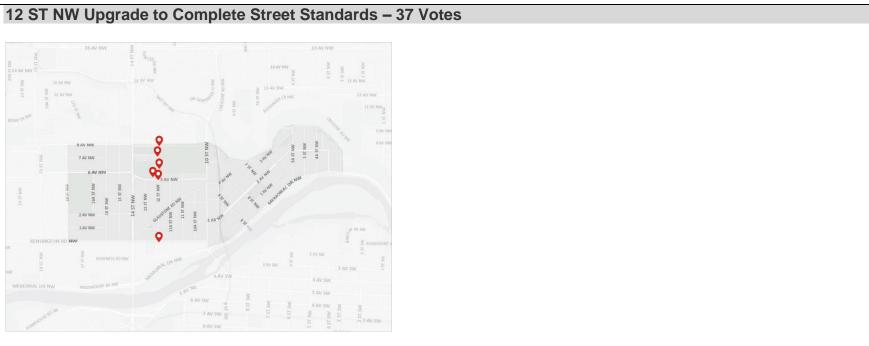


- Changing Gladstone to one-way street for vehicular traffic to reduce shortcut traffic.
- Integrating planting with shared roadway for vehicles, wheelers, and pedestrians.
- Changing the layout of parking spots to encourage slower speed of travel.
- Adding additional park amenities such as swing benches and picnic tables for West Gladstone Park and East Gladstone Park.

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- Closing the south access lane of HSCA parking lot and expanding the plaza space up to the roadway, creating a welcoming entrance.
- Widening sidewalks and adding amenities such as seating and bike racks at strategic locations.
- General aesthetic improvements on west edge of Riley Park.
- Repairing the existing traffic calming fence at Kensington Road NW..