



This Is My Neighbourhood

Report Back: What We Heard
Creative Ideation Session, September 12, 2017
Thornccliffe / Greenview

Project overview

This Is My Neighbourhood was created to provide an opportunity for residents to partner with The City of Calgary to identify ways to help make their neighbourhood an even better place to live, work and play.

In 2016, The City of Calgary delivered more than 100 programs, services and small-scale improvement projects to a first group of 14 neighbourhoods.

In 2017, The City of Calgary is working with a new group of 14 neighbourhoods. The City worked with the neighbourhoods to first identify a neighbourhood vision. From that vision, participants, working with City staff, came up with creative ideas (programs, services and small-scale infrastructure improvements) that support their neighbourhood vision as identified in Step 1. Those programs, services and infrastructure projects will be implemented in 2018.

Engagement overview

This report covers what we heard during the Creative Ideation Session on September 12, 2017. This is the second step in the engagement process for the This Is My Neighbourhood program. The purpose of this workshop was to develop experiments to test community initiatives, programs and improvements.

What we asked

In this workshop, we divided participants into three tables and asked them to generate ideas about how the community could realize their vision. Then, based on those ideas, participants were asked to develop and vote on experiments to try in the community.

Below is a summary of the top experiments from each table, as well as a complete list of ideas that were generated.

Next steps

The improvements and experiments identified at the workshop will be selected and tested in their respective communities in fall 2017.





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Summary of input

Blue Table

Top Experiments

<p>Experiment 1: “A Day in Thorncliffe /Greenview” Photo Contest (13 votes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications to utilize: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facebook ○ Instagram ○ Twitter ○ Website ○ Newsletter ○ Email list • Whichever photo gets most “likes” wins • Build community pride • Start broad → become more specific each event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Favourite activities” • Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 staff member to promos ○ 1 volunteer to manage setting up Instagram ○ Pre-arranged photographers (10 people) ○ Prize: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local business gift card ▪ Someone to collect the gift card ▪ Mention business when gift card was given to winner ○ Measurement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How many entries ▪ Successful start – 50-100 participants
<p>Experiment 2: Community Message Board (5 votes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board with eye-catching gimmick/marquee – friendly clown • Date: Saturday or a Sunday • Location: high-traffic location (Safeway) • Volunteers move the board every 2 hours • Advertise upcoming events – “come toboggan” • Chalkboard area/comments section • Bring a coupon off the board, bring it to event = measurement • Put a comment box “what type of events would you be interested in” • Need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pre-determined locations ○ Volunteers to move the board ○ Someone to manage social media ○ Physical board, box, coupons ○ Put the # right on the coupons



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Grey Table

Top Experiments

<p>Experiment 1: Pop-up program – travelling series (6 votes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage/CA sign • Decide on focus for this pop-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Theme: Welcome to Fall • Engage residents in spreading the word • Need to form a team/committee • Seating • Contact person/resources to staff • Get food truck/coffee truck <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ice cream truck ○ To go coffees/hot choc • Entertainment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Magician ○ Musician ○ Dance party • Resource to help entertain kids <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mascots come to play • Contact city re: permits • Mug exchange
<p>Experiment 2: Temporary Seating (6 votes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find hay bales and blankets • Identify spot(s) – Greenview small park • Identify observer for each seating spot • Travelling living room → social media tag • Painting event to “decorate” it • Get youth involved in setting it up/taking it down • Establish a team (of adults) to manage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tap into male teams from Cas • Set criteria – what’s success? • Tell the story of what’s going on • Evaluation/tracking mechanism for participants • Consider animating space with food and drink



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Youth Table

Top Experiments

<p>Experiment 1: Basketball (11 votes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many basketballs – blue bin from recycling • Temporary nets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cheap at Canadian Tire ○ Trash cans, recycling bins and cut bottom out • No age restriction • Contest • Duct tape or spray paint • Who <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Set up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth group ▪ Boys and Girls Club ○ Someone to explain how to use • Measure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Treats – how many were used? ○ Is this the right place? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Middle of the soccer field ▪ Near the haunted daycare
<p>Experiment 2: Planting (10 votes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre Street • Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dirt and pots form others that are out of season now ○ Fake plants ○ Seed packets on popsicle sticks ○ Wooden sculpture spray paint with green ○ Giant origami Venus flytrap • Decorate existing trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lights, fabric, wood ○ 1 block or so • Measure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vol hours spent ○ Do cars slow down ○ "honk" if you like it and count
<p>Experiment 3: In development... (5 votes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 types of grass as a petting zoo and see which ppl like better. In 3 pots. • In Greenview near the main field (near soccer) • Who/measure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How many ppl touch and like each grass type



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Other ideas

Improvement Ideas

- A coffee shop
- By-laws that makes it easier for restaurants and coffee shops to do business – ease parking restrictions etc.
- Get rid of Pay-day loan/money mart and get a coffee shop in this neighbourhood
- Utility boxes as way-finders to locations
- Make Egerts and Nose Hill accessible to all people
- We can have or build a wish fountain/well
- Evening fitness with childcare
- Drop-in orientations at fit park north of Rona
- Making hot chocolate for the kids and coffee for the adults
- Tool or toy library near com assoc.
- Frisbee golf library
- Activities to celebrate cultures and encourage relationships
- Connections between youth and adults to learn about different careers
- Learning something new/bring the neighbourhood together
- Community notice boards
 - Perhaps using art and resident skills
- It would bring people together if we had a community garden
- Turn a little-used or unkempt green space into art with temporary chalk paint
- Free (for girls) yoga classes so people can get together
- Being more active
- Yoga for all ages in a park (pop-up programs)
- Outdoor yoga in more localized places (parks and small green spaces throughout community) before work 6-7 a.m.?
- Going around the block in the community having water balloon fights and painting
- Bake sale baking stuff and taking it to peoples' house cause sometimes people are busy and can't come
- Cycling tour of Thornccliffe-Greenview
- Pick-me-ups like flowers, coffee, simple activities at bus stops during rush hours
- Making friendship bracelet at the winter
- Raking leaves in the fall then having hot chocolate
- We should have garbage bins around the field so people don't throw on the floor (Goddard/Grier between the houses)
- Cleaning our neighbourhood day
- Some dance parties or band music
- Dance battles
- Singing battles
- Could have some games in the field
- We could bring a trampoline in the field
- Better roads? The roads should be smooth
- Better park/safer (Greenview)

- Evening walking groups that can double as a neighbourhood watch
- We need leadership to respond to safety situations (home invasion, shooting etc.) that can lead us through processing such events
- Community safety seminar series
- Safety: a program to gather people together and learn about community safety – invite police to speak, develop a neighbourhood strategy (I'm thinking of the home-invasion)
- Paint night
- Different coffee/tea
- Publish crime stats with prevention tips
- Look at ways to connect both sides of Northmount (i.e. better pedestrian crossing) (esp. from McKnight bridge to 4 St)
- Basketball in Greenview
- Kite-flying events near Comm Assoc or Egerts
- New playground in Greenview
- We should have lights at the park for night time
- People don't like the park cause it's really small (Greenview Park)
- Shop local
- Activities at the dog park (Greenview)
- Pop-up bulletin boards; message boards
- Community cleanup days
- Community cleanup
- Community message board
- Advertising for business so community members will shop local
- Bus service more accessible down McKnight
- Try to get information from community centre to residents i.e. this meeting
- Centre for people to gather
- Group walking/exercise activities – weekly? Semi-weekly?
- More localized activities
 - Ex. pick a 2-4 block area and host an activity to get locals out
- Community walking map
- Highland Valley become a park for all to use by creating a great space
- Better use of natural areas
 - Walking
 - Games
 - Science walks
- Mini summer festival
 - Activities for the festival can be agreed upon
- Use TGCA monthly newsletter to promote community issues/elements or “did you know”, timely distribution
- Smaller (or benches) playgrounds dispersed among community
 - Respects budgets
 - Gives neighbourhood kids a place to play
- Projects to beautify the neighbourhood
 - Summer planting
 - Library boxes
- Monthly opportunities to get together with topics affecting TGCA
- Neighbourhood block parties
- Promote toboggan hill at TGCA hall so it can create a place to belong similar to skateboard park
- Use of community centre for activities

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- Community meet and greet/movie nights
- Community BBQ
- Community cleanup family day
- Community dance
- Family dance
- Senior snow-shoveling and yard help
- Helping seniors – yard work
- Work with Golden Acres to get supply of trees/flowers to use to beautify community spaces and promote people gathering to garden and plant together
- Clean up Centre St. residences through community pressure
- Playgroup daycare
- Plant green flowers
- Paint buildings green
- Basketball court
- Water trampoline and on the field for everyone
- Community garden with little library
- Garden club
- Food fair to taste all the favourite foods of the neighbourhood
- Telescope on the cliff (Egerts Park)
- Joint senior/youth programs (basketball)
- Veggie/fruit exchange
- Community info board
- Sculpture garden or collection
- Community garden
- Clean up Nose Creek
- Clean up Nose Creek
- Lights in the Greenview field
- Exercise park
- More lighting in parks
- Seniors coaching program
- Have a swing
- Get a new merry-go-round
- Workout park in the neighbourhood
- Parkour park
- New park
- Swings and slides
- Dunk contest in the basketball court with a trampoline
- Parkour park
- Workout park in the neighbourhood
- Sensor lights on Grier Ave field
- Closer swimming pool
- Swim day
- Ice cream day
- Outdoor hot tub
- Ice rink for skating
- Fence around the basketball court



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- Dodgeball tournament
- Volleyball court
- Dodgeball courts
- Dodgeball tournament
- Basketball court in Greenview
- Soccer day
- Learn how to day
- Car repair
- Wood/metal mechanic shop
- Tool share program
- Bike repair
- Bike safety classes
- Bike lane on Centre Street
- Community marathon
- Repurpose old rec. buildings "haunted day care" and get youth to paint a mural around it in the meantime
- Block parties
- Historical markers/little known facts
- Art created by community
- Giant cactus
- A hello sign
- A history tour
- New crosswalks that are green
- Well-lit sidewalks and crosswalks
- Walking groups
- Brighter crosswalks
- Crosswalk on 64th to skatepark
- New crosswalks
- New park
- New sidewalks
- Green crosswalks in Greenview
- Community garden competition
- Public flower pots for vegetables
- New crosswalks
- Have more crosswalks
- Canoeing program and kayaking program
- Kayaking
- Have more traffic walk
- A line that goes connects with both communities
- Animal Trail of creatures who lived here
- Cross-country skiing along pathway system
- Bobsledding
- Community welcome sign
- We could all come get together and make our field cleaner so no one would have to worry about it being dirty
- Everyone gets a broom
- Snow shoveling service for seniors by youth



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- I think people can clean around the neighbourhood
- Cleanup day once a month
- Artificial grass/turf
- Venus fly trap
- Youth volunteer hours program to help re-plant and build bench
- Regrow grass
- Regrow grass
- More benches
- New soccer nets
- New soccer nets
- The safety in the neighbourhood to put a fence around the basketball court
- Soccer nets
- Movies/music in park
- Benches on the court or field
- Basketball court
- Have a basketball team for every age
- Having soccer team for every age
- I think if we had a basketball court with a big enough of a fence it will not interfere with the cars driving by
- Benches on the side of the field on Grier Ave
- Take a person to an event
- Soccer day
- Basketball court in Greenview

Experiment Ideas

- Community activities/messages
 - Boards – move around to different blocks
- Photo contest “A day in Thornccliffe/Greenview”
- School/Golden Acres bulletin board
 - Partner students with seniors to create a gardening program
- City Parks “presentation in The Park”
- “Did you know” about this park?
 - Once a month in community newsletter
- Experiment – Pop-up events
 - Pop-up markets in different areas, to draw people to various parts of the community
 - Link the green spaces with painted routes
 - Water balloon fights, or something to do with water
 - We could bring one of those pools
 - Movies outdoors – summer evenings
 - Pop-up mobile playgrounds
 - Intersection art projects and links to guide walkers around the neighbourhood
 - Side street closures for kids – biking, paint the entire street
 - Music in the park in Thornccliffe
 - Firepits (gas?) and music around the firepit
 - We could make a haunted house for Halloween
 - In the community to have movie night
 - The hill beside the park should be smooth so when people wanna go sledding they don't fall
 - Every month to have one BBQ

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- We could have something to do with Halloween
- Walking winter festival in Egerts Park curated to create a perfect walk with shacks, music games, firepits, etc. (XC skis)
- Pop-up coffee in the park events where ppl can sit at a table with neighbours
- Pop-up water park
- Cross country ski lessons/or Egerts tours
- Christmas time – have a bonfire of Christmas trees
- The community could have a bonfire
- Experiment – Benches/Pop-up Coffee Shop
 - Large natural playgrounds in small parks – like large rocks to climb
 - Buckthorn Cres NW – seen green space needs a park bench, a picnic table, a firepit to gather around
 - Benches or table benches