



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

Project overview

Calgary's river valleys are essential to our city. They are at the core of our city's identity and its appeal as a place to live, play and do business.

The purpose of the Calgary River Valleys Project is to provide guidance for decisions about how we plan, develop and build in our river valleys, with a focus on coordinated and purposeful land use policies.

The project will create and consolidate:

- Principles for public space planning to provide direction that guides future recreation, trails, environmental protection, and land management decisions.
- Principles for private land planning that provide direction on land use tools like reserves, setbacks, design requirements, densities and other land use tools that shape development.
- Inform amendments to the Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw, ensuring that Calgary's guiding documents consistently address development, planning and investment in our river valleys and areas impacted by flooding.

Engagement overview

A multi-phased engagement approach is planned for 2023 and 2024. This report focuses on Stage 1, which took place Spring 2023 and provided opportunities to discuss and share river valley values and priorities at a high-level. This Stage will provide the foundation for future direction by defining a vision, guiding principles and goals.

We utilized several tactics for this engagement, of which the primary engagement ran from April 27 to June 5, 2023. Additional pop ups ran the week of July 18-21. We used online engagement to reach the broader Calgary audience to understand how they value the river valleys. In addition, opportunities to speak directly to project team members in person through drop in events and public pop ups were available throughout the river valley. We set up drop-in sessions at four river valley locations, Historic Fire Hall #6 (central Bow River valley), Seton YMCA (lower Bow River valley), Fort Calgary (Elbow River valley) and Four Points by Sheraton Calgary West (upper Bow River valley). The pop-ups were held at East Village on the Riverwalk, Lindsay Park behind MNP Centre and Edworthy Park near the Bow River bridge. Interested parties and organizations were also engaged through targeted virtual engagement sessions. We also targeted youth specifically at river valley elementary and high schools and through partnerships with youth organizations in Calgary. Racialized community members were also part of the engagement through partnership with ActionDignity to learn about their thoughts on Calgary's River Valleys.

The Calgary River Valleys Plan (CRVP) Update Project has been connecting and working with the Nations of Treaty 7 and Urban Indigenous Calgarians through a parallel Indigenous engagement



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process. A Pre-Engagement process was initiated in 2021, providing the opportunity for Nations to bring forward concerns, suggestions, and questions regarding working with The City of Calgary and specifically for the CRVP project and issues relating to the Elbow and Bow Rivers. The resulting Common Principles and Process Approach that resulted from these discussions directly informed a series of guiding actions that impacted an Indigenous Engagement Framework for the CRVP project with the following accountabilities: commitment to protocol, a distinctions-based approach, a themed approach, and a commitment to action.

Focusing on a directional round, two Summits have been held to date, with over sixty participants. The East Summit (January 2023) focused on respect, with discussion on the impact of flood, drought, and river flow. The theme of the South Summit (June 2023) was reconciliation, with a focus on river health. Two future Summits are planned for October 2023 and March 2024. In actioning the approach recommended with the commitments outlined in the pre-engagement, those managing additional City of Calgary projects and initiatives that intersect with the CRVP have been invited to attend the Summits. City staff have the opportunity to share information on their projects, gather information, ask questions, and listen to suggestions to further deepen the understanding of Indigenous ways of knowing, engaging, building relationships, and working towards an equitable environment in all of The City's work.

What we asked

We asked two different sets of questions in Stage 1. The first set focused on River Valley values for those who had passing interest in the project and wanted to participate. We asked questions around what participants felt the most important roles of the River Valley were, why they felt that way and what their hopes were for the future of the River Valley. We asked what aspects of the River Valley should stay the same, what should change and why. Lastly, participants were asked what their favorite spot in the River Valley was and how The City could lead by example to keep the River Valley a great place to live, work and enjoy.

The second set of questions focused on priorities of the River Valley. Here, we asked questions around trade-offs regarding five key responsibilities The City has regarding land use decisions in the River Valley. Those responsibilities are: Cultural uses, Recreation uses, Natural spaces, Building and Development, and Flooding. For this stage of engagement, we focused on the first four. The discussion on flooding will be explored in a subsequent stage of engagement as The City of Calgary awaits the release of the updated Government of Alberta flood hazard area maps.

The online engagement included both sets of questions. For some engagements, such as the youth and pop-up engagements, only the values-based questions were asked due to time constraints.



Calgary River Valley Project

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What we heard

Stage 1 engagement began online and in person on April 27, with a kick off event at Historic Fire Hall #6, and ran until June 5. Three additional pop-up events occurred on July 18, 19 and 20 within the River Valley. Online engagement drew more than 7,700 engagement portal page views from over 6,100 visitors. This resulted in 1,400 contributions from 800 individual contributors.

Additionally, we spoke to over 230 high school students from Lord Beaverbrook, Forest Lawn, Bowness and Dr. E. P. Scarlett high schools and almost 100 Grade 5 students from Connect Charter. We also heard from the Miskanawah Diamond Willow Youth Council on their thoughts on the River Valley. Working with ActionDignity, we heard from over 100 Racialized families within the River Valley. More than 200 people stopped by one of our four drop in events and over 150 spoke to us at our three pop-ups. We also held two virtual sessions for key community partners and interested parties with more than 20 organizations represented in attendance.

We have worked closely with Indigenous Nations to learn about their relationships with the River Valley, priorities, and traditional uses. These conversations started many seasons prior to public engagement to incorporate those learnings into the engagement. At a ceremony with Indigenous Nations on January 19, 2023, a request was made for the Nations to collaborate with The City as we work to incorporate Indigenous knowledge and worldviews into our planning processes in a good way. This work continues through the project and will be reported on through a separate process.

During Stage 1 of engagement, participants clearly stated their personal values regarding the rivers and river valley. Two key, overarching values came through clearly across all types of engagement and participants groups. Access to the river from within the River Valley and access to the River Valley itself was ranked very high. Secondly, the desire for limited or more thoughtful development within the River Valley also came across clearly from participants through Stage 1 engagement.

A brief summary of what we heard overall from all participants:

Values

- Most participants said the most important role of the river valley was that it is a connected system of natural areas.
- More housing and family gathering spaces was a high priority for participants who responded through ActionDignity.
- Most respondents felt that a holistic view of the river valley (function, biodiversity, wildlife, climate change) is missing from our current work.
- Many participants hope that:
 - The river valley stays natural in the future.
 - The City will manage building and development more in the river valleys.
- Favorite locations included Eau Claire, Prince's and St. Patrick's Islands, Bowness and Fish Creek Parks.

- The City can lead by example through improved land uses, policies around set backs and by doing more enforcement around social disorder, litter and preservation of natural areas.

Priorities

- Most participants feel that intensive recreation and programming needs to be in the downtown and established areas due to the higher population and existing development and infrastructure.
- Participants felt that The City should focus highly designed spaces in the downtown area and leave new communities with more natural settings.
- Participants said it's more important to maintain a natural feel in both established and new communities, but that there also needs to be natural spaces to escape to in the downtown and industrial areas.
- Pathways and trails are important for participants, regardless of the area of the city. This includes using them to access the river valley and river itself, having separated pathways for pedestrians and cyclists and connectivity throughout the River Valley.
- Participants told us that commercial opportunities should be focused more on the downtown areas, with some in more established part of the city, but limited commercial in new communities or industrial areas.
- In order to balance human use and environmental protection, The City should require higher design requirements for parks, landscapes and streetscapes in the River Valley.

For a detailed summary of the input, see the [Summary of Input](#) section.

For a list of verbatim input, see the [Verbatim Responses](#) section.

What we heard, what we are doing

The following outlines how the feedback from Stage 1 will be used, and how it will influence decisions as well as the work being considered for future stages of engagement.

- A focus of Stage 1 engagement was inviting input on what within the river valleys should stay the same or change. Insight from engagement participants will support draft policy development by highlighting what is going well that can be further protected, expanded and enhanced as well as things that need more attention, resolution or prioritization.
- Values questions from Stage 1 engagement also support development of emerging vision and principles for planning.
- Prioritization questions provided insight into balancing use and protection spatially. Emerging draft policy direction will need to articulate where and how public use and development should occur in the river valley to balance natural protection with public use.



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- Input from Stage 1 will also help inform and refine topics presented in future Stages of engagement.

Next steps

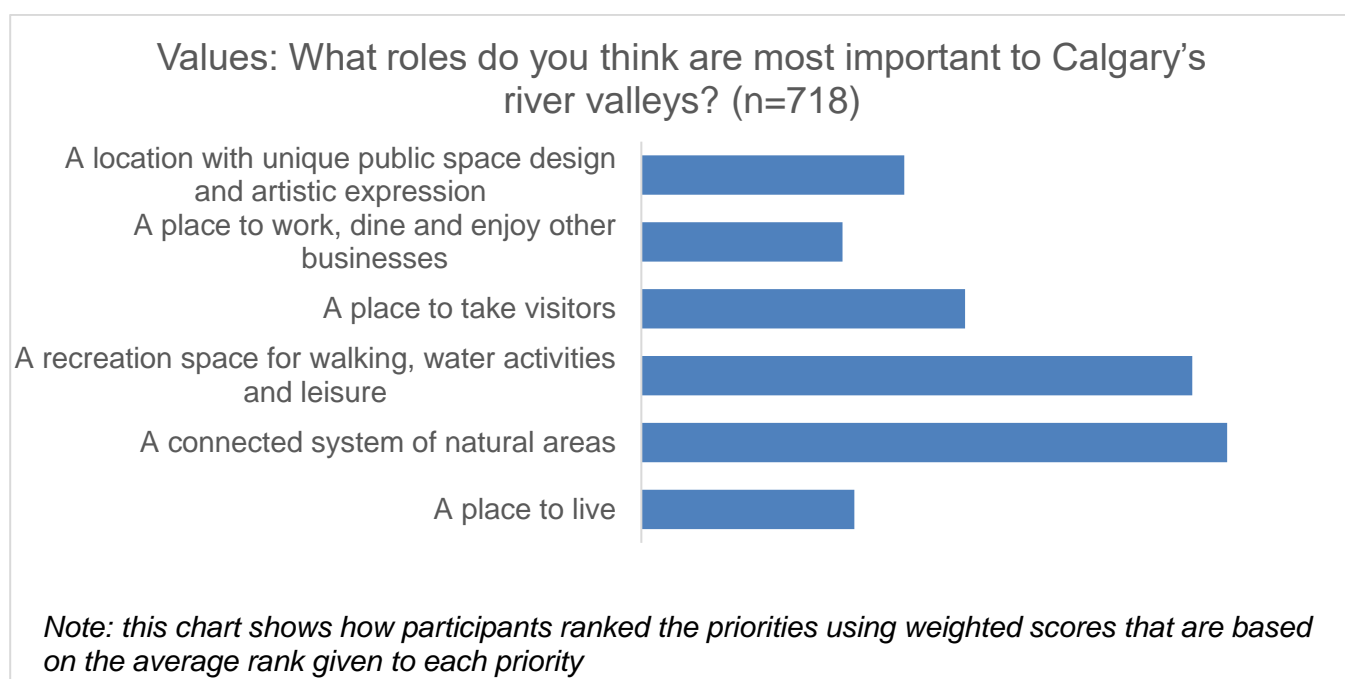
- All the information collected has been shared internally with the project team and technical consultants who will look at how to incorporate this information into potential policy related decisions.
- The next stage of engagement will look at flood-related topics, aligned to the Government of Alberta's updated flood hazard area mapping.
- More information about subsequent phases of engagement will be made available at engage.calgary.ca/rivervalleys as well as through public communications. Additional communications will be made as the project progresses towards completion.

Summary of input

Online feedback – Values

For this set of questions, the project team was interested in where people placed importance on the River Valley, what roles they feel The City should place importance on and if they felt anything was missing at this point in the project.

We heard:



What Roles do you think are most important to Calgary's River Valleys ... Why did you rank them this way?

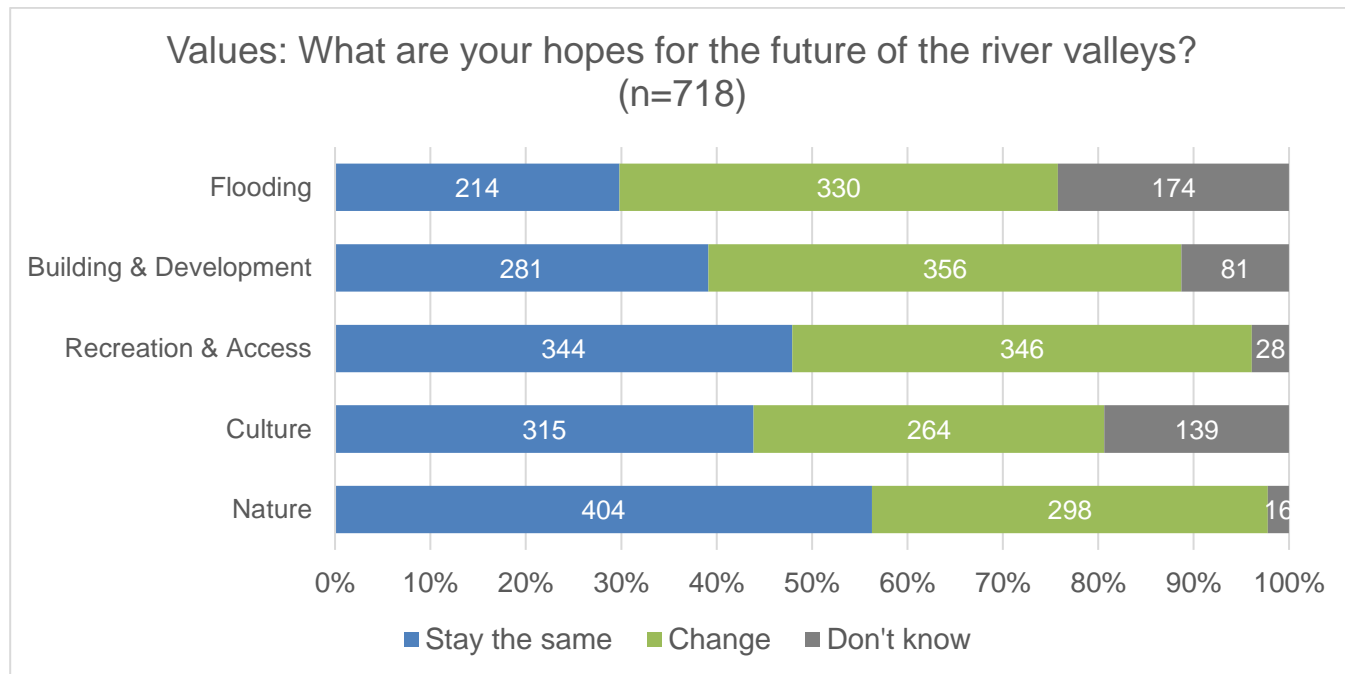
Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Preservation and recreational uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I think it's a place mostly for public enjoyment and connecting with nature and allowing activities is the way to go nature and the land isn't for businesses
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universal access, regardless of address, is important to me. The spaces adjacent to the river should attract all Calgarians to use and interact with the waterfront (or the

	<p>water itself!). Bold and vibrant public space should support and encourage this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think spending time outdoors is critical to our mental health. I think it's important to have accessible pathways for all to enjoy
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Is anything missing?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Holistic system view	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of protecting wuldlife, nature, the river/valleys and natural Greenspace. • Their ecological functions are essential! Human enjoyment should be secondary.
Flooding and flood-related items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's missing is the natural purpose and reason the valley exists: it is a channel for moving huge quantities of water, particularly during exceptional but ultimately likely extreme flooding events... • Yes, protection of natural habitats; importance of maintaining and sustaining natural wetlands for flood mitigation and climate change

What are your hopes for the future of the river valleys?



Based on your selections above, why should those aspects of the river valley STAY THE SAME?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Preservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I would want to avoid further human development within the river valley, in the interest of preserving the natural spaces there Keep areas natural, with public recreational access Maintaining designated river pathways is important for social wellbeing and meeting climate goals
Good as it is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I think the City has done a fairly good job keeping our rivers clean and a vibrant place to be. The ones that are built are great when maintained. Meets the current and future needs of Calgarians
Already enough development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I don't want any more development in the river valley taking up green space. The river valley also has natural areas that take up flooding, and we don't want to build in those. Mitigate flooding, and otherwise stop developing close to riverbanks!

Based on your selections above, why should those aspects of the river valley CHANGE?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Restrict certain developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More natural habitat protects the city from extreme flooding. This requires less building and development - which are the areas that are affected most by flood damage • The area that requires the most evaluation and scrutiny in my opinion is the Elbow River between Lindsay Park and the Bow River, particularly the area that backs on to Stampede Park. The stables are only used for 10 days of the year. Poor use of land. • I am disheartened by the amount of building in the river valley. If we keep building homes along the river we will destroy the ecosystem through erosion, run off, habitat disruption, etc
More amenities and recreation areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be nice to see more naturalization of the river valleys, improvements made to the infrastructure and connectivity of the pathway system, less buildings in the river valley bottoms except those designed for tourism and recreation. • The pathways in winter need to be better maintained, it makes using them after snowfall hard because they aren't cleared well. There are areas where the pedestrian only pathways are narrow and very uneven. This makes it hard for people with limited mobility • I would love to see more native plants/landscaping around the rivers with paths/ways the community can access them
Preserving more natural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade pathways, more garbage cans, ensure no flooding, don't build on them! • I think we need to rewild some areas or make parks where the flooded houses came down and keep these areas from flooding again. Building new communities (ie south Calgary) in the flood plain needs to STOP. Better bike connectivity east-west ie. Manchester
Flooding/Flood related priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More buildings (primarily housing and restaurants) to create calm pedestrianized areas, plus naturalized flood planes instead of sheet piles and concrete walls

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood mitigation will require changes as the climate changes. Less drinking and partying on the water would be good. Nature - the river is too dirty and full of garbage; electrification of trains inside Calgary to reduce pollution and noise.
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What is your favorite spot in Calgary's River Valley and why?

Top 5 locations	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Downtown Area (includes Eau Claire, East Village, Prince's and St. Patrick's Islands)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pathway along the Elbow river, and the river walk along the Bow River. Princess island - because it strikes a balance between nature and culture Downtown east village. This is where I find the confluence of art, culture and nature coming together in the best way. The numbers of people visiting speak to its values. Too many to have a favourite, but Eastvillage is a good example of Pathway, park and service development
Fish Creek Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mallard point in fishcreek- lush and not too busy, lots of paths. Policeman's flats area - quiet, open, edge of the city and not busy. Less noise pollution Fish Creek Park, the wildlife! Fish Creek Provincial Park. Naturalized, yet accessible for biking, walking. Needs better Kayak launch points.
Bowness Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The whole thing is beautiful, but the repurposed off-take channels at Bowness and Eau Claire are a nice indication of how beauty can still exist after we change the river dramatically. Bowness Park. The river flows along the edge of the park and it feels like you are not in the city, as it is left fairly natural. Along the edges of Bowness and Silver Springs. It's close to home and has lots of great access points to sit in or by the river along with beautiful walking paths.
Bowmont Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bowmont/Bowness/Baker parks. An oasis for nature. Bowmont - because it's near, I know it best, the river is lively there, floods and recedes, lots of natural space, wildlife The Bow River Pathway system and the Natural Areas around Bowmont Park/Silver Springs

Edworthy Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edworthy park. It's close to my house, its nice and I have good memories. • Edworthy Park, Sandy Beach. Great spots to get down to the water to float or cool off and also great connections to bike and walking paths. Also the Douglas Fir Trail is the best! • Upstream from Edworthy Park to the western edge of the City. That section seems to have the most natural areas without development and is most accessible for me.
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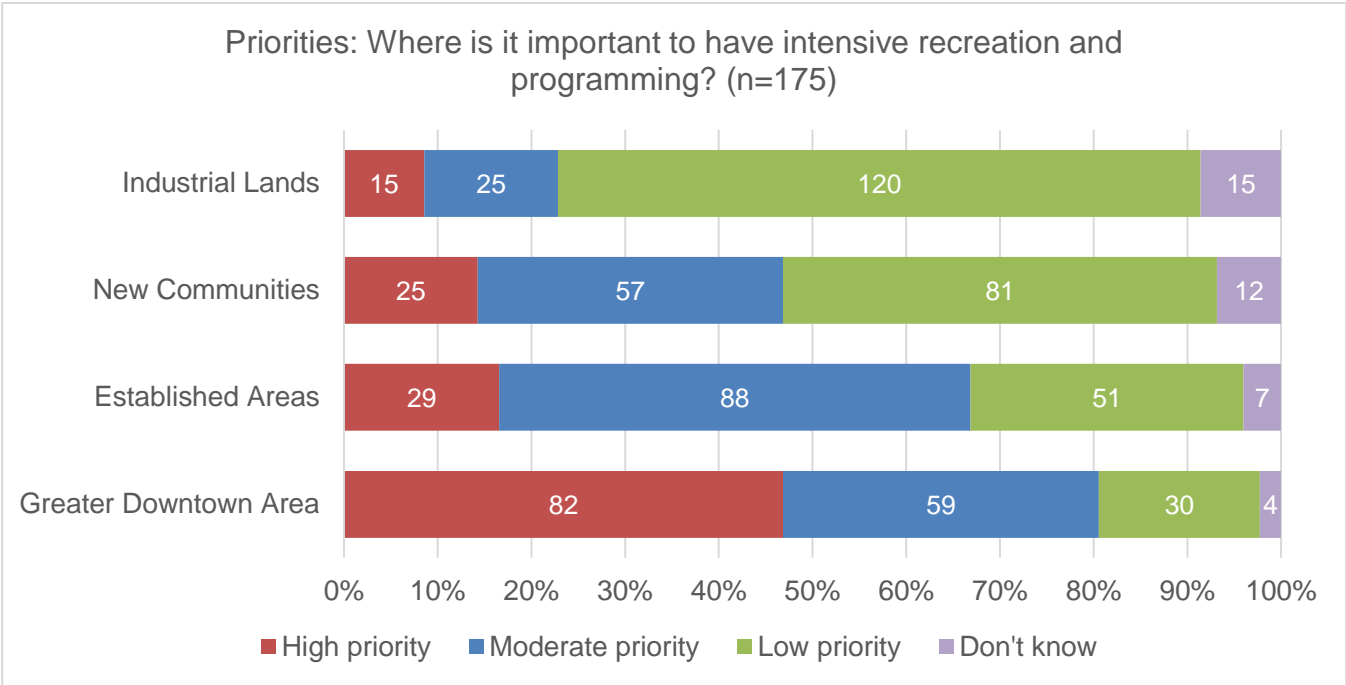
How might The City of Calgary lead by example to make our River Valleys a great place to live, work and enjoy for everyone?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Land use policies for protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is development along the river for housing there must be affordable housing incorporated as well. Calgary should avoid the desire to gentrify for those with resources to buy luxury condos. Find a way to ensure economic diversity. • Protect them! Having accessible parks and wilded areas are equally as important. Stop further on the banks and the flood plain that's isn't built out already. • Make usable with easily rebuilt infrastructure in flood plains.
Enforce bylaws	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More education on how to tread lightly on the land. Limit off-road biking to designated paths. Enforce on-leash areas to prevent dogs from disturbing wildlife. Thanks! • Cleaning them up, address the homeless problem, tax businesses properly, maintain areas. • Safety and usage defined. The dog poo and off leash issues need to be addressed. • Continue to expand the parks, and address the safety issues present in the downtown river valley parks
Better accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure its safe for all users. accessibility for people with disabilities as well as security so people feel safe • Well maintained Pathways with Signage on Shared or designated paths. Washrooms avail and open all year. Not just mid May to Oct. • Increase accessibility and maintenance of pathways. Having separate bike and walk pathways where possible, expanding the width of pathway and increasing trees and

	vegetation along the valley that has been taken away from flooding, age, other
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Online feedback - Priorities

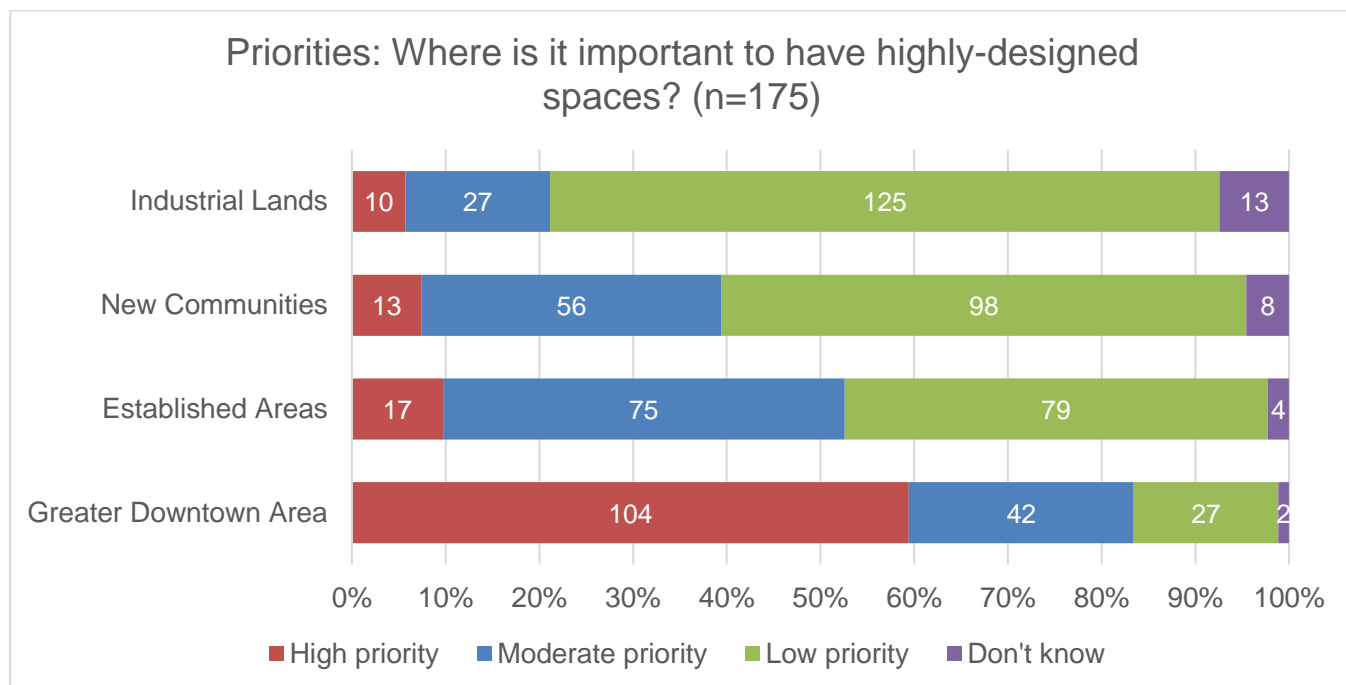
Where is it important to have intensive recreation and programming?



Location by priority (highest to lowest)	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Greater Downtown Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive programming should be focused in the downtown area due to the density and cultural hub that area is. Elsewhere, it should be in limited locations where applicable. The downtown area has a higher concentration of people living in closer quarters therefore benefiting from being able to wander to a place nearby along the river that feels private
Established areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put money where the most people will have access to the facility

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are areas that have more people seeking recreation activities
New communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This seems to be where they would get the most use, and be in most demand Recreation needs to be close to where people live and work.
Industrial lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We've already ruined those spots, so use the grounds there to put events. Leave nature alone. Inner-city river is used as a break/oasis for people living and working downtown.

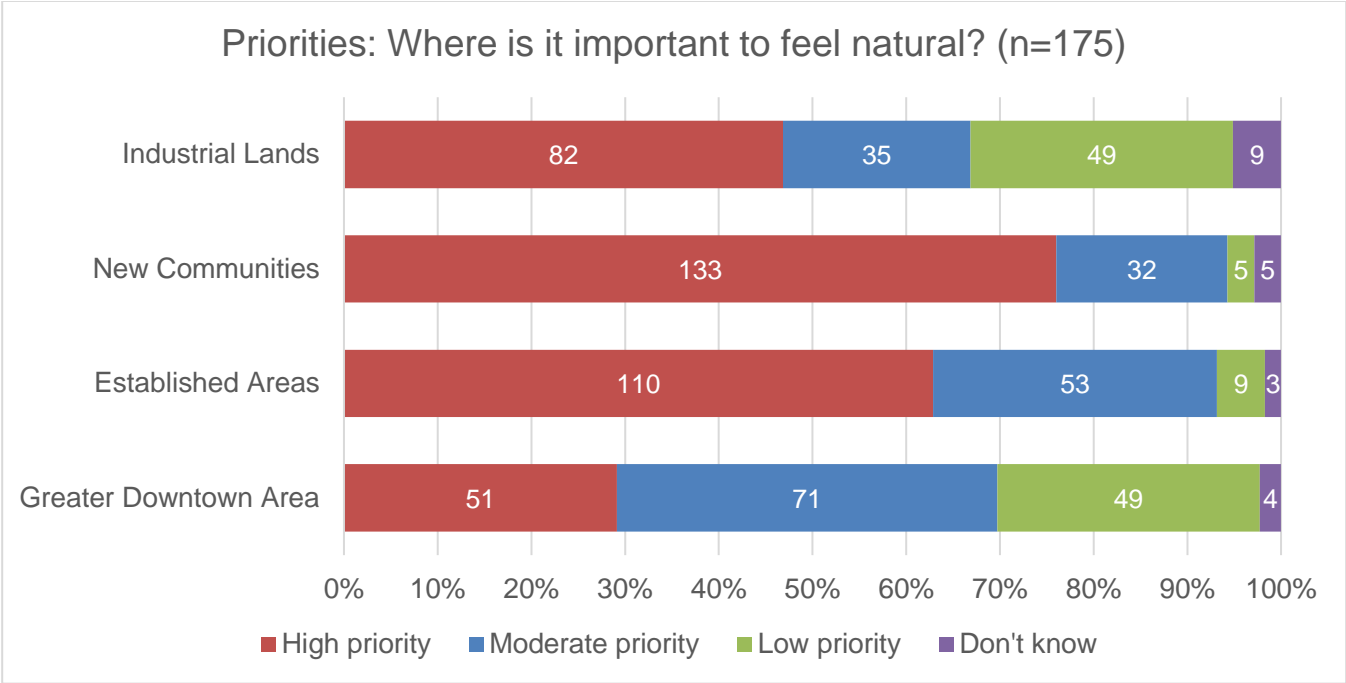
Where is it important to have highly designed spaces?



Location by priority (highest to lowest)	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Greater Downtown Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I believe the downtown area should generally be the exclusive area for urban designed areas around the river. Everywhere else should have more of a natural feel. Micro features (gazebos or small amphitheatres) can be added to limited areas.

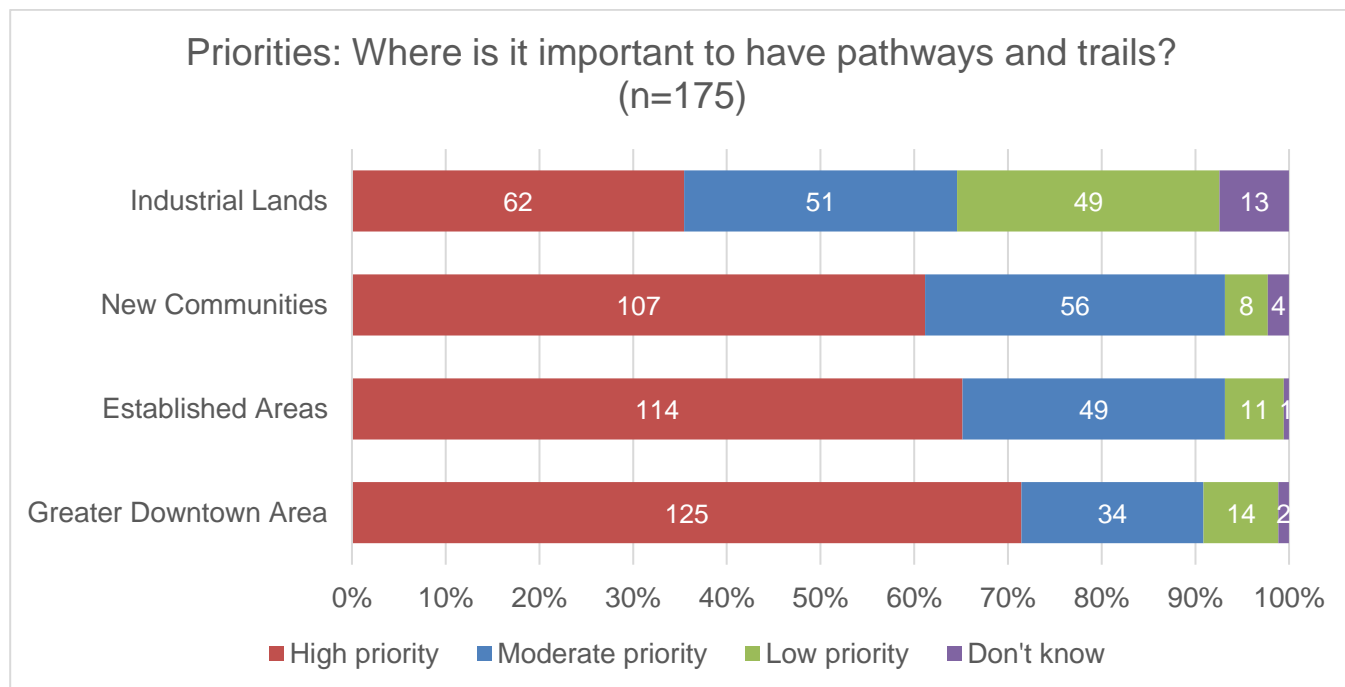
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More natural areas may struggle to thrive with the amount of people using them downtown, but not as much in other areas.
Established areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More human interaction Don't build these in proposed new communities, stay off the river
New communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By only having limited access points it creates over-usage, parking issues, etc. If we want to encourage gatherings and enjoyment of our communities, then we should provide spaces for interact in all communities.
Industrial lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You could put gathering places and designed spaces in idustrial areas to beautify brownfields. leave established older communities with natural areas and some hardscaped spaces. It would be nice to have a reason to get people to a facility to enjoy the rivers in industrial areas. Revitalize and make less 'unfriendly'.

Where is it important to feel natural?



Location by priority (highest to lowest)	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
New communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outside of downtown, the river should feel like an escape from the city environment. Greenery should be prevalent. • While all areas could use natural spaces, it is easier to do outside of downtown.
Established areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We've lost the natural space in the core and industrial areas; maintain what we have there and enhance it elsewhere. • Already very developed, better chance to reserve existing nature, less people in industrial areas.
Greater Downtown Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GTA needs to preserve and conserve its natural environment for public accessibility and not just for those who have financial means to access more remote spaces. • The areas that are most affected by human influence (downtown and industrial) need to be protected
Industrial lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme park natural is being pursued by commercial interests already. We need more natural natural spaces. • well... we're natural creatures. they say it's good for our mental health and that seems to be quite important

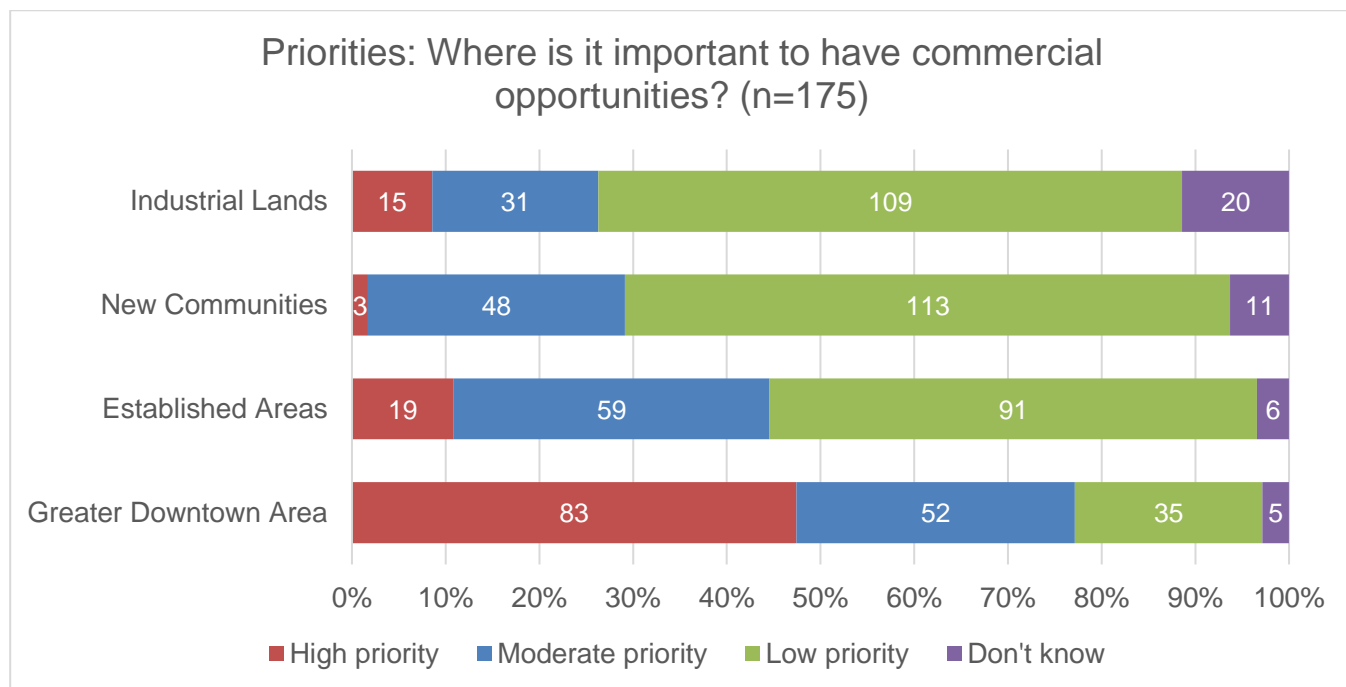
Where is it important to have pathways and trails?



Location by priority (highest to lowest)	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Greater Downtown Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everywhere along the river valley should have pathways. There should also be twinning of these paths to include bikeways in popular downtown and established areas. In certain spots, natural trails should be accommodated. pathways and trails are important as they clearly delineate where it is safe to be/walk/access the water. important for risk management and natural ecosystem health
Established areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We all live in communities that need more access to nature. Pathways are the least intrusive development type and provide for fitness, mental health and green transpo opportunities. Always a need for more. Trails need to be managed to minimize impacts but also good for health and respect for natural world.
New communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New communities need pathways to access the river valley

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build new communities with an abundance of pathways and trails to encourage people to get outside and appreciate the river valley as a natural space full of wildlife and as its own ecosystem with or without humans.
Industrial lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More people commute from the downtown than other communities, so more interconnectivity across all trails would benefit all Calgarians. Industrial lands currently lack connectivity and make parts of the city feel inaccessible. Bikes and pedestrians connectivity is a top priority.

Where is it important to have commercial opportunities?



Location by priority (highest to lowest)	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Greater Downtown Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Downtown area should be the main spot for business to connect to the river. Elsewhere, the mileage may vary in regards to recreation activities (which should have a higher priority compared to others) and dining/entertainment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> new communities are not going to be able support a lot of commercial opportunities anyway. their river access should be as 'light' as possible. higher need in GDT and established areas; some areas of commercial opportunities exist in industrial areas
Established areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Again can concentrate, improve and densify already established areas. Established areas deserve to have a commercial place in the beautiful river areas as a place to encourage humans to hangout and enjoy the area before venturing to a hike or walk in the area
Industrial lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some commercial activities are good for placemaking, but only those places already built up should have commercial activities, the rest of the riversides should remain as natural as possible. Majority of businesses are located downtown so important to have easy access to commercial businesses not too far away from downtown. Industrial lands are under-utilized and could benefit from this.
New communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited commercial on the river valleys. Do we need commercial everywhere or can it be developed away from the valleys. It is awesome to have the ability to enjoy a park and get something to eat or rent equipment in the same space

Based on your experiences in the River Valley, how should human use be balanced with environmental protection in the River Valleys?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Require higher design standards for parks, landscapes, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development setbacks should be even greater than they currently are and should be applied to the Nose Creek valleys as well as they are just as important as the Bow and Elbow when it comes to wildlife corridors
Concentrate access and recreational use to protect more areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus high-intensity uses in already established/disturbed areas. Increase pathway network across the city, including within river valleys. Low-intensity uses in previously undeveloped / moderately disturbed areas.
Limit uses that require extensive changes to the terrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness about how environmental health is connected to human wellbeing and make low-impact activities the most accessible.

Other / additional comments noted (unthemed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a new Calgarian I am overwhelmed with how busy the parks are and the amount of off-leash areas. Calgary has the opportunity to lead the way in ensuring our beautiful valleys are protected and wild - and therefore all human access should respect that. No changes to existing natural areas/parks other than to appropriately enhance/maintain existing infrastructure, and no more new development along the river valley. Please add more year round public washrooms. Please ensure that traditional ecological knowledge is included in the balancing act in order to respect Calgary's heritage and current indigenous population. Investing in public education and programming also important
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Youth engagement

The Calgary River Valley Project team was able to talk to many youth participants in various settings to learn what they value and want to see in the River Valley. The team attended lunch time visits, presentations, and Youth Council meetings to encourage the conversations, out of which a few themes emerged. Youth participants value the river valleys as a place to spend time with family and friends and to enjoy nature. Many commented on how peaceful it is to be in the natural settings. There also were numerous comments on how they use pathways to enjoy the scenery and a desire to preserve these natural settings.

High School students' feedback (Lord Beaverbrook, Forest Lawn, Bowness and Dr. E.P. Scarlett High schools)

What is your favorite spot in Calgary's River Valleys? Why?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Places for activities and spending time with family/friends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like Fish Creek Park - take the dogs there anytime we have free time Family trips to Bowness Park
Paths for walking and cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live close to fish creek, nice place to walk and bike. Lots of places can be reached through Fish Creek
Place to connect with natural beauty/place to escape to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inglewood Bird Sanctuary is very calming Hanging out at Prince's Island to study as it's quiet

What could be done to improve the river valley?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Preserve and protect natural areas from pollution and flood damage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I want a clean environment for my future. Lots of trees to protect us from dust/air quality We should leave them be. When we build them up we lose the essence of what makes them special.
Learn from others, about its history and ways to ensure it is there for the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We can learn from other countries that have industrialized their river. Don't ruin the environment, it's special. me and my friend go on walks there and field trips in elementary. Accessing and learning about nature (Fish Creek)
Better connectivity, pathways and points of access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tough to go for a walk in the spring, getting the paths clear of debris and making the paths easier to access (Bowness Park)

Grade 5 feedback (Connect Charter School)

Things I love about the River Valleys

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Water activities like swimming, or sitting by the water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can swim and float How we have privilege to be able to hike, swim etc in our rivers in YYC
Exploring nature, the beauty and peacefulness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The frogs and fish I love the scenery and how calm the river flows
The pathway network, walking, hiking and cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I like the wind blowing against my face and how I can swim, bike and walk around. I like wading in our river valleys, my family bikes A LOT in the river valleys.

Things I wish we could do in the River Valleys

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Protect and/or expand nature areas, address pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I wish we could try not to build too much communities Have Park rangers
Have access to more water activities, like swimming and fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> more binoculars / bike trails Explore under water
Have new or more recreation amenities like parks, sports and playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> add more parks, maybe put places for swimming and have more recreational activities I wish we could go motor boating in the river

Miskanawah Diamond Willow Youth Council feedback

Things I love about the River Valley

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Access to the river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The walking accessibility. Coming from Edmonton I find the river valley to be fine as it is in my eyes. At least we can walk next to it. The green of it all, you've got both rural and urban feel depending what side you are on. I love how easy it is to access the river, and how clean it is, and how beautiful it is
Nature setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I highly respect river valleys because it's been around for thousands of year and given it's the main water source for our city it catches my eye every time I love the ease of access to the river and how serene the walks are around the area

Things I wish we could change about the River Valley

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
More activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> more natural swimming,
More amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> more access for WHOLE city (NE access), more river cleanups, more trash cans, panic or help buttons more bathrooms,



Calgary River Valley Project

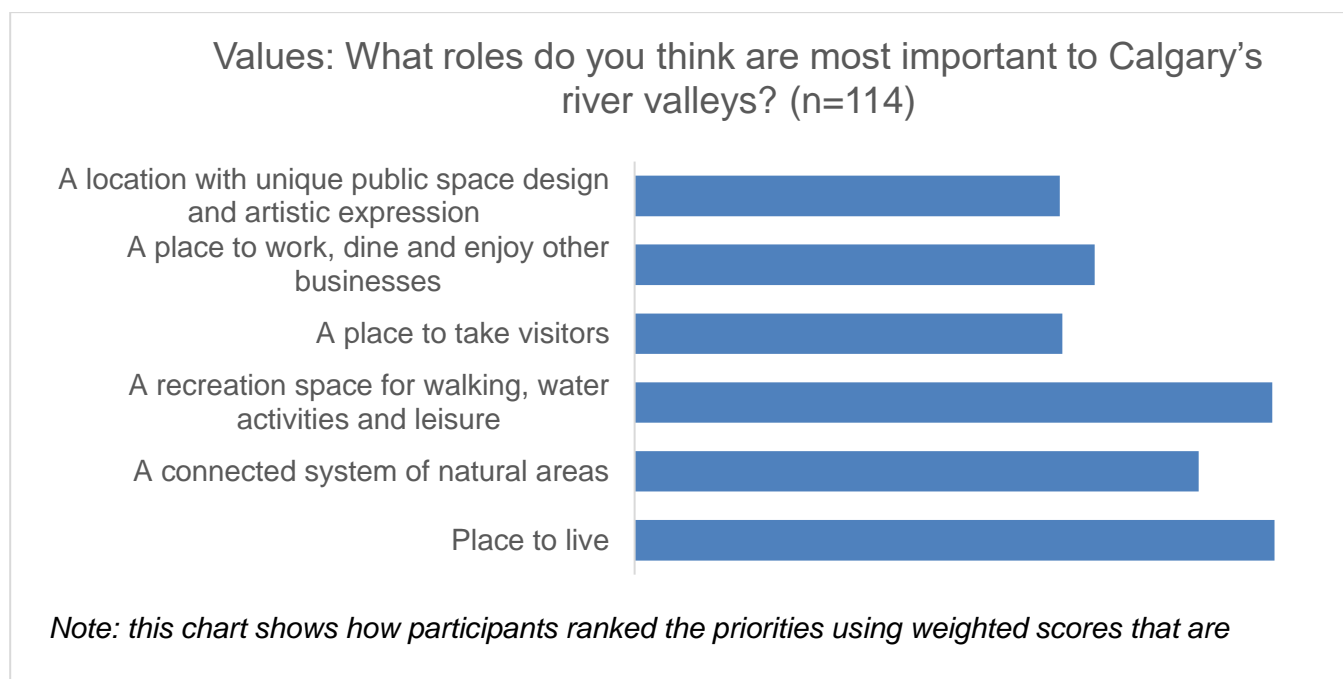
Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

Different plantings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• more natural, non-invasive plants• more medicines that can be harvested (sweetgrass)
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ActionDignity feedback

ActionDignity is a local charitable organization who employs Community Connectors from various Racialized communities to assist in removing barriers to participation in community projects and engagements. ActionDignity assisted the project team by reaching out into these communities that live within the River Valley so we could understand how they value the River Valley and what their priorities may be.



Participants interviewed by ActionDignity reported primary uses of the River Valley that differed from what we heard from other groups. These participants identified that having a place to live and recreation space for family gatherings/visitors as their top priorities for the River Valley, as noted in the graphic above. Another item to note was the number of comments around accessibility, not just of the water, but to ensure people could get to the River Valley itself to be able to enjoy natural environment.

Favorite Spot in the River Valleys

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Natural places	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I think that would be by the river along the sidewalk so I can do my walk, ride my bike

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The natural habitat and the walking and bike paths. The nature garden plants and the beauty of the plants. I love taking people to see the beautiful river. It is the more pristine river I have ever seen. Keep it Blue!
Walking / pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pearce Park in the SE. It is big and it has hiking path around the river Eau Claire because of the walking paths and the access to all the food places
Park Spaces (Eau Claire, Prince's Island, Bowness Park, Fish Creek Park, Peace Bridge)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prince's Island Park because it's nice and so many things happens Edworthy, Eau Claire, East Village, Bowness, love recreational spaces for people watching

How might The City lead by example to make our River Valleys a great place to live, work and enjoy for everyone?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Keeping spaces maintained and safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More seats in parks and near rivers. Safer Calgary to walk around evenings and week ends By providing budgeting to support to maintaining the river valley and invest in people centred recreation and keep public safety in place
More activities and events for everyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I hope to see more sport activities in the summer and music to encourage people to use this public space preserve/maintain the natural resource and at the same time improve the accessibility for everyone. More access to trains, bus etc. add more events and gatherings for everyone to enjoy

Things I hope will stay the same about the River Valleys

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Natural spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability for future generations of people and animals The river and this area looks great and think everythings of the river should stay the same way
Variety of activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> accessible to the public, places to congregate, bbq's

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The connection to nature, culture, opportunity to explore outdoors or a great spot to socialize with other people or with family
Safety and maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More garbage pick up options cleaning of green areas so that everyone can enjoy walking on grass

Things I wish I could change about the River Valleys

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Safety and maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People clean up after their dogs maintenance seems to be not enough. Actions could be taken in the near future the lack of maintenance ruins any project and attempt to look forward
Additional recreation amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> benches, water fountains More wholesome plus diverse cultural recreation

Drop-in feedback

There were four advertised drop-in events through the River Valley. They were held at Historic Fire Hall #6 in Poppy Plaza (central Bow River reach), the Seton YMCA atrium (lower Bow River reach), Fort Calgary (Elbow River reach) and the Four Points by Sheraton in Bowness (upper Bow River Reach). From these participants, we heard that The City should place a higher priority on protecting the natural environment. Participants also want better connections to the water and more information on how to interact with the rivers in a safer manner. With the trade-off conversations, participants indicated that a balance can be found around aspects such as where people can go in the river valley and around commercial opportunities inside the valley. However, when asked what could be done and how it should look and feel, these participants clearly outlined the need for more natural settings and low-impact recreational opportunities that everyone can access.

Things I wish I could change in the River Valleys

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Protection and restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The prioritization of bioengineering and natural methods of restoration and stability I want the remaining natural areas to stay that way and others to be re-naturalized Maintain/restore wildlife corridors in the river valleys, don't fragment them

Better info on safer river use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More information available about recreating on the river (webpage and messaging about safety) • Recreation - not a lot of info on safe boating, more info on you can use the river, launch points • River awareness raising day
No development in the 100 year flood plain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restrict building in 100yr flood zone i.e. no new residential • Monitored and protected around the industrial areas • Development regs re: Protected flood fringe
Connection to water and land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural spaces - our green spaces are a critical asset to connect us and bind us to the land • More network connections to the river valley pathways • connect city bow river pathway to glenbow ranch

Favorite spot in the River Valleys and why?

Locations	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Bowmont Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking • Observing birds and wildlife in their natural habitat • Nature close to home
Fish Creek Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Wildlife • Views • explore
Upstream of Bowness Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature on our hike to Bearspaw Dam • Improve access from parking lot in Valley Ridge

Trade-offs in the River Valleys

For these questions, participants were asked to place their response along a spectrum assigned to each question. Examples of responses are included where they were placed along that spectrum.

Where should we be able TO GO in the River Valley?

This range highlights comments from participants and how they would like The City to prioritize this.

Limited public access with lower impact trails		Balanced		Broad public access with an extensive and varied trail network
Leave space for nature - minimal disturbance	More nature pathways	Natural pathways Need some areas protected for wildlife	Paved paths close to the river	More people can enjoy
Building direct water access is important to launch a boat or put your feet in the water	Need paved so people with mobility issues the opportunity to enjoy the space	Quiet nature enjoyment	It is important for people to access & enjoy nature	Need public access to boat ramp at Harvey passage w/ parking
Some areas are very sensitive to human use. Take the last Great Blue Heron nesting site at the southern tip of land in Ricardo Ranch ASP.	Need some areas to remain protected for wildlife/quiet nature enjoyment		Keep pathway on both sides of pathway (river)	Better boat access on St. Patrick's Island with space to park trucks and trailers. Special parking permit for commercial users of river

What commercial opportunities should be in public spaces in the River Valley?

This range highlights comments from participants and how they would like The City to prioritize this.

Limited range of commercial opportunities in focused areas		Balanced		Broad range of commercial opportunities throughout

Limited low impact	Limited, low impact	Vendors - food trucks	Connect Bridgeland and Inglewood commercial areas	Attract more people
Scale back development near river x2	Food trucks & coffee shops at key locations only	Some commercial at limited designated public spaces	Need a more direct access from Bridgeland	More commercial development, river should be busy
No commercial it belongs in the mall	Limit it Lots of commercial space already Draw should be through nature, not shops			

What should we be able TO DO in the River Valley?

This range highlights comments from participants and how they would like The City to prioritize this.

Limited recreation and programming in smaller, focused areas		Balanced		Intensive recreation programming in fewer, larger areas
Too much noise and chaos in our city. I value opportunities for quieter pursuits; nature walks, picnics, birdwatching, sitting	Low key and protected	Both	More gathering spaces for families	Access to water for rafting, fishing, kayak
Not all can afford to travel to Banff or the fees. Need accessible	Need limits on intensive recreation the		Providing year round opportunities for Calgarians in	

natural spaces in and around the City while increasing nature and wildlife	river valleys are wildlife corridors		green spaces through the river valley	
Natural play spaces similar to St. Patrick's Island that blends into the natural environment	Low-key is preferred			
	Varied opportunities in different spots. Some quiet nature walks and birding, some areas with formal recreation and programming			

What should the River Valley LOOK and FEEL like?

This range highlights comments from participants and how they would like The City to prioritize this.

Spaces that feel normal		Balanced		Spaces that feel highly designed
Need to move busy roads away from river. Memorial and Bow Trail are too noisy	Art in spaces	Should use low impact development techniques where possible		Don't throw trash in the water
Natural areas for running it makes me happy to hear birds	Less development close to river	Some of each, not everything a muddle		
Nature is what draws people in	Trees to block wind and shade on hot days - zoo road parking lot	Could use low impact development		

		techniques where possible.		
Art in spaces	Public use of escarpment edge			
Preserve the river edge area for wildlife wherever possible, eshew rip-rapped areas w/willows				
Keep it natural, it's a place to get away from it all				

Pop-up feedback

We held three unadvertised pop-ups in mid-July to gather in-person feedback in River Valley areas that were under-represented during the drop-in sessions and are high-use areas in the summertime. We held these pop-ups on the Riverwalk at East Village, at Lindsay Park behind MNP Centre and at Edworthy Park near the Bow River Bridge. Participants in these areas told us that more amenities are needed, such as garbage cans, more water stations, public bathrooms and benches for people to sit on to be able to enjoy the river and the surroundings.

What do you like about the River Valleys? Why?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Pathways to walk, run, bike	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility to other neighbourhood through the valley • Beautiful pathway, natural and peaceful
Simple, natural beauty, wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • like hikes and natural area • Wants to see it as it is - natural, lots of trees
Greenspace, parks and amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picnic facilities • Lots of multi-cultural families having large gatherings is great to see, we need more spaces for this

What would you change about the River Valleys? Why?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
More amenities needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More washrooms and water stations • More benches along the path for persons with disability and washrooms

Maintenance needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More litter pick ups/clean ups • At Riverwalk, steps used to go to stone benches and water, now are overgrown
Rewilding, protect wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More pollinator (bee) plants • Make a nature preserve

Key organizations feedback

This group was made up of special interest groups, academics and other partner agencies that work with The City on River Valley-related topics. These conversations were about how the River Valley impacts their organizations and how The City can continue to partner with them. From this group, we heard more comments around protections, not only of the River Valley, but also around the cultural and historical significance of the River Valley. There were also comments around more cultural and open areas for people. The City has already developed or is in the process of updating.

How does your organization benefit from the River Valleys?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Sport / River activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sport purposes of the river • We've hosted tours of certain parts of the river valleys
Climate resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ...Provides tree canopy important for keeping local temperatures lower to provide cooler areas especially near downtown. Climate refuge.
River protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife corridors, connectivity along these rivers is important to protect • Crucial areas for wildlife lifecycles and need to be protected (i.e bank swallows)
Cultural / Historical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fort Calgary is at the Confluence, we honour this important location by creating meaningful programming about the history and culture related to these rivers • Traditional Indigenous Worldview that "water is life" it connects all things together

How can The City protect this benefit?

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Improve protections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City can protect the history and cultural significance of the confluence through educational programs, signage, designations and policies related to this site



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protect (limited) aquatic habitat• Protect the benefit by Stepping Back from the Water
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Things I hope stay the same in the River Valley

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Protections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to protect fish habitat• Wildlife corridors need to have priority
Gathering spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How much people love them!• Some areas should be prioritized for active recreation & others protected FROM active recreation
Recreational opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Walking and cycling paths - keep Calgarians connected to the natural world• Pathways along river are worth keeping, mostly

Things I wish I could change about the River Valley

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
Less development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Better preserve wetland areas and wildlife habitat• Larger buffer zones / setbacks for construction away from river / riparian zone
More open/cultural spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More spaces for Indigenous specific ceremonies and practices along the river• connect pathways without difficult transitions zones
Education/Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More education about why it's important to protect the river valleys & the biodiversity that lives there• Weirdly, when I moved to AB I noticed a lot of people didn't know how to swim because there wasn't a "lake/beach culture" here, however Calgary has so much water! It would be nice to increase programming (including safety focus) to promote positive river/water experiences

Questions or concerns raised

Theme	Detailed explanation or example (verbatim)
How will plan protect river valley and creeks?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How to balance ecology with access• Maintaining natural buffers (wetlands and riparian zones)

What environmental targets are going to be in place?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What goals for environmental targets for protection are met with plan Flood hazard mapping should include creeks (such as Nose Creek) & smaller water bodies too & should guide land use plans
How will this plan integrate with other plans?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does this initiative line up with other plans like CMRB growth plans Consider the impact of flooding on the unhoused population - consider their needs (where can they go?)

Trade offs in the River Valleys

Participants were asked to put their thoughts on a Mural board with the following ranges to answer the questions posed to them.

Where should we be able To GO in the River Valley?

This range highlights commentary we received from the participants, and how they would like The City to prioritize public access.

Limited public access with lower impact trails		Balanced		Broad public access with an extensive and varied trail network
	Need to ensure public access but minimizing the impact of the access network	Depends on area of city.	Access to areas must only be restricted for very good reason, as the trails are of great recreational importance	
	Depends on area, but less paved pathways where possible		Defined trail networks, with some restrictions	
			To input into this question I would need to understand how important the river valleys are	

			as a wildlife corridor	
			I think everywhere! (Don't hate me)	

What commercial opportunities should be in public spaces in the River Valley?

This range highlights commentary we received from the participants, and how they would like The City to prioritize commercial opportunities.

Limited range of commercial opportunities in focused areas		Balanced		Broad range of commercial opportunities throughout
There are ample commercial opportunities throughout the rest of the city. We must not exert too much human pressure on the river valleys	Minimize infrastructure that needs protection from flood	Hmmm... I think I would need more information on this one.		Currently riverfront occupied mostly by residential. Commercial will support visitors and residents.
Select sites that limit cumulative effects and impacts from disturbance				Commercial opportunities that support public enjoyment. ie. Food not retail or industry
There exists ample opportunities for commercial development outside of the river valleys				
Commercial opportunities should not be prioritized				

Temporary commercial opp'ties like food trucks vs more permanent commercial				
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What should we be able TO DO in the River Valley?

This range highlights commentary we received from participants as to how they would like The City to prioritize recreation programming.

Limited recreation and programming in smaller, focused areas		Balanced		Intensive recreation programming in fewer, larger areas
	I would minimize large sport facilities but individual forms of recreation should continue	There's different levels of recreation needed in different areas. These are far too general of questions	I think we should be able to have a bit more access but well managed with more programming and education to support. Especially from a cultural perspective	
	Dedicated public recreation areas in a few places	Focus recreational use on low impact activities		
	Less but well designed areas.			
	Less focused on car use and use public transportation or other means that reduce the need for large parking infrastructure			

	Like McLean Creek being the sacrificial area of Kananaskis, some areas should be the main areas for intensive recreation (can be controlled better & can still protect the river's natural functionalities) & the remaining areas should be protected / more natural			
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What should the River Valley LOOK and FEEL like?

This range highlights commentary we received the participants, and how they would like The City to prioritize public space design.

Spaces that feel normal		Balanced		Spaces that feel highly designed
Highly designed spaces can exist anywhere, the river valleys are limited by geography	Some places should be natural, some should be highly designed for recreation or architectural purposes	Both natural & highly designed depending on location context		
limit infrastructure and feel natural should be replaced with natural	River valleys should be mostly natural & celebrated as such, with some specific spaces highly designed			



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard
August 21, 2023

	(Eau Claire promenade)			
	All the spaces should be designed to feel like it's part of the natural environment			
	Need to accomodate different types of people that want more or less ammenities. The river valleys are important to both wildlife and quality of life of Calgarians			
	Natural, but room for designed spaces that feel natural			
	Minimize infrastructure that needs protecting from high water events			

Verbatim comments

Verbatim comments presented here include all feedback, suggestions, comments, and messages that were collected online and in-person through the engagement described in this report. All input has been reviewed and provided to The City to be considered in decision making for the project.

Any personal identifying information has been removed from the verbatim comments presented here. Comments or portions of comments that contain profanity, or that are not in compliance with the [City's Respectful Workplace Policy](#) or [Online Tool Moderation Practice](#), have also been removed from participant submissions.

Wherever possible, the remainder of the submission remains. No other edits to the feedback have been made, and the verbatim comments are as received. As a result, some of the content in this verbatim record may still be considered offensive or distasteful to some readers.

Verbatim Comments - General Public (Online)

What roles do you think are most important to Calgary's river valleys? (ranking the following: A place to live; A connected system of natural areas; A recreation space for walking, water activities and leisure; A place to take visitors; A place to work, dine and enjoy other businesses; A location with unique public space design and artistic expression)

Why did you rank them this way? Is anything missing?

Most common explanations of why and how the river valleys are important to participants:

1. the river valleys are ecologically important and wild areas are important for life, biodiversity, wildlife
2. preservation of natural beauty, parks and recreation areas is important for people's health and mental health
3. everyone should be able to access nature, not just property owners
4. the importance of accessible pathways and connectivity is missing
5. feeling safe and social disorder, incl camping, dogs, noise, garbage, is missing from discussion of what is important

Verbatim comments:

- A beautiful, peaceful escape within a big city with no vehicles. Makes Calgary an attractive place to live. Accessible by all at no cost.
- A commuting corridor for humans and nature

- A connective way between communities to walk/bike within beautiful scenery
- A healthy environment makes a desirable place to be. Access to these healthy places should be available to everyone. Having businesses helping to make the space accessible is also important.
- A natural area left the [removed] alone. City of Calgary needs to back off from river recreation development and leave these natural areas alone.
- a place for quiet enjoyment
- A place for the natural world to flourish and be protected
- A place for wildlife to find refuge in the city
- A place meant to stay natural. People should not live within the flood plain and we should be working towards reclaiming those lands rather than building them up.
- A place to connect with nature/the outdoors
- A place to improve mental health
- A river first and foremost is a natural amenity that should be protected for the regions ecosystem. Light recreation is suitable for most of it, and certain areas should accommodate public businesses, and residential.
- A river valley is natures highway,there should be no building of houses businesses or dining facilities built in a river valley it should be salvaged and kept the way it always has been
- A safe way to bike from A to B
- A viable ecosystem that provides habitat for wildlife, stabilizes river banks, helps protect water quality and aquatic life and opportunities to experience and appreciate nature in our City.
- Abundance of wildlife makes the city a much better place, and is a key priority.
- Access. We should have public access along all river margins.
- Accessibility for all Calgarians
- Accessibility for all citizens is important
- Accessible and attractive pathway systems are vital in activating the river valley spaces. Everything filters from there.
- All are important
- All are important

- All are important, but we need to protect the natural areas first & foremost. Living near the Elbow, being able to enjoy recreational activities, especially walking is very important to me. Too many businesses would disturb the environment.
- Allows enjoyment by the most amount of people. Helps pollinators
- An active transportation corridor
- An important ecosystem that supports many animals!!
- As much as possible the waterfront areas should be public
- As we live right beside the river it is primarily our home, then a place to walk and enjoy nature with friends, family and visitors
- Attract more tourists all year around and more nightlight
- Based on how I use this space
- Because I don't believe that should be interfering with nature areas but I think if we are than these are the priority things should be done....frankly living in should not be even considered and anyone who is should be removed from the area
- Because I live in one
- Because it is important to me that they are preserved.
- Because natural areas are important.
- Because naturalization and low-impact recreation are the only things to be prioritized near our river valleys. We should not be living and re-developing within the flood plains. Low-impact artistic expression is fine, but space design should be low impact
- Because nature is for everyone. Nobody should own land in our shared natural spaces.
- Because our river valleys are extremely important to maintaining connected natural spaces necessary to continue to benefit from ecosystem services, as well as support biodiversity.
- Because preserving the natural areas is more important than places to buy things or for useless art pieces
- Because that is how I see it.
- Because the less economic build out, and the more natural protection the better.
- Because they should be for all people to enjoy
- Because they should remain natural and undeveloped

- Because we use the trail system and parks everyday. I think a place to teach youth about outdoor recreation is a key one missing. I am thinking Stanley park skating, baseball, outdoor pool, playing in river shallows, cycling, playground, skating
- Biking
- Biking pathways are missing! Hoping it is a big part of the recreation space created, and maintained... and accessible for all bikes, so older people who rely on Ebikes to get out and exercise and enjoy our city can be sure to ride too!
- Biodiversity and ecological integrity must come first for our river valleys. I think the statements focus too much on human usages and not enough on the environmental value of the river valleys. This is reflected in their current ecological health.
- Biodiversity: important corridor for birds and wildlife. Maintaining a mixed tree canopy, encouraging native wild flowers.
- Building homes along the river is harmful for the wildlife and vibrancy that we love about our river. We should protect the wild spaces we have left and leave it to building developers. Climate change and flooding! That should be the priority
- Building in a flood plain is ridiculous. I don't want to pay to bail out those who built in a flood plain (residential OR commercial). Flood plains are a very basic way Mother Nature keeps at least some land from being taken over by humans.
- Buildings - whether residential, commercial or industrial - should be limited in their proximity to rivers/creeks, in part to allow access for recreation (pathways) and as a natural habitat for wildlife, but also due to flood risks to those buildings
- Calgarian use and access mainly
- Calgary doesn't have as many geographically beautiful spaces as some cities like Vancouver or Toronto so promoting the ones we do have is very important.
- Calgary needs a lot more unique public space and our river shores are very under developed
- Calgary needs more water recreation for the public. We have too many private lakes, and a closed off Glenmore reservoir. More access to the river would enrich the lives of Calgarians.
- Calgary's rivers are the heartbeat of the city, but safeguarding biodiversity values should come first.
- Calgary's river valleys are for enjoying nature, biodiversity and recreation. They are not for the construction of luxury homes or businesses.
- City has declared a climate emergency - river valleys are important natural infrastructure to build resiliency for climate change.

- Clean and safe
- Climate change resiliency role. Wildlife preservation.
- Commuting by walking, biking, e-scooters is missing.
- Connectivity is important for natural wellbeing and wildlife
- Conservation and restoration of riparian areas is the most critical in my eyes, next being public access to these natural spaces for people to enjoy nature within their own city.
- Conservation areas should be included
- Conservation efforts
- conservation in natural state for future generations
- Conservation is my top priority
- Development, (planned or unplanned) to intensify permanent placement of people in the valley system is against my beliefs in how the valleys should be used.
- Development (residential) should not be a priority and should never impede public access, harm or interfere with the natural ecosystem, and should not impede on indigenous connection to and use of the land. The river valley is for people not condos.
- Development around/near river valleys needs to be restricted, there is too much damage being done to our waters by commercial activity
- Development should not happen in the floodplain or flood fringe, however recreation uses such as trails can be compatible. Flood and drought mitigation, habitat for wildlife is missing
- Don't build houses in river valley. Leave them natural.
- Ecological functions seem more important to me than economic functions
- Ecosystems are interconnected. Breaking them up into pieces can destroy them.
- Emphasis should be on their public nature. I like the idea of dining on the river.
- Encourage the utilization of river spaces by wildlife and keep these spaces wild!
- Enjoyment for all is the most important. Housing shouldn't be built close to a feature that floods.
- Ensure the river valleys are easily accessible by bicycles, with safe infrastructure to access - designed by people who cycle, not as a checklist item.
- Environment over profit
- Environmental impact/protection

- Feel that nature should take precedence
- first and foremost I view the rivers as part of a healthy urban forest. it's a wildlife corridor and a place to recreate with nature.
- First and foremost our river valleys are natural ecological corridors. Our enjoyment of them must come second to maintenance of core ecological functions and conservation of critical wildlife habitat features.
- First, conservation/preservation of nature/wildlife, most important, our water. Recreation in some areas, not all. Pavement, noise, activities and large crowds destroy nature/wildlife: see off path bike damage, garbage, dog feces=bacteria levels in water
- First, personal recreation is the greatest appeal. Then I want to show others that beauty and celebrate the small businesses that make the river valley exciting. Last I love the well groomed parks, but it's important for me to see "natural" space in YYC.
- Firstly I think it's important that the river valleys are protected as natural areas. Use for parks and recreation that respects wildlife and people's access to natural spaces.
- Focus on recognizing that the natural space is unique and irreplaceable, and something for all citizens of the city.
- Focused first on ecological and biological services then expanded to recreation. Maybe something to add is "a place to protect" for future generations and other species
- Focussed on keeping the area as natural as possible
- From a deep ecology perspective I prefer not to "own" / develop areas along the riverbank. I believe this space alongside and within the river is a vital ecological space and deserves its own status (similar to the rights of human beings).
- Generally rich people live right along the river valley. I hope the benefits to the less well off are prioritized.
- Get the [removed] off the river banks and back in jail
- Great outdoors are supposed to be ENJOYED & it's great for mental health
- Habitat for biodiversity
- Habitat for wildlife
- Habitat for wildlife, diversity of species
- Having a place in the city that feels like you're outside the city is so important to so many peoples mental health.
- Having a safe natural escape from city life is the top priority to me. It's also important location to bring visitors and show them the best of Calgary.

- Having access to the outdoors is a right that all people should have, so it should not be turned into residences or owned by corporations.
- Having easy access to the river valleys is key to enabling us to live a healthy, active lifestyle. This is why we choose to live in Calgary. The last 2 on the list that I ranked of least importance, I would be fine excluding all together.
- Homeless people should not be living there.
- Human activity in the river areas should be left to recreation and conservation. We do not need any more flood risk structures and homes vulnerable to fluctuating water levels, nor does the river need unnecessary activity from homes and businesses.
- Human should let the river to the animals that truly need this area to survive.. we can live away from this area and let them the space they need.
- I agree a place to live for wildlife, but not people; not sure what that option meant so didn't rank it. Should have a clear option for ecosystem function
- I am a fisherman and a nature enthusiast. I think the city is doing a fantastic job connecting and revitalizing (from a natural point of view) the whole length of it. Beautiful place, beautiful creatures.
- I am huge fan of the natural environment. That should always come first. Those houses along the River bank are built on a flood plain and need to fend for themselves or relocate
- I believe all Calgary and need a place of easy access to be in nature
- I believe in permaculture as a way to protect and live with the environment we already have. Please look into it.
- I believe it's important for the river valleys to be public and not limited by socioeconomic status.
- I believe that rivers are natural systems and should be allowed to meander relatively freely within their valleys. I like the idea of having the river accessible for recreation and cultural things, but to live and work in the valley/floodplain is risky
- I believe the space should be public and for recreation, enjoyment and wildlife mostly.
- I can't rank them because it's embarrassing to walk our pathways in Calgary. Homeless camps everywhere with trash and needles. Unsafe to enjoy without fear of confrontation with many of the homeless.
- I did not choose the "Live, work, dine + enjoy businesses" as it implies development which should not be considered. Protection of natural spaces is paramount.
- I didn't fill in anything that would harm the natural spaces. No building, no public art expression, leave it natural

- I do not see the river valleys as a place for people to live. They are natural and recreational areas for all citizens and visitors.
- I do not want to increase residency (a place to live), as I am worried about long and short term flood risks. I believe that significantly more work should be invested in building up additional natural barriers and other flood mitigation tactics.
- I don't think this business or a place to live should be there at all.
- I don't trust city hall to develop appropriate public space design and artistic expression
- I don't want the riverside developed.
- I don't want to see any houses or businesses along existing river pathway systems. Or any weird art. Leave them how they are.
- I don't want to see more businesses or ridiculous/garish art, clean up the dead trees, maintain the pathways if they go through by otherwise, keep it natural.
- I enjoy the peaceful environment in natural areas surrounding our rivers.
- I feel like we either overdevelop or love the riparian areas of Calgary's river valleys to death.
- I feel the most important part of our river valleys is protecting the natural habitat and giving citizens space to connect with nature
- I feel this list is missing "a place to connect with cultural roots and heritage," as that is a main incentive for me deciding where/how to spend my leisure time. I prioritized nature and local artistry as they add the most unique value to our river valleys.
- I had to rank them. If it was up to me live, work and art wouldn't be in the picture. As a lifelong resident of Calgary I have seen first hand the destruction the rivers can cause. Any more development near them ruins the natural experience and flood damage
- I have a background in aquatic biology so realize the importance rivers have in our environment while also understanding the beauty they bring which humans love to enjoy.
- I just want to be able to walk the entire shores of the river within Calgary without a 'private property' sign stopping me in my tracks
- I just wanted to 'egalitarianly' select them all, as they all apply in their own way to the optimal use of wilderness, and a play zone.
- I left out the others as they aren't what the river valleys are for at all
- I like being close to rivers for their sound, the water is peaceful and helps to calm my thoughts. Important to limit man-made noise so we can still hear the sounds of nature.
- I like how natural much of the river valley appears

- I like that there are still long, undeveloped wooded/natural areas in our city. I hope some day something will be done with all the parcels of land that used to have homes on them before the flood, rather than having fenced-off vacant manicured grass.
- I like the idea of high income housing we can be proud of, or business development. Not low income housing or subsidized green projects.
- I like the odd festival-but natural is best
- I like the pathway system to link the different park areas together. Having nice places to picnic or a bench to sit on with a nice view is important as well
- I live along Nose Creek so this is the way I would rank these options in relation to Nose Creek Valley
- I live along the Bow River so that number one for me. Living here I see how this valley is a corridor for wildlife so i believe it's important to work to keeping these spaces natural and protect habitat for the creatures living here.
- I live along the river and most love it for recreation.
- I live along the valley
- I live in Eau Claire and value the natural environment.
- I live in Sunnyside and it's an amazing place to walk and see nature and other people
- I live in the river valley, I like it because it's so calm
- I love natural areas - trees and native plants. We are loosing so many natural areas to building.
- i love the pathway connections and natural area
- I love using the path system but housing is scarce and unaffordable in these areas
- I primarily use the river valley for recreation. With minor improvements to surrounding bike infrastructure, I would use it for commuting too.
- I ranked business and living places last, they should not be on the river. River valleys should be natural spaces first and foremost.
- I ranked in order of importance to myself. I think it's important to acknowledge the natural order of things that exist before us.
- I ranked them according to my use of the river valley and my values. Having natural areas within a city is a requirement for me!
- I ranked them based on my personal experience/connection with our river valleys. What's missed is that our river valleys are home for many species of urban wildlife.

- I ranked them based on their importance to me and my family and how we use them. They are a key location for recreation away from the roads and vehicles. They are an oasis of natural environment in the city. I think a moose lives nearly full time near Ed
- I ranked them by how much I use the rivers now, and in the past.
- I ranked them in the order because I believe it is important for everyone to have access to these beautiful places.
- I ranked them this way based on my values and how I use the areas.
- i ranked them this way because i am big on nature and environment and place for people and nature to coexist for each others benefit.
- I see value in honouring space for nature over human occupation
- I spend much of my time near the river
- I think being outside in nature is so important for mental health. The rivers are so important ecologically and psychologically. Please don't build them up past the point of sustainability.
- I think calgary is missing the community, touristy feel to the city where people can gather, eat drunk, enjoy entertainment, shop, look at local art listen to music etc.
- I think first and foremost, we must respect their original intent, before people moved in. I think when we say a connected system of natural areas we should also highlight that they are a vital habitat for our urban wildlife.
- I think first and foremost. The river is a vital part of Calgarys ecosystem. It's been here long before us and will be here long after us. Next, it's a beautiful location to walk, jog, bike, and get out in nature! Finally it could serve businesses
- I think it is important to have a safe and public space for outdoor water activities
- I think it should be primarily natural, keep businesses and homes out of them so that flood risk is minimized and animals can live peacefully.
- I think it's important to ensure everyone is able to enjoy our river system. I do not want it to become overrun with private properties that impede the public's ability to enjoy river access.
- I think it's a place mostly for public enjoyment and connecting with nature and allowing activities is the way to go
- I think it's mostly importantly a place for nature BEFORE it is used by humans to the point of overdevelopment, so I value connection betw/ areas for the sake of animals living there.
- I think limited recreation and some dining can go along with nature. Living, or private housing, excludes people
- I think nature is best

- I think of the rivers as a natural area first.
- I think parks and natural spaces for recreation is the best way to utilize this space, adding some restaurants and other small businesses would be cool! Maybe a food truck park?
- I think preserving nature in the river valley should be the top priority
- I think preserving their natural character and facilitating walking, wheeling, and relaxation in public spaces are most important
- I think providing a bike route and walking trail with access to nature is most important - then living beside it is second. I don't think we necessarily need a big focus on public art, but a lot of spaces could be better used.
- I think spending time outdoors is critical to our mental health. I think it's important to have accessible pathways for all to enjoy
- I think that area around the river must be protected And remain green and natural with trail systems that allow for recreation and contact with with nature. The are should be made or stay as public space.
- I think that as much as possible the natural spaces should be accessible and not owned as personal or business property.
- I think that Calgary River Valleys should be prioritized as a connected system of natural areas that integrates flood resilience projects, recreational use of the space, and active transportation connectivity.
- I think that residential development is something that should be avoided when developing the river valleys. We should be prioritizing the natural spaces for Calgary's flora and fauna.
- I think the ability to get around in a more environmentally friendly way benefits everyone. It even benefits those who drive cars as it alleviates road traffic! Also, being able to recreate in natural space boosts mental health.
- I think the less homes and buildings cluttering the river valleys, the better. The rivers have always been a beloved place to rest and play with friends, family and pets. Buildings close to the river run the risk of flood and increased insurance premiums.
- I think the number one role of our rivers is should be for the public to enjoy and help us connect to nature. As far as businesses go I think only restaurants should be allowed on the river.
- I think the primary value of the river valleys are their role in the ecology of the area. And we should develop them in a way that disturbs that ecological as little as possible.
- I think the river valleys should be prioritized as an intersection where nature and human/recreation meet. Preservation of the natural environment should take top priority, then human.

- I think these are primarily natural areas and they should be preserved as "wildways" that facilitate animal migration. I also think active transportation is missing from this list, since cycling through isn't necessarily recreation or leisure.
- I think they are the heart of the city. They should be accessible to everyone, and protected
- I think they should belong to all of us.
- I think utilizing the river valley for recreation is an amazing way to engage the people and it's important to keep these areas natural and protected. I also think it's nice for visitors to see these beautiful parts of the city. And art brightens up space
- I think we should keep our river valleys as greenspace as much as possible. We should not build new infrastructure within the valley as it is a floodplain.
- I think we would keep the valleys natural and undeveloped.
- I thinks it's important that these areas offer an opportunity for visitors to play, recreate and relax, while maintaining their natural ecosystem and connections to other ecosystems. Development of business, commercial or residential needs to be halted.
- I truly believe these are all similar importance.
- I use the river for recreation over 150 days a year.
- I use the river valley mostly to commute. I walk and cycle to get to work and run errands.
- I value the river valleys as a green space where I can enjoy nature and feel less like I'm in the middle of the city. I often walk along the river to look for birds and beavers. I'm frustrated by the fragmentation of river valley paths by private property
- I value the river valleys for their natural beauty and ecological value primarily. I'd also like to see a connected series of cafes and recreational areas that people could enjoy as they cycled or walked along the river pathways.
- I walk the paths along the river everyday of the year. In the summer I am I'm the water everyday. The river is part of my wellness.
- I want it to stay undeveloped! Just for us to admire nature
- I want the river & its ecosystem to be able to just be itself. Humans can enjoy it for our reasons after that
- I want the river cleaner and healthier than it is now. However I also recognize humans as part of the environment — and we hopefully protect what we participate in
- I work on the river teaching Kayaking and Canoeing, I also fly fish all the time and take my family rafting on it. Its an extremely important recreational resource for me.
- I would add cycling to the recreation line - our river pathways are very popular for cycling.

- I would like to see it return to a garbage and needle free place for families. Not biz, art or more housing. For everyone.
- I would like to see space that is usable for all with minimal environmental impact
- I would like to see the river valleys remain natural but with pathway access.
- If you build on/near it. You will destroy it.
- Importance of protecting wildlife, nature, the river/valleys and natural Greenspace.
- Importance to me
- important to have people living in these areas
- Important wildlife corridor. Nature essential/foundational for other uses.
- In a prairie ecosystem the rivers are an important source of biodiversity and support a wide array of wild life. It should be natural and recreation areas first. Since it is also a flood plain valley bottoms should steer clear of housing
- In big sprawling cities like Calgary, I believe the few green areas we have should be prioritized for recreation. People who are active and in the natural environment are happier, healthier, and have fewer mental health issues.
- In my view, our rivers are the most compelling natural areas in cities. Wildlife and humans benefit by being able to use them for self-motored travel and recreation. They should remain as publicly accessible, natural, and undeveloped as possible!
- In the connected system of natural areas the wildlife habitat is most important to me.
- Interested in ecological function.
- irrigation
- It is important that they be a shared space. Making it a residential or commercial space will limit who can access.
- It should be kept beautiful.
- It's all encompassing
- It's the logical ranking
- It's a privileged space within a large city. It's natural qualities need to be preserved and access should be public.
- It's about nature first. Once that's taken care of, all else follows
- it's critical that we conserve nature as we tackle climate change and species extinction

- It's good the way it is. Especially the dedication of pedestrian and bike lanes to enjoy nature and stay on trail without leaving other traces of human activity.
- It's important to keep natural spaces natural. Commercial and residential development along any river will always have major impacts to biodiversity.
- It's important to me that we restore as much of our river valleys to allow for nature to thrive and to maintain greenspace for future generations.
- It's most important to avoid over developing the river valley to avoid damaging its natural function. That is what makes it beautiful and worth visiting
- Just leave things alone. Yyc has become a dictatorship. If the mayor can ruin anything for us she will. Just leave it all alone!
- Keep as is, beautiful natural spot that needs to be kept. Lived in this area for 30 years, walk it daily.
- Keep flood plains wherever possible.
- Keep it natural
- Keep natural ecosystem at the forefront of all planning initiatives. Ecological impact should be a priority. Calgary has some beautiful green spaces throughout the city, something to be proud of and continue.
- Keep nature natural and maintain the pathway system.
- Keep rivers public with either formal or informal pathways; no growth in private lots (personal or business) adjacent to the river
- Keep the focus in nature and outdoor activities.
- Keep the natural areas natural and leave them alone
- Keep the space natural and park areas along the river
- Keep them natural and accessible to all. Conserve the wildlife and wild places
- Keep them natural. Don't let money and business ruin them. We get enough of that crammed down our throats.
- Keep these areas natural. Conservation 100%
- Keeping the riverfront natural and accessible makes it a valuable city. It's nice to grab a coffee. Ice cream or lunch when using the pathways but is not as crucial as keeping it user friendly for walking and for bicycling
- Keeping the rivers clean, and free of garbage and pollution.
- Key value, adds to overall quality of life in the city.

- Leave it as a natural habitat
- Leave nature alone as much as possible
- Leave the river valley alone. No more buildings on the flood plain
- Let the river valley be natural and not cluttered with art that can't be monitored for vandals
- Let's put nature first!
- Lively river valleys are good for communities, health and such a beautiful place to dine and enjoy nature while supporting local
- Living and business development should not be on this list.
- Living and dining are not important, just a nature to be enjoyed.
- Living and doing business are limited-access activities
- Living in river valley should be lowest priority. Major most important role is ecological function through connectivity. The remaining ones (i.e., recreational, public space and artistic expression, visitation and business) are of equal value.
- Living near the river is costly and mostly not achievable for most so this order allows a person to enjoy all the things a beautiful waterway has to offer
- Living next to the water isn't a priority, that is for the rich it's about equitable access and environmental health
- Living on or near the river is reserved for the ultra rich. We should all have equal access to the natural beauty so I've ranked recreation and natural areas first, then a place to live last.
- Locals have to enjoy first
- Love being able to travel long distances peacefully by bike, and love how they are unimpacted by road crossings and car noise
- Maintaining intact and interconnected natural areas and floodplains are critical to support wildlife and mitigate impacts of floods/climate change. Additional development such as new communities and business has no place along our river valleys.
- Maintaining natural beauty is important to me
- Maintaining some natural areas is most important, building housing or businesses least important because of flood risk. Having natural parks with some pathways for running / biking / walking would be my preference
- Maintaining the natural beauty is paramount, keeping the space public (ie not developed for living) ensures all will have access.
- Maintaining the natural state for wildlife is a priority.

- Maintaining the river valleys as a wildlife corridor is ecologically important and houses and businesses impact the valley's viability.
- minimize development of river valley and flood plain
- missing - a biodiverse areas for riparian animals and plants
- Missing fishing, boating, etc
- Missing: A necessary and unique habitat for plants and animals. Part of the natural world that should be disturbed as little as possible.
- missing: a place for tranquility and to connect with nature
- Missing: A place where ecological systems are able to clean our air, water and soil. A place although human contact and connection to it, it is managed with care and attention rather than just left to go wild.
- Missing: A transportation corridor for active transport users. These pathways are some of Calgary's best stretches of safe, cleared, and uninterrupted routes for cyclists and those of us walking & rolling with young children.
- Mitigation of flood damage or animal- people crowding. Educate walkers to not stand in middle of pathway to converse or stop as may cause bike accident. Also teach pet owners to on leash & muzzle dogs
- more nature and to keep it that way without buildings or putting in too many non-natural structures (seating and bathrooms not included) - although wish that parks sent out arborists more often as SO MANY trees and bushes need attention or proper removal
- Most important should be a home and water access point for wildlife
- Most important to me is to find a way to enjoy nature and water for free within city limits
- Most of all, I believe this space is for nature to thrive and for Calgrians to enjoy that nature without leaving the city
- Most of the ecosystem requires riparian areas for some part of their life cycles and are important to keep connected as passage ways for both people and wildlife.
- Multi-mode transportation thruway
- My 2nd choice is far less preferable than my 1st. Some of those choices should not be considered.
- My lower-ranked items all involve development of river valley lands which I do not feel is appropriate. We need wildlife corridors! Continuing to see more wildlife on our residential streets, as we have "invaded" their territory and cut off their corridor

- My priority for the river valleys is for them to remain as healthy and robust as possible. They are essential for life in Calgary--from drinking water and drought resilience, and flood mitigation, to making our city liveable and beautiful
- My sequence of importance
- Natural and recreational value of the rivers is a huge draw for living and working in Calgary
- Natural areas are the most important for the City I wish to live in
- Natural areas in the city is very important for our city
- Natural areas is a poor reflection of the intense importance of these ecological spaces and the roles they play!
- Natural for all to enjoy Without watching dogs pee on everything
- Natural habitat for wildlife, ecological diversity, is most important to me.
- Natural spaces are a major part of what makes Calgary such a great city to live in.
- Natural wetlands more important for eco health than most people give credence to.
- Natural, recreational and cultural values should be the priority. Add protection of ecosystem values.
- Nature and public first, private owners last
- Nature and recreation are most important- we have plenty of other places for businesses and housing.
- nature and the land isn't for businesses
- Nature comes first! Without protecting the nature of the rivers well have nothing left to enjoy.
- Nature first, public access second, private access last. What's missing in the Indigenous perspective from a cultural standpoint.
- Nature first, public use second, private use last
- Nature important to cities and it's citizens
- Nature is important. People can live and work outside of these areas.
- Nature is more important than the others
- Nature is most important and then public enjoyment.
- Nature needs to be protected
- Nature plus public accessibility is key. Public art is chintzy. Too much private development on the river is sad.

- Nature should be preserved and enjoyed, not decorated in temporary human structures and art.
- Nature should be top priority seeing as we're getting taxed for destroying it..
- Nature should come first. Accessible pathways for all to enjoy the space is also a priority.
- Nature should take priority over business and art.
- Nature to human development.
- Nature, conservation and community before capitalism
- Need to be protected; more important to leave intact versus develop
- Needs to be a SAFE place as well-- deal with waste from the homeless, etc. Beavers need to be relocated as they are destroying all of the trees.
- Nenshi & Gondek created problems with addicts and homeless, now our beautiful river fronts are dirty, including human waste and drug needles
- No
- No
- No
- No houses anywhere along the river
- No mention of wildlife. Seems weird.
- No nuanced choices, you could have all of the above if it's done properly.
- No private land allowed
- No, actually, too many ideas are listed. We shouldn't have housing along the river or too many manmade parks
- No, I think the river valley is quite nice as a natural area
- Nose Creek should be protected as a historical and wildlife corridor so based answers on that
- Not natural the better and less homeless sleeping all around the river in the bush
- nothing is missing
- Nothing is missing. If anything, plant more trees around the valleys and Calgary in general. The enemy of good is better. Please leave what little natural we have alone
- Nothing missing. Having recreation space away from traffic is key.

- Once natural areas are developed around the river, we can never reclaim those areas. They need to be accessible to all Calgarians, not just those who can afford a million dollar home.
- Only things I want to see in the valley.
- Only well off people live and dine on the river valley and nature is its own design and art. I prioritized access for all.
- Order of importance
- Order of what I enjoy about the current set up
- Our ecologically sensitive river valleys are not a place for development
- Our river valleys, their pedohydraulic systems, the riparian vegetation & all wetlands & flood plains alongside the rivers, have been completely damaged. We need to restore & then plan smarter waterfront systems. The riparian forests also need help.
- Our Rivers and Creeks are our lifeline, keep development away, bring greater nature buffers between development and waters.
- Our water source which is diminishing. Place to live should be distinguished by living right on the river with no public access (I am opposed) to living near the river valleys in an adjacent community with only public access
- passive vs. active recreation
- People need to have opportunities to interact with nature close to where they live
- Perhaps separate the types of activities to some extent.
- petting zoo, bird sanctuary, places for animals, docks for fishing, shops, boat and raft launches, aquarium, playgrounds
- Place that needs to be protected for animals and native species
- Placing value on and protecting our natural systems are important.
- Preservation is first, allowing others to enjoy and learn about nature second, should be used to inspire if anything. 4 is related to 2.
- Preservation of natural areas along rivers is paramount. But also the space should be available for all people for recreation first, business second, and living last.
- Preserving nature around the river provides habitat for wildlife, erosion protection, and public use spaces. Building along the river is not a wise or sustainable practice given potential for floods, high water table, and erosion protection.
- Preserving nature within a city is important. Development projects should protect what's naturally there.



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- Preserving nature, especially around the river is worth the investment.
- Preserving our fragile riparian environments is most important to me. We need to reduce hardscaping and building into floodzones.
- Preserving the beauty of our natural environment is most important and being able to access these natural areas through recreation is key to appreciating it's significance.
- Preserving the natural elements of the river valley is most important to me. The valleys are large connected parkland right in the city that provide access to nature
- Preserving the river and protecting wildlife are the most important.
- Preserving water waters is essential. Wildlife are leaving these "new" areas.
- Primarily I think the rivers should be clean and for nature and everything else should come after those needs are met. Calgary is unique that so many neighborhoods border the river. I like the trails and paths and parks along the river.
- Primary bicylce commuting route.
- Primary focus should be natural environment and recreation.
- Protecting riparian supports clean water - vital to all life (people, wildlife, fish). Protecting fresh water resources should be a priority everywhere! Adjacent wetlands & greenspaces helps maintain healthy freshwater resources.
- Protecting the integrity of the ecosystems is most important for the health of our drinking water. Next up is natural space for people to enjoy, and be healthy in.
- Protection of natural environment
- Protection of riparian resources
- Protection of the natural river environment should be a priority
- Protection of the river ecosystem is paramount followed by access/use of this natural area by all. Least is crowding out nature or limiting broad access due to private real estate for commercial or residential purposes.
- Protection of wildlife and flora.
- Public access is my priority.
- Public transportation system. This should not be there. The rail line is a disaster waiting to happen, a noise nuisance and an eye sore.
- Ranked in order that prioritized flood mitigation, climate resilience and value of natural areas. At the bottom of my priorities is growth I to these areas

- Ranked in this way because we are rapidly losing natural habitats and destroying essential ecosystems all across Canada. River valleys connect ecosystems and help provide habitat for species at risk. Pathways allow access/ houses destroy.
- Ranked this way because the city has enough infrastructure. If we filled the empty office spaces with living spaces and continued building up instead of out we would be able to preserve the nature of this beautiful city
- Ranking best protects the natural state
- Ranking river valleys as a natural function should be able to be prioritized for multiple reasons (protection of water, biodiversity, etc.)
- Rankings don't mean as much as the list collection.
- Recreation and access are the most important things, rivers should not be limited to private owners or require a service fee to use.
- Recreation and responsible, safe river use should be priority one
- Recreation piece is missing mountain biking.
- Recreation spaces most important for me while maintaining its natural appeal
- Respecting and abiding by existing provincial laws and municipal bylaws.
- Respecting the natural surroundings and kept clean. Restoration of habitats.
- Riparian areas should be accessible to all, not the exclusive access of the elite few who can own riverfront spaces
- River recreation activities and a backdrop to other outdoor pursuits are important to a large city where it is difficult to venture out to surrounding landscape on a daily basis.
- River valley areas should be left as natural as possible. Stop chasing the \$ and allow native plants and animals to remain! Floodplains flood, STOP building houses on them!
- River valley areas should stay as natural park area, place for Calgarians to go without leaving the city. Benefit the public and not just small residential community.
- River valley habitats need protection due to the value of the ecological goods and services they provide. Only one nature option in list of roles. All other roles focussed on human use. No options for health of the habitat, wildlife corridors, etc.
- River valley should maintain its natural function and naturalized riparian zone. This cannot be replicated in other parts of the city.
- River valley should not be built upon, for business or homes.
- River valleys are a place for flora and fauna to live, not the homeless.

- River valleys are a terrible place to live because of flooding danger, it has happened and will happen again, but they are amazing places for recreational activities
- River valleys are for enjoying nature, not for sitting at a bar or condo
- River valleys are for nature and enjoyment thereof, not for housing or industry
- River valleys are our most important natural spaces. We should never be building in them or constricting the underground flow with building footprints.
- River valleys full of homes and businesses would make our city crappy. Private space excludes the people (that we need in this city) from the best experience available to them.
- River valleys need protection from human misuse
- River valleys need to be protected as natural spaces. We shouldn't be developing in the valleys.
- River valleys should be left as natural as possible and open for all to enjoy
- River valleys should be left as natural as possible with minimal infrastructure on flood plains.
- River Valleys should be public spaces with access to some amenities for dining
- River valleys should only be for nature and people enjoying the nature.
- River valleys/riparian areas should be prioritized as natural spaces to be protected, vs as places for human development (space for housing, businesses, etc).
- Rivers are a vital ecosystems and should be an area that is publicly accessible. Having businesses near by is an asset but development near the river shouldn't burden animal or public access. Also residential buildings would price out most people.
- Rivers and adjacent riparian zones are rich habitats crucial to biodiversity. Further having lived through the 2013 flood, it's clear that we need to maintain a margin along rivers undeveloped to prevent damage during high water events.
- Rivers and riparian zones provide important ecological functions that should be considered above all else that should
- Rivers are a lifeline. Maintaining them in a natural, healthy state takes precedence over all the other roles in this list. We need buffer zones between river valleys and human development.
- Rivers are not for living. Flood plain. Bad idea. Recreation and natural areas are important.
- Rivers are the lifeline for most animals in our ecosystem. Maintaining a connected system of natural areas will allow wildlife to happily coexist. Recreation comes second. Development should be limited with the exception of areas like St. Patricks Island.



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- Sacred spaces of Indigenous peoples are not important
- SAFE pathway connections
- Sandy beach
- Secure access to water.
- Should be accessible to all, not just wealthy homeowners who get bailed out when it floods
- Should be available to the public to engage with nature
- Should be protected
- Simply put there are few rivers and lakes for us to freely enjoy. For example bakers parks super nice but the rest of the river is backed by people's backyards... They take private ownership of the river when it's not theirs. need more public hangouts
- Some of the options are absolutely unimportant.
- Sort of depends on a lot of things! Is Mission (or downtown) in the 'river valley'? Technically yes. For me, 'connected' is the most crucial part; some parts of the connection are natural, some are 'manicured', some are urban/developed.
- source of water for drinking and sanitation for humans. ecosystem.
- Stop building homes/condos etc. in floodplain! Tired of my taxdollars going to repair flooded homes each and every single year!
- Survey is biased toward development ie. building and development of businesses, housing, and public 'Art' installations
- Sustainable and responsible development of urban areas that adds sound economic growth.
- Swimming and paddling
- Taking care and enjoying nature for all people, not just for people who can afford to be there.
- The "place to live" I ranked lowest. It should not a be place for the select few to enjoy, and the next generation to not be able to afford.
- The access to the area and keeping it usable and as natural as possible are primary. Development within those uses makes sense and the unique design and artistic aspects are very often much less cost effective amd impact basic funding..
- The bike path system is the most important part of the river valley system for me. The survey does not specifically call this out so I picked the best options to reflect that.

- The Bow / Elbow pathway system is an excellent alternative to automobile transportation. Would love to see the paths maintained, smoothed where they're jagged around neglected properties, and integrated further with natural sites & bike lanes
- The city has already had an irreparable impact. Thoughtful recreation can add to our quality of life and reasonably consider the environment.
- The city needs to respect property rights and ownership. They did not do so with flood mitigation planning for Bowness.
- The condition of riparian habitat in Calgary is already so poor, there should be no further development in river valleys, only remediation efforts. Quit letting developers screw up this city (Seton/Ricardo Ranch)
- The cultural importance and supporting wildlife
- The current system of natural areas for hiking, running and cycling long distances is overall very good, and my favourite part about Calgary. There are small areas that could be improved but overall very good.
- The ecosystem connection of the river should always be addressed and protected first in order to support every other way we use the rivers
- The environmental importance of our Rivers need to be considered above all. There should not be any development in flood zones.
- The environmental importance of these areas is the most significant. We are in a climate crisis and our rivers/creeks are an important part of this. We need to protect these areas, integrate nature and environmental sustainability with our culture.
- The health of river valleys and all the benefits that come with them are the first priority. This means ensuring resilient and intact habitat for wildlife and fish. Next recreation is important to enjoy the natural beauty of river valleys and showcase to
- The health of the water comes before anything else.
- The importance of caring for our river systems.
- The last thing for river valleys is permanent human development.
- The main focus on our river valleys should be preservation of what natural areas remain. Without these areas many ecosystems in and around Calgary will suffer.
- The natural areas of a city are irreplaceable.
- The natural beauty of our waterways is one of Calgary's best features. While they provide wonderful views to homes and businesses, and might make a neat location for art, I think we should prioritize protecting their natural beauty.

- The natural component is more important to me than the physical, we have places in the city to live, and dine, why here?
- The natural qualities of our river valleys are by far the most important.
- The natural value of our river valleys is priceless.
- The number one priority should be leaving them connected as nature has intended. Not further developing into sensitive riparian habitats like Ricardo Ranch!!!
- The order was chosen to reflect how I interact with the river valley.
- The others are not important. We need to maintain the naturalness of these important valleys
- The pathways are an outdoor area for people to enjoy and a few people to live near. It is not for art displays - nature is enough.
- The river and valley should not be "developed" for artistic expression. It is one of the world's best fisheries and promotes excellent outdoor activities for calgarians.
- The river goes past an aging creosote containment area-near Hillhurst to me it's a place that is fragile/vulnerable
- The river has been here a lot longer than any of us, she's not here to fit my needs, but she does share her beauty as she supports life around her
- The river is a natural environment.
- The river is a vital area that allows many Calgarians to spend time in nature and improve their wellbeing. I want to be able to share the area with others. I'd rather promote arts and design to draw attention to these spaces before privatizing them.
- The river is for everyone, not just a very select few that have property adjacent to it
- The river is there for us to use
- The river provides us with so many ecosystem services.
- The river valley does NOT NEED a bunch of art... The River Valley's beauty is THE SPECIAL PART. Let's add CLEAN! Clean from garbage, clean from vagrants, and clean from Criminals hiding out, or stashing bikes/junk, etc...
- The river valley is already a wildlife corridor, don't build on it. Next it's delicate, so don't mess with it, though bike paths are great. People will make their own little hangout spots in time. Protection of the environment is best for the future
- The river valley is one of the main natural areas in our city - I love how it is connected by natural areas and pathways. its great for recreation, safe for bicycling, running and commuting. It's an oasis in a city that is running out of natural spaces.

- The river valley is the life blood of the local eco system and it is being destroyed to make profits for developers
- The river valley make you feel you are out of town, and separates us from day-to-day.
- The River Valley provides a vital green space and canopy to the city that make Calgary both livable and attractive to visitors. Development along the river should be prohibited for the safety of residents.
- the river valleys are about sanity and nature. keeping our environment calm and giving us an economical place to relax and find peace and beauty within ourselves and with our community. Nature sets the stage for a city. Plus the greenery cleans the air
- The river valleys are special because they are undeveloped. Leave them alone and simply protect the natural areas from erosion
- The river valleys being a spiritual place
- The river valleys should be for natural areas and recreation, not more houses or businesses.
- The river valleys should be left as they are and welcome people to walk their dogs and enjoy the spaces safely.
- The river valleys should primarily be natural areas, but more could be done to leverage the connectivity afforded by the skeletal river pathway system
- The rivers should stay as that - rivers. We do not need any more development
- The valleys are essential for a healthy ecosystem first, recreation and beauty. They're a shared resource and I'd hate to see them overcrowded with private ownership or gaudy art installations.
- Their ecological functions are essential! Human enjoyment should be secondary.
- Their most important role is for biodiversity and wildlife conservation.
- There are categories that are missing . Stop over development. ● all of the over development will cause lots of problems and congestion. Stop building four places and no green spaces on private properties.
- There is a difference between 'dining' and 'work' & 'other businesses'. These should be separated out and examples listed.
- There is no need to commercialize with businesses and houses. The river valleys should belong to the public for it to be used to be enjoyed by families and friends. Not everything needs to be commercialized and be a threat to nature.

- There needs to be a lot of undeveloped space for air quality, wildlife habitat and future considerations. A lot of space the more the better.
- These natural areas need to stay natural
- They are beautiful natural and contrast the metropolitan. Having access to them is important. They are there own art and don't need human artwork detracting from that.
- They are connected, not incommensurable
- They are primarily natural habitats, art and business tastes are fleeting. Nature is enduring.
- They offer critical cycling connections throughout the City
- They serve vital ecological functions, are sacred place for Indigenous peoples, are part of our cultural landscape
- They should be left as natural as possible for all Calgarians to enjoy.
- They should be natural, partly recreational areas. Commercial amenities (like coffee or snack shops) near parking areas are appropriate. Other commercial and residential development are inappropriate.
- They should be preserved as natural areas first and foremost, with as little development as possible.
- They should generally kept natural park space to visit
- This is what resonates for my family
- This would be personal of course . . .
- Those toward the top value the natural values in the river valley landscape and those toward the bottom represent economic human aspirations.
- To me the most important aspect of our rivers is a natural space for recreational activities (fishing, floating) Having these activities depends on preservation of the riparian areas along the river.
- To preserve the biodiversity.
- Too much pandering to only business, no business tax means garbage in areas
- Top of the list is nature. I love the natural habitat of the river, the banks, the river valleys. Trees, birds, beavers, plants, and insects. A place for children to throw stones in the water, for people of all ages to walk and roll, a beautiful commute.
- Transportation is missing (i.e. a means to get from A to B). The multi-use pathways adjacent to the rivers are vital active transportation links for the city.
- Transportation is priority.

- Umm, flood mitigation is the primary utilitarian purpose. It doesn't bode well if all your options except for 'a connected system of natural areas' is your only nod to the ecological aspects. Source water quality protection is also missing.
- Universal access, regardless of address, is important to me. The spaces adjacent to the river should attract all Calgarians to use and interact with the waterfront (or the water itself!). Bold and vibrant public space should support and encourage this.
- Vibrant communities need a bit of everything - almost like a small village to be amazing.
- Walking along the river is the best thing.
- Water is a top priority, resource and it must be looked after. Once it is polluted, there is no returning to the wildlife and nature that, if destroyed cannot be recovered. It is also a place to be preserved not paved/built up.
- We have such limited space for wildlife in the city, that it is important to keep the connections we do have.
- We have to keep the ecological integrity of the river valleys in mind first and foremost. The viability of our human habitat depends on the many species of plant and animal that inhabit the river valley, preserving its water quality and other features.
- We live in a river community. We walk alongside the river and enjoy the cafes and restaurants on 4th st. It would be nice to have also this facilities/businesses along the Elbow river. Elbow river
- We need access to nature. Too much building creates possible problems if the river floods its banks. Keep it natural. Expect changes.
- We need green space
- We need more natural spaces in the city more trees and wildlife preservation
- We need to give coffee shops better proximity to the river so people can sit and enjoy the natural space. Further improvement is needed to separate pedestrians and bike paths.
- We need to keep our river valleys as natural as possible! Don't modernize, build on, or in any other way change what nature has given us.
- We need to limit development
- We need to protect our natural areas - public access is a privilege and allowed only when the areas are restored/healthy.
- We need to stop developing in our river valleys and particularly our flood plains. River valleys provide critical resilience to flood and we need to protect and restore these areas to allow them to continue to provide critical ecosystem services.



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- We only have a certain amount of green space and it should stay that way
- We should all benefit from the connection with nature, I rank living space last because this only benefit the people who live there and not the rest of us
- We utilize the river valleys in Calgary when we go for walks, hiking and cycling. We like to enjoy the natural space and take our friends & relatives with us on occasion too.
- What is missing is the value added when nature is conserved, protected, and left alone. There should be more areas where the plants and animals can thrive undisturbed by urban life! This is important for flood mitigation and protecting city investment.
- What's missing is the natural purpose and reason the valley exists: it is a channel for moving huge quantities of water, particularly during exceptional but ultimately likely extreme flooding events. Clearly delineate and control where it can flood!
- Why not
- Wildlife corridors, flood protection. One category fits these but not when human use is broken out into multiple categories. This question design creates BIAS
- Wildlife habitat, fish habitat, flood control, water source
- Without natural functions in the river valley it will lose its value and we will have a hard time living in Calgary
- yes hiking and biking along the paved trails and dirt trails of sideshow bob and Douglas fir trail along the bow river
- yes nothing should be developed in a river valley when are you going to learn! rivers flood!
- Yes, protection of natural habitats; importance of maintaining and sustaining natural wetlands for flood mitigation and climate change
- Your survey said it itself - Our river valleys are critical ecological corridors, encompassing natural open spaces, trees, terrestrial wildlife habitats and riparian areas. Why would we want to disrupt that with housing and restaurants?

What are your hopes for the future of the river valleys? (prioritization matrix the following items: Nature; Culture; Recreation & Access; Building & Development; Flooding)

Based on your selections above, why should those aspects of the river valley STAY THE SAME?

Most common explanations of why an aspect should stay the same:

1. we need to preserve wild and natural areas for their ecological functions, water health
2. the current state and level of these aspects is good, and they hope things won't change
3. there is already enough/ too much development, including amenities like parks and art in the river valleys, and flood mitigation
4. the amount of activity in the river valleys, including recreation opportunities, points of water entry, paths and events is enough
5. they hope for more changes to aspects instead keeping them the same

Verbatim comments:

- ?
- A big reason we like to live in Calgary.
- Again I think we love the river valleys to death. Its where we go for recreation, work, for some to live. I advocate for less development in the flood prone areas and restoration of riparian habitat.
- All aspects should be improved together. The river valley is a core part of what makes Calgary great.
- All of this needs to improve. The river valleys area are gross.
- Allow the animals and native plants to stay, stop building houses along floodplains!
- Almost everything but culture should improve
- Already have pretty good access and building restrictions.
- As mentioned previously, it should be a place for all Calgarians to relax and have fun.
- As much as possible, keep the river valleys undeveloped. Update pathways as needed but don't allow more development.
- As to not upset nature

- Balance feels right. Some natural areas are not well-enough protected, e.g. it's easy to go around the fences on the riverbank at Sue Higgins, and may people take their dogs into the protected natural area.
- Beautiful!!
- Because change usually means development for humans and destruction for habitat.
- Because disturbing nature isn't the way to respect it
- Because i don't want them to expand.
- Because it is perfect
- Because it keeps the river closer to its natural state.
- Because it's working just fine as it is.
- Because it's a beautiful ecosystem and everyone should be able to enjoy it.
- Because it's too late to change it now
- Because nature knows best. Work with it. Live with it. Keep it apart of our lives.
- Because no problem is identified
- Because our river valleys are beautiful and should not be further developed
- Because realistically vegetation and animals were living in the area before we were and they should have the right to stay
- Because they are already good
- Because the City should not drive the industrial Green Line train through Prince's Island Park, forever diminishing the value of this critical, valuable park of our river valley.
- Because the question is ambiguous. Change is not always good.
- Because the rivers are historical, and natural, unlike lake Bonavista.
- Because there is already too much development along the Bow river. Developers and the potential for profits are fuelling short-sighted plans. There is little to no consideration for the flora and fauna in river valleys
- Because there's already great access to nature and recreation (via the multi-use pathways). Keep them maintained!
- Because they are already there.
- Because they are natural areas that need to be preserved

- Because they are special to Calgary. We love them. If you change the pathways they will be like every other city
- Because they work the way they are. It is not broken so please don't "fix" it.
- Because they're great as they are, and further development may harm their natural ecology
- Because we should not be increasing development anymore than there already is
- Because why break something that isn't broken?
- Because you didn't ask if the rich people should have to move off the river
- biking and kayaking is amazing
- Building & Development: I feel there is enough development already along the river and we need to maintain public access to our river.
- Building and development along the river by valley is sufficient, there does not need to be more urban development.
- Building and development needs more definition to make a comment
- Building on a river bank is a flood plain makes no sense. Don't need more culture or recreation there's enough already. The river valleys should be all about nature and wildlife, protecting the natural environment, planting native species to mitigate erosion
- Building should not increase, the land needs preserving especially for flood mitigation and natural wellbeing
- Building within the river valley should be curtailed where there is flood risk or the valley would be better served for recreation and conservation
- By saying stay the same I am for enhancements but in the same theme as the topic.
- Calgary has done extensive flood mitigation so it can stay the same (& no more dirt on streets as barriers). Culture should stay the same; our natural areas belong to all of us and none of us at the same time.
- Calgary is already great why ruin it? Is this Joyoti ruining things again like the billion dollar rip of stadium that should have been paid for by the stadium owners not tax payers.
- Calgary is growing but the river valleys provide incredible natural spaces despite development pressure as a whole in Calgary. Keep these natural and clean with some restaurants and parks as destinations.
- Calgary is losing greenspace. Our setback guides are too small. Let's put nature first and people second.

- CHANGE** The amount of construction around the bow river the last 5 years have drastically effected our delicate ecosystem.
- Citizens need reasonable access
- Commercial development has to be really thoughtful, and incorporate the natural surroundings. I think upgrading existing structures instead of new builds.
- Concerned that over development will ruin the environment and user experience.
- Conserve and protect our river valleys.
- continuing in natural state.
- Continuous improvement
- Culture and access should stay the same, its important but development in natural areas needs to be limited, especially in the flood plain where we've seen huge impacts to infrastructure from the 2013 flood
- Culture doesn't ever need to change. It will do it on its own. Rec&access: fewer rules and bylaws for residents. Zero access for people without addresses.
- Culture/building & Develop should stay the same, as our river valleys should not be further developed, but left more natural and untouched.
- Culture? It is nature. Culture relates to people - people need to adapt to nature in it's raw form. Flooding - you CANNOT control nature - quit spending \$\$M trying to divert nature! If people want to live by the river, they should have to bear the cost.
- Current parks and recreation space should be maintained and improved upon to accommodate increased usage
- Development changes ecological function.
- Development class to the rivers is undesirable.
- Do not deplete nature. Flood risk mgmt is ongoing
- Do not need to build on the nature. It's a flood risk and not beneficial monetarily
- Do not urbanize our valleys!
- Do not want more development
- Do not want more development as it would ruin the natural areas.
- Do not want to see areas along the river developed.
- Doing a good job already.
- Doing well. Great flood mitigation

- Don't any anymore structures, or provide developers / business with permits. Increase protections and biodiversity
- Don't change the natural aspects of the area
- Don't fix what isn't broken
- Don't go building or adding anything to the nature of the valley including cultural aspects
- Don't know what changes you are proposing.
- Don't put a berm up in Bowness
- Don't think more development is helpful unless it is to improve access or develop natural features and beauty (or if necessary for protection)
- Don't try to fix what isn't broken
- Don't want the City messing around with these areas without extensive public input
- Don't change nature and don't put buildings around it. Keep it a green space
- Don't change what isn't broken
- Don't screw up what Nature provides and or wants to change (without help from Humans.
- Don't want habitat loss, negative impacts to the river valley.
- Don't want negative changes to nature made and like pathways
- Don't want to over develop, nice having original places to go
- easily accessible to pedestrians, there is an abundance of wildlife
- enough buildings, let the natural take it back and restore it's condition. too many bikes sharing the path it is overwhelming to enjoy a walk.
- essential to our natural systems; calgary is doing a good job with flood resilience; access to river is well controlled and easy enough
- Everything is on the table with my stated goals above in mind (keep the area natural, including its natural functions, access should be public)
- existing seems sufficient
- Extensive pathway network for running.
- Fine the way it is
- First and foremost it's a flood plain, perfect for nature and recreation.

- Flood is part of river valley life and needs to be accommodated for by limiting permanent human presence and facilitating wetland revitalization.
- Flood mitigation has been addressed. River valleys are natural areas requiring protection.
- Flood mitigation has been worked on since 2013, the new pedestrian bridges are excellent. No more needed. I don't know how much nature could be reclaimed, there seems to be plenty natural space.
- Flooding is going to happen and development here just means that it's going to impact harder somewhere else. River paths are meant to change and it just means development happened to close originally.
- Flooding is natural. No more development
- Flooding is needed for the wild life, and reason why we all enjoy. Plus we can't really stop it, but we can optimize it.
- Floods are natural and we shouldn't build where it's prone to flooding, they are natural areas that are needed for animals and plant life
- For a large city to still respect its natural river setting is important. But, it should continue to be kept clean.
- For all Calgarians' enjoyment and for retaining as much nature in the city.
- For me, it is important to have paths and parks around the river. Imagine a large park with the river flowing through it like Price Edward island park but bigger.
- For the most part, the usage of the river valley is ideal currently. Not much needs to be changed, just improve upon what's already in place. (Wider/separation of pathways & bikeways due to increased usage)
- Generally the city has done a pretty good job maintaining good trails near the rivers.
- Get the [removed] off the river banks and back in jail
- Good amount of building development and is balanced right now
- good balance now
- good place for nature and the natural set up is good
- Good trails and use ability, well maintained
- Happy with recreation
- Happy with the current river; believe with upstream mitigations the flood risk is well accounted for
- Homeless are moving in. Time to relocate them.

- I actually wanted to say less, not stay the same. Some parks/not natural areas could use minor development and better access so all individuals can access the park. Some parks have culture, with minor changes better access. We don't need more development.
- I appreciate the natural beauty of the River valleys and their ease of access
- I believe that the amount of natural areas should be maintained, and I believe the new flood mitigation and culture that have been added are great!
- I believe the priority is to promote reasonable recreation, as seen in other urban centers.
- I believe there is an appropriate amount of businesses around the rivers. We need to ensure there is enough space left for natural areas.
- I believe they still have a good amount of natural areas around them which supports lots of life forms and community and people are still able to access these areas without interfering too much. I think there is enough building and developments already.
- i didn't select stay the same anywhere as i think all parks should be better maintained (health of trees,bushes,grass)
- I do nit want to see development and recreational activity increased more than it is.
- I don't believe the way we approach our rivers should stay the same.
- I don't feel a strong need to change cultural aspects along the river
- I don't think culture should be part of nature. It's for all not some.
- I don't think the amount of nature should decrease.
- I don't want more commercialization of the river valley. I like the existing pathways.
- I don't want ti see an increase in development. Risk of flooding...
- I don't want to see more building and development (unless it's development of more accessible areas). I think the flooding mitigation work that was done after 2013 seems great. I'm not an engineer, but I don't think it needs to change.
- I don't want to see more buildings along the rivers- appreciate natural areas and pathways
- I don't want to see more large scale development in the river valley
- I don't really see any need to change anything
- I don't really want to see more infrastructure built on the river valley itself that doesn't have something to do with flood mitigation. I would rather more natural areas be created that support wildlife biodiversity and help prevent floods.
- I don't think any other building and development is needed along the river valleys. I'm happy the City has historically kept these spaces public and natural for the most part.

- I don't think we should over develop along the river due to flood risk and nature.
- I don't want any more development in the river valley taking up green space. The river valley also has natural areas that take up flooding, and we don't want to build in those.
- I don't want further building there, it will make it less accessible to those not on the valley itself.
- I don't want more built structures on the river valley beside low-carbon recreational spaces and flood mitigation infrastructure.
- I don't want more development - let's focus on sustainability sustainability
- I don't want the nature aspect to deteriorate.
- I enjoy the river valleys the way they are now.
- I feel development will break up the ecosystem
- I feel like nature and building should stay the same, as I personally feel those are two things that need to stay in balance and I feel there's a good balance right now
- I feel the river valley is already appropriately accessible for recreational use.
- I hope there is no further building and development, with the exception of sports and washroom facilities and perhaps amphitheatre, stage and café/dining in limited amounts. It should not become cluttered with businesses. A sculpture garden would be fine.
- I like everything the way it is.
- I like having natural space without buildings/developments which just makes them another noisy urban area.
- I like our current mix of nature, culture, and recreation & access to the river valleys. I think we also need to accept that prairie rivers typically flood in spring (the riparian zone requires this annual flooding for nutrients).
- I like the natural aspect, I commute by bike through the river paths almost every day. I love those paths.
- I live downtown and need a space to connect to nature and find peace.
- I live near Nose Creek park and love the creek during all the seasons. I'm aware that there is industrial land claims to the area and hope that this can change so that the park remains close to its current size.
- I love all as it is now. They're natural areas. Please don't ruin them with art or businesses
- I love paths with tree canopy and shade in the summer, and having fields where the kids can run around without me having to move to keep them in sight is a plus

- I oppose increasing recreation & access at the expense of keeping the Bow River valley natural.
- I the river is used as a peaceful way to enjoy the outdoors. Flood mitigation is one thing.... Please don't pave paradise.
- I think culture and recreation are great along the river. There's already lots of art and great pathways
- I think environemtnal sustainability should be key and building more on the rivers is questionable given the flood risk
- I think it's most important to ensure the sustainability of the river.
- I think that river parks should be able to withstand flood. If it floods we don't need to rebuild a lot of structure. Leave river parks more wild
- I think that the priority ensuring that the plants and animals that live in and around the river are protected. I like that the city has created wetlands as flood mitigation.
- I think the City has done a fairly good job keeping our rivers clean and a vibrant place to be.
- I think the city is doing a pretty good job at flood mitigation, limiting development in these areas, and encouraging culture here.
- I think the City is providing these aspects well and they have clearly been a focus.
- I think the development level is mostly adequate but adding more basic facilities would be useful. The green spaces are great and I personally don't think you need to mix "culture" into nature. Leave the culture for the streets.
- I think the mitigation that has been completed are good. If people choose to live by the river, they should be responsible if anything happens.
- I think the more that's left untouched the better. Which means not adding easier access into the river valleys, not developing further into them and letting them stay the way they have always meant to be.
- I think the natural aspect needs to be preserved. I think the cultural aspect should be maintained, it is a place where everyone should be welcome to gather with their friends and family.
- I think the natural sections are fine as they are, I can't think of any areas that need improvement. A lot of work has been done to improve flood protection but more riparian zones along Deerfoot might be good?
- I think the nature surrounding the river valley is perfect and I wouldn't change it unless we were creating more natural areas, I'd be down for that.

- I think the river valley is an important part of our ecosystem, I think it should be used for nature & the animals that depends on it.
- I think the systems should always be evolving and improving, responding to the growth of the city and how the citizens use the areas.
- I think the there is a good balance between nature and urban features.
- I think there are a great amount of cultural activities that occur near the river. I wouldn't complain if there were more, but would be upset if there were fewer.
- I think there are already lots of access points,
- I think there is a good amount of culture, recreation and access. River valley areas get busy in summer and that needs to be managed to ensure ecosystem health.
- I think there is alot of natural things that are at a good level
- I think there's a good amount of activity and culture around the land, it shouldn't be too overly used or run downZ although education could increase
- I think there's a good amount of area set aside for natural areas, and I'd honestly just want that approach to continue or even increase.
- I think they are good as is.
- I think things are already going well! There's a good balance of nature, culture, recreation, and development. And I appreciate the flood mitigation efforts.
- I think we are doing a good job of protecting natural areas and providing access
- I think we currently have a great balance between nature and developed space. Do not add any more human made structures / art sculptures etc as that would take away from the nature.
- I think we do well so stay the same
- I think we have good access to nature & recreation in Calgary.
- I think we need to balance our enjoyment of the valley with the impact it has on nature and wildlife.
- I think we need to preserve what nature is left and I believe we have a lot of culture around the valley already.
- I think with the new Springbank dam flood mitigation is pretty much taken care of and think are rivers are well connected to nature.
- I want the natural environment to be protected and nurtured. Flooding benefits this environment.

- I want these areas to be accessible to folks for rafting and enjoyment.
- I would hate to see more of our river valley spaces turned over to development.
- I would like to see less building of structures and areas left natural.
- I would want to avoid further human development within the river valley, in the interest of preserving the natural spaces there
- I'm least concerned about cultural developments.
- I'd hate to see more development of the river valleys. The natural areas are irreplaceable.
- If it ain't broke don't fix it.
- If you keep building on it, there will be no "natural" places left.
- Important to preserve
- Important to preserve natural areas
- Important to the city
- Increased access for recreation will put further strain on the natural systems and wildlife in the area.
- It already is nice for nature, recreation and I don't want more building. Flooding is something people who want to live right in there should live with.
- It is not overused off the water
- It makes me happy
- It seems like they get great use
- It seems to be working
- It seems we have sufficient and easy access to the rivers, but I would like to see Nose Creek become an official park like Fish Creek for Northside/Airdrie residents.
- It shouldn't, more room for the river is necessary going forward.
- It was nice before all the homeless people set up camps
- It's a river valley it will flood. There shouldn't be anything there like houses or businesses that will be damaged or destroyed
- It's fantastic as it is right now!
- It's one of the Crown Jewels of the city

- It's our natural areas vital to wildlife and should remain the same for everybody to respect and enjoy nature
- It's perfect how it is. Leave nature do is things
- It's pristine
- It's natural. Leave it alone.
- Its the heart of our city Mohkhinstis literally refernces our river.
- Just leave it be. Nothing necessary. The space is nature. The proposals imply the city is looking at trying to gain revenue from these places. Just leave it as it is.
- Keep areas natural, with public recreational access
- Keep as much natural space as possible near the river valley
- keep building
- Keep buildings away from river fronts
- keep em wild
- Keep it natural as possible
- Keep natural areas. Stop building in the valley.
- Keep natural migrating birds etc
- Keep the areas natural and let the river flood as required for a healthy ecosystem. Limit cultural, recreational and building or development in the river areas.
- Keep the best features, improve the rest
- Keep the natural beauty and functional ecosystems
- keep the natural habitat intact, naturally or by conscientious design
- Keep the parks wild
- Keep them as natural as possible
- Keep things natural for wildlife to enjoy not people and homelessness
- Keeping the natural beauty is important. We don't need a lot more development beyond what is already being done
- Keeping the nature and ecosystem of the river as much as a metropolitan can is most important. As well as giving people access to utilize them

- Large portion of the city is on a flood plain, if you choose to live and develop on a flood plain, you live with the risks.
- Leave nature alone!
- Leave nature alone. If you don't allow buildings in flood ways then there is nothing to flood.
- Leave nature along
- Leave nature as it is; keep public access accessible; don't develop river valleys with more housing or businesses
- Leave the river valley to natural. It is a floodplain area and rivers are known for changing the landscape. Stop trying to fight nature.
- Leave them as they are. No further commercial development and a reasonable consideration for nature when developing new communities
- Leave them as undisrupted as possible while allowing the community to enjoy the wild space but minimize disturbance to the wildlife.
- Leave well enough alone.
- legacy for future generations in the natural state - natural however does not mean no maintenance
- Less development, more environmental protection
- Let areas more natural, just for walks and sometimes a play park for kids
- Limited development. Good mix of plants and landscaping features.
- Limiting building and development would have long term visual and psychological positive effects for future generations.
- Lots of nature now. Flood mitigation has been done
- Lots of trees and greenery around the pathways.
- Love all the green spaces, parks, trails, paths and dog parks in the city and along the river
- Love it. Best city in the world.
- Maintain a tight and regulated development of the valleys that are accessible to everyone
- Maintain access for recreation. Don't add further building and development
- Maintain natural areas as natural areas, no additional development in the valleys.
- Maintain natural areas as natural areas, no additional development in the valleys.
- Maintain natural elements

- Maintain natural spaces and development. Maintain flood impacts.
- Maintain nature
- Maintain nature and preservation at all costs. Do not overdevelop these areas.
- Maintain preserved spaces. If anything, improve public access and avoid commercial buildings
- Maintain the current building and recreation access because it is balanced at the moment.
- maintain the excellent network of pathways and recreation opportunities and encourage wildlife habitats
- Maintain/support/protect nature along river valley
- Maintained paths and beautiful nature
- Maintaining designated river pathways is important for social wellbeing and meeting climate goals
- Maybe add more interpretive displays
- Meets the current and future needs of Calgarians
- Minimal building in river valleys accessibility by foot, encourage wildlife
- Minor tweaks are needed but the river path networks are pleasant and fairly accessible while remaining "natural".
- Mitigate flooding, and otherwise stop developing close to riverbanks!
- More development is worse, not better
- More recreation, more interference with the natural environment; culture--more people presence
- Most are better left as is
- Mostly natural already
- Much of the river valleys are still natural, leave them.
- Must have access to the river valley, need pathways to create accessibility
- My favourite part of living in this city is access to the river systems and off leash dog parks for recreation and taking a break from work
- N/A
- N/A

- N/A
- N/a
- N/a
- Natural and recreation opportunities are currently good (tho more is better).
- Natural areas and flood plains should be allowed to function as part of a healthy system.
- Natural beauty is already there. Keep the houses away.
- Natural Infrastructure provides critical services to Calgarians. Drinking water, biodiversity, flood resilience and free, equitable access to nature for all residents
- Natural spaces should be protected. Development can happen by needs to be set at respectful distances from the water ways.
- natural spaces should stay natural, though some human intervention to combat garbage, erosion, and beavers (beaver guards) would be great.
- Nature and access need to stay the same. Building and development of the river area should stay at the pace it is at.
- Nature and recreation access should not be limited at all. Those wishing to build along the river must understand that they do so at their own risk and not have the city micromanage that. Access to outdoors near the river is part of our culture already.
- Nature as something separate from culture is a construct. However we should try to preserve and conserve and best we can as natural spaces are being destroyed significantly faster than they are being created.
- Nature aspect of the river well maintained
- Nature aspect should remain the same, but we should build onto that with swim parks that emphasize the natural beauty around!
- Nature does it best
- Nature is important. Flooding is part of nature's cycle.
- Nature needs room also.
- Nature needs to stay the same because of the beauty of it and the function it plays in both making the city attractive as well as natural ecosystems. Flooding because when we change the waterways we affect entire ecosystems
- Nature no drugs Amazing music
- Nature provides more well-being for citizens than any other development



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- Nature should take it's course. Should be a place to escape the city for those that can't.
- Nature space is incredibly important to the future of the city, for it to flourish. Development and culture not so much.
- Nature/habitat is important. I would not want to endanger or harm species specific to that area.
- Nature connects us to who we are
- Need more places for people to hang out and enjoy. Where are the restaurants, bars, etc that line the banks of other major river cities.
- Need spaces to go for peace and quiet, not mixed with other activities.
- No aspect of public access should worsen.
- No change required
- No commercial or residential development.
- No development along the river.
- No further development
- No further development should take place in the river valley
- No further development, but enhanced protection.
- No more art or festivals or building or restaurants required near the rivers
- No more building or development along the river valley! Preserve its ecological integrity (at least, or take even more measures to protect it).
- No more businesses! Keep it natural!
- No more development. Leave it be,
- No more growth around our rivers, golf courses,
- No need to build developments on the river system or alter nature. Those go hand in hand
- No new bylaws or zoning changes to allow development should happen
- None
- Not a good selection. Preserve nature, plant more trees.
- Nothing in life stays the same
- nothing should stay the same we need to fix our river eco system! our rivers are dead we need to do any thing it takes to restore them.

- Nothing should stay the same.
- Nothing stays the same.
- On culture, there is quite a bit of good event space along or near the river, adding more would burden the natural environment. Lots has been done for flooding since 2014, moderate high \$ new development near the river and let the river flood when needed.
- Our pathways, Rec areas and natural areas seem adequate.
- Our river valley is largely usable and natural. That should continue to be the case
- Our rivers are going to flood every single year. I think following the 2013 flooding our city has done a pretty good job respecting the river and its flood zones. For the most part.
- Our rivers provide a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and the recreational opportunities that come from them!
- People love and celebrate the river. It's part of our culture in the city and I want that to stay the same.
- People seem to have good access to the river for recreation.
- People who buy land in a floodplain should have higher insurance, NOT having all of us and future generations suffer because they gambled on flooding.
- Preserve nature
- Preserve nature. Keep recreational infrastructure mainly bike paths.
- preserve our heritage if access to the river valleys
- Preserve their natural state allowing for flood mitigation, climate and cultural enhancements such as signage.
- Preserve natural riparian area.
- Preserving the natural areas preserves one of the best parts of living in Calgary
- Preserving what is there should be top priority
- Prioritizing nature along the river valley should be top priority. We should manage the other projects while sticking to this theme.
- Protect nature and ecosystem
- Protect the natural elements. Fence off-leash DANGEROUS
- Protect the river valleys
- Providing logical pathway systems.



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- Rec and Access - keeps river valley public land/park land. Calgary's beauty is in its river trail network.
- Rec is good and I'm not worried
- Rec is so important, I hope it never ever changes. B&D, I hope it never encroaches on the river or threatens the ecology in the name of "progress"
- Recreation access in Calgary is awesome and is an important part of the city's culture.
- Recreation access to the river is pretty good. It should be protected and maybe advanced for future generations.
- Recreation and Access are already good. They should remain that way. More access means more people which has the potential to overwhelm the natural values.
- Recreation and access are good; more development would detract from the natural environment and likely exclude people from access
- Recreation and Access is very well done already. The public has access to many natural areas and recreational spaces. There should be no more development in the river valleys. In close proximity, sure, but not in nature's way.
- Recreation and Building should not increase in the river valley area but decrease if possible
- Remain natural
- Retain as much of the nature as possible.
- River valley already has lots of residential and commercial development, art installations not needed
- River valleys are nature's highway and home to a abundance of wildlife and should be kept in pristine condition
- River valleys do not need further development, only riparian remediation.
- River valleys must remain public access and natural preserves
- River valleys NEED to be preserved and protected and associated wetlands, etc-. Development should occur outside a perimeter determined by experts in conservation.
- River valleys should be enjoyed by the public free of charge.
- Same amount of culture and recreation but with better control and identified areas.
- Should remain natural or used for recreation.
- So that no more nature is destroyed for human development

- Some settlers such as myself, live in the valleys already and are culturally attached to them.
- Specifically the natural areas - I think they are great currently, small projects like maintaining or creating gravel paths, but should mostly be left alone unless there is a major issue
- Stay the same to mean, stop development at its current level
- Stop selling our city and resources out for profit. What you did to nose creek in north Calgary is unacceptable.
- Sufficient development and flood mitigation.
- That's just nature. Do build critical things near the river
- The access and pathways are awesome
- The access to the river and shared spaces are great! My fear is that more development along the river will disrupt the wetland-type areas that still exist and further destroy habitats for important species.
- The amount of housing right along the river is good. Don't want it to be all housing. Maybe more bike accessible shopping.
- The beautiful area around peace bridge, across from kensington-all the areas to sit, the walkways, MUSICIANS and ice cream are all great and make me very proud to be calgarian!!
- The cities improvements either restrict access or turn the space into a foul English garden. I don't like either of these options. Leave some of the spaces open but undeveloped.
- the city does a good enough job at conservation in the valley although I feel that there isn't any need to add new neighbourhoods in the valley (such as in the south of the city) as it could cause potential disruptions
- The context for "stay the same" means do not reduce. The River Valley is the lifeblood of the city and should be protected as it is not only of value to residents but also an attractive destination for visitors.
- The culture is very good already, most people are respectful of the river valley
- The current flood mitigation seems sufficient and changing the flow even more might be detrimental in the long run
- The current plans appear to be working for these areas.
- The development in the flood plain is already too great. We must stop any additional flood plain development.
- The houses are far away right now and it should stay like that..

- The large, natural areas and extensive pathway systems are the best aspects of our river valleys, and should be enhanced, not changed.
- The level of recreation like picnic tables, garbages, etc in the rivers is good and we should keep that going! Making these areas valuable for day use. Flooding will happen regardless but I think with the spring bank construction that will be helpful
- The more natural the better
- The natural areas are essential to the ambience of the area and need to be accessible for walking and biking
- The natural areas should not be developed. Recreation and access are important for the humans that share this space with wild species.
- the natural break from the built up environment provides relief from the business of the urban area
- The Natural Element of the River Valley is exquisite. No Public art is going to make it better...
- The nature already on the rivers seems to fit
- The nature is key and needs to be maintained in all new development
- The nature should be preserved, recreation access is fine enough no point in polluting with unnecessary construction, flooding prevention is adequate
- The nature that's there shouldn't be disturbed. We have other options.
- The ones that are built are great when maintained.
- The ongoing efforts on flood mitigation seem reasonable.
- The only aspects that need to stay the same are where there are appropriate protective conservation or management measures in place
- The only thing that should stay the same is flood mitigation. That's public safety.
- The parks and walk ways work for me
- The question is limited. Stay the same means that I don't want to lose access to nature within the city. Increase it would be ok, too, but having access is key.
- The recreation and access points are great and should be maintained.
- The river is already natural and perfect in it's natural state.
- The river is the heart of the city
- The river needs areas to flood to slow down and prevent heightened flooding downstream

- The river pathway system must be maintained and protected for recreation
- The river valley as they are are gems to the city.
- The river valley defines Calgary's natural beauty which has been the catalyst for developing the earliest communities in Calgary. Protecting these communities from flooding risk is important to preserve lifestyles and peoples investment .
- The river valley is shared space that all citizens should have access to and enjoy
- The river valley is already a source of natural beauty
- The river valley is already great for nature, and is quite accessible especially with the addition of the pathway above the Glenmore Reservoir Dam.
- the river valley is already well maintained with natural trees and plants
- The river valley is fine the way it is and must not be changed or tampered with
- The river valleys are already quite natural areas with very little development
- The river valleys do not need more business activity; they are important ecosystems that must be protected
- The river valleys should be accessible to all the citizens of the urban area and not just be available to owners of large condo complexes.
- The river valleys should be for natural areas and recreation.
- The river valleys, our place to go to get away from the city.
- The rivers are busy in the summers and it's great to see people enjoying these spaces
- The rivers are fine the way they are - I don't want more development, like business and big housing complexes.
- The rivers create a pathway through the city to access nature. Cultural events, like the Calgary Folk Festival, bring Calgarians into an area that they wouldn't normally access. It is transportation system for biking, walking, rollerblading, scooting.
- The system seems to be correct size for the amount of use I see in the south and isn't set up to be more or less appealing to one group over others. Effective upkeep is where I think the focus should be.
- The trees add a nice shade to the walkway
- There are already good amenities in the river valleys. I would limit further development.
- There are enough buildings next to the river. It's getting crowded.
- There are enough communities along the river and avoid encroaching into the river valley.

- There are lots of natural areas and lots of public access
- there are many access locations to provide opportunities to enjoy rivers
- there are many areas where the natural landscape has been left untouched and should remain as such
- There are many festivals that take place in the river valley
- There are nice pathways.
- There are plenty of businesses etc within easy walking distance of most river banks.
- There are spaces available for cultural activities, eg Princes Island
- There is a generous amount of recreation access in Calgary's river valleys already. These should be preserved, but we need to keep the fragility of ecosystems in mind.
- There is a good mix of nature and pathways
- there is a lot of natural areas along the river banks that do not need to be changed or developed!
- There is already enough "development". Flood mitigation is obviously important, but it has to be accepted that not everything can be protected.
- There is already enough culture and development in the valleys. I think the flood mitigation changes already in place or started will be enough to avoid another major flood.
- There is enough development of business and infrastructure, if anything reduce!
- There is enough nature and culture in the river valleys
- There is enough recreational access now. There is enough (or too much) development now.
- There is large areas of nature along the rivers I very much enjoy. To me they are one of the things that sets Calgary apart
- There is plenty of natural areas along the river. I would hope to see more active design that allows people to interact with and "touch" the water. Bike paths are great, but people are mostly passing through. Would prefer that there are places to linger.
- There is still some form of nature. Please don't destroy it with art, buildings and entertainment, there is enough city for that type of stuff.
- There needs to be a balance of natural areas and development
- There should be continued public access to rivers
- There should be no further development in the floodplain/fringe
- There should be no more homes built in the river valleys

- There should be no more urban development in our river valleys. When I see homes built in flood plains, it makes me angry to think the city approved that space for development.
- There should not be any commercialized building around it unless it is for recreation or public use but should also limit the amount of damage done to the trees/river where it goes more of a river into a canal.
- There should remain ample public park space for walking, cycling and family play/gatherings. We should retain ample green space and tree canopy. We should retain clean water.
- There shouldn't be any additional building or development along the rivers other than pathways.
- There shouldn't be development in river valley. They must maintain their ecological resilience
- There shouldn't be more development along the rivers
- There is enough in established areas.
- There's nothing wrong with the current river valley
- These are well-established. Building/development should change minimally. Green line will of course have impact
- these make Calgary unique
- These questions are worded in a really weird way. The things I selected to stay the same should stay the same because it makes the most sense environmentally and from a service perspective.
- They are already great, we don't need more.
- They are beautiful and natural
- They are beautiful and we are lucky to have them. The city has created beautiful spaces for cultural activities, recreation (Harvie Passage) and to enjoy nature. It is great.
- they are fine as they are, I just want them to continue to be respected
- They are good as they are.
- They are good the way they are.
- They are natural. We should not have to mitigate flooding but develop the land in tune with nature.
- They are naturally occurring aspects
- They are satisfactory the way they are in the area I use

- They are sufficient as is
- They are the things that make our city great
- They are well designed and cared for
- They are working
- They look great in their natural state
- They meet our needs just the way they are.
- They need to stay as natural as possible.
- They seem well managed and at all appropriate scale.
- They serve vital ecological functions, are sacred place for Indigenous peoples, are part of our cultural landscape
- They should not. Natural areas should increase
- Theyre good
- Things are good. I like there to be as little development as possible. St. Patrick's is back firing with unhoused takeovers 😞 and the green line should be last vehicle bridge build now that the ring road is done.
- Things are just fine now - no need to change anything
- Think the access currently there is appropriate.
- Thinking of Nose Creek, I feel it's important to protect the northern portion as a natural environment area
- This is a poor question. They should be protected and natural values and resiliency should be enhanced.
- This question is dumb. Options should be stay the same, increase, decrease, don't know.
- To keep it natural
- To minimize impact, building development should be cautious and respectful.
- To preserve the amenity and the experience it offers
- To preserve the river valley, minimize building & development
- Too late to remove massive developments in the flood plain, and there's no need. Just control the river.
- Too many green natural locations being taken away, this area has brought in so much nature that needs to stay

- Too much over development-stop it!
- Too much will disturb the natural habitats of flora and fauna.
- Urban wildlife/ecosystems like wetlands and riparian zones along the river valley already face tremendous pressure from development and urban expansion. We need to preserve and protect the existing landscapes we have in perpetuity.
- Valley Ridge (I live in valley woods) is perfect the way it is, honestly such a gem of peace and calm.
- Very happy with things as they currently are!
- Vibes are great along the river
- We already have great recreation & access,lets keep it up like it is. Maybe others have better ideas to improve, I don't
- We can't mess with nature, but we can improve it
- We don't need more development or building
- We don't need our natural areas to be taken away for any reason
- We don't need any development along the river, especially buildings. Keep the rivers natural.
- We don't need more development.
- We don't need more man-made structures in the river valley.
- We don't need/want any more industrial development in the river valley systems
- We have a good program of river access right now. It can be improved but I think our system is working.
- We have a great river pathway and water access on both rivers. I wouldn't change much
- We have a lot of great nature, culture, and recreation in this city.
- We have a remarkable asset here. I played riverside as a child, picnicked with my family, walked my dogs. It is a great asset.
- We have generally done a good job of balancing keeping river valleys natural while allowing recreation
- We have great access to our rivers, we don't need to change that.
- We have great walking and running paths!
- We have plenty of recreation and access to the river valley. We don't need to develop more human access.

- We have so many beautiful areas along our rivers to enjoy nature and I would hate to see that disappear with development
- We need a vision for the river valley. To connect all parts and to capitalize on the beauty it brings to our city. We need to stop allocating these natural spaces to condos and private ownership. Stop already!!!
- We need natural undeveloped areas.
- We need to allow nature to thrive
- We need to be careful to balance human recreation & access with the ecosystem's capacity; this applies to carefully considering building & development footprint/impacts; flooding is part of the natural cycle (although exacerbated by climate change).
- We need to maintain the natural environment
- We need to preserve our natural areas more. We need less building, dog access and recreation if it equals buildings/lots. Too many dogs relieving themselves in the river. Too many hookahs showing up ruining fresh air/water. Too many tents/radios = noise.
- We need to preserve what we nature we have.
- We need to prioritize the health of our rivers and the natural areas around them over development.
- We need to reduce human activities and preserve waterways/natural areas
- We ruin the river. Let it be.
- We should encourage more culture and outdoor activities around natural attractions
- We should maintain the connection to be nature in the city, increase flood protection and minimize building on the river. The river areas should be accessible to all!
- We should NOT increase usage that will erode flood mitigation.
- We shouldn't be developing any more private property along the rivers, rather giving more and easier public access
- We're doing a pretty good job but...
- We've seen excellent steps towards flood mitigation and we would like to continue to see access available for Calgarians
- Whatever plan gets approved, I hope it's with public support unlike the building development in Renfrew 6 story, 65 unit apt building that the community does not want but is trying to say scale it down and we are happy with 3 story but no one is listening
- While change is constant, I like the way it is.

- Why mess with a good thing? Sometimes development is not an upgrade. Our river valleys and trail systems are amazing as is.
- Why would you dare change something that works fine?
- Would not want more nature to do disrupted
- You can't stop Mother Nature. Stop developing expensive infrastructure next to the banks. No matter what we do there is a bigger flood on the way.
- You cannot force nature
- Your LIMITED multiple choice answer options suck. Nature cannot be reduced at river's edge for any buildings

Based on your selections above, why should those aspects of the river valley CHANGE?

Most common explanations of why aspects should change:

1. new development in general or specific types of development should be restricted
2. we need to prioritize the river valley's natural function, rewilding is more important for the environment and wildlife
3. we need more places to play, like better paths, parks and parks/recreation amenities
4. there needs to be easier and more equitable access, including physical disability
5. we need to reduce the flood damage to property, either by protecting developed property or not by developing and allowing flooding to happen safely

Verbatim comments:

- Priority to protect the river valley. Reduce the amount of development within river valleys that are still ecologically intact, to maintain area health and manage floods. Low impact recreation preferred. Indigenous culture is important.
- - ideally better summer transit and "river stops" or shuttles for floating drop offs at key destinations to reduce traffic and parking needs. Adding some development (cafes etc) in parts of the river for socializing. Safety in isolated parts
- 1. Nature: more info/signage about plants & animals. 2. Culture: More info/signage/displays about history of area. 3. Rec/Access: More pickle ball courses. Increased wheelchair access washrooms. Flood: dredge the river
- 2013 showed what should have already been evident from geography: massive floods are likely, and will cause massive damages to development in the flood plains if engineering solutions are not put in place.
- A bit more unobtrusive major flood mitigation would be welcome.

- a place to stop for coffee or dine for lunch would be nice. Also engineered put ins for paddle boarding and canoeing would be nice on the north bow between valley ridge and down town.
- Access can be updated to provide equitable access for mobility issues
- Access to rivers should be limited, so people don't destroy shoreline or nasty people hang out.
- Access to the entire shores
- Accessibility needs to increase, open more spaces and parks so we aren't cramming a million people into a couple spaces/parks. Move the railway!!! Make green spaces, dog parks, beaches...
- Add better path access, benches, information signs, paths, picnic stops
- Add more off leash places for dogs yet also better protect other areas for wildlife.
- add more wildlife ponds like Dale Hodges park
- All my answers stem from building a development changing. If building and development stops ("change") this would allow all other aspect to change including flooding.
- already a crowded mess with people and development downtown riverbanks, restoration is best
- Are the flooding mitigations complete? Increase recreation and nature areas along the rivers.
- Areas of encroachment into the natural areas should be very limited.
- Areas of encroachment into the natural areas should be very limited.
- As little development as possible
- As mentioned above, we need larger buffer zones between our rivers and any new developments. Change means no more Ricardo Ranch scenarios. Make an inter-municipal park along Nose Creek.
- As much natural space that can be protected around the river valleys should be. Indigenous people should have unmitigated access (and, frankly, control) over the land in order to practice their cultures.
- At times, the river valley feels unsafe. Open drug use is dangerous for the animals, adults, and children who spend time there. I also think the wetland-type areas near the river should be better protected as nature reserves.
- Because all the city will do is add rules or bilaws or charges or some other crap to make it less accessible or enjoyable.

- Because better management of the river systems are needed
- Because lets get more recreation and nature.
- Because retriected use turns a valuable space into nothing. Can't see it, can't tour it, can't use it. Behind the facade of nature could be anything.
- Because there is either too little (nature) or too much (development) so improvements are needed in all areas, I.e. Nose Creek should be restored to its natural state with oxbows.
- Best flood mitigation are trees bushes and space for flow So plant more to stabilize the banks
- Better access to the river and for more boat ramp locations.
- Better accessibility
- Better flood mitigation is clearly needed.
- Better flood protection, and less control for private owners and residential development
- Better paths with separate walk and bike. More connected.
- Better pathway system in congested areas. Hard to enjoy when you're dodging bikers and walkers.
- Better sewer- less smelly
- Bike path leading to the river. More of them through small community. Inglewood. Kennsington.
- Bike paths should be separate from walking paths. Accidents are happening and more will happen due to aggressive riders and ones who don't alert when coming. Children are unpredictable and can run out. It's only a matter of time & more serious accidents
- Biodiversity is of increasing importance & should be increased in areas that should be so rich but aren't. This conflicts with building & development, so less of that is needed. And obviously flooding is a concern & likely to be more of one in the future.
- building & development and flood projects are destroying the natural resilience of the river valleys and this development needs to STOP
- Building and development is often done quickly for the sake of NOW without enough foresight to later impacts. Building an entire new event centre in a floodplain?! WHY?!
- Building and development should be prohibited as much as possible in the river valleys. Riparian areas need to be encouraged and protected.
- Building and development should be restricted, unless for recreational purposes
- Building is getting too close to the Bow River valley.

- Buildings shouldn't be built in river valleys. Buildings that crowd the river should be removed. The river should be allowed to flow freely.
- business and culture are better outside of the river valleys, where they don't compete for space with nature and recreation. Flood control benefits all the citizens and businesses.
- By change I mean improve, I don't know why improve was not an option.
- Can improve access in certain areas for leisure etc
- Change to reflect LESS of these things, not more. Less development, less recreation and access and cultural access. Humans have taken up enough of the city spaces so please leave some natural and untouched as possible.
- Change and become more natural. All new development should revert the intrusion of development in its design.
- Change as in, increase size of natural areas and pass laws so no future building development can ruin it
- Change happens with seasons, usage, awareness,
- Change how we use recreation areas, access to all but no motorized recreational vehicles (on urban areas), no need for building/development and a recognition of cultural elements and focus on the natural landscape is important,
- Change meaning to improve.
- Change means look at better ways to enhance these opportunities
- Change the amt and type of development in the river valleys. And adhere to city flood maps that indicate areas that are at high risk for flooding.
- Change to better protect nature, wildlife, ecological balance and diversity
- Change to enhance flood mitigation, climate resilience and adaptation and too highlight cultural/historic knowledge of the area.
- Changes should be for less development.
- Changes should be to improve the natural area. Keep it natural, stop allowing further development of the already reduced habitat area!
- Cleaned up. Increased access so that more people can enjoy without bottlenecks
- Clear areas where 'Vulnerable' populations are living; STOP plans for building and development
- Community clean ups in spring and fall, more environmental events
- Constant improvement and adaptability is good.

- Continue the work of expanding the city's 5A network.
- continue to improve flooding protection
- Continue to make improvements supporting the important things: nature, a shared cultural space where people can connect with nature.improve flood mitigation to prevent natural disaster.
- Continue to upgrade to reduce flooding. Encourage new tree and native wildflower growth.Limit development on the flood plain.
- Continuing to develop land for residential and commercial use along the bow river impacts one of our city's most unique and fragile resources. There are very few places on earth where a recreational fishery such as the bow is so accessible to so many.
- control non native plants & weeds & noxious weeds - washrooms for volume of visitors - pack in pack out concepts
- Create more natural spaces, more walkways/bike lanes, greenspaces, make it accessible. Don't allow businesses/industry/residences along the rivers.
- Culture - could use some more cultural landmarks/things to do along the river path to attract and create more of a destination. For example maybe local cafes, ice cream shops, etc while enjoying the river valleys. Access - more paths. More flood protectio
- Culture - more recognition of indigenous history; nature and recreation - more park spaces and pathways and river access points; flooding- continue improvements to prevent future damage
- Culture : River valleys are unfortunately dirty. City needs to invest in cleaning out the garbage and not allowing camping by the river as these camps end up generating tons of garbage.
- Culture and building/development should be pushed away from the river for practical and economic/flood damage reasons.
- Culture and recreation should have regulations that are in a to enjoy the area within safely not disturbing the area while building should not be considered anymore especially if the world is going to adopt fixing climate change
- Culture should include Indigenous knowledge of the river valleys, maybe with signs or information, building and development halted around the river valleys
- Culture: It would be great if businesses like cafés, bars, and restaurants could extend closer to the water like they do along the Vancouver seawall. Building & Development: More permissive zoning is needed so more Calgarians can live closer to the rivers

- Current park spaces are over utilized and dated. Upgrading of washroom facilities, increased parks maintenance to keep up with park usage and increasing/replacing trees and vegetation to provide lots of shady areas as our climate warms.
- Currently the wants of people are placed above the needs of the habitat.
- Day use areas are becoming too developed and seem to be taking away from the natural environment and it would be nicer if there was better access to more areas so that natural areas become less congested. Spread the people out
- Defined usage and behaviour for usage to protect and not destroy the area. Enforcement needed, visible clear signage. Ex stay on trails, no dogs in playgrounds, keep dogs on leash etc list fine and number to contact to report issues.
- Development along river valleys should be limited to all and not just individuals or businesses
- Development in river valleys should be restricted as much as possible.
- Development setbacks should be farther away from the river to allow it to move back and forth and flow and for wildlife habitat and corridors. And for flooding.
- Development should be very thoughtful, more flood resistant and not trusted with Calgary's oligarchy of bozo scummy developers.
- Developments should be kept out of floodplains to allow for natural flooding processes and reduced risk to property damage and public safety. Restoration of former industrial sites (e.g. Lafarge) should be a priority to bring back nature along the river.
- Discussion is important
- Do not develop in river valleys
- Do not develop more housing in the river valley. Need more boat ramp access
- Do not need more development in the valley
- Don't change anything....no development. Don't build on the River banks!!!
- Don't change or modernize
- don't lose any more of our rivers to personal/private only use; flood & erosion mitigation is important
- ecosystem should be improved including better vegetation, weed control, fish and wildlife habitat. Flood protection systems should use natural mechanisms like wetlands.
- need to fill in the vacant lots along the rivers
- Encourage nature to take top priority

- Enhance natural settings and let riparian systems evolve. Make it easier for Calgarians to appreciate the beauty of river valleys. Limit development at the river edges.
- Enhanced protection and flood mitigation
- Escooters are making it unsafe for those with mobility issues as they must dodge them constantly
- Even more forested areas of the river valley with only small gravel trails, like Elbow River Park near 17th st, and more parks protected against future development.
- Every year the natural connection along stretches gets better and better. Almost there so keep doing what you are doing. Interpretive signage is really interesting along many stretches. Be nice to see more as there is so much history.
- Expansion of pathways and access such that parking lots are not infringing upon it... The Bike Path system is wonderful, but has been overrun by dogwalkers such that bikers can not use it at moderate bike speed. Perhaps an expansion of the pathways?
- Few places to get to the river downtown. Big rocks blocking the way.
- Fewer buildings in the flood plain
- Firm up the banks and stop building in flood zones.
- Flood considerations.
- Flood mitigation after 2013 made the pathway on the east bank, running north from Glenmore Tr, much less attractive
- Flood mitigation is important.
- Flood mitigation is necessary. No more building & development along our rivers.
- Flood mitigation is very important for the city and its citizens to be resilient
- Flood mitigation must be done soon and limit numbers on the river
- Flood mitigation must consider both overland and groundwater flooding, which is very prevalent in Calgary's river valleys.
- Flood mitigation will require changes as the climate changes. Less drinking and partying on the water would be good. Nature - the river is too dirty and full of garbage; electrification of trains inside Calgary to reduce pollution and noise.
- Flood mitigation, adding in art like murals
- Flood protection must be completed
- Flooding

- Flooding always needs to be a consideration, and I think its prudent to plan ahead. I would love to see cleaner, healthier rivers as well! As a avid swimmer in both rivers, there's a long way to go on that. I think bringing more nature back in could help.
- Flooding is a risk that should be mitigated, but not at the risk of livelihoods (see Springbank Dam). Development along the rivers has hindered access to limited points, this needs to be increased.
- Flooding is always going to be a risk so need adequate mitigation strategies. Also, making it more recreate friendly will entice more people to visit
- Flooding is the only important mitigation that should be be approached. Recreation and housing have [removed]
- Flooding must be addressed for ALL COMMUNITIES (including Bowness)
- Flooding risk, protect the river valley
- Floodplains are there because the rivers have previously flooded! And they will again. Houses along floodplains and river valleys are unsightly and all taxpayers have to pay higher insurance rates when those houses are flooded.
- for recreation and access many of the paths need better maintenance and upkeep and more flood infrastructure needs to be put in place as certain neighbourhoods (such as Sunalta) don't have as many protections in place
- For the better, safer, for ecology, riparian, and for my kids to use to play. Being by the river is what makes Calgary. Confluence of two navigable river water ways.
- Further development along the river should be prohibited for the safety of residents. Following the 2013 floods, we need to start prioritizing safety of tax revenue regardless of the impacts of the unpopular decision.
- Get the [removed] off the river banks and back in jail
- Given the significant potential, the bow river as a recreation feature is perhaps one of the most important and substantial recreation attributes for this city.
- Global warming is changing weather behaviour and the city should plan for flooding.
- Haven't indicated change
- Higher priority to naturalize some areas and increase setbacks to development, for nature and to reduce flood damage costs
- Homeless camps need to go
- Homes need to be safe from flooding
- Houses should not be close nor development should not limit/restrain access to river valleys

- How can you think of developing natural areas? Calgary has already destroy way too many green spaces to develop new communities!
- Human behaviour needs to serve nature preservation.
- I am disheartened by the amount of building in the river valley. If we keep building homes along the river we will destroy the ecosystem through erosion, run off, habitat disruption, etc
- I am offended by this question as you don't say how you would change it.
- I believe in order to keep the natural areas there should be less building and development for major projects and maybe a small amount of added pathways for active transport.
- I believe more nature needs to be protected along rivers.
- I believe the key focus should be in preserving the natural environment of the river valley, prioritizing the natural habitat for the flora and fauna that use it.
- I do not think it should be changed.
- I don't know what the culture of the river valleys are
- I dont know if more flood mitigation is needed
- I don't want the river valley to change. I want the claim near the Nose Creek Park to be reduced in size so that all the beautiful green space folks see when arriving in Calgary remains large.
- I feel nature and culture surrounding the valleys should be celebrated more.
- I literally didn't click change for any of them.
- I love some of the art based instalments that reflect nature.
- I say change to everything because we aren't doing enough to protect our rivers from pollution and traffic
- I support flood mitigation. Natural spaces need protection and clean-up from things like invasive weeds and human garbage.
- I think a lot of people who just moved to Calgary are not aware enough of the nature and the importance of staying away of the animals so we don't interrupt their way of living.
- I think development is a massive issues in these areas which have increased flooding risks, sensitive habitat and great environmental impact should development and access continue.
- I think everything should be done to protect the river valleys. Limit development like homes and possibly make a little accessible for people to enjoy.

- I think improvements to the riparian function and removal of transient encampments are important. I also think that NIMBY'ism in wealthy neighbourhoods needs to be conquered in order to complete flood resiliency infrastructure.
- I think more natural areas could be protected, or restored; recreation could be involved in that by linking pathway systems and making it more accessible to people.
- I think more restaurants along the river would be very valuable
- I think our river valleys should be connected, publicly accessible, and naturalized to the degree possible. Lack of infrastructure would make them more flood-proof.
- I think swimming areas are good, especially if a sandy incove was to be put in. and need more flood protection so the natural beauty of it isn't washed away.
- I think that access to the river for recreational purposes should be made more accessible for people who don't have a lot of experience because a lot more people would use the resources if they had some more guidance.
- I think the city could better leverage existing (and seemingly abandoned) buildings within the river valley to kickstart small businesses. That weird green building by the elbow in mission—coffee shop. That brick house down in Inglewood—rental venue.
- I think the signage for what is a floodplain needs to become more clear. The only available means of figuring that out is an arcane layering of maps that require several steps. It would be neat to have art installations that demo-past floods West to east
- I think there are some missed opportunities. Christmas tree trail incomplete, outdoor public volleyball courts would be cool, I think that there are some stretches along memorial north side that could really bring out the active lifestyle Calgarians love
- I think there is probably room to improve facilities like washrooms and picnic and sporting recreation along the valleys as well as flood mitigation is a good practice
- I think there should be less building and development in the River valley
- I think there should be less building and development near the river to mitigate flooding risks, and an increase in nature to allow for biodiversity. The increase in nature could also allow more recreational opportunities for pathways etc.
- I think we could do a better job making some areas of the river more accessible, however this comes with its own downsides such as taking away from the natural spaces to make roads.
- I think we need to rewild some areas or make parks where the flooded houses came down and keep these areas from flooding again. Building new communities (ie south Calgary) in the flood plain needs to STOP. Better bike connectivity east-west ie. Manchester

- I think we should be more choosy in what we allow to be developed near our waterways, with emphasis on their protection.
- I think we should be more considerate of how maintain nature generally. Rewilding in the city is a great idea and I think we should also be looking to preserve Nose Creek better, as well as other natural spaces. Access could be improved with more cycling.
- I think we should encourage more natural growth, do need flood mitigation, lots of recreation use.
- I thought nk we need to invest more in the pathway system (wider paths, separate wheeled from foot traffic, and even provide some higher speed cycling zones in places with excess space like Nose Creek and incl things like this in future park design.
- I want more natural areas included in the Calgary River Valleys, more efforts to mitigate flooding, and more low-carbon recreational spaces.
- I want to see a double path, one for cyclists one for pedestrians...separated by either space or a curb.
- I want to see more cultures represented
- I would like the natural and recreational aspects expand and also be protected from destruction through flooding.
- I would like to see increase in natural areas in order to help with flood mitigation
- I would like to see more areas left natural or naturalized. Development of river valleys has to stop. Flooding could be allowed in some areas so that the poplar forests can regenerate.
- I would like to see more low current beach areas created that are safe for kids to wade in.
- I would like to see more restaurants allowed to develop in the parks along the river valley, in more of a European model. I think creating beaches along the river valley would be another amazing way to get people to enjoy the public space. See Berlin.
- I would love for some roadways to be removed from the river valley and replaced with parkspace. Tents/encampments are becoming too common by the rivers. I want the valley to stay clean, safe, and accessible to all to all by having these locat
- I would love more access & inclusion for all types of people & levels of paddlers. More amenities & gear stations for safety purposes to attract more outdoor/water people, and families. Calgary has a culture of inclusion, outdoors sportsmanship-promote it
- I would love to see more native plants/landscaping around the rivers with paths/ways the community can access them

- I'd like to see more nature and less building & development. Homes and development along the river restrict public access, appreciation, and wellbeing, while also limiting natural environments for more-than-human beings.
- I'd like to see more river valley space preserved as wild areas and parks.
- I'd like to see nature be the focus of river valleys with its importance increased, whereas I think building and development should stop or be diminished where possible. Flooding is an important part of a river system within reason.
- If there are parts of the river valleys that are at high risk for flooding / erosion leading to negative impacts on existing structures (ie Douglasdale area comes to mind as we have biked through there), then these should be addressed.
- Impacts to residents in proximity to flood zones
- Improve access but limit development
- Improve access, wider well maintained pathways, but keep it a bit wild. No more buildings.
- Improve cultural and recreational opportunities
- Improve river access for canoes & kayaks
- improve river valley trails as pedestrian/cyclist pathways
- Improve the river valley with improvements to natural areas while adding cultural elements (art), recreation and access.
- Improved pathways and recreation access is always important.
- Improved protection of wild spaces and preservation of habitat, improve flood mitigation measures with minimal impact on fish and wildlife habitat
- Improved recreation and access - safe bicycle storage and infrastructure. Clearing the pathways consistently in the winter, not plowing snow from roads onto bike paths.
- Improvements to these areas are required to improve healthy ecosystems and improve access with new construction. I support that expansion.
- In some sites there is "failed art". It should be removed. Building and development comes with costs. Building on southeast flood plains is a fraught strategy which likely increases requirements down the road. Developers won't be expected to pay the full
- Increase ability to recreate, increase number of cultural events
- Increase awareness and foster healthy interactions with the valleys. Enhance natural disaster preparedness forecasting effects of climate change.

- Increase biodiversity and decrease the chance of flooding by allowing natural processes (wetlands etc)
- Increase in intentional green space and encouraging more diverse ways of implementing eco building, rooftops green space, nature corridors etc
- Increase natural habitat for the species in the Bow River Valley.
- Increase nature, culture and decrease building too close.
- Increase protected wild/natural areas along the rivers, maintain and extend pathways (ie connect Bowness to Cochrane along the Bow)
- increase recreation & access to support nature/ reduce degradation / improve and theoretically assist with flood impacts
- Increase respect for the ecosystems.
- Increase setbacks to benefit plants and wildlife.
- Increase the natural aspects, reduce private access, improve flood resiliency by using natural features as much as possible.
- Increased capacity to support encampments
- Increased focus on nature, the indigenous culture that the river valleys represent, increase safe access to the rivers within the city (including boat launches) and decrease the amount of building and development in our river valleys.
- Increasing natural areas offers a natural flood barrier, and all efforts to increase flora in the area will necessarily improve recreation and access. A some effort should be made to improve the accessibility of the river valley for disabled folks.valley
- Industrial areas along the rivers need to be reclaimed. No private development should be on the rivers.
- Intentionally improve in all areas
- Invest in services for people suffering homelessness. The river valley has become overrun with camps and people living. It's dirty and often feels unsafe.
- Is there another way to give access to the rivers?
- It is apparent with climate change we will need to re-think some of our previous flooding mitigation and building practices.
- It is becoming more difficult to use the pathway safely. There needs to be a separate pathway for cycling on busy stretches, even in the suburbs.
- It is just natural

- It is time to use the river valley's for what they are best at, ecological improvements. Nature needs to come ahead of rec and any building.
- It should be more interactive to encourage active lifestyles
- It would be good to increase the diversity for nature, showcase more of our variety of cultures and arts, and increase accessibility for all in all areas
- It would be great if naturalized areas, pathways and cultural experiences could be expanded or improved.
- It would be great to expand the river valley's recreational and social function. We could have more energy and liveliness on the river path (eg cafes and restaurants, recreational spaces)
- It would be nice to have more accessible natural features that benefit wildlife more (like the marsh at Prince's Island). It would be great to have more of a boardwalk/shops/food scenario near the bow. Somewhere to bring cultural and local events downtown
- It would be nice to have more areas for friends and family to gather, maybe a few more options for food.
- It would be nice to see more naturalization of the river valleys, improvements made to the infrastructure and connectivity of the pathway system, less buildings in the river valley bottoms except those designed for tourism and recreation.
- It would be safer if all the homeless people were kicked out of the river valley
- It would be wonderful to see more of the river valley area reclaimed for nature and public use rather than building homes or businesses.
- Lack of basic services like garbage cans in areas.
- Land should not be further developed in the river valleys. Room for the river to move should be increased. Nature should be increased.
- Large chunks of rock are both unattractive and dangerous. Fill gaps with soil, and let nature self seed them
- Less apartments along the river. More restaurants and cafes. Deal with flood plains better
- Less building and development
- Less building and development other than flood mitigation.
- Less building development in the river valley, and more important to focus on the natural and recreational parts of the river valleys
- Less building on flood plains
- Less business. More nature.

- Less development
- Less development along river valleys to reduce risk of flooding; more opportunities to protect river valleys to enhance biodiversity; less building and development
- Less development, more environmental protection
- Less development, more flood mitigation
- Less development, more newly restored natural areas.
- Less homes and business should be built along the river valley, they should be left as natural, public spaces.
- Less human development and more focus on reclaiming the space into wild natural recreation areas that benefit the city by keeping land accessible to all (not just the rich)
- Less roads and more park around river would be good.
- Less single family home developments around the river
- Less transportation corridors. More public access.
- Lets have more recreational activities, access. we love to go in the water & ride bikes along it.
- Like more public access, less building and development, Culture to be in line with nature less corporate development
- Limit development and increase public parks adjacent to the rivers to increase nature in the urban areas.
- Limited access to culture and fostered sense of identity
- Lots of areas around the river are just houses. They
- Make more accessible to those that don't have the privilege of owning a car, and make the pathways and parks more accessible to those with disabilities (motor or neurodivergent).
- Make the city more resilient to flooding to prevent significant damage to property nearby the river.
- Make the river valley and banks more natural, less developed. Promote what the river was used for in the past and why it is an important heritage river in Canada. Increase recreation on the river to help more people appreciate the river and water quality
- May be some areas where there could be more development however where there is new development do NOT retract from the nature aspect of it
- Mitigate development, be strategic on what goes there to benefit everyone. Not just those who can afford to live there

- Mitigate flooding dangers
- More access and more nature
- More access to Bearspaw reservoir and other private areas along the water
- More access. Better protected.
- More accessible to everyone
- More accessible to all folks, less development and building.
- More and safer opportunities to connect with nature/be outdoors
- More areas need to be accessible to those with mobility issues. I think that there should be less business and property development in these areas
- More areas where there is a separate bicycle and walking path. Better lighting for dark winter mornings. More places to access the river to sit and have picnics and enjoy the river.
- More buildings (primarily housing and restaurants) to create calm pedestrianized areas, plus naturalized flood planes instead of sheet piles and concrete walls
- More culture and nature
- More culture recognition of Indigenous stories
- More dog friendly areas with access to the river. Flood control.
- More education of the public to obey rules already in place for off leash dogs and respecting wildlife. Better trails to relieve congestion in some areas (hills at both ends of Weaselhead) and better education how to share the trail.
- More emphasis on natural spaces with access for leisure and recreation and hiking to enjoy the river valley. Beautification of the valley (i.e. flower planting, accessible pathways) needed. Less building and development.
- More extensions of the network and more signage encouraging people to stay to the right. Scooter companies should have fines when the e scooters are left blocking the pathways for too long.
- More flood mitigation can be done using natural bank stabilization. Some of the pathways along the zoo are staying to fall into the river and will need repairs. These should be done in combination with bank naturalization.
- More flood mitigation is necessary.
- More focus on nature and opportunities to interact with that nature.
- More focus on sustainability

- More importance should be paid to nature, culture (especially Indigenous Peoples) and public access to recreation.
- More natural areas, but also improved recreational facilities and culture for community
- More natural habitat needed. More protected areas. More Resilience. Less development.
- More natural habitat protects the city from extreme flooding. This requires less building and development - which are the areas that are affected most by flood damage
- More natural preservation, more recognition of indigenous culture with relation to the river valleys, flood mitigation is also important.
- More natural protection, less human development
- More nature areas. Less development.
- More nature preservation, including wider zones from the river and areas closed to humans to allow plants and wildlife to flourish. Stop building in floodplains and set buildings and hardscaping further back from the river.
- MORE nature, LESS building and development, culture, MORE flood protection
- More nature, less development and better flood protection.
- More nature, more people spaces, less building in flood plains. Access to the river should not just be for those who can afford million dollar homes
- More nature. Could integrate culture and recreation but with ecological impact in mind.
- More picnic areas
- More planning around opening up these areas to allow for natural processes to occur is needed.
- More preservation of nature, less building and development, particularly in the northern part of the Nose Creek valley, which is an important wildlife corridor.
- More priority needs to be put into the maintenance of the natural spaces. Needs to be cleaned up and safer for recreational purposes.
- More programming could be done in parks along the river valleys, strategic upgrades to the pathway network to improve the usability to both recreational and commuter cyclists
- More protection of nature, less buildings right along the rivers (and creeks - e.g. Nose Creek!!), better access/setbacks to the Bow along Memorial Drive ; more access where blocked by industry, private property, and roads; more resilience to flooding
- More protection of the natural environment; less building and development; prevent future flooding.

- More public art, more flooding protection, more restaurants, one of a kind shops.
- More recreation access and less housing or private developments on the river should happen. More commercial (eg. Simmons building) would be great, but only if the commercial fits with making the river valley a recreation destination.
- More Recreation Access, Less Building and Development
- More recreation and cultural sites are always welcome. Art along walkways things like that
- More river access
- More riverfront restaurants & picnic areas would be great
- More safety measures are needed to deal with large homeless encampments that threaten the safety of others. The city is complacent about the rampant drug use and encampments along the downtown river valley stretching out to Ogden.
- More should happen
- More small business near the river (coffee shops, third spaces, etc)
- More space for cultural activities, especially acknowledging both Indigenous and the historical ways rivers have impacted our history. Recreation - there should be ways to separate different paths (bike, walking, e-transportation) to avoid conflict. Less bui
- More trees to replace ones that died or are cut down by beavers. Add more entertainment, place for artist to draw, showcase their art, yoga spaces, fishing equipment rentals, etc. Small kiosks with food, drinks. Washrooms. Obviously do everything to mitigate
- More walkability and safe walking lanes and bike lanes near and along the river
- Most of Calgary's river valleys do not have access to the riparian zone adjacent to the river this is the indicator of an unhealthy riparian habitat. Also river valleys are fun for us humans, but they are critical for wildlife.
- N/A
- N/A
- N/A
- N/A
- N/A
- NA
- Na

- Nature: because I don't want the city making restrictions to protect it. B&D: cool restaurants, or beautiful large homes would improve the value it has to the city.
- Natural areas need to be increased along the river. Unnatural infrastructure like rip rap and cement for flood protection need to change to bioengineered alternatives. The "flooding" bullet is unclear- do we want the same amount of floods? Confusing
- Natural areas should be available for use, but protected from misuse
- Natural areas should be greatly enhanced and connected. Access for recreation has to be improved to both; improve the approved access points and eliminate illegal access locations.
- Natural areas should be promoted and supported. These systems provide natural function and create city value unparalleled to any development.
- natural spaces should stay natural, please invest in affordable housing and other respectful options for homeless.
- Nature - increase naturalization along the river. Culture - further reconciliation work using river. Flooding - adopt 1:200 flood fringe in the flood way as the appropriate setback for development from the river.
- Nature - please put in the investment to improve! Add! More! Flooding - continue to work on flood resiliency
- Nature & Rec Access should be improved & increased through more naturalization & accessibility, but also be minimally intruding to allow a healthy balance...need more connected walking, biking paths, more safe kayaking launch points, etc.
- Nature and culture need to change for the better. There needs to be more respect for the rivers as they provide life. As for development there should be a ban on development within several hundred meters of the river valley unless it's for public use.
- Nature and recreation & access should increase, more natural environments are more resilient and as we experience changes in climate and lack of water due to loss of icefields, every bit of resilience will be needed.
- Nature and recreation should be expanded whereas building and development should retreat to make for a healthy buffer of green around the river. These things would also contribute to protection against floods
- Nature culture and recreation & access need to increase. Others should decrease. Working to improve the former results result in decreases in the latter.
- Nature is still second in line... We need to allow nature (including flooding) to take place and live within our ecosystem

- Nature- let's see more conservation Culture- more indigenous acknowledgement
Recreation- more "green" or biomimetic design to preserve health of river but also promote human health (ie build more stairs like McHugh bluffs to protect hill underneath but al
- Nature must be protected and preserved! More of an emphasis on protecting and cultivating natural oases of beauty and nature
- Nature needs to be given a higher priority in our river valley planning. We should coexist as part of nature, not aim to dominate nature. More installations about nature and about Indigenous history of our river valleys.
- nature needs to be more protected, especially from offleash dogs and people eroding banks by cutting through vegetation
- Nature needs to be protected more, development decreased, flooding measures increased. We already have existing development in the flood plain, and the fallout from it being affected by the floods is too high.
- Nature needs to be valued and protected specifically in the Ricardo ranch area. We should be protecting the birds and wildlife in that vital river wetland. More protection for nature! Culture on rivers could be improved, with more education and respect by u
- Nature needs to take priority
- Nature should be prioritized over business development.
- Nature should be the top consideration then recreation. We need to stop all development in the river valley and in fact should remove some that has been built and replace them with parks for people to enjoy.
- Nature should change for more riparian vegetation and providing some separation between public pathways & the river. Culture there could be more diverse spaces along the river and how different communities use the space, lots of our paths/parks homogenous
- Nature, culture and flooding management should increase in the river valley area
- Nature, culture and recreation can be improved adapted or modified for better use BUT building and devevelopment should NOT be in a river valley. I don't want to pay to clean up after a flood or spill
- Nature: rewild frontages; Culture: permanent indigenous presence eg. Eau Clair, Fish Creek ; Recreation: ensure increased access to sanitation that little kids aren't scared to use. Building: no more residential dev on rivers. eg 611 sifton built after fl
- Nature: wider setbacks for development approvals and reinstatement of wetlands drained by human development. Culture: more indigenous and natural and human history talks and low impact events to educate us about our rivers , their past, present and future

- Nearby developments are important opportunities to improve access, provide flood mitigation and storm water management strategies that can be both beautiful and functional for residents be it recreational or commercial purposes
- Need better areas for the public to access the water to protect slopes and vegetation for flood mitigation. No more development on the rivers. Need better support for nature, wildlife and culture
- Need less permanent human development.
- Need more natural attraction and wildlife
- Need more nature, recreation and flood management; need less building and devt esp. roads and transit. Many major arteries for transpo use the river valleys for routes because it's easy, thereby destroying them. Stop doing that.
- need more parking/accessibility/more bathrooms and food kiosks near the river systems
- Need more pathways and protect / not harm the nature from development
- Need to ensure flood protection
- Need to find appropriate ways to enhance protective measures, cultural aspects (esp. those of archaeological significance), reduce access and use that is degrading river and riparian ecosystems, and reduce the continuous human encroachment (esp, housing)
- Need to improve nature, culture and flood mitigation.
- Need to keep them wild/make areas cleaner and wilder to support native plants and species. Need to remove invasive plants
- Need to mitigate some of the flooding, but it could be done in a way that ties in with nature.
- need to stop flooding, mitigation is a must
- Need to work on flood resiliency
- Needs less construction.
- Needs more water fountains
- Night time next the rivers can feel slightly dangerous with a lack of lighting in places and the growing homeless population living nearby.
- No change
- No change - or less building.
- No change.
- No changes needed

- No changes needed.
- No development
- No development apart from limiting flood risk should to place
- No development other than trails
- No! Do not change them.
- None of these categories are at a level they should be. Climate change will force some changes as well.
- None should change.
- Nose Creek is under pressure from development in the north, which also will affect nature. It has a long history which isn't being recognized
- Not applicable
- Not applicable
- Not applicable; we have a beautiful river valley as-is
- Not enough focus (recreation and access) too much modeling with the others
- Not sure about the flooding
- Not sure about the other changes proposed.
- Not sure we are doing enough to safeguard ourselves from climate change
- Nothing should be changed.
- Old growth trees near the rivers in calgary are frequently cut down and dinky little trees placed later. Calgary is horrible at preserving existing vegetation, instead opting to pour concrete for paths, and plant dinky little trees next to them. Disgusting
- Only work on areas that flood. No more development
- Our entire approach to river valleys needs to change. We continue to develop in areas at risk of flooding and turn to flood mitigation to keep new developments. Our mindset must change to work with the river rather than against it.
- our rivers are dead we need to do any thing it takes to restore them. stop developing near them remove and restore what was built too close and listen to your fn scientists!!
- Pathways need to be improved in many areas to accommodate our growing population. Adding lanes specific to biking or walking make the experience more enjoyable for everyone. Often there are constant bicycles running bells to pass by people on foot.

- Pathways need to have access for pedestrians and children who move at a slower pace than cyclists who tend to dominate pathways. We also need to educate people on proper use of the space and to be respectful when in nature.
- People need to be better educated: Quit ripping limbs off trees (this applies to city workers who cut bottom branches - put mulch under trees so they can survive!!). We need a "don't be a litter bug" campaign like we grew up with. No more room to comment!
- People need to come to YYC for more than JUST STAMPEDE! We don't have drive in theatres, don't have drag racing strips, don't have crash up derby's, don't have outdoor water parks, (tiny splash pads don't count)
- Perhaps a few more bike paths so that people can enjoy these areas. But flood control is the most important. Fish
- Please do not open the river valley to more development! Perhaps flood mitigation but no more.
- Population growth means more pressure on all of the above. Need more naturaization, managed recreational use, more flood protection with water capture to the west, restricted building to waters edge, reclamation of privately owned riparian areas, cultural
- Prevent flood damage
- Private property should never restrict access to the river. There should be adequate setback for any new construction from the water. Private landowners should not be able to modify the river bank.
- Protect as much of the natural environment as possible. No increased development.
- Protect from erosion and learn from flood of 2013 how to best to protect
- Protect from flooding but still allowing access for trails and to intake the beauty of it, naturally.
- Protect life and property from flooding
- Protect some areas for nature
- Protect the land from future flooding
- protect the nature that still exists, make room for new life instead of businesses. help protect the land from flooding
- Protection against flooding could improve
- Protection of valleys is vital to maintain ecosystem function, water quality
- Public rec access could improve at minimal disruption. Anything other than PUBLIC bldg+development in valleys needs to stop. Flood mitigation-can probably always improve.

- Quit building in the bow river valley south of the city. There is a nice plateau to build on. Leave the valley wild.
- Recognize the high usage of many areas and provide multiple pathways for designated uses (walking, biking etc)
- Recreation and access just need to be controlled so as not to overrun sensitive areas.
- Reduce all building
- Reduce building and development. Conserve and protect our river valleys with more protected areas.
- Reduce development already in the valleys, allow more natural flooding
- Rehabilitate natural areas (increase). Increase knowledge of the cultural heritage related to the history of our rivers.
- Remember is also my front yard. People live here. It needs to be safer, cleaned up and much quieter after 10:00 pm
- restore natural areas, extend protected areas, gradually de-privatize, culture is unavoidable, ensure it is a healthy culture, facilitate respectful (to nature) public access ie adjust as needed, evaluate existing building and development
- River valley is major park for inner City. My community is spotted with walking paths and parks that are missing in inner city. Like Edmonton
- Room for diversified usage and flood mitigation
- Room for improvement
- Room to improve quality of wildlife habitat and support reconciliation
- Same reason. We need to care better for our natural environment. Stop building in the river valleys.
- See above
- See above
- Separating the biking and walking paths for more of the river on both sides would be nice. And with the construction around Eau Claire I noticed there's a lack of walkable access to patios and iced coffee in areas that I would expect it.
- Setbacks to development might need to be upgraded.
- Setbacks we're determined in 1994? Science is telling us we are not giving our creeks and rivers enough room to move/flood/meander

- Should be more nature, more culture, more access (e.g. pathways on BOTH sides of BOTH rivers), and more development (more pedestrian bridges)
- Should have less building and development. More nature preservation.
- Slow down or stop developing our natural areas
- Small artistic installations, enhancements, such sculptures, seating, musical parks, would be great additions.
- So much garbage in the river and the banks. development should be tailored for recreation users. I.e: Boat house at Harvie Passage.
- Some aspects likely do need to have change as the paths are sluffing into the water ways in some areas. Flood mitigation is smart but likely is an upstream project for best result
- Some more development is specific River areas would be desirable - e.g. Bow River near city centre developed with more restaurants, shops, hotels like San Antonio Riverwalk as an example.
- Some of the bike paths should be doubled up to help pedestrians enjoy without bikes on the path. It's dangerous for bikers and pedestrians, dogs, kids. Harvie Passage could also be expanded as it gets pretty busy..
- Some of the river areas could use some wilderness restoration efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change, pollution and our growing population.
- Some places need more accessibility.
- Some sections of the river valley are overgrown, not safe
- Sometimes the river valley doesn't seem safe due to homeless encampments. This makes it a place to avoid, esp. when with family and visitors. It would also be nice to have safe quality recreation like Canoeing at Bowness Park and quality bike trails.
- Stay the same or increase/improve existing river valley areas.
- Stop all residential and business development within 200m of a riverbank. Leave these areas as natural as possible with limited human access.
- Stop building and development and keep it natural/ for recreation
- Stop building and development around sensitive areas. Ricardo Ranch development is a bad idea that will have significant future consequences. Same with Nose Creek. Continue with flood mitigation projects as needed to protect the city.
- Stop building dwellings where it will get flooded, be it every year, every second year or every ten years.

- Stop building in the river valleys! Parks and natural areas only. Perhaps some low impact recreational areas.
- Stop building!
- Stop expanding development footprint into riparian and wetland areas. Start reclaiming industrialized/residential riparian and wetland areas within the city. Increase riparian and wetland land footprint in the city to be fit flood control, water quality
- Tent cities need to go
- The area that requires the most evaluation and scrutiny in my opinion is the Elbow River between Lindsay Park and the Bow River, particularly the area that backs on to Stampede Park. The stables are only used for 10 days of the year. Poor use of land.
- The aspects I want to change are building and development. They don't need to live on the river. It can flood (even with flood barriers) and we need more trees in Calgary, not less.
- The biggest change should be no more residential on the river. All development along the river should be for the public. Anything commercial should be limited to restaurants or bars that the public can access. Calgary's rivers should be enjoyed by all.
- The change should be to stop crowding the river with private land development (which threatens the river ecosystem and removes recreational access to the river for most everyone else)
- The City of Calgary needs to stop permitting development in river valleys - these are public good spaces that provide so many things to human well being. Stop approving development in flood plains, flood fringe!
- The combination of Nature, Recreation and Access, and Flooding are often misunderstood by the general public. The City needs a better information module to better inform.
- The Confederation Creek under the abandoned wildwood golf course should be open and the lands should be turned in to permanent park.
- The culture around the river includes a lot of vagrants. We need hygiene services available for these people away from the beautiful river. Encourage responsible development around the area will help to fund these improvements
- The culture needs to change to help nature thrive, development should be in areas that aren't plant and animal habitats
- The culture of the river valleys needs to change. Some areas felt unsafe at night. Flooding is also a concern
- The current city council and the supposed "environmental staff" are destroying Calgary and are not making any better.

- The elbow river is filthy. As well, everything changes; there is no same thing one moment to the next. And there is environmentalist within this notion, as well as economy and recreation
- The exclusive 18 hole Calgary Country Club is an embarrassing relic of a bygone oil tycoon era, I have heard used mainly as a dining club almost nobody golfing. Do a count on how many players annually vs. Silver Springs. Open this entire area to public.
- The folk fest stage at the island, is that flood proof? And the zoo/ sparks, what's the plan there...
- The less buildings near the river, the better. Buildings restrict access and risk flooding.
- The natural and cultural spaces should be protected and enhanced. We need to preserve and grow Calgary's natural beauty, and we can incorporate Calgarian culture into these spaces.
- The natural areas in the centre of the city have had very heavy use. Change is needed to minimize the impact of walkers and cyclists on vegetation and wildlife.
- The only change is the location of tent cities, we have a lot of homeless and it's not going away, so make an area for them
- The pathways in winter need to be better maintained, it makes using them after snowfall hard because they aren't cleared well. There are areas where the pedestrian only pathways are narrow and very uneven. This makes it hard for people with limited mobility
- The question is difficult but given public and political attitudes towards river valley in general and the desire to develop, all of the above roles will change and NOT for the better!
- The river as nature should be respected and allowed to be natural. Increased conservation is essential. It's also a cultural gathering place and should be where people can respectfully and safely gather.
- The river could be improved in many areas and more areas to be able to sit next to the river and enjoy the day
- The river should be easier to access for everyone
- The river system in Calgary requires better protection and would benefit from rewilding biodiversity rich locations. Recreation is hugely important, but doesn't connect neighbourhoods well enough and is too focused on concrete in too many areas.
- The river valley provides nature based solutions for climate change, drinking water for Calgarians and critical habitat to important species. Building and development threatens all of those things.
- The river valleys outside of the main downtown areas, Inglewood or West Village sometimes feel kind of abandoned, with no public amenities, art, benches, recreational facilities. Landscaping needs a lot of improving but also would like to protect nature.

- The river valleys should feel and look different than other parts of Calgary. There is a distinct “culture” here of using the pathways and fields as an extension of your backyard. Development could be focussed in already built up inner city neighborhoods
- The same, not more for culture/large gatherings. These areas are losing their nature feel, deter wildlife. We need to conserve more, see tents, dogs/hookahs(chemicals) in rivers, radios, off road bikes destroying nesting areas. Designated areas needed.
- The whole freshwater ecosystem has be reevaluated in terms of climate risk & increases to ecosystem function, services & biodiversity. Our whole communities health & welfare depend on this.
- There are some areas where fencing/pathways require improvement (the railing on the elbow park walking path comes to mind)
- There are very few beach-like areas available and some of them are not intended for that type of use. It can cause over crowding and abuse (littering). Having more formalized areas for people to enjoy waterside river access would be great.
- there is always room for improvement with everything
- There is an issue with encampments. The culture around Harvey passage is kind of problematic sun bathers not appreciating the power of the river and making it hard for paddlers to use the passage.
- There is definite room for improvement in all aspects. Building & Development and Flooding should be more limited.
- There is no culture, no place to stop and linger get some lunch or coffee, look at public art, not enough benches
- There is opportunity for improvement of existing recreation (improved pathways or maintenance of existing paths), existing recreation areas could be improved, but I would not want to see too much additional development.
- There is opportunity here to develop some areas so that people have more and safer outdoor spaces in and around the river valley to use.
- There isn't enough being done
- There needs to be a better overall policy to protect riparian zones & adjacent wetlands that support the ecology of all rivers in the province. Within the city, there are minor tributaries that have been badly managed. Greenspaces are vital.
- There needs to be a diverse mixture of areas to enjoy. The homeless camps need to be cleaned out as they are unsanitary and unsightly.
- There needs to be more access for all Calgarians. All the dense river valley areas are near downtown, this needs to change.

- There needs to be more accessible businesses along this pathway system and more flood mitigation
- There needs to be more care, maintenance, and cleaning up. It's brutal.
- There needs to be more patios and places to hangout without the risk of twisting an ankle
- There needs to be more protection to natural habitats and the species that live there. People don't need access to everything in our river valleys
- There should be an increase in nature in the valleys and edges along valleys. There should be continuity which means adding public property and restoring the habitat.
- There should be more access.
- There should be more culture and less building and development along the rivers and creeks
- There should be more done to preserve a clean, functioning, healthy river system. Less garbage and vandalism.
- there should be more protection from flooding through rocks, barriers, dense shrubs. there should be better access through paved pathways for walking, biking and recreation. there should be better public bathrooms for recreation users.
- There should be more protection of the entire valley, less building there
- There should be more public access and less development
- There should be more recreational access and less housing and offices on the river. Building more flood mitigation only gives a false sense of security and a very high fiscal price. Eventually the flood mitigation will fail.
- There should be more space allowed for those themes, including reclaiming some areas from development.
- There should be more space for culture, recreation, and development that supports busy use of the riverfront areas. When density is an option, build out plazas and interactive design elements for Calgarians to access the water directly. Commercial too.
- There should be no building of residential or businesses in river valleys
- There should be no buildings in these natural areas. People should be able to walk through and enjoy the natural setting but we need to be aware that animals and birds need a place to live. We need to change the way we build and not consider the wildlife
- There should be no further development allowed along the river banks. It needs to belong to everyone and mitigates costs from flooding.
- There should be no housing right on the river

- There shouldn't be additional development in the river valleys ensure access and equity.
- There's always so many people in the area but there isn't much programming in place once you're there.
- These spaces have to change to support city growth and changing environmental considerations. We need to include issues such as biodiversity, ecosystem requirements, climate change and community health into the plan
- These will be the most impacted as we experience growth and climate change. These need to be changed to reflect future uncertainty.
- They should not
- They should not, the city needs to do better to make the river valley a place to enjoy by all
- They should not.
- They should only change for flood mitigation
- They shouldn't, don't develop on the river.
- This question is dumb. Change in a positive or negative way? Why is flooding on here, can you control when flooding occurs? this?
- To change for the purpose to sell houses in the millions of dollars is elitism and classist
- To keep the river from flooding Calgary due to climate change
- To me Deerfoot should not be along the river and nor should the massive amounts of heavy industry east and south of the 17th Ave area.
- To push development out of the unmodified lands prone to flooding
- To rebalance what has been downgraded and threatened by development and bad planning and decisions.
- To support nature in an urban setting
- Too many cars are roads along the rivers
- Too many dogs
- Too much development has impacted flood resiliency. Need more nature to absorb potential flooding impact - less development.
- Too much development in the Flood plain. Too much out of control River rafting resulting in garage in the elbow river.
- Too much development right to the water; so few trees; why was the riverfront ripped up?

- Traffic congestion caused by walkers, runners and cyclists is dangerous in certain congested areas
- Transit, walking cycling to natural spaces.. High density housing rather than single family homes accessing the river so more people can walk
- trying to add more "art" or adding more infrastructure will impact the goals related to nature and recreation, and may add concerns related to flooding.
- Upgrade pathways, more garbage cans, ensure no flooding, don't build on them!
- Upstream mitigation of Bow River is crucial and a first priority. Eliminate off leash dog areas along the river, because the poo and dog disturbance interfere with picnicking and swimming and family activities .
- We could do more to re-wild and to add/enhance public space in some areas
- We could use some European-style use of the river-front areas. Some areas could use small neighbourhood businesses/cafes to change this (set back from the waterfront and pathways).
- We dont need more development
- We don't require restaurants and big parking lots taking over natural areas, look how commercialized Banff has become it is no longer the same area it has been ruined forever.
- We have bowness park but this cant be the peak of our recreational social development. Lets make people be in awe and lets be in awe ourselves of what is possible
- We need a large free city sandy beach!!
- We need a little bit more access but less buildings and housing. Stop eroding heheh valley.
- We need an approach that limits development. Employ natural flood mitigation and ensure any development has proper buffer zones. Prioritize biodiversity over business.
- we need an East-West pathway connection between the Bow River and the Elbow. CN Rail bridge/corridor from Lynnwood to Blackfoot Trail would be great!!
- we need flood mitigation upstream
- We need flood mitigation.
- We need improved park management that helps conserve nature, educate park users and maintain existing recreational uses.
- We need less buidling and development in the river valleys. We need to respect that these are flood plains and work with the ecosystem, not against it.

- We need less development, more return to natural spaces, better access to river, more celebration and respect for the river.
- We need more access to walk and enjoy within nature.
- We need more investment in protecting the natural areas. We need far less building and development in the river valleys. Flood control is good.
- We need more nature., more culture & rec, less development and better flooding mitigation.
- We need more places to play, enjoy the natural river, get into the river for fishing, and to enjoying riverside dining and shopping.
- We need to be purposeful in the areas there are accessible to protect our environment while letting Calgarians enjoy it
- We need to change how we value these spaces and give them room to breathe rather than build on and around them. Giving people more access to these spaces from the surrounding communities gives people a better appreciation and connection to wild places.
- We need to change setbacks to discourage development and encourage flora and fauna.
- We need to change the way we think about these things AND how they relate to our river valleys.
- We need to clean up the rivers and the valleys. Keep out city street garbage that washes down the drains.
- We need to do as much as we can to control flooding
- We need to do more for recreation: more water fountains are needed! Also accept the need to work on flood mitigation.
- We need to do whatever we can to prevent another loss of property and infrastructure from flooding.
- we need to enhance and restore that natural environment in our river valleys and we need to decrease the amount of development occurring in our river valleys.
- We need to get a handle on the coyotes and bobcats in the city, not just pathways. Small dogs are constantly at risk even on a leash or in our own yards. We need natural areas and wetlands for our avian friends
- We need to have more First Nations and Metis, and Urban Indigenous peoples represented in river public spaces, in water resource management decision making. Building and dev: more permeable landscaping, less building in flood risk areas

- We need to improve the natural space along our river valleys and expand the policies to include both west and north Nose Creek valleys. Development needs to be pushed further back with greater set-backs, we need to treat the rivers as recreation assets
- We need to increase our renaturalizing of these areas, stop developing them, and show people how to recreate with nature. I also think we can celebrate Indigenous culture while doing so. Flooding can be prevented by restoring riparian zones/stop channelin
- We need to keep & add natural area where available - impossible to reclaim once developed. Lessen amount of building & development unless creating public parks with picnic tables, washrooms & outdoor activies (ie increase recreation and access)
- We need to keep parks along the river natural for wildlife. No dog parks on river. Bowmont and sandy beach previous to dog parks were lovely parks with natural elements and recreational opportunities for humans. Now these parks are overrun with dogs
- We need to make the river valley and even more natural space, with MORE nature, less building & development, our current culture of developing in the river valley needs to change to make this happen. And lastly the river needs the room to allow flooding.
- We need to make these areas better. The valleys are the signature of the city. I wouldn't imagine Calgary without a rivers
- We need to protect and enhance our understanding of ecology and history. We need to provide thoughtful access to all people so they can enjoy and feel an attachment to the river valleys.
- We need to protect river valleys from development. They should remain in as natural a state as possible to protect native flora and fauna. They must also be conserved for all people, not privatized.
- We need to protect what nature we have left, and restore where it has been lost. We need to stop building in the river valley.
- We need to pull back built environment from the rivers, and develop more parkland. Let the river roam.
- We need to re-naturalize old industrial or developed areas in the river valleys. I would remove Deerfoot Trail if possible.
- We need to stop approving development in flood plains.
- We need to stop developing on important ecological areas.
- We need to stop development along riverine corridors. Period! These landscapes belong to all Calgarians, not the elite who can afford riverfront property. We need to keep them accessible for all, and rethink development in floodplains (none!).

- We need to take more care of the river, while encouraging positive relationship as we play and live around her
- We should amplify these areas
- We should be protecting Nose Creek and the valley and improving recreational access and recognizing the cultural significance of the area and reducing building and development
- We should change to less river developments
- We should continue to expand and develop river valley parks/preserve areas for wildlife
- We should limit/cut back on development and increase natural spaces through the valleys
- We should not allow any development or home building
- We should round up drug users, homeless squatters and violent criminals. We have stopped cycling to St. Patrick's Island and Prince's Island with our 8 and 4 year old because we have to run a gauntlet of drug users along the bike path, or navigate shelter
- We should work to reduce concrete barriers along river valleys and renaturalize shorelines, even while maintaining active transportation corridors.
- Well change is a better option that stay the same as I'm not sure what I'm agreeing to by clicking change or stay the same. That depends what the city has already decided no? Trick question.
- were destroying our fisheries and habitats along our rivers because of our greed to want
- When I say change, I mean continue to improve in these areas.
- Where buildings already exist they should be maximized to provide cultural and business locations I.e. cafes and bars with patios
- While prioritizing nature, I see no reason not to add pathways or make it easier/more enjoyable to access the valley.
- Wish there were more restaurants nearby (along all sections of river valley) to maintain energy levels across all areas of the city. Some areas do likely need more flooding mitigation.
- Worry about easy public access when housing is built adjacent to the rivers.
- Would be nicer to see resteraunts by the river
- Would like improvements to protect against flooding
- Would like there to be more river valley access points (actually getting onto the path), more development of cafes and restaurants/meeting places along the river

- Would like to see habitat enhancements, more arts/culture (sculpture, entertainment, commerce can be culture), more recreation (pathway twinning, more connections, more 'non-green' public spaces), and more development (cafes and nice bits of city life).
- Would like to see more of the river valley area set aside as conservation/recreation space.
- Wouldn't like to see more restrictions ie. Sandy Beach Park

What is your favourite spot in Calgary's river valleys? Why?

Most common reasons a place or areas was a favourite are:

1. spots that feel like an escape, that are peaceful and have natural beauty
2. the pathway network and areas for walking and cycling
3. the rivers themselves or beside them, for water activities and fishing
4. wild areas and places for seeing with wildlife
5. places that are nearby respondents' home or work, part of everyday routines

Verbatim comments:

- Areas that have been maintained naturally with the recognition that all species have the right and ability to coexist.
- Pathway system.
- Pathway along the Elbow river, and the river walk along the Bow River.
- 9th Ave & ther river meeting btwn Bow & Elbow
- A spot where no one else is. Which is hard to find. City people need nature and open space, yet when you go looking for it, you have to leave Calgary to find it. Fav place is Elbow River because the Bow is mostly inaccessible.
- Across from Stanley park.. raw, fewer rules. Also Southland dog park, where dogs can be dogs
- all
- All along the bow - I bike and walk the paths in many different areas along the boy and enjoy them a lot.
- all along the Bow river. it is very beautiful and serene when the homeless camps are not factored in.
- All along the Bow River. It is exceptional
- All along the bow until the homeless moved in. Not safe

- All around the footbridges
- All of it
- All of it.
- All of it.
- All of the trails, and the quiet natural areas.
- all of them
- All of them!
- All of them.
- All of them. Great for fishing, picnics, walks etc.
- All spots
- all spots from the various banks.
- All the river spots along Bowness, Montgomery and Parkdale.
- All the places where it's peaceful
- All? Nose Creek/West Nose Creek pathway. Bow pathway. Elbow pathway. Fish Creek. Each has its unique character, with a different mix of nature and scenery. All are rejuvenating.
- Along Fish Creek areas. They have been left more natural, not so much building development.
- Along the Bow thru Fish creek PP
- Along the edges of Bowness and Silver Springs. It's close to home and has lots of great access points to sit in or by the river along with beautiful walking paths.
- Along the Elbow from Sandy Beach to downtown - nice pathway along quiet residential areas, nice parks, and brings you into interesting spots downtown
- Along the elbow river from the reservoir to Stanley Park. I enjoy riding my bicycle along that section
- along the river itself. always a good time to visit to see the birds and enjoy a moment outside
- Angels, Bow valley ranch. These are the destinations that get me out on a weekend. We need more than just picnics.
- Any of the parks right along the river, where the trees meet the water. It's cool, relaxing and refreshing

- Any spot along the river with off leash dog areas are great places to relax and walk around after work.
- Anyplace where I can walk in shade in summer without having to listen for bike bells
- Anywhere along the Bow River. Fish Creek Park Bowness, Eau Claire, Inglewood, etc.
- Anywhere along the river because it's soothing and beautiful and cool to see all the wildlife and nature
- Anywhere from Pearce Estates to Edworthy Park. Each section has its own vibe.
- Anywhere I can go for a peaceful walk.
- Anywhere in Fish Creek Park - there are outhouses in most parking lots, great trails and paths to follow and there's always some aspect of nature you don't get to see in the rest of the city (muskrats, beavers, eagles, deer, variety of waterfowl)
- Anywhere it doesn't feel like the city. Everyone needs a break sometimes.
- Anywhere natural
- Anywhere that I feel connected to the land and its inhabitants
- Anywhere where I can access the river. It sucks that there are parts that are not accessible due to property
- Area below Glenmore dam. It's a stunning vista.
- Area near Crowchild bridge south side--natural space, secluded and quiet
- Around St Patrick's island to the confluence because they have thoughtful, nature-friendly public spaces
- Baker Park and the south side of the river at Edworthy. Usually less noise and can just stop and enjoy the river and nature.
- Baker Park NW
- Baker park. I can play a round of disc golf at the course and then float down the river on my paddleboard after.
- Baker Park/Bowness Park. We walk this loop every week all year to enjoy nature, and connecting with fellow Calgarians.
- Bear's Paw Dam area was fantastic. It was undeveloped and allowed those of use who like walking on the ground to enjoy the space. The undeveloped state of the park filtered out those who prefer pavement.
- Beaver dam flats. It is full of wildlife, very quiet and undeveloped.



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- Bebo grove
- Bebo Grove - all the trees
- Bebo Grove in Fish Creek Provincial Park because in spots it is almost feels like one has left the city altogether.
- Because I love Water.
- Being able to ride 6 km along the Bow to work!
- Being able to run for long distances along a single pathway is important
- below the dam because it is not commercialized and developed
- Bicycle/ walking paths and natural areas like Bowmont & Fish Creek
- Bicycling
- Bike paths, as they provide primary method to get to work.
- Bike pathways, allow for a pleasant and safe way to move through the city
- Bird sanctuary & river pathways. Makes you feel part of nature.
- Both Griffith Woods and Weaselhead are up there! Just so peaceful and so much amazing wildlife!
- bottom of glenmore dam. the dogs and swimming
- Bow bike paths past inglewood, most wild
- Bow River anywhere
- Bow river by princes island park. It is close to home and I spend so much time there!
- Bow River Fish Creek East. Natural state, no traffic noise or development
- Bow River pathway south side of river, west of Crowchild Trail - minimal development linked by Quarry Road Trail
- Bow River pathway.
- Bow River Pathways, I love to run including the trails especially the unpaved paths like quarry and christmas tree.
- Bow river through downtown.
- Bow River. It is a true river
- Bowmont - because it's near, I know it best, the river is lively there, floods and recedes, lots of natural space, wildlife

- Bowmont- art, natural and recreational all in one.
- Bowmont- diverse walking trails, Saskatoon berries to eat, and spots where it's safe to swim.
- Bowmont natural area
- Bowmont natural area because it's like being in the wilderness right inside the city.
- Bowmont natural area, the care for sensitive ecosystems, rehabilitation of previously de-naturalized spaces, and the invitation through pathways to enjoy with respect are good things
- Bowmont Natural Environment Preserve. I love seeing boaters, pedestrians, cyclists, and dog walkers all converge in one area.
- Bowmont park
- Bowmont Park
- Bowmont Park
- Bowmont Park - It's wild, it's beautiful, and it's easily accessible river access from my home.
- Bowmont Park & Dale Hodges Parks. Birding, wildflowers, views.
- Bowmont Park a great natural environment with excellent recreational opportunities.
- Bowmont park and Shouldice park. Lots of natural woodlands. Good for walking.
- Bowmont Park because of the beautiful views.
- Bowmont Park for mountain biking and hiking
- Bowmont Park west in Bowness. Wonderful sense of community there and the "regulars" look after the river banks there by picking up trash and broken bottles etc.
- Bowmont Park! Amazing trails, nature and views. It's my favourite park.
- Bowmont Park, downtown by St Patrick's Island
- Bowmont park, it has everything my family needs and is so expansive and wild, it's such a treat to have this amazing, natural playground right in our backyard.
- Bowmont park, it's beautiful and natural
- Bowmont park, it's close to my house and I spent lots of time there as a child
- Bowmont park, or spots in Fish Creek PP. They are natural looking with native vegetation and wildlife.
- Bowmont park. Its relatively secluded and comparatively undeveloped.

- Bowmont Park. Clean, easy access, walkable.
- Bowmont park. Large naturalized areas in the city are unique to Calgary and almost every other North American city. Looking into the future where natural areas are increasingly compromised these areas will continue to increase in city value.
- Bowmont part. There is shade from trees, water access and wildlife
- Bowmont. I love to ride my mountain bike through the trails there while enjoying the views of the river
- Bowmont/Bowness/Baker parks. An oasis for nature.
- Bowmont: I walk there daily but am always surprised by the animals and plants I see.
- Bowmount area is beautiful with some off limits areas for wildlife. The springs are magical.
- Bownesd
- Bowness
- Bowness
- Bowness
- Bowness - twin bridges area and near bow crescent. It's diverse with lots of spots to enjoy among people or on your own. The setting is stunning with an abundance of wildlife -land interesting geology
- Bowness and Baker Park. It's so relaxing and beautiful.
- Bowness and Beaumont and adjacent areas. Lots of natural spaces with good historical recreation development.
- Bowness and Bowmont park. I love the Douglas fir along bowness park and the nature preserve in Bowmont
- Bowness due to its remoteness and peaceful private river front areas, not industrialized like the downtown
- Bowness- great public gathering! And assortment of amenities
- Bowness lagoon, close to home
- Bowness park
- Bowness park
- Bowness Park - river access, good picnics, canoes, dog walks, bike paths
- Bowness Park and St Patrick's Playground. The trails and open spaces are amazing

- Bowness park, just looks at all the cultures come together, smell the different ethnic barbecue's and hear the children's laughter
- Bowness Park. The river flows along the edge of the park and it feels like you are not in the city, as it is left fairly natural.
- Bowness park. I love the amenities, direct access to the river, and greenspace in the park
- Bowness Park. It's preserved the culture of the old townsite, and is a family-friendly, low-or-no-cost space for all Calgarians to enjoy.
- Bowness park. More space so even in busier days, it doesn't feel so crowded.
- Bowness room for everyone
- Bowness, it's naturally beautiful and the banks allow you to swim/relax like a beach
- Bowness, it's the closest.
- Bowness/Baker for liveliness, fish creek/weaselhead flats for quiet nature.
- Bowness/Baker park loop. The pathways are wide and it's nice to see lots of people enjoying the campsites.
- Britannia slopes. Most natural. Sandy beach has been manipulated.
- Byprinces park - like the feeling of being in an island
- By train trestle in silver springs.
- Canoeing the Bow. There are a lot of spots where for a moment you feel like you're not in a city; parts of downtown are nice from the water as well.
- Can't decide
- Carburn park
- Carburn Park
- Carburn Park — lots of natural areas but also gentle recreation.
- Carburn Park and Fish Creek park. Lots of nature and walking nearby
- Carburn park has great walking, cycling, and paddling and is easily accessed.
- Carburn park. Great nature and wildlife.
- Carburn park. It's my home.
- Chaparral Valley and Cranston River stone. Often not overpopulated. Lots of wildlife. Love to spend time with family and dogs here

- Confluence. Fish creek Provincial Park
- Corridor on south side from Edworthy to Crowchild
- Cranston, fishing is fantastic
- Cranston. It's the community we live in and we access the river valleys on a regular basis when not working. We use the pathways for walking, jogging and biking.
- Cycling and walking pathways - the best place to recreate
- cycling paths, I like being able to access a large stretch of nature and outdoor space within the city
- Dale Hedges Oark, Baker Park, Bowness Oark- all very walkable, love being able to walk alongside the river and enjoy nature and views. It heals my soul and makes every day brighter. It also provides me with easy access for fitness.
- dale Hodges because its the closest access by bike with the least hill to ride back up. haha.
- Dale Hodges park because of the variety and abundance of wild animals not seen in other parts of the river valley
- Dale Hodges park where the water is cleaned naturally
- Dale Hodges park, beautiful natural area that doubled as flood mitigation
- Dale Hodges park. A person can stroll on the walkways through the water.
- Dale Hodges Park. Lots of areas to explore. Trails to walk and bike.
- deep end for swimming around the bend from Stanley Park.
- Deep southeast where development hasnt begun
- Difficult Question. I love the bikepaths along the Bow in the NW. I love the wildness of sections of Fish Creek and Griffiths Woods on the Elbow. And I would love to see Nose Creek get a little love from Calgarians.
- Discovery ridge small river area feels like a private oasis. Never anyone there enjoying the river.
- Don't have just one
- Doug fir trail. It's an example of preservation.
- Douglas fir Trail. Beautiful and not overcrowded.
- Douglas fir trail. Because it has really old trees.
- Down river from the Glenmore dam. It is close to my house and it feels like you are not in a city but in a natural area

- Downtown
- Downtown area. It's a popular spot that has the capacity to handle the many citizen using it for light walking, people watching, recreation and fitness. Light poles also make it safer to use at night.
- Downtown east village. This is where I find the confluence of art, culture and nature coming together in the best way. The numbers of people visiting speak to its values.
- Downtown is very nice as usable space , policemen's flat is nice natural area. Carburn park is nice natural improved area
- Due to proximity, I spend the most time around Eau Claire. I really enjoy the connective pathways between Kensington and the downtown. It offers nice spots to relax in the shade and feels safe.
- East of downtown to the Zoo
- East side of Bow River in McKenzie Lake and Douglasdale, where the main paths are on the ridge with view of mountains and Fish Creek park
- East village
- East village and St Patrick's park. There are no cars. It is accessible, fun and safe.
- East village area. A lot of variety in activities. Good infrastructure for recreation.
- East village is my favorite, restaurant with views (although way too expensive) but there's also great spots along the river for walking and enjoying the views, there's art all over; biking paths. Interesting architecture and bridges.
- East village, mix of restaurants, nature and recreation.
- East village, the renovation, the bridges, the connection with other parts make them a enjoyable place
- East village/Inglewood no cars, interesting benches and art, connects the elbow and the bow
- East village/zoo
- Eau Claire area as wheelchair accessible
- Eau Claire because it plays host to many businesses, modern architecture and developed pedestrian pathways all of which play a key role in making the Eau Claire district a popular one.
- Eau Claire walkways. I hope LRT expansion will not be to the detriment of those walkways.
- Eau Claire, lots of culture, activity, and nice mix of urban and nature

- Eau Claire, peace bridge, great paths in good condition.
- Eauclair/downtown and sue Higgins. Great access to the river to swim or relax on its banks.
- Edgemont Park and Shouldice parks for river access for dogs and myself.
- Edworthy - it is close. Love pathway going by harvie and down through bird sanctuary. Love when I can be close to the running water
- Edworthy Park
- edworthy park - love the views from the Douglas fir trail and the wild setting for an inner city hike
- Edworthy park and downtown riverside because of the great bike and walking path. I would love to see this along Nose Creek where I live.
- Edworthy park and the Calgary Zoo. Access, human interface.
- Edworthy Park and Weaselhead Flats
- Edworthy Park river trail, confluence area. Lots of trees, grass.
- Edworthy Park, along Memorial Drive. It feels natural and can be enjoyed by many.
- Edworthy Park, because one can easily access the river at many locations, with enough space to spread out from other groups.
- Edworthy park, like part of the mountains in the city
- Edworthy Park, Sandy Beach. Great spots to get down to the water to float or cool off and also great connections to bike and walking paths. Also the Douglas Fir Trail is the best!
- Edworthy park, shouldice park and river and playground, Douglas fir trail
- Edworthy park. It's close to my house, its nice and I have good memories.
- Edworthy Park. Definite nature feel to it - yet has amenities.
- Edworthy Park. Beautiful place.
- Edworthy Park. Natural space
- Edworthy, Fish Creek, still feel Natural
- Elbow access by Clearwater Park. Great place to take little kids.
- Elbow is great for summer enjoyment.
- Elbow Island Park because it feels like an escape from the bustling city.

- Elbow Island Park because of the art and the small gravel trails, and Edworthy park because of how many people use it for exercise and community, near such a beautiful wide river.
- Elbow island park, secluded but close to downtown
- Elbow park- great for families year round
- Elbow river cycle path to Glenmore Reservoir
- Elbow River from Sandy Beach to downtown. Live in the area.
- Elbow river in Mission - I lived there for many years and enjoyed sitting along the banks (or in the water!) there
- Elbow River just past Stanley park is great for swimming
- Elbow river pathway & fish creek park area because it is largely accessible by the public, there's areas to play/gather/etc. And for the most part the areas surrounding the pathways are natural landscape
- Elbow River pathway, bow river pathway, rotary pathway
- Elbow River, it's walkable
- Engineered wetland /pond on east Prince's Island. Beautiful, peaceful, variety of birds, views, proximity to downtown and neighbourhoods
- Epworth Park because it is still mountain clear and no5 polluted and stinky as down by our water treatment plant.
- Fish Creek
- Fish creek
- Fish Creek
- Fish Creek
- Fish Creek (closest) and Carburn (water activities, washrooms, bird watching etc.)
- Fish Creek , the safest place for a outdoor stroll
- Fish creek / Bow River area, this is a spot where you can leave the noise and caos of city life behind and see an intact ecosystem.
- Fish creek and bow river around the extensive green area near deer ridge
- Fish creek and bow river. The ability to walk and enjoy a bit of wildlife.
- Fish Creek because it is surrounded by natural areas and wildlife

- Fish creek has a good mix of nature and recreation, but it would be great to see more areas where nature comes first and still other areas where people come first. Use the rivers to connect more neighbourhoods, helping walkability and biodiversity.
- Fish Creek park
- Fish creek park
- Fish creek park
- Fish Creek Park
- Fish Creek Park - it is a space that is generally accessible to calgarians to no cost and has prioritized the natural environment.
- Fish creek park - a lovely place to go for a walk and watch wildlife close to my neighbour hood
- Fish Creek Park and Bow River trail (accessible from downtown, great way to get around)
- Fish creek park and bow valley ranche resturant let them stay forever.
- Fish Creek Park area because of easy access to it.
- Fish Creek park because it is very natural.
- Fish creek park because of it's natural state.
- Fish creek park for walking and seeing wild life birds
- Fish Creek Park has always been a favourite, having grown up in South Calgary. But I'm becoming more familiar with other areas and have really come to love the Elbow Valley.
- Fish Creek park is number 1 for me. Number 2 is the path all along Nose Hill Creek.
- Fish creek park near wolf willow. It is a serene place to enjoy a walk and watch wildlife frolick
- Fish Creek Park- size and corridor length
- Fish creek park, because it is such a big park with different kinds of areas and a variety of wildlife. Also, variety of roads, paths, picnic sites and wild areas.
- Fish Creek Park, fish creek and bow river.
- fish creek park, it's a quiet area of the city to be near the water
- Fish Creek Park, the wildlife!
- Fish Creek Park. Areas are managed appropriately, less people.
- Fish creek park. Big, lots of nature, close to where i live.

- Fish creek park. It is still very much untouched by buildings and is expansive enough that it accommodates all groups of people.
- Fish creek park. Lots of open space
- Fish Creek Park. No building!
- Fish creek park. The parks utilize the river beauty and nature as the attraction. As well as "The River Cafe" in princess island part. It is a great example of using the river in a commercial setting but everything about it is using the river as focal po
- Fish creek park. There is next to no development in the riparian habitat, and it is protected from future development.
- Fish Creek Park; because it feels like you are outside of the city.
- Fish Creek Provincial Park.
- Fish Creek Provincial Park. Naturalized, yet accessible for biking, walking. Needs better Kayak launch points.
- Fish Creek- proximity to my home
- Fish creek, because there are no home or commercial industry on the banks.
- Fish Creek, easy access, large area, diverse, good parking.
- Fish Creek, Elbow thru the city, Nose creek
- Fish creek, I live close , love to walk and sit and watch the water
- Fish creek, Parkdale. Great access, beautiful scenery. Connection to wildlife and our world in its natural state
- Fish Creek, the peace, the proximity to nature, the natural beauty
- Fish Creek, the variety of micro landscapes along the valley and slopes
- Fish creek. You can escape and you're in the r city.
- Fish creek. Feels real.
- Floating on the river - it is soothing
- Fly fishing, floating the Bow River. A way to escape to pressure of daily life.
- Get the [removed] off the river banks and back in jail
- Glenmore Park Weaselhead

- Glenmore Park. It is forested, has a 'lake', a manicured garden, biking, hiking and jogging opportunities, secluded areas and a spectacular unobstructed view of the mountains. Also, my husband and I affirmed our commitment to one another there.
- Glenmore reservoir and Stanley park. I love biking the reservoir and I have fond childhood memories of the ball diamond at Stanley park.
- Glenmore reservoir! So beautiful and great for recreation
- Glenmore reservoir, weaselhead
- Griffith and Edworthy. Just the overall natural beauty.
- Griffith Woods - because it is unspoilt and near me.
- Griffith woods, for it's natural beauty although it would be better if the houses were further away from the river.
- griffiths woods
- Griffiths woods, Stanley Park, Bowness Park, prince's Island - areas that feel like mini forests
- Hansen Ranch Nose Creek ponds because I see blue herons regularly and it's so accessible.
- Hard to choose one! Bowness Park in the fall is lovely. It always feels a little bit wild. Being near any water is always good. Seeing wildlife & natural trees/vegetation. It brings peace.
- Hard to choose. Each river and creek has it's own special character and I love them all.
- Hard to pick a favorite, Since I live nearby I'll say West of Edworthy under Sarcee trail, beautiful low traffic natural area that can connect to Paskopoo slopes, currently need to trespass on railway land to access, but is not unsafe to do so.
- Hard to say, but like the pathways
- Harvey passage
- Harvey passage downstream through the City. Anywhere there is reasonable access for flyfishing, walking and enjoying the diversity of wildlife.
- Harvey passage. Created so people can enjoy nature and it's recreational activities
- Harvey passage. Lots of room for BBQ and the kids can play in the river.
- Harvie passage
- Harvie passage and fish Creek park
- Harvie Passage for kayaking

- Harvie Passage for the white water and the float south to fish creek park. There is a lot of wildlife and scenery to be seen down south of Harvie Passage
- Harvie Passage right channel is an incredible recreational teaching venue for White water paddle sports. Currently its being overrun with non educated floaters who do not understand the dangers and leave the area a mess with garbage.
- Harvie passage, because it's a fun and free Waterpark for all sorts of people and pets. Great day trip, connected to many pathways, close to Inglewood shops
- Harvie Passage. It is a great public gathering space, there is no development close by, it shows what river recreation in Calgary could be if we invested in it properly.
- Harvie Passage. It is a mix of sport, recreation, meeting of cultures and the natural environment.
- I couldn't possibly pick one. Shannon Terrace showcases it beautifully - I like to walk there with my dog. The Bow from anywhere on the ridge is breathtaking. The confluence for its importance to the first people's of this land (my ancestors included)
- I don't have a favourite spot. I try to visit all areas I can reach by foot.
- I don't have just one. Have lived here my whole life and been to many amazing spots along the river. I especially like spots where I can't see houses or buildings
- I don't have one anymore, too crowded, BBQ, and picnic parks too crowded - need more options. No parking and over run with homeless and drug addicts, bathrooms are minimal and filthy
- I enjoy all of the natural areas in Calgary, I want to see nature, hear nature and feel peace and quiet.
- I enjoy the Elbow river pathway, as it's a nice walk near where I live. I feel like I can escape the city.
- I enjoy the quiet spaces along the river valleys - along the weaselhead, where it's not adjacent to development. I enjoy the quiet solitude, listening to the sounds of the river.
- I have so many, but Nose Creek is my favourite. It is close to home, has a rich Indigenous history, and we always see wildlife. I wish the creek was valued by the city and maintained accordingly.
- I like all areas in the river valley for its natural beauty
- I just love the interconnected pathways
- I like bowmont park and sale Hodges lots of biodiversity

- I like Bowmont park, I live close by. I feel the development of Dale Hodges Park has improved environmental issues (cleaning water before it enters the river) at the same time enhancing wildlife through the created wetland
- I like bowness Park but hardly ever go there as it's super far. I like that there are kids activities, restaurant nice playground.
- I like Harvey passage fun to watch the kayaks and activity also the paths are fun to ride your bike along both for pleasure and commuting
- I like running along the pathways from Telus towards fish creek park - I also run west towards Shouldice Park. I appreciate long pathways without a need to stop at traffic lights continuously.
- I like the bike paths
- I like the public parks (ex Lindsay and Stanley Park) because theyre great gathering spots, but I also love the more rugged, natural areas between parks (better opportunity for wildlife viewing)
- I like the river surfing spot. This is very unique and is relaxing and entertaining to watch even for non-surfers and visitors.
- I live along Nose Creek and when I walk south along the bike path I get to see and hear birds even with development. Walking north to Confluence Park also offers a chance to see other wildlife and enjoy a more natural prairie landscape
- I live in the NW and spend a lot of time in Bowness Park watching the waterfowl and also enjoy rafting and canoeing from here.
- I love all aspects of the valley. The Douglas fir trail
- I love carburn park and Lynnwood ridge, wild accessible natural areas
- I love Fish Creek Park's big Cottonwoods and grassy fields by the river.
- I love floating the bakers park to zoo section.
- I love running between the Peace Bridge and the East Village.
- I love the bike pathway from St Patricks island south along the bow - the trees and the river are lovely. I also love the weaselhead area on the Elbow - so natural and beautiful. And Edworthy park. each was my favorite when I lived nearby!
- I love the little desire paths that weave between the river and pathway system
- I love the natural areas along the Bow where you can watch the birds, sit in nature, fish.

- I love the stretches of pathway, on both sides of the Bow, between Crowchild and Shouldice. They're a nice mix of quiet, single track footpaths close to the water plus the paved bike paths higher up the banks.
- I love the the Douglas fir trail and pathways close by because they are an oasis in the middle of the city without lots of people.
- I love watching Nose Creek bend its way down to the Bow. A little demonstration of the tenacity of nature in the face of all the roads and industrial development surrounding it.
- I really like the whole Bow River pathway because you can get to all the cool spots! Bowness, Kensington, downtown, Inglewood - it's easy!
- I think having access to Hull's Woods during the pandemic basically saved my mental health - and that blue/green space is essential to Calgary's future
- I use many parks - Edworthy, Sany beach, Sue Higgins, Fish Creek. And also the rivers themselves SUP
- I used to love to run along the Bow, but none of it looks decent anymore. Dry, dirty, ugly, garbage-laden. Pathetic
- I went #birdwatching at Beaverdam Flats and it was great. It is too long to get to by bus, so I haven't been back.
- I will never say, once that is known, it would get developed
- If it has trees and sounds of the water and birds. That's my favorite spot.
- In a raft, floating down the river!
- Inglewood bird sanctuary - cool design and interaction with nature.
- Inglewood and the bird sanctuary.
- Inglewood Bird Sanctuary - birds, quiet
- Inglewood Bird Sanctuary - central and good spot to walk and appreciate nature.
- Inglewood Bird Sanctuary - it's nice to see an area totally protected. Couldn't the same be done for Ricardo Ranch and the Great Blue Herron Rookery? Also Fish Creek Provincial Park - would love to see this area extended with less development
- Inglewood Bird Sanctuary - it's a wonderful space for people of all ages, relatively accessible, and a safehaven for wildlife (especially migratory species that make annual "stops" there)
- Inglewood bird sanctuary and fish creek provincial park, because ample wildlife and birds, and great bike paths and walking ares

- Inglewood Bird Sanctuary: I really appreciate a dedicated space created for wildlife.
- It is all good. World class. But must be protected and enhanced.
- It was Graves Landing, until all the homeless people took over and made it [removed]
- Just past the enmax substation ad the bow goes under Deerfoot trail. The forest, width of the bow, calmness of the water helps me to relax, unwind and enjoy nature.
- Lately the fish hatchery, but we like to try new places, would like more.
- Lawrey Gardens Park due to the naturalized area with minimal development.
- Lawry gardens Park and the Douglas fir trails. They are well preserved, there's wildlife, and it's a Kaffe enough area that you don't have to encounter to many people
- Lindsay Park area
- Lindsay Park because I liver near there and enjoy it almost every day. Many others do as well, especially since the pandemic.
- Lindsay park, it's quiet and natural
- Lindsey Park and keeping the communities around it nice and natural without over development.
- LOL, secret :)
- Looking west from Britannia escarpment and appreciating Eric Harvie's land donation. Weaselhead..all views...indigenous history
- Lots of "favourites." Love recreational, family and dog activities at Sandy Beach, downtown is terrific for mid-workday walks or running, but nothing beats running the Douglas Fir Trail and hills East of Edworthy, great bike riding around Pearce Estate...
- Love biking along the river pathways
- Love riding from Eau Claire to Inglewood. Would shop more if there were bike lanes and secure parking in the small communities.
- Love the Harvie Passage - it's a great place to run
- Lowery Gardens and Edworthy Park because they are more natural areas. Pathways from the zoo to 10 St NW to
- Mallard point in fishcreek- lush and not too busy, lots of paths. Policeman's flats area - quiet, open, edge of the city and not busy. Less noise pollution
- Many spots several miles down & up stream from Fish Creek park.

- Memorial drive. It is a hub for bike commuting for myself and it feels like you are in nature as well which is great
- Mine is the hill in Parkhill overlooking downtown and Rideau and Roxboro
- Mission and the elbow
- Mission area, sandy beach. I jog there
- My favorite but is riding from the zoo to fish Creek and return. It is mostly treelined and beside the river.
- My favourite spot is a tie between Princes Island for the recreational/dining opportunities and Edworthy Park for the family recreation opportunities. Griffith Woods is up there too.
- My front yard from Eau Claire mall to peace bridge
- My house :)
- My private back yard which backs onto the Bow River. This is my home.
- natural areas - a place of peace and uniqueness
- Natural areas in Lindsay park and mission, surrounding the elbow River. it's quiet and often not very busy.
- Natural beaches and rugged paths - get feeling of being outside the city.
- Near Mallard Point and Burnside overlooking the Bow River in Fish Creek Provincial Park. It's a peaceful spot to walk, bike, enjoy watching nature and escape and recharge from the noise of the city.
- Near the Bow river.
- Near the Peace Bridge. Access to both sides of river, Eau Claire and the island.
- Near the reservoir for off leash dog areas and swimming;
- no favorite spot
- No favourite spot. An aggregation of it all.
- No more, Nenshi & Gondek created problems with addicts and homeless, now our beautiful river fronts are dirty, including human waste and drug needles
- No one particular area, all are very important to us.
- None ...all are wonderful!
- North side of Harvey passage. The cormorants, the waves lack of people.
- Nose Creek

- NOSE Creek - connect this space with Airdrie to create a multi-use park.
- Nose Creek because it's close to home and very natural.
- Nose Creek is small and full of wild life and not crowded. I also think the down town core is lovely.
- Nose Creek pathways and Elbow River wading areas
- Nose Creek Pathways. Even though along Deerfoot Trail, it's a nice gentle pathway with lots of grass and natural areas.
- Nose Creek through Confederation Park, above and below ground, with adjacent wetlands. Natural.
- Nose Creek valley as there are many rare bird species that call this their home during migration. Numerous other animals call this home including a rare Pronghorn Antelope.
- Nose Creek Valley between 96th Ave and Airdrie
- Nose Creek Valley. It's the only Green Space we have in North Central Valley.
- Nose Creek! It's largely untouched in the NE and feels like you are outside the city. I visit it every day and it's amazing to see the transformation through the seasons.
- Nose Creek, it's all we have that's "nature" way north. Not a river, close as I can get.
- Nose creek. It's close to my home, mostly untouched, quiet, natural.
- Not telling. Jk. Public spaces: St Patrick's Island is nice. Princes Island as well. Pearce Estate Park is cool too. For inner city spots that are developed.
- NW
- on the Bow River, just after Shouldice Park - you barely know you're in a city
- On the Parkhill ridge overlooking the elbow and downtown
- Paddling the Elbow in Spring, the Bow in Summer - the whole thing in otherwords.
- Park bench west of 10th street along Memorial. You see everything, everyone, it is relaxing destressing to hear the birds over the traffic noise
- Path systems with river access
- pathways along bow and elbow - walk/bike/activities are fun and super nice
- Pathways along bow river.
- pathways along elbow (Sandy Beach to Fort Calgary) and Bow (Bowness to Fish Creek) for recreation

- Pathways along river in Edworthy and Princes Island park
- Pathways around Glenmore Reservoir and along Elbow River, Good mix of nature and living
- Pearce estate park due to the nature, paths, and place to bring family.
- Pearce Estate Park or Edworthy Park. Beautiful trees, well maintained bike paths.
- Policemans. Great place to fish
- Pre Stoney Trail, it was the Weaselhead. Now it's Mallard Point and the areas facing Poplar Island.
- Prince Edward Island park and Rideau park. Great place to relax or go for a run
- Prince's island park
- Prince's Island park.
- Prince's Island Park. It's a beautiful park and a great place to sit by the river.
- Prince's island, lots of green-space and well looked after. A good balance of art and nature
- Prince's island, stunning natural area and developed/planted parks/walkways. Easy to get to (adjacent parking for those that live further out of the city centre).
- Prince's Island: used by social diversity people.
- Princes Island - gorgeous for running, picnicking, waking, central for meeting people.
- Princes Island and East Village. Love being so close to the river
- Princes island park
- Princes Island Park and surrounding area, and river park space near Fort Calgary.
- Prince's Island Park, because it's close to where we live.
- Prince's Island Park, nice break spot in the river valley, lots of cultural activities and access to picnic tables, playgrounds and bathrooms
- Prince's Island Park.
- Princes island park. I love being able to walk by the river and see wildlife but also step back into the city hustle
- Princes island. I walk through it everyday on my commute to work. A well designed and used space. Lots of open space and lovely flowers
- Prince's Island. It is close to home.
- Princes Island/eau clair area near river

- Princess island
- Princess island - because it strikes a balance between nature and culture
- Princess island park or up by Edworthy. Both beautiful places where you can sit by the river bank in slower areas of water flow and enjoy a summer day.
- Princess park at night because it is so quiet and peaceful
- Probably the parks in the NW that straddle the Bow river valley, such as Dale Hodges or Baker. I also love to explore Fish Creek and Nose Creek
- Ricardo Ranch
- Ricardo Ranch, because it is not yet ruined by development
- Rideau park is very nice but unfortunately people there are smug and the atmosphere can be odd depending on which locals are around. Brings me back to the point about people who think they own the river.. they need to relax
- River Cafe quaint beautiful pathway love food is growing around restaurant No dogs on patio
- River confluences
- River park off leash. People need places to take their pets me everyone is happy when they are there.
- River Parks and walkways
- River pathway because of its high recreation value, accessibility to different areas of the city and connection to nature
- Riverbend Park as there are walking trails only away from the main paths and noise and bikes
- Riverdale park, Stanley Park, and anywhere on the Bow River. They're easy to access and even though there are lots of people you don't feel bothered
- Riverside dog park-great multi use space with amazing views.
- Riverstone, where I live, serene, 2nd is fowntown, 3rd carburn park, we need more carburn parks, especially in riverstone area
- Riverwalk along Bow River, and bridge crossings across the Elbow River, and little 'beaches' along the Elbow, i.e., at 26 AV SW and 2 ST SW
- Sandy beach
- Sandy Beach

- Sandy beach - it has a bit of everything.
- Sandy Beach - or Bowness Park area. Both because of the mix of recreation and nature. Sandy Beach is a little more off the beaten track making it feel more removed from the city. Bowness because of its easy accessibility.
- Sandy Beach - safe, trails, nature (trees and water), inner city but doesn't feel like you are in a city
- sandy beach because it is close to my home and a multi use area
- Sandy Beach park because it hasn't been tainted and destroyed for concrete pathways, and all old growth removed, like downtown parks.
- Sandy Beach park, it's a calm part of the Elbow, quiet and peaceful and perfect for swimming
- Sandy Beach, because it's a community gathering spot.
- Sandy Beach, St. George's Island, Stanley Park, Lindsay Park, Prince's Island/Eau Claire - Pathways, Nature, Recreation... Community
- Sandy Beach. Harvie Passage. Maple Ridge Golf Course (close). The reservoir. Heritage Park. Roxboro and Erlton Offleash Dog Park. All awesome.
- Sandy Beach: I grew up near here & still love it in spite of the heavy usage & the city reducing accessibility.
- Secret spots along the elbow upstream of the reservoir
- Secret wave, not telling
- Shady spots along the river where we can prop our bike, hang a hammock and read
- Shallow gravel to wade and let the puppy play
- shannon terrace area, i love the big coniferous trees, and carburn park for the big trees.
- Shouldice. I like the unofficial dog park, nice with trees and access to the river. People need to be responsible to pick up after dogs though.
- Silver Springs ridge - close to my house, quiet and beautiful
- Silver Springs waterfall
- Silver Springs, Fish Creek and Elbow Park and Bowness including the entire river valley of the Bow.
- So many beautiful areas, tough to pick.

- So many for so many reasons. Whether it be fishing, grandkids to a park, picnic, morning walk.
- So many great spots along Bow, Elbow, and Fish Creek. Impossible to choose. It's the interconnectedness that makes this river valley system so unique.
- Some of my favourite places are lawry gardens, Douglas fir trail, and Weaselhead, all because they are some of the most forested natural areas of the city rich in biodiversity and less accessible for human beings.
- Some of the larger natural areas along the rivers like Beaver Dam Flats, Edworthy, Ricardo Ranch area, Griffith Woods.
- South side of Bow River between Bowness park and Crowchild. Mostly natural areas.
- Spend time enjoying a walk, a picnic by the river or just a place to sit and relax.
- Spots where I can take my dog swimming
- St George island but parking is ridiculously expensive
- St Patrick's Island
- St Patrick's island park because it feels natural has more separation from traffic
- St Patrick's Island
- St Patricks island - recreation, public art, gathering places and urban wildlife in the heart of the city.
- St Patrick's Island, the only place people are encouraged to touch the water
- st Patricks island. Allows a safe place for my children to connect with the rivers
- St. George's Island area - good mixed use, convenient location
- St. Patrick Island & Elbow Island. Get close to the rivers & elbow island has low traffic
- St. Patrick Island Park because it's been designated well.
- St. Patrick's Island is a great blend of everything listed above with interpretive areas, recreation spaces, paved paths, and dirt paths.
- St. Patrick's Island. It is a peaceful, quiet, family-friendly place in the middle of the hustle and bustle of the city.
- St. Patrick's Island
- St. Patricks Island. Extremely well kept and maintained and has something to offer for everybody at all times of year.

- St. patricks island wetlands zone. Feels like i'm out of the city, lots of other species. Easy access. I know it's planned & designed.
- Stanley Park - enjoy biking to work along this path, walking in the evenings, watching beavers and other wildlife and birds
- Stanley park. Family summer spot for generations.
- Stanley Park. Great river access with a beautiful park.
- Stanley park. I live nearby
- Stanley Park. Swimming spot. Picnic spot. Free parking.
- Stanley Park; great combo of natural and human areas, passive and active recreation, water access, and part of a connected system. Would benefit from a cafe and trail/space upgrades.
- Sue Higgins park, I can bring the doggos, enjoy the water, and there's lots of space for wildlife.
- The ability to float down the river on a hot summer day. Its a relaxing fun way to see the whole city
- The area along downtown
- The area from 10th street past the weir
- the areas of the valley near neighbourhoods such as Cranston and Douglasdale are my favourites as they have a lot of open space for wildlife
- The areas with parks, seating, access points and amenities. These a wonderful places to spend the day.
- The bike path system, it allows people (and not vehicles) to access it.
- The bike paths west out of downtown. Limited development and accessibility for everyone
- The Bow by the Ranche- can view the water and birds and boats from a " beach"
- The bow river along memorial for biking because you can bike along a beautiful path and stop downtown for a beer on the way.
- The Bow River between the 14th Street bridge and St Patrick's Island. It is accessible from my house and no need to get in the car to go somewhere and be in nature.
- The Bow river overlooking Douglas Fir Trail because it looks magical
- The Bow River Pathway system and the Natural Areas around Bowmont Park/Silver Springs

- The bow river pathway system is wonderful as is the weaselhead. Fish Creek is the best but it's provincial.
- The Bow River Pathway, especially through Fish Creek Park and Pearce Estate Park.
- The Bow River. I'm a big Bow River user.
- The Bow River. It has been a significant part of my urban lifestyle for over 30 years.
- the bridges and paths at Silver spring island offleash dog park. the natural area and all the beaches. I hate that it is off leash for dogs. this must be changed. the dogs, their behaviour and poo,are a nuisance to families biking, sunbathin, swim, picnic
- The confluence (including Nose Creek/Bow confluence). I was born near here (at the General) and feel it is the heart of Calgary. It's where I feel quite at home, especially on St. Patrick's Island natural areas where I can sit and appreciate the beauty.
- The confluence. Great spot for swimming, sunny, nice views. Lots of people. Fun to be near downtown and still able to swim. Important historical location for Calgary.
- The connected pathways and areas with more natural spaces. Don't like going by peoples houses. Bow river east of fish creek is my favourite.
- The creek with pond area, it brings nature to life.
- The cycling/walking lanes around memorial drive. It feels great to stroll around while being so close to nature and so close to other amenities as well.
- The dip on the bike path before Chinatown. It's fast and that section of the path is one of my favorites to bike and feel immersed in my city.
- The east village and st. Patrick park is a beautiful blend of nature and infrastructure that has drawn people to the river and made it accessible to all
- The endless pathways, the paved bike paths, the more rustic foot trails.
- the entire bow river area - Fish Creek!!
- The entire river valley in fish creek park is amazing
- The hidden pockets of nature like confederation park
- The interconnected bike and pedestrian pathways that stretch throughout the city. An amazing investment for alternative transportation, promotes active living (which also benefits our healcare costs) and we get to enjoy the scenary without car stressors.
- The islands
- The Kensington river path. It's relaxing and has a good mix of nature and the city.

- The mission bridge park area is close to my heart because I grew up there. I can launch or pick up a paddle at that spot!
- The naturalized paths on Prince's Island. Or the Delta south of the peace bridge.
- The off leash dog park at River Park, along the elbow river. It's big enough to accommodate the visitors and a lovely place to enjoy with your dog.
- The old grow Douglas fir forest at Edworthy Park, Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, Fish Creek Park
- The one that human have no access to.
- The ones where nature is intact
- The parks such as Bowness, Edgeworthy, Bowmount, downtown river pathway system are all heavily used by my family.
- The paths. It's such a great system. You can bike or run or walk for days.
- The pathways and bike trails along the Bow are so beautiful
- The pathways for pedestrians
- The River itself, and the parks: Bowness, Edworthy, Prince's and St. Patrick
- The river itself. My partner and I are avid anglers and wildlife watchers. The river holds significant spiritual and emotional value to us.
- The river pathway by Lawrey Gardens Park. It's beautiful and peaceful!
- The river pathway east of edworthy on the south side of the river. It is a beautiful natural area not inundated with homeless camps.
- The river to the west of carbon park as it is still fairly quiet and can often see deer, coyotes, bald eagles etc.
- The rivers. Waterfalls. Natural nature is beautiful. Cities, business and construction ruin it for wildlife, nature and peaceful people.
- The rocky parts that jut into the river in Bowness park. They're nice to sit on and feel a little beachy.
- The Sandy Beach dog park for access to the water; bowmont park for walks along tye river & the wetlands
- The south end of bow from Anderson down but even in the past 20 years development and destroyed some previously wondrous areas .
- The southern sections on the bow where there is less people. Or fish creek due to its accessibility

- The stretch from Crowchild Bridge to East village because it is accessible, varied, and interesting.
- The stretch from Sandy beach to 25th street bridge
- the stretch on the west bank of the Bow, running north from 22X/Ring Road. The golf course is mostly shielded from the river, and Fish Creek Park on the other bank is low-traffic.
- the swimming hole at st patrics island is good.
- The view of downtown from about 19 St NW when kayaking in from the west. Unique vista.
- The Weaselhead and Elbow River. It takes you out of the city and into a place that you would expect would be an hour away. It is a special thing to have right in the middle of our city.
- The Weaselhead Park - a natural escape from a busy urban landscape. A place to exist in nature and enjoy wildlife viewing. Crucial for mental health and wellbeing.
- The Weaselhead, Fish Creek. Expansive, beautiful natural spaces with hiking trails and excellent wildlife habitat.
- The whole thing is beautiful, but the repurposed off-take channels at Bowness and Eau Claire are a nice indication of how beauty can still exist after we change the river dramatically.
- There are so many beautiful areas that are inaccessible as they are accessed by dogs off leash. This does not make for safe access for other residents and puts the wildlife at risk of being disturbed.
- This is a tough call! I love the elbow river to swim in. It's 4 blocks from my house, and I enjoy swimming against the currents in the summer. I also love to canoe the Bow! It's one of the best paddle rivers, and it's my favorite paddle for being so close
- too many to choose :)
- Too many to have a favourite, but Eastvillage is a good example of Pathway, park and service development
- Too many to list. And some are secret ;)
- Too many to name....
- Trails by Bowmount, nice lookouts over the city and river
- Trout Beach on St. Patrick's island
- unfortunately you need to leave the city to enjoy our rivers...

- Upper Fish Creek, not too disturbed at the moment
- Upstream from Edworthy Park to the western edge of the City. That section seems to have the most natural areas without development and is most accessible for me.
- Used to be Princes Island, Bowness, Silver Springs, Fish Creek, Carburn Park and Nose Creek but these areas are becoming overrun by noise (radio), dogs and left behind fecal matter, some areas are no longer "fresh air" due to smoking/hookahs, and tents.
- Valley between Max bell and downtown because I use this for my morning commute. Significantly improves my mental health to start my day closure to nature.
- Valley Ridge because we live there
- Walking along the pathways in mission.
- Walkway in front of heritage park. It's the best part of the bike ride.
- Was our home until the illegal placement of a bench center and directly behind our backyard and home.
- Water fall in silver springs-minimal development and intrusion.
- weaselhead
- Weaselhead - beautiful trails, lots of space
- Weaselhead & Sandy beach (although River Park has been completely ruined by irresponsible dog owners & dog feces)
- Weaselhead area - can lose myself in nature and forget that I'm minutes from the city core.
- Weaselhead because of natural places.
- Weaselhead because the unpaved trails are less used.
- Weaselhead Park and Griffith Woods, as it isn't lined with houses. Provides a connection to nature for people, and places for wildlife to live and move through.
- Weaselhead trails, the habitat is less disturbed than in other parts of Calgary
- Weaselhead, because of the forest and life within it.
- Weaselhead, Bowmont (all mostly for natural and recreation opportunities)
- Weaselhead, fish creek mallard point, prince's Island
- Weaselhead, which is already [removed] because of Stony trail development. Stay the [removed] away from the Rivers!
- Weaselhead. Fewer people, no development beyond pathways.



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- Weaslehead. It's beautiful, raw, natural and not overly developed. It's an oasis in our city
- West Beaumont. It is close, we watch for seasonal changes, the spring-fed pond, see the evolution of the side channel.
- West Nose Creek Park
- Western Fish Creek Park, and St. George's/St. Patrick's Island. Both are nice places for recreation.
- Western Fish Creek. It is beautiful with lovely trees
- Western parts of Fish Creek. Wide well maintained pathways and nature viewing opportunities.
- Where bow and elbow meet because it is largely natural and undeveloped
- Where the natural environment has not been affected by development, erosion and pet easte
- Where there are untouched tree lined paths where you can get away from noise and people.
- Wherever there are bike paths along side the river. Fish Creek is a gem!! All of it.
- Willow Pond. It's so secluded but under the crowchild bridge. The only place in the city I feel like I'm in the mountains until o see the highway and feel the train as it rumbles by the endless homeless encampments. my favourite inner city river valley
- Zoo island to princess Island is vibrant stretch and nice for running

How might The City lead by example to make our river valleys a great place live, work, and enjoy for everyone?

Most common ideas for how to make the river valleys a great place to live, work and enjoy:

1. enforce bylaws to reduce social disorder including camping, littering and irresponsible pet ownership
2. renaturalize more areas, protect wild areas from wear and tear, and development
3. encourage public use of managed green spaces, with parks, gardens, and parks/recreation amenities
4. use land use policies to enforce protection of natural areas and setbacks
5. create more pathways, wider paths and improve physical accessibility

Verbatim comments:

- 1) Cleanup of the vagrants, criminals, garbage and dog feces. 2) Expansion of the pathways 3) "Right Fit" businesses - the "Ranche", the River Cafe, in/near larger spaces
- 1) give space for nature to do it's thing (flooding, wildlife, limit access to areas that need it in order to protect the whole 2) protect it as a public asset 3) facilitate public access with (1) and (2) in mind
- 1. UN Sustainable development goals for water: CLEAN UP THE E.COLI! my grandkid can't learn to swim in the river I grew up on. Consider the homeless a community per Goal 6.5. 2. Global warming : less water, electrical generation, greater need for recreat
- A coherent, long range plan, adhered to in spite of political changes.
- A river wave for surfing, bigger trail (paths and marked single track) network to create less congestion and more natural feel rather than commercialized and developed areas.
- Access to its shores
- Accessibility
- Acknowledge the influence and river has in shaping this city. Give credit to and celebrate the contributions of the river valleys to our eco, cultural and social identities as Calgarians.
- Actually follow the rules in the guides. Don't give developers loopholes to go through at the expense of the environment.
- Actually maintain all areas along the rivers. In the last few years it seems as if no city employee is assigned to inspecting anything along the rivers outside of the immediate area around city hall. Homeless, crime, garbage, and poor maintenance abound.
- Add large deep reservoir to Bowness Park

- Add more programming and recreational activities while not overwhelming the nature
- add shaded/covered public benches and
- Address flooding problem with upstream mitigation
- Advocate to the provincial government to empower citizens and NGOs to be able to do instream and riparian restoration work. For example a code of practice exemption under the Public Lands Act and Water act to do willow staking and install leaky dams.
- Again, this question implies that the only important factor is the people ("everyone"). We need to make sure that our native plants and animals are protected too!
- All are welcome, no motorized recreation vehicles on or off the water, a place to walk, enjoy a picnic, let the kids run
- Allocate park space, green space, walking trails, dog parks, before it's too late
- Allow Ecological Value and common good to outweigh the influence of wealthy residents in Bowness and Rideau Park/Roxboro. Their view is not more important than the wellbeing of the majority.
- Allow mobile vendors to sell ice cream, water, booze, hot dogs, etc other small things to people in the river parks
- Allow more access for dogs and people along and in river. More dining businesses less homes
- Allow natural plant life back into the yards of homes in the city. Allow for food garden areas all over the city to provide fresh greens and fruits for citizens
- Allow the river to live and breath, ebb and flow. It was never meant to stay within black rock lined bank
- Allowing the river to be a river. Rivers flood, we will NEVER be able to stop it from doing that. Business and living infrastructure built in the river valley is asking for trouble. It's a make work project.
- Already a leader in Canada - keeep up the good work
- Although I haven't visited them, everyone says that Edmonton's river valleys are outstanding. I think we should work towards treed, naturalized, less development as possible!
- An excellent balance of the needs of people and the environment and when in doubt, err on the side of the environment and habitat preservation.
- Approach design with intentionality. Rely on urban planners for ideas and designs and allow them to be creative.

- As a frequent river Kayaker I enjoy many places on the bow River particularly just past Glenmore going south towards fish creek. So many opportunities to watch animals and birds.
- As much green space as possible - as well as being environmentally important, the green spaces are free and accessible to everyone, not just a few landowners.
- As soon as possible, follow through on their commitment to work alongside Calgary's Indigenous population to build an Indigenous Gathering Place that would welcome all Calgarians and their visitors.
- Avoid letting commercial business and private property from encroaching into natural areas. Let these areas be peaceful and natural for everyone.
- Avoid over engineering access and stop developing valley bottoms (mostly nothing left now), but where industry or similar land becomes available, the City should clean up and preserve
- Ban dogs from the sensitive parts along the river.
- Be fierce advocates for, and protectors of, our natural spaces. More people will use, love, and depend on these spaces than the Saddledome, so treat it as an even more important investment in our city.
- Be mindful of the environmental impacts of development, but bring people to these spaces so they can learn and steward the spaces.
- Be particularly careful with new road & highway exchanges over waterways to follow best practices to minimize harm, and take active transportation into account to connect communities with safe and separate pathways, not partition with roads as barriers.
- Be proactive and make the changes happen while consulting it's residents
- Be strict about pollution, littering, storm drain outflow, drinking etc. There are so many of us that even minor damage adds up quickly.
- Better access
- Better paths and safety to make commuting on trails by river easier . Better signage for bikes only and pedestrians only and more paths in busy areas. Better seasonal services like shuttles on weekends for floating, developments , adding riverside beach
- Better protection for Nose Creek, public education on recreating in harmony within wildlife habitats
- Better security and enforcement of safety/ encampment issues
- Bike paths for access, that's it. Don't build homes, businesses, or art on the river valley.

- Build on the great walkways and connect more neighbourhoods through the rivers. Prioritize nature in biodiversity rich locations and people in other areas. Make the city proud to help biodiversity through river-driven wildlife corridors.
- By allowing some parts of the system to be undeveloped and unregulated and unrestricted.
- by being responsible and balancing the valley as both a place for nature conservation but also a good space for those living there and as a viable recreation spot
- By blending conservation with recreation, and having businesses close by but not imposing on the actual river ways themselves.
- By cleaning up along the river banks, keeping out the homeless shelters that leave behind tons of garbage, that will be washed down the river when the spring flood comes.
- By emphasizing preserving nature
- By giving the river the space it needs to function naturally, free from human interference.
- By having making them special places that set them apart from other parts of the city. Use zoning to make them better. Generally they are all inner city neighborhoods
- By keeping it closer to enjoy and less live and work.
- By leaving them alone
- By no longer approving the constant development in our river valleys, and maintaining and protecting the little areas of natural connectivity we have left, and restoring where it has been lost.
- By not allowing development of any sort in these areas
- By not allowing development of every inch of land adjacent or in the Valleys. I'd like to see Confluence Park expanded to include the Nose Creek Valley all the way to Airdrie, keeping it as natural as possible
- By not restricting access
- By preserving it's natural elements and not destroying it with more buildings
- By protecting and sustaining them for the future rather than looking at them as a development/economic opportunity.
- By protecting it from any future disruptions.
- By protecting the natural ecosystem of the river but allowing smart development that focuses on the river valley and not trying to change it
- By protecting them and restoring the river valleys. Wildlife and conservation should be the priority.

- By protecting them from overdevelopment. Valuing nature and the importance of wetlands and the diverse and fragile riparian areas along the Bow.
- By taking a stand, incentivizing increases in natural areas
- Calgary is situated in unique topography and ecosystem in Calgary. The opportunity to save some native grasslands is still available to us.
- Calgary should highlight our beautiful cultural and natural heritage, provide more education opportunities along the river, and encourage local artistry to further this project.
- Change zoning and development options to create larger setbacks from the rivers.
- Clamp down on drug use, provide social programs to help people get off drugs, clean up the litter.
- Clean it up and keep clean. Garbage in the nature area and garbage bins overflow on weekends. Monitor bike and scooters on the walking path, often very fast
- Clean it up for a start, remove garbage.
- Clean the banks. Especially close to the core, the shores of the rivers are littered with garbage and encampments.
- Clean them up and keep them clean. There is so much garbage along the rivers. Don't allow the homeless or anyone to set up tents there as they generate tons of garbage.
- Clean up and maintain nice beach areas, expand parks and widen trails for scooters/bikes plus walking paths plus add in more areas for food and outdoor venues for live music
- Clean up and naturalize Elbow river near Stampede
- Clean up and remove all the garbage and tent cities along the river banks. And I would love to see a Plan for Harvie Passage that includes a shared boat house for paddling clubs and associations and have public safety education events and lessons schedule
- Clean up homeless camps in the trees in Bowness. I've had high individuals approach me with my kids
- Clean up the area north of St Patrick' Island along Memorial Drive
- Clean up the homeless camps that quite literally litter the river valleys with garbage. As a Métis person who respects water this is very sad to see.
- Clean up the river. Stop the homeless from using the rivers as a laundromat and personal washing facility. Control the cyclists, scooters and skateboarders. They take over the paths and go over the 10km limit. Keep the area as natural as possible.
- Clean up the trash and get rid of homeless camps including the many hidden ones

- Clean, safe, and accessible
- Cleaning them up, address the homeless problem, tax businesses properly, maintain areas.
- Cleaning up encampments, more access areas for lounging and play (like elbow River in mission)
- Commercial/residential development further back; more walking and biking trails
- Commuting by bike and e-scooter needs to grow. City needs more lanes/paths and rules for commuters.
- Connect the valley via bike/walk paths through to Cochrane to grow mobility opportunity. Europeans have invested in pathways it brings in tourist value and we could build to Canmore while saving habitat.
- Connected paths through the entire valley. Similar to Edmonton.
- Consult the first people's of this land, not just Indigenous public servants before anything else. Keep it clean, maintain the pathways better in all seasons.
- Consult with ecological groups, indigenous leaders to better integrate nature and wildlife with urban planning and design.
- Continue large scale restoration projects, converting former industrial land uses to naturalized areas. Insist on strengthened development setbacks that prevent all development in the floodplain. Continue to maintain river pathways and small footpaths.
- continue to build infrastructure that makes the river valley accessible to biking and walking and other sports (but keep biking and walking separate!). Prevent further private development on the river, keep the river a public space.
- Continue to develop path system (including single use paths), more green spaces
- Continue to expand the development that supports the natural beauty. For example, ensure pathways are wide enough for all that use them (there are some sections where bike and pedestrian share, this is dangerous)
- Continue to expand the parks, and address the safety issues present in the downtown river valley parks
- Continue to invest in it. We need a downtown that draws people there instead of the suburbs.
- continue to invest in plants and ecology
- Continue to keep the rivers clean and supportive to all the nature that depends on these waterways. The enjoyment will follow!
- Continue to keep them clean and accessible by limiting development.

- Continue to maintain bike access
- Continue to maintain pathways near the rivers and promote clean up with more garbage bins and dedicated clean-up crews
- Continue to preserve green spaces and encourage people to go walking
- continue to prioritize the wildlife present over human development, to respect our needs as humans for green space and to help mitigate the effects of climate change, wherever possible.
- Continue to protect our river valleys. Good maps and signage for navigation.
- Continue to support initiatives to increase the natural areas, more plant life and pathways to enjoy it.
- Continue to update older parks and pathway infrastructure
- Continued discussion and incorporation of new science of health and community spaces.
- Continuing upgrades to paved & gravel transport, washrooms & picnic facilities.
- Control pathway traffic and access.
- Copy Red Deer's tubing river. Excellent place for families to go in the summer using river water. Open up the reservoir to swimming, similar to Brooks' reservoir. It's too exclusive as is.
- Create more support for nature to return, for biodiversity to flourish. Protect our beaver population, continue to support our osprey population
- Create more water fountains and amenities along the river valley for people to use.
- Create parks to protect Nose Creek and Ricardo Ranch.
- Create as many beautiful artistic spaces people want to visit and photograph.
- Daylight the confederation creek to rehabilitate the health of Nose Creek
- Deal with the beavers decimating the trees, provide more garbage especially in high use areas, like at bridges. Update a map system so people can navigate better. More indigenous history would be fascinating.
- Deal with the homelessness issue please.
- Deciding not to drive the industrial Green Line train through Prince's Island Park.
- Decision makers should make every effort to be informed about what constitutes a healthy, sustainable greenbelt.

- Declare the Bow and Elbow Rivers legal rights of personhood to provide right to flow, maintain biodiversity, pollution-free, etc. following New Zealand's groundbreaking declaration for the Whanganui river, and the Magpie River in Quebec (first in Canada).
- Designated areas, monitoring of areas and education about rules/respect. Fines for off trail biking through nesting areas, burning of trees, radios near & trespassing in conservation areas, dogs chasing wildlife. So all can enjoy parks and natural areas.
- Develop pathways and accessible natural areas near and to the rivers, so they can be used as more than just McMansion backyard scenery.
- Developing in a way that allows for human interaction but leaves the smallest "human" Footprint. Let's not pave every inch of soil. Let's continue with "living" retaining walls and mitigate erosion with native flora. Let's promote the fish hatchery and edu
- Do not change them
- Do not try to impose their Agendas on these natural areas which are so important to our City. Also remain realistic - this City is not Amsterdam - we live in a harsh, cold northern climate - people are not strolling along the River pathways in -30 degrees
- Do what you are doing, engage the public
- Don't allow more private development along them
- Don't allow private development make our rivers inaccessible to calgarians
- Don't develop, we need nature. Keep pathways clear.
- Don't let homeless encampments take over our natural areas
- Don't over crowd and build a keep them Natural and beautiful so that we have nature in our city.
- Don't over develop them! Keep them all natural
- Don't overcrowd with too much development!
- Don't sell land to developers for short term profit and long term loss.
- Don't develop in the river valleys, use them for passive recreation that could allow for flooding with little damage.
- Don't develop the land for housing, business, or similar.
- Don't develop the roadways adjacent to the rivers, e.g. Memorial Drive. Deerfoot trail has already ruined the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary with its noise pollution. Plant more trees along the river.

- Don't give free drugs to addicts, help them wean. Demand doctors to not start people on opioids. Give homeless respect by giving a job like landscaping, cleaning, gathering bottles.
- Don't mess with a beautiful thing - that's the best way to keep it a great place to live and enjoy
- Don't overdevelop
- Educate people on how to treat nature, don't develop river valleys - leave them natural - if your so concerned about a climate crisis, walk the talk!!
- Educate the public more on its value
- Education and enforcement of bylaws, people need to respect the assigned use of areas
- Emphasis at all opportunities that the valleys are a shared communal resource that we all must share and preserve together
- Encourage (responsible) development, and reduce vagrants and garbage in the area by providing more hygiene services
- Encourage citizen ownership
- Encourage more commercial activity at the river. We have plenty of park that is really just scrubland.
- Encourage more community clean up. Offer additional resources how to protect the wildlife (fishes, birds, etc.)
- Encourage the active lifestyle through engagement. Use advertisement to encourage active lifestyle
- Enforce bylaws
- Engage First Nations. Prioritize nature.
- Engage with Indigenous People to lead on the conversations around the importance and traditional knowledge/cultural importance of the rivers
- Ensure access for all to use river valleys. Ensure areas remain clean of garbage. Provide areas to rest and picnic.
- Ensure adequate buffer and public access when considering developments, with prioritizing health of the river and river valley ecosystem
- ensure it doesn't flood
- Ensure it remains clean.
- ensure its safe for all users. accessibility for people with disabilities as well as security so people feel safe

- ensure scientists are consulted in how to help support natural spaces, and invest in affordable housing and rehab for homeless community.
- Ensure that homeless encampments are removed thus making it safer for Calgarians to safely enjoy these areas
- Ensure that people are respecting the natural environment by making sure waste doesn't end up in the valley where it shouldn't be.
- ensure that we maintain and / or grown the green space we have throughout the city
- Ensure the pathways aren't crowded
- Ensure the river valley pathways are exceptionally plowed during the winter. Build more pathways/bike lanes adjacent to the valleys to facilitate more seamless connections. Allow businesses to have patios extend closer to the water to activate the space.
- Ensure there are enough trash bins and trash collection so everything is clean and animals can thrive
- Ensure there is no more building, paving, in those areas. Increase biodiversity. Improve bike paths signage so bike slow down in areas where people are also walking. Better composting and recyc'ing infrastructure.
- Ensure there is plenty of space and that all Calgarians have more convenient access. Pathways, businesses and key infrastructure should be expanded as much a possible outside of downtown to allow for better access for Calgarians on the outskirts.
- Ensure use does not contribute to pollution
- Ensuring pathways are created to share walking, cycling, scooters, skateboards etc. so all generations can take pleasure from use of river valleys and pathways.
- Ensuring there are garbage cans frequently along the river to discourage from leaving their trash.
- Equitable access for all- time slots?
- Every City department should have policy and practice guidelines to dictate how it functions interact with watershed.
- Expand green space along the river and expand pathway system for bikes
- Expand parks by the river
- Expand the natural areas in Calgary's river valleys, and work to connect them with both vegetation and pathways.
- Expand the park system along the rivers

- expand the river setback to provide more space for people to explore and limit property damage risk in the event of another flood, build in other places
- Expanding the existing system, ensuring access to the river everywhere. Individual property owners should never be able to control or modify river banks
- Fence and monitor dog use in parks. Bylaw to enforce misuse of parks along river.
- festivals and events? Would love to see more events on prince's island lark
- Fill the flood mitigation concrete blocks with earth, it should then self seed over time
- FIX THE DAMN RIVERS! stop developing restore what we destroyed. fix our government....
- Flood mitigation, no significant impact to nature. This is what sets us apart from bc
- Focus on efforts to increase native plant and animal diversity.
- Focus on recreation over culture. We have endless spots for culture and arts in the city streets where more people will enjoy it. Put the parks money to use to get people outside, active, and off their devices!
- Follow the indigenous principle of looking 7 generations into the future when making decision
- Follow your own policies and STOP the development. In the last 15 years, Calgary has destroyed 16.5% of its greenspace, much of it in the Northern Hills communities. WHY!!!!???
- Forget the live and work part. Let nature be nature.
- General access needs to be kept free of charge. Wild areas should be respected, meaning that access should be available, but they should not be commercialized. Some business development is fine, but should not become the dominant feature.
- Get me on the GIS team, and watch us transform our cities riparian to those that rival Austin, and the world...
- Get rid of all the cars and safety hazards around it. Let it be beautiful, natural and vibrant.
- Get rid of the homeless
- Get serious about conservation and preservation. As mentioned, Ricardo Ranch development sets a bad precedent. Sensitive ecologies will be disturbed or destroyed. Nose Creek will be next. This is shameful.
- Get the Calgary stampede to clean up their mess on the elbow
- Get the [removed] off the river banks and back in jail
- Getting rid of homeless encampment. There are enough shelters to house them.

- Good maintenance.
- Hate to say it but look to Edmonton.
- Have a sustainable plan that focuses on nature and wild areas with strategic access for the public.
- Have smart urban design by areas that will have a high number of people in the area for living and entertainment. For other areas, maintain making the area feel very natural, while having pathways that can handle movement capacity.
- Having great destinations to go to such as Annie's Cafe, Angels Cafe, Sidewalk Citizen connected by pathways through nature are amazing. It would be great too to have connections to Airdrie, Cochrane, Okotoks, Langdon
- High environmental protection standards. Highest use of natural bank stabilization techniques.
- Honestly some nice PSA's about keeping the city clean. Did you know a very well driven PSA about cleaning up (not property recycling or property waste practices) just a moral nudge in the right direction. we're more worried about gender than recycling!
- How about attention to dog poo
- I believe we should encourage floating down the river, online safety lessons, free raft filling, increased flow rates on hot summer days/weekends
- I don't think it should be a place for everyone. I think it should be a great place for the environment to thrive.
- I have no idea what this question means.
- I hope the City has an answer for that.
- I think if we want to make everyone happy it will not work, but focus on community, place to gather, enjoy with friends, families etc.
- I think keep growing them, the users often exceed the capacity of the pathways. Maintaining a balance of natural green space, empty greenspace for creative use and infrastructure for outdoor play. More active infrastructure than just seating
- i think the recreation areas around st patric island need better maintenance, grass taken better care of, more regular garbage clean up as many times i have seen overflowing garbage cans. and better sitting areas with shade.
- I think they already are great

- I think we need to build to a model where when you ask a calgarian what they are most proud of, the river is the first thing to come to mind. Whether that be running, biking, picnic, floating, fishing, dog walking. It needs to be a collecting space for al
- I would like to see a littl love toss to the irrigation canal. I know the city thinks it is Alberta Environments and Environment is relying on the agreement in place for the city to look after the pathway infrastructure.
- I would love to see more interconnected pathways (connected to public transit) where possible! I appreciate all the tree cover, and would love to see more decorative and practical wild native plant gardens, or otherwise protected natural features.
- I'd love to see more education on respecting the river valleys and all natural areas within Calgary. Nature has become something we use rather than preserve, respect and are good stewards of even as we recreate within it.
- If I knew I'd work for the city.
- If the city applies a holistic freshwater ecosystem restoration program it would be the first city in the world to do this. I am happy to work with the city to achieve this & demonstrate her power &!resilience of our planets ecological systems.
- If the city left the riverbanks the [removed] alone.
- If there is development along the river for housing there must be affordable housing incorporated as well. Calgary should avoid the desire to gentrify for those with resources to buy luxury condos. Find a way to ensure economic diversity.
- If we don't think about the future and how to retain its beauty, cultural and ecological values, we will simply erode this important marker of place.value
- Implement even more bike lanes to connect into the city and surburbs to remove any entry barriers someone without a car or access to transportation might have. Introduce more natural wildlife diversity if needed, but dont remove anything already present.
- Improve recreational access to the river to space out users. Improve riparian protection policy including consistent, well defined setbacks for development. Improve storm water management and control of runoff inputs to improve water quality
- Improve the infrastructure along the pathways and include more places to gather for recreation, while also preserving natural areas for wildlife to enjoy
- Improve the regional pathways and bike paths by making them safer with respect to width, upkeep, pedestrian / bike conflicts, and reducing unhomed dwellings along the riverbanks
- improve the washed out sections of the Douglas fir trail like the high rockies trail in k-country. provide a winter offer to x-country ski next to the river near edworthy park

- In the downtown core keep making beauty spaces that celebrate the river and encourage access to the river. More walking paths across the city that access the river
- Increase ability to access river. Not have houses or businesses inhibit that access.
- Increase accessibility and maintenance of pathways. Having separate bike and walk pathways where possible, expanding the width of pathway and increasing trees and vegetation along the valley that has been taken away from flooding, age, other
- Increase accessibility for all and keep safety nearby for all. Also don't change anything to do with proposed building and construction
- Increase accessibility. Maybe we can't remove existing homes but we can stop building on waterfront (which would protect us from flood damage too). Restore riparian areas.
- Increase connections for bike and pedestrian's into business areas in neighbouring communities. Advertising the trail systems when marketing Calgary tourism.
- Increase protected conservation areas. Limit building and development.
- Increase safety
- Increase setback of development to Rivers and Creeks
- Increase spaces in the valley to allow for natural processes to occur. Provide more green ribbon to move through the city for generations to enjoy.
- Increase tge NCV setbacks and work to create at worst a city park at best a provincial or national park
- increase the quantity and quality of walkable and biking pathways while ensuring the sustainabilyt and ecosystems in the river valleys are preserved. Proper biking and walking paths along the rivers foster economic development in sustainable ways.
- Increased naturalization and a focus on protecting the river valleys for recreation rather than housing especially as the city grows out and goes further upstream and downstream on the bow valley and upstream of the nose creeks
- Increasing accessibility, including keeping the pathways clear in the winter. Actually clear - so those with limited mobility can still use them.
- Install more water fountains and deal with the homeless encampments and the trash they leave
- Interconnected pathways from one valley to another
- Invest in cleaning it up more, please. There's only so much I can do as a citizen.

- Involve First Nations and calgarians of all ages and abilities. Consider novel ideas like bus shuttles in summer for bikes and boats. Name sections of the valleys based on First Nations or historical places.
- It could commit to re-naturalizing zones that are currently high for flood risk. Climate change will necessitate human migration, but we can put a positive spin on it by allowing for natural environments for wildlife.
- It is not a place to live. It is a place for nature to thrive.
- It's already is. There is no other city like it! Feel so lucky to live here and able to use all the river pathways.
- Just keep them and improve what we have I know that is not specific but I think it's a bit of if you build it they will come so if you have a picnic area without plumbing put some in if there are some areas that are high traffic split bikes and pedestrian
- Just keep them clean and leave them alone.
- Just look at other cities that don't suck. There are many of them around the world.
- Keep accessible and secure
- Keep all access points open and accessible. Host River parties/festivals in slower/lower areas of the river with food trucks and shade tents.
- Keep businesses out of there and allow it to be a natural place
- Keep development in line with natural elements
- Keep development out of the flood zone and create more parks along the river for everyone to enjoy. the parks that we have are over crowded.
- Keep development well back from the waterfront, allow public access along the banks.
- Keep developments back from the river so that people can enjoy this valuable resource.
- Keep doing what you are doing. I think in the last few years what you have done is OUTSTANDING!
- Keep doing what you do!! Best city on earth.
- Keep drug users, homeless people out of areas where children should be frequenting. Changing the river valley is pointless if the area is unsafe.
- Keep has natural as possible and not take away all the green spaces.
- Keep homeless people out. Kill dangerous animals on site. Allow citizens with permanent addresses to do as they like, be it jogging, dog walking, ATVing, playing music, etc. Never restrict or limit access to preserve the area. It exists for us.



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- Keep homes and work away from river valleys and keep natural areas for play and adventure
- Keep housing off flood plains, embrace natural parks.
- Keep improving the quality of aspects of experience in these places.
- Keep it clean and crime free. That is all. Make it safe to use - many places are not.
- Keep it clean, keep it hard to access to protect nature and wildlife
- Keep it clean, keep it natural, no development.
- Keep it natural. Add thoughtful recreation (water access for kayaks/rafts/surfing/swimming and transportation (paved pathways). Allow small restaurants and cafes with views and terraces that look onto the water.
- Keep it the same. Don't overdevelop it.
- Keep it well maintained and safe and clean. Need to make sure that there is a crew of people to clean up garage and dog poop that appears after the snow melts in spring, and also ensure homeless camps set up along the river are cleared away
- Keep it well maintained and stop all the illegal camping.
- Keep people out of the natural areas b just pathways
- keep some river valleys completely free of residential and commercial building (ie Nose Hill, Fish Creek, etc. Keep ones closer to the city centre free of tall buildings (shadows) and building too close enabling floods to cause destruction and repaircosts
- Keep the areas as natural as possible and clear of debris.
- Keep the aria safe and clean.
- Keep the natural spaces natural, no more housing development
- Keep the nature aspect as much as possible. modernization can happen all over this City but preserve what little nature we have please.
- Keep the place clean, well maintained. Some areas are in disrepair. Take a good look at Bowness Park as one example.
- keep the river banks clean and clear of debris
- Keep the river valley a place to relax and recreate respectful of the environment and the other beings that call it home. Less human-centric thinking would be a good place to start.
- Keep the rivers clean and natural.

- keep the rivers public; create spaces that draw people to gather there - this builds community
- Keep them as natural as possible, no motorized access like Arc's, allow some area for dog off leash parks, less business development.
- Keep them clean! Too much trash, especially associated with the unhoused population
- Keep them clean, encourage events, and make it a safe place for humans and wildlife.
- Keep them clean, keep the wildlife happy and healthy
- Keep them clean, protect the riparian zone
- Keep them clean, safe and natural.
- Keep them clean, walkable, and keep the bridges and walkways nice with clean infrastructure and art
- Keep them natural, expand the trails, install manicured gardens adjacent to the natural areas (e.g. Prince's Island, Glenmore Park) with cafés/restaurants, stages, outdoor gyms &c.
- Keep them publicly available! Do not allow private development against the banks of the river but keep pathways and strips of open space where feasible.
- Keep them safe and address camping issues along the paths
- Keep them well cared for, enabling nature, animals and people to live in a healthy balance for all. Design first for nature, then for people! Then ensure these areas are safe and clean for all.
- Keep those pathways open!
- Keep up citizen engagement, and look to other places preserving their river valleys - like Edmonton. maybe we need a river valley provincial park or other protective designation?
- Keep up the good work, but don't be afraid to interfere with nature a bit more in order to tame the beautiful beast that the Bow River is. Doing so will be worth it in the long run.
- Keep up the great work!
- keeping them as public spaces, naturalizing key areas, helping public understand importance of healthy riparian and river systems though our city
- Keeping them natural and clean and safe
- Keeping up the good work with investing in their restoration and conservation.
- Lead by example by stopping people from literally living on the river bank. Stop rampant drug use and injections along our bike paths.



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

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- Learn from all the floods Calgary has had in the past 150 years and learn from it. Stop making the same mistakes over and over again.
- Leave it as raw as possible. Don't pave paradise.
- Leave it be!
- Leave more to nature and not overly urbanize.
- Leave the nature alone and stop messing around with it to just open businesses
- Leave the river valleys as greenspace for the public to enjoy, rather than building pricey housing. As we densify our housing, we need more public greenspace.
- Leave them alone
- Leave them alone!
- Leave them as they are, the less developed the less the flood risk. Also what makes Calgary unique is in large part the river valley setting, without that what is the identity?
- Leave them as they are, the less developed the less the flood risk. Also what makes Calgary unique is in large part the river valley setting, without that what is the identity?
- Leave them natural.
- Leave them natural; clean up pollution (water, noise, litter, etc.)
- Leave them wild - let the riparian areas act as a buffer between the rivers and the rest of the city's infrastructure. Promote the wildlife that uses the river valleys. Don't stick buildings and restaurants etc. along the rivers... leave them wild.
- Leave things alone!
- Less buildings, keep areas clean and natural.
- Less development along the elbow river
- Less development keep what we have natural
- Less development, more environmental protection
- less litter, less crime
- Less residential. More restaurant , bars, patios and public space for people to hang out and access the river.
- Let nature do it's thing!
- Limit car traffic, prioritize preservation of natural areas.

- Limit destruction or development of the river valley area, or how close you can build. Not build directly along the river valley areas. Increase river valley park areas
- Limit development in order to maximize natural state. Enforce access limitations, weaselhead
- Limit the amount we “live” by rivers, not too much development of businesses either. Perhaps pathways to enjoy the view and dog accessible.
- Listen to Save Nose Creek. We need a cross-municipal park system along Nose Creek. From Downtown Calgary to Airdrie!
- look at river valley in planning, not just individual neighbourhoods
- Look to best practices around the world (ex. river surfing in Munich, saunas and "pools" in Copenhagen). Would love that the river becomes part of our everyday life - summer or winter. Even winter dips are increasingly popular. Make it busy and well used!
- Look to Edmonton
- Look to other cities such as Boise Idaho and Golden Colorado that have numerous opportunities for recreation and river access.
- Love bike paths and walking paths with musicians and ice cream for kids Too many dogs peeing everywhere and drug smells
- Maintain current infrastructure, improve existing infrastructure, and create a way to see the river valleys with fresh eyes every decade or so.
- Maintain pathways and promote responsible use. Install and service garbage receptacles. Monitor sensitive areas and close off as required.
- Maintain the bike paths
- Maintain the pathways.
- Maintain them, protect them, don't be sell outs. Try watering some trees too. Lots of dead trees around this city, clean them up and plant replacements! Get on top of the infected elm trees in shawnassey parking lots. I'd rather trees nature over a stadium
- Maintain with excellence what we have now before expanding or upgrading. Plant more trees in the city and minimize destroying naturalized areas
- Maintain/expand recreational pathways, infrastructure to minimize risk of catastrophic flooding.
- Make an extension of fish creek park all the way downstream to the recently annexed land at the Ralph Klein canal outflow. Stop developing in the valley.

- Make better efforts keeping the place clean from the disruption caused by the homeless. I want to take visitors along the Bow to show off how great Calgary is but then sometimes don't feel safe.
- make bowness/baker more accessible without a car from downtown, and open more seasonal businesses (food stands by ice skating, beer garden or cafe for summer, etc). address terrible odours in south, it reaches fish creek/even bebo grove sometimes.
- Make children be in awe and laugh out loud for free with parents to feel safe and be relaxed to feel home and blessed
- Make decisions with equity in mind and not the developer or those who can pay
- Make it accessible, safe and fun..promote it.
- Make it culturally neutral
- Make it fun, scavenger hunt, more bridges to cross by foot, riverstone can't access easily tye new ped bridge by 22x overpass we need a bridge. Shoveled paths so all can enjoy year round if mobility issue, look to Edminton, they have great programs
- Make it more accessible
- Make more parks along the rivers.
- Make paths accessible for all. Keep development farther back
- Make pathways even safer to use/share.
- Make positive changes, promote and protect the natural areas.
- Make sure floods can't damage like 2013
- Make sure the valley is well connected with bike and walking paths, along with wild nature and easy access points.
- Make sure there are places to walk everywhere by the river.
- Make sure you have a well thought out flood plan. Keep as many natural native plants as possible and keep bike paths growing. Bike paths allow wheelchair accessibly for many disabled and seniors.
- Make the pathway safer with enforcement or ambassadors.
- Make the valleys safer
- Make them a public place with great connections for active trasport from the whole city not only for cars. Make it easy to get to them and have them be a connected network of natural, cultral and public spaces.

- Make them more public and less private. Make them safer with removing encampments of at risk community members. Continue to add garbage and recycle to reduce dog poop and litter
- Make these spaces SAFE! Crack down on any homeless and drug addicts that occupy these spaces. Police presence to ensure people feel safe in using these areas.
- Make things the way they were long ago. No food trucks, no encouraging people to be there. Just available for those who are willing to get there.
- Make trails wider, amenities along trails, flowers , gardens
- Make usable with easily rebuilt infrastructure in flood plains.
- Making it more nature friendly.
- Making the perfect match between protecting nature and making easy for people to access, enjoy, walk, bike the river valleys
- Manage flooding and overuse
- Maybe working more with our aboriginal peoples to include aboriginal forward design and for guidance
- minimize commercial and residential development along these areas, preserve for nature and recreation
- Monitoring by law and citizen oversight
- More access points?
- More advertising about activities and how people can safely use the river valley
- More art/ more gatherings and a festival to celebrate the river and importance of our water source
- More bylaw enforcement especially in summer months; maybe new interpretive signs about natural features and areas; no new commercial development and a substantial green space buffer to separate residential
- More connectivity, educational signs about the importance of rivers / freshwater and the biodiversity they bring. Over cleanliness. And an effort to reduce noxious weed species!!!
- More directive to supplemental enhancement to outdoor pursuits. Expansion, and better maintenance of the parks and open spaces budget of the
- More education about the amazing restoration processes that are going on with our rivers would be great, as well as more of a celebration of the wildlife we share home with!

- More education on how to tread lightly on the land. Limit off-road biking to designated paths. Enforce on-leash areas to prevent dogs from disturbing wildlife. Thanks!
- More flood protection and more natural areas
- More focus on the natural environment, less on humans, there are too many of those already
- More green spaces, ecologically informed building, nature programs and signage
- MORE habitat protection...NO MORE building on flood plains
- More pathways, less homeless , less drugs
- More promotion of the connectivity of the parks and pathway system for bicycle commuting. It is incredible and people don't know enough. Open recreation classes to help people understand the potential.
- More regular maintenance in the winter
- More safe swimming spots
- More security patrols, and control parking, downtown workers parking at Edworthy, and many using Pierce Estates park
- More separated cycling/walking infrastructure (preferably with green asphalt for cyclists to create a better visual distinction between routes). I would also appreciate the protection of Nose Creek.
- more settling ponds for all the drainage coming off our roads
- Move population away from the river valley to avoid flood impacts. Create more areas for recreational use like Harvey's passage, maybe a larger eddy pool that can be used for swimming with a sand beach
- Move the homeless shelter away from the river as they are constantly polluting it. Start a cleaning budget to regularly clean river.
- Much downstream from Harvie passage is untapped
- Natural, accessible and respectful of wildlife and wild places
- Naturalization is key. But doing more to attract small business would be huge to get people out. Also, our bike infrastructure needs clearer linking to the river valley network.
- No area exists where one has shops cafes and restaurants. There are a few but no choice.
- No living or working in natural locations
- No more buildings on the flood plain. What's there already just leave it.

- No more new development, specially on river valleys
- No more suburban or industrial development in river valleys and flood plains.
- No one needs to live on a river valley. So let's dump that idea pronto.
- No one works on the river. Mitigate floods and otherwise let nature be nature.
- Nobody gets to live in them. Only eco friendly recreational development.
- Not allow development
- Not allowing more residential or business development in the river valley.
- Not approving new development right alongside the rivers or creeks.
- Offer workshops on how to be good stewards of the River and River bank to residents who own property along the rivers.
- offleash dog ticket enforcement
- On only ever want to enjoy the river valley. Never build.
- Only Hire employees who comply with laws.
- Parks, pathways through the whole system.
- pathways where needed for protection but no extraneous built initiatives.
- People enjoy walkable and bikeable spaces where we can be social. Balancing development and watershed health to build those would be great.
- People should not live in the river valley, they should live above it.
- Permaculture it ALL. Work with our environment not fight it. No more grass that needs mowing. Give us native flowers and trees.
- Place nature first
- Plan out specific areas to protect the beauty and nature for all.
- Please-- other than flood mitigation, no more development!
- Policies that favor naturalization over hard surface development
- Preserve and promote natural spaces (this can include things like markets and what not that promote local producers but are not as harmful to environment)
- Preserve and protect them so we actually have them for future generations
- Preserve it, respect and care for it. Use it as the jewel of the city that out is
- Preserve Nose Creek

- Preserve our river valleys natural ecosystems
- Preserve plant and animal habitats and protect them.
- Preserve the biodiversity and natural spaces, but increase services such as washrooms and water fountains along pathways for convenience
- Preserve the natural areas. Consider not grabbing more land for tax dollar use
- Preserve the natural corridor but encourage development in areas alongside
- preserve the natural state, link existing developments ... shag golf course tea house to Bow River pathway south side
- Preserve them!
- Preserve what we have left and improve what we've damaged. Instead of putting more development in the valleys we should show the world how you can work with riparian areas to be climate resilient and promote biodiversity, not just do more of the same.
- Preserve wild spaces. Refuse to develop them.
- Preserving wildlife corridors, allowing space for humans to interact with, but not disrupt, the incredibly important ecosystems we live among.
- Prevent Residential and Commerical development along the river and create parks and public access sites that keep out natural areas intact
- Prioritize Indigenous knowledge-reinstate original names, put out signs for public information on the area's history, continue to balance between community and PROTECTING nature from community. Not easy to do! Thank you for asking for our advice.
- Prioritize natural state, add recreation activities in some areas, prohibit housing and fixed business development-which also enhances flood resilience.
- Prioritize nature, gentle recreation. Don't allow big developments in river valleys — stuff like Simmons building is good though
- Prioritize preserving the ecosystems and update existing recreation areas as needed - the new, inclusive playground on the south side of the train tracks in Edworthy Park is a great example of this.
- Prioritize recreational areas and infrastructure for walking. Availability of restrooms to allow for long distance walking. Making cycling infrastructure actually separate from walkers- by taking space from the roads - eg on memorial drive and 19th-
- Prioritize the natural habitat and user experience while making socially conscious, ethical and sustainable decisions about development and mitigation.

- Prioritize them and give them room to breathe! We have other spaces we can develop around the city that doesn't necessitate disputing our riparian ecosystems which are incredibly sensitive and critical for wildlife and biodiversity.
- prioritize trees and natural resilience, NOT rocks, pavement and concrete "mitigation"
- Priority needs to be given to preserving natural areas, increasing tree plantings and creating safe spaces.
- Promote environmental sustainability and climate resilience
- Promote native vegetation and natural beauty. Edmonton is a great example of a city with beautiful, natural river valleys that Calgary could look to, but prioritize accessibility for those with mobility issues
- Promote the idea of natural areas as investments into the future. Most people don't recognize the massive value they add to the city, health benefits to people that frequent them while also actually providing environmental function.
- Protect and maintain a buffer where development is not permitted. This includes housing, roads, and any anthropogenic disturbance
- Protect green spaces. Discourage off path cycling.
- protect it from development
- Protect natural environments
- Protect natural habitat reduce off road bike activity
- Protect our river economy systems. Stop building commercial property along side.
- Protect our river valleys even more to make sure they last and maybe even expand them. Concentrate development in the inner city to leave other parts of the river valley intact and natural
- Protect the animals and plants of the river valleys. Keep it undeveloped and natural.
- Protect the bow river, but building the upstream dam for the bow river. maintain natural areas and ban dogs.
- Protect the habitat and beauty of the river valleys with greater setbacks and the rest will follow from that.
- Protect the natural areas. The rest of the city is so urban. I like what you have been doing about place making along the Bow - using seating as part of the flood protections. Widening some of the cycle/walking paths as they get crowded and less safe
- Protect the natural features.

- Protect them! Having accessible parks and wilded areas are equally as important. Stop further on the banks and the flood plain that's isn't built out already.
- Protecting rivers from road noise, keeping the environment sounding natural, and more high density living along the river which provides walking and rolling commuters with peaceful corridors to their place of work
- Provide amenities and enforcement to create a comfortable place to visit.
- Provide pathways that can follow the river and not have to detour around condo blocks.
- Public projects and public involvement
- pull back built environment from the rivers - create more parkland
- Push development further back from the rivers and apply the same principles to west and north Nose Creek.
- Quit building in the valley.
- Quit disturbing them
- Reclaim and preserve to increase value and quality of every aspect of Calgary (property value, quality of life, recreation, flood control, downstream water quantity, etc).
- Reduce rip rap. Plant trees and native shrubs for bank stability.
- Reduce the human footprint
- Reduce the impact of big roads like Memorial Drive (make it smaller, bridge it more frequently) and Deerfoot Trail (Dutch-style sound walls please); provide space for small biz.
- Reduce the use of riprap banks, allow room for the river, add more public spaces like plazas on the river
- Regulate use around them to protect them and keep them clean, monitor them for health and act accordingly.
- Relocate roadways away from rivers (eg Memorial Drive, Bow Trail)
- Remove all the houses and business within 500 meter's off the rivers edge
- Remove private property and allow all of us access incl. Nature when it wants to flood for a few days
- Remove the homeless and druggies
- Remove the homeless camps and trash
- Re-naturalizing the river's edge instead of hardscaping it with rocks, concrete, etc.

- Require a 90m setback for any future development or expansions to support biodiversity and prudent flood risk management. Pursue beaver reintroduction where it would restore habitat and slow flow in high water events & replenish the aquifer.
- Reserve enough public space along the valleys that they are not made inaccessible by private land. Also, Deerfoot Trail does not need to be bigger and louder and spoil more of the river experience.
- respect and engage private property owners and do not try to take away what they have worked for. promote increased upstream flood mitigation to limit peak flow rates to less than 800 m³/sec. Higher peak flow rates will be destructive.
- Respect nature first.
- Respect the native plants and animals, allow recreation and walkways but keep out housing and other developments! Remember 2013! Floods will happen again! Respect Mother Nature.
- Respect the public opinions, the outcome of this project should not be driven by a political decision
- Restrict private property development that abuses the river and prioritize healthy riparian areas through policy.
- River valley is not a place to live, have houses, or work. It's a river valley. Leave it to nature. Building houses is not nature.
- River valleys should be conserved to the maximum extent practicable. We shouldn't really be adding new things to live, work and enjoy them - as vital ecological and natural infrastructure corridors they should be left alone as much as possible.
- River valleys should be left alone to enjoy as nature intended
- River valleys should not be considered a place to "work" except for nature guiding. They are precious and a limited resource that should be protected as much as possible, not seen as a commercial resource to be exploited.
- River valleys should only be a place to enjoy, reset, relax. No working or living. It should be a calm place
- Safety and preserving nature through trash cleanup. Unique recreation spots like sandbars that create river surfing spots or paddleboats.
- Safety and usage defined. The dog poo and off leash issues need to be addressed.
- Safety is number 1, sustainable forest gardens is a close # 2. Our children ought to be able to learn how to harvest fruits and nuts in the riparian area on public spaces, and be able to share that experience with their children

- SAVE them!!
- Secure home valet to encourage people mri bike down. Retail carts or pop ups along the routes.
- Seek to limit transportation hubs where possible. Allow some cultural spaces and some sparing new facilities to Support rec
- Set an example a d get rid over the homeless camps
- Set more area aside for undeveloped public use.
- Setting up a volunteer program that gets citizens out to maintain the natural beauty of our local parks
- Share access for all along the entire length. Bike path walking path and where and when replanting use native fruiting shrubs as well as grasses to hold soil stable
- Show you care by taking care of noxious and prohibited noxious weds
- Signage around storm water ponds to warn people against releasing non-native fish into waterways. Celebrate the river valley natural areas. Connect the paved path from Calgary to Cochrane.
- Some garbage removal in these places gets out of control. Harvey passage comes to mind. Bathrooms need to be priority as well, if we're going to be able to recreate at them! Increasing the flow down the elbow might also help keep it a bit cleaner.
- Stand behind its policy, and enforce the Municipal Government Act
- Stanley Park in Vancouver is a good example of a good pathway system and everything is built a good distance away.
- Start by creating paid positions for things like river cleanup and to revitalize abandoned encampment zones. TAKE BACK OUR RIVERS RIPARIAN ZONES!!!
- Start by preserving the vegetation and trees that exist. Let us walk through the nature, rather than bulldozing and planting a few new shrubs and trees in place of the old beauty. Winnipeg does well at this. Every city in Canada I've been to does better.
- start with having a plan to maintain the parks to begin with - do that successfully- and people will enjoy them more - (ex sitting in a patch of dirt and brown grass and dead dandelions in the middle of summer is not great
- Stay focussed on good land stewardship to maintain and preserve the natural environment
- Stop allowing developers to take over and build residential homes in a natural area. Stop Ricardo ranch, bank swallows are endangered and their habitat needs to be preserved

- Stop allowing dogs near/in waterways, build inland parks to swim/play. 7ish years to decompose a dirty diaper, how long for dog bags? Stop off roading bikers through known nesting areas & tents/loud radios near waste water/protected areas/rivers/wildlife.
- Stop allowing golf courses in critical riparian ecosystems.
- Stop approving subdivisions along the banks of the Bow or anywhere in the river valley!
- Stop building condos to benefits only rich people, build cultural and leisure business so we can all enjoy
- Stop building houses and other buildings and encourage natural growth, which will also help divert flooding.
- stop building in the river valley
- Stop building. Stop letting developers build along our rivers, keep them as close to natural as possible.
- Stop crowding them with buildings.
- Stop degrading natural spaces like Ricardo Ranch for developers
- Stop destroying DIY skateparks. Gian Carlo Carra lied to my face while campaigning for the last election, saying he supported the Penguin DIY. Slimeball only was elected because of voter fraud.
- Stop developing close to the rivers, you don't need to live on it to enjoy it.
- Stop developing on the banks. Allow for more access to the river, not just to float, but to fish or walk along the side.
- Stop development and allow nature to take over.
- Stop development of these valleys.
- Stop development on the flood plain!
- Stop putting up ugly expensive pedestrian bridges. Otherwise maintain it as it is.
- Stop ruining them with nearby developments. Develop more natural spaces and pathways to encourage people to appreciate and enjoy them.
- Stop spending money on things like this you can't change anything
- Stop trying to develop them! Use them as nature intended for nature.
- Take advantage of old existing infrastructure to make access a recreation better. Example being the train bridge between Ogden and Deerfoot. Perfect opportunity for a pathway to connect east and west across Botha river and Deerfoot. Connecting both rivers

- Take down that rusty eyesore at 10th street and Memorial drive (the Louise Bridge). Just an artificial industrial "war memorial" that doesn't work.
- Take environmental leadership by ensuring native species are protected and encouraged, and, as appropriate, acknowledge the first nation's traditional territories they sit on with signage and/or art.
- Take good care of the pathways, reduce vehicle access, minimize development impacts.
- Take pride in the river by keeping it clean and accessible to everyone!
- Talk to our river users, pay attention to these fast developments and the actual environmental impact they are having!
- That we just let it has it is.. let the nature runs it's life without human interrupting anything..
- The City can enforce policies and bylaws that protect the river valleys, and engage the population in working to preserve these natural spaces. We can educate the City on the impact of human activity in the river valleys.
- The city is already doing it. It's a huge draw for tourists. Being able to float the river is an away to experience the city from a different perspective.
- The city needs to crack down hard on littering and pollution in our river valleys. That means devoting greater police resources to enforcement while also hiring people to remove litter and dumped trash from our river valleys..
- The City of the Calgary needs to be a leader in riverine and floodplain protection by developing policies to protect natural assets. Fish Creek is the largest contiguous urban park in North America, and is unique. As is Bow/Elbow river valleys.
- The city should make more effort to maintain these areas
- The City should remain good stewards of what are already recognized as the best river valley systems in the world. Don't foul it up by trying to "lead".
- The natural advantage of the river valley is that it already built towards being an active transportation pathway. Creating more connections to residential neighbourhoods and maintaining existing pathways is important.
- The only people that can enjoy the Bow river, enjoy it with their eyes. Bcuz there's no great swim parks. Families can look at it from Bowness park.. sweating.. dreaming that they and their kids could take a plunge.
- The river is a natural, wild beast. Don't try to tame it. Let it live within its environs and try to live with it

- The river valley is something I am very proud of in Calgary, maintaining access to existing paths and parks is really important. Having cycling routes and walking routes leading to the parks and the main veins of the cycling paths for car-less access
- The riverwalk and st. patrick's island are great examples
- The set back is too close and disrespected, once an area is developed the area "dies", seen it happen.
- There is a great opportunity to use the river valley to promote ecological and human wellbeing through naturalization, appropriate activities, and reflective areas. There should be safe and easy walking pathways from populated areas to the river valley.
- They are a natural area. Preserve nature
- They serve vital ecological functions, are sacred place for Indigenous peoples, are part of our cultural landscape.
- Think about having more of a parks presence in each park. I've chatted with parks employees at an info session about a Bowmont park plan and didn't feel they knew the park beyond the report. Parks need employees on the ground to better manage park
- Think if river valleys as part of critical systems that meet basic needs and provide resilience to flooding and climate change and
- This engagement project is a good step. But there will be many voices and who the city prioritized will show its true colours. Developers need to be held accountable and prevented from encroaching on these essential natural areas.
- Thoughtful accessibility. Walking paths. Retention of wild spaces too that support wildlife for wildlife viewing. Retention of native species & identification of culturally significant species/resources. Always with an education component!
- Transit, transit, transit and lots of linking bike trails
- Treat as a Park space
- Treat the river like it's existence is essential. Don't prioritize profit over conservation
- Turn the highways that run parallel into park space instead.
- Unanswerable - in order for EVERYONE to enjoy our river valleys, necessary to keep residential & work places separate from access otherwise only the elite get to enjoy the rivers by owning property on them. Lead by providing more greenspaces & public parks
- Use holistic integrated planning & safety enforcement
- Use trees & plants In natural areas to stabilize the banks and give room for flooding while developing ONLY PUBLIC paths and use in the valleys

- Using the river valleys by strategising on how they can be utilised to combat climate change.
- Value access for all and new ways to use the river valley
- Water resource management is essential to ensuring our city is climate resilient, flood/drought resilient, and continues to provide high quality drinking water. We should continue shaping river use and access through this lens.
- We can lead by example through stewardship for the land. Let's not take it for granted.
- We must be the only city in the world that does not have a restaurant patio on the river. The one on Prince's Island face a stinky feces infested near stagnant lagoon. Ok but nothing to do with the near mountain stream esthetic of the Bow River.
- We need a boardwalk all along our river valley.
- we need an East-West pathway connection between the Bow River and the Elbow. CN Rail bridge/corridor from Lynnwood to Blackfoot Trail would be great!!
- We need an inter-city Nose Creek Park.
- We need more Bowness parks.
- We should remove roads and industrial sites, where feasible, to "rewild" the valley. It was a huge mistake to put Deerfoot Trail in the Bow River Valley. More natural space over commercial or industrial use.
- We should not live or work in the river valley, it should be used for parks and natural areas, and safe havens for animals
- Well maintained Pathways with Signage on Shared or designated paths. Washrooms avail and open all year. Not just mid May to Oct.
- We're are already! Keeping them clean, maintaining trails and keeping the areas safe.

Verbatim Comments - Drop-In Events (In-Person)

What are your hopes for the future of the river valleys? (prioritization matrix the following items: Nature; Culture; Recreation & Access; Building & Development; Flooding)

Based on your selections above, why should those aspects of the river valley STAY THE SAME?

- Would like to see the land between Memorial Drive between 4A and 5A and the river turned into a park with the pathway through it

- Planting more trees that are native to this area and have a long life span
- Maintain/restore wildlife corridors in the river valleys, don't fragment them
- retain all existing natural areas and improve maintenance
- Maintain natural areas with walking trails eg. Bowmont, Douglas Fir
- Keep environment natural and accessible for all
- Free or accessible by removing socio-economic barriers
- Keep things natural, Limit Hard Scapes to create 'sponge environments' that limit runoff and flooding
- Accessible to all - no user fees
- Allow rivers to access their floodplains (where possible) - no more engineering away floodplains to river-adjacent mansions can be built
- Policies in place for flood mitigation upstream to protect the city as a whole
- Fish spawning channels and Dale Hodges Park should not be at flood risk if flow rates and water levels are managed properly
- keep natural valley course as is. i.e. don't build up elevation with fill to reduce flooding of new homes
- maintain natural corridors and spaces where possible. Control flowrates along the bow so flood risk is reduced to prevent a repeat of 2013
- Mixed use residential, recreational, industrial
- Keep access to pathways

Based on your selections above, why should those aspects of the river valley CHANGE?

- Remove the busy roads that border the rivers - memorial, bow trail etc
- Better wayfinding
- Improve signage on pathways and trails to improve connectivity and continuity
- Build more low-key boat launch points along rivers
- Increase enforcement of dog leash bylaws
- Wider pathway buffers with designated multi-use trails with signage for high traffic areas

- We made mistakes in the past building in the floodplain. We can't repeat those mistakes because the landowner is pressuring to develop in the floodplain. Step back from the river
- More information available about recreating on the river (webpage and messaging about safety)
- Manage river access and limit it elsewhere (like river flooding access and egress locations) signage re. why people should stay out of some areas could help enforcement
- The prioritization of bioengineering and natural methods of restoration and stability
- Separate walking and bike paths along all river pathways (x2)
- A south facing patio with a water view where people can enjoy a drink and a meal
- Incorporating nature - natural methods, restoration, preservation, recreational for our community to connect and enjoy. Our connections will be stronger if we connect/build stronger foundations
- Improve and protect wildlife areas eg. Breeding, robust fencing, enhanced plantings
- Monitored and protected around the industrial areas
- restrict building in 100yr flood zone i.e. no new residential
- Protect river valley via upstream res
- develop historic understanding of river valley
- More network connections to the river valley pathways
- connect city bow river pathway to glenbow ranch
- more river walkway connections
- More public information easy to find about our water uses and systems
- More action on upstream water storage. Flood reduction, recreation, irrigation storage for late summer.

Additional Comments (Session 3)

Overall, comments focused on the need for better information on safe river use, more opportunities for water activities, better stewardship, commercial amenities, renaturalization, accessibility and connection to nature.

Verbatim comments:

- I want the remaining natural areas to stay that way and others to be re-naturalized
- natural spaces are key. Can they remain appropriately accessible too?
- It's important to allow recreation within river valleys as those people often respect and become stewards of the river
- Natural spaces - our green spaces are a critical asset to connect us and bind us to the land
- River awareness raising day
- 500 boats 23C hot day magic
- Toilette partnership opportunities
- 3 businesses
- Recreation - not a lot of info on safe boating, more info on you can use the river, launch points
- dial when it is safe
- water quality side elbow gets shut down
- Swimming standards, surf wave
- Tension between users - fishing, kayaking, rafting, surfing
- Safe boating advisory (stop light system)
- 260 used in practice, 280 is correctly used
- Life Jacket and safety kit requirements

Next Steps (Session 4)

Overall, comments focused on there being no development in the 100-year plan, upstream reservoirs, and flood protection, protecting natural areas, and educational opportunities.

Verbatim comments:

- Protect the green spaces
- Heritage - Rosedale Bedrock Valley



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- Heritage - McHugh Bluff Buffalo Jump
- Heritage - Historic Sandstone Quarries
- How is the city protecting residents in communities without flood protection i.e. a berm
- Stop Ricardo Ranch development - serious disregard for the natural heritage of this unique idea
- This isn't a rush. Bigger reservoir first
- more pressure by city to get province to get moving on upstream reservoir
- No to Ricardo Ranch
- Stop Ricardo Ranch development
- How to increase communication to communities for engagement
- Stop the Ricardo Ranch development of the river valley farmland. Ricardo Ranch is home to a Blue Heron nesting site, protect it all. Redevelop old gravel pit into wetland not houses
- Agree, need City to lead re: refusing development applications where massive reshaping of river edge/floodplain is proposed (eg. Seton Ridge in Ricardo Ranch) as proposes to build 100's of homes in bow flood plain, but will mitigate risk (they think) by trucking in 6m of fill. That area is the river and wildlife corridor.
- Development regs re: Protected flood fringe
- Bring the riparian report and respect it
- restrict residential development in 100 year flood zones, walk back plans for Ricardo Ranch
- Offer educational opportunities to river property owners so they have more knowledge of how to be a good steward of the river bank
- Promote upstream mitigation
- staff with big picture first before detailed planning aka upstream

Verbatim Comments - Lord Beaverbrook, Forest Lawn, Bowness and Dr. E.P. Scarlett High Schools (In-Person)

Things I love about the river valleys

Lord Beaverbrook:

- Rivers are important for fishing



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- We can learn from other countries that have industrialized their river. Don't ruin the environment, it's special.
- Coordinated river valley signage for pathways
- We need a balance. Protect communities that are existing with flood structures, use other natural methods
- I want a clean environment for my future. Lots of trees to protect us from dust/air quality
- The river was used by Indigenous communities
- We should leave them be. When we build them up we lose the essence of what makes them special.
- "If you see a good view of the river, you're going to have a nice day!"
- Keep nature intact while increasing recreational areas.
- Need grass fields in the river valley
- better connectivity
- Access to public parks, centres and places our community can enjoy and benefit from
- it's very interesting about the parks and etc
- Open 2 bike trails and accessible routes
- clean up garbage
- Increase plant life
- Keep fuels and harmful substances out
- Native plants
- Recreation - things like jogging

Forest Lawn High School:

- No more littering
- Eau Claire Park - more seating and art structures
- Paved pathway for cycling, dirt pathway for walking
- Like the water at Sandy Beach
- being able to be near the river
- Like the beach

- like the paths in N. Glenmore Park
- Inglewood Bird Sanctuary is very calming
- Like Fish Creek Park - take the dogs there anytime we have free time
- Never been
- Like the Eau Claire area, nice place to walk
- Like the area
- Family trips to Bowness Park
- I like the walk through Chinatown.
- I like being by the waters, I like that there is food in these parks. There is fun things to do here
- Very quiet and clean

Bowness High School:

- Peace Bridge - how do we protect from flooding
- Bridges are convenient
- Use Harvie Passage and like surfing on the bow
- Open, natural, parks are in the negihbourhood, easy to get to Bowmont Park
- like walking in Bowmont Park
- More safety for dogs
- like how nice the river looks at Shouldice Park
- Like hanging out at Shouldice
- like to swim at Bowness Park, there is a calm section there
- Peace Bridge - as years go on, how will we be ptrotected from Flooding
- Prince's Island - like the nature and the trees
- Disc Golf
- Bowness Park is close, can rent skates in the winter, family nostalgia
- It's a beautiful large open area with easy access to the river (Bowness Park)
- Sue Higgins - good memories of going there

- Bowness Park - Forests, rivers and paths
- Live close to Bowness Park
- walking along the river
- Tough to go for a walk in the spring, getting the paths clear of debris and making the paths easier to access (Bowness Park)
- Rafting
- Swimming
- less littering, keep things healthy
- protect wildlife
- Baker Park - disc golf
- As climate changes, flooding could be a concern. Right now, I think we're ok, but a concern for the future

Dr. E.P. Scarlett High School:

- The river valleys are crucial for recreational bonding time with friends and family.
- Downtown - walking the pathways
- being able to tour the area and learn about nature (Fish Creek)
- Glenmore Park- current walking paths, it reminds me of summer
- Sandy Beach - I like access and rafting. More trashcans along the river might help keep it clean
- Walking
- Close to home (reservoir)
- walking the dog
- Fish Creek - It feels like a nice place to escape people
- Live close to fish creek, nice place to walk and bike. Lots of places can be reached through Fish Creek
- Fish Creek feels like a get away from the City and has lots of natural beauty
- me and my friend go on walks there and field trips in elementary. Accessing and learning about nature (Fish Creek)
- Fish Creek - having fun summery days with my family and friends

- Fish Creek- it's quiet it feels like nature
- I go biking with my friends and hangout there all the time. Please keep it beautiful
- Cuz I see my friends there every day
- North Glenmore - the views are beautiful and I have hung out with friends and family there. Fun times all around.
- Skateboarding
- Love the view there
- Sandy beach is full of people. I love people
- Biking
- "Preservation of nature and co-existence with it and different species is really important to me"
- Childhood memories Glenmore Park
- Fish Creek - I live nearby
- I spend time in Glenmore canoeing with my dad. I want less pollution and cleaner water for the future
- Fish Creek - I live nearby
- Fish Creek is beautiful, and I use it to clear my head when I need it :)
- good memories, nature is beautiful, love going for walks in Fish Creek
- Family trips
- Live near Fish Creek
- N Glenmore Bike track
- Fish Creek, open, clearing my head
- Live close to Fish Creek.
- N Glenmore, lots of activities
- hanging out at Prince's Island to study as it's quiet
- Bowness - leisure. Fun to have an open space, especially in the winter for ice skating
- my house backs onto Fish Creek and I spend lots of time biking in the park
- MNP (Lindsay Park) huge park for physical health



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- Fish Creek - lots of animals, close to nature
- because my family always goes there and we have a lot of memories - fish creek

Verbatim Comments - Connect Charter Grade 5 (In-Person)

Things I love about the river valleys

- I can swim and float
- The frogss and fish
- the Beautiful views
- I love the clean water and lovely scenery
- Love it's beauty
- I love everything
- The water is super refreshing in the summer and fun to bike and walk at
- I love that people have an opportunity to go down to the river valley and connect with the river valley
- I love that people care about the river valleys and protect them
- I love swimming, running and taking my dog to the river
- Fish, exploring, adventure
- That you can canoe in the river valley and you can hike
- Going down the river that it's so beautiful and so big
- I love going swimming in the river valley
- I love the scenery and how calm the river flows.
- I like the wind blowing against my face and how I can swim, bike and walk around.
- I love that we can enjoy the valleys and that we can bike and hike
- I love the ecosystems and how when I'm in them I feel really connected to nature
- How we can enjoy hiking, raft, walk etc
- How we can interact and able to see the sites
- I love watching the water birds land and hearing the nature.



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- I love hanging around nature and hiking around the water
- How we have privilege to be able to hike, swim etc in our rivers in YYC
- They're nice and calm, you can kayak and play in the river
- I love that the valleys are pretty
- The walking paths
- The recreational places
- The parks
- The paths, the lakes and rivers
- I get water
- I love biking, hiking, fishing, walking
- I love the wildlife that goes to the water to drink and how it's a relaxing feeling and sound
- The nature, animals, plants etc
- I love the smell and view of the river valleys
- The peace and silence makes me feel happy.
- The flow of the river and all of the hiking trails
- I love that it's a calming and soothing feeling that goes through me as I sit beside the rushing river
- The trails, I love throwing rocks into the water
- Go to places with water valley
- beautiful
- The trees, the view, the river
- I love the wild space and being able to go to the rivers. Seeing all the wildlife and how peaceful it is
- I love how peaceful it is and how free I feel when I go there
- The water, the view, the animals, the river, the air, the life
- nature, animals, rafting, swimming,
- I like rafting in the river and biking and hiking around the trails
- Our recreation and access because I love to ride my bike along the trails.

- Walking and going by the water
- I love to bike and to swim.
- I love the trails in Fish Creek Park
- I like the recreation
- How you can be free
- Fishing, swimming or paddle boarding and run
- Animals, walking and being able to bike
- They look ok
- I look at the view
- The pathways
- They look pretty
- Swimming, walking, picnics, rafting, nature, kayaking
- Swimming, nature, floating, picnics
- When I was younger I loved hanging out by the river, they are cool
- I love the quiet space and all of the animals
- The clear water, the parks
- I just love the river valleys being there. Escaping from the city and taking my dog swimming
- Paddling and fishing
- Fishing and rafting
- The nature and the view
- Water
- feeling close to nature
- going for a walk, biking, swimming my dog
- Swimming
- Wildlife, trees, frogs, kayaking, canoeing
- The plants and the river
- Fishing, hiking, animals, the view

- natural space, all the trails, bird watching
- Animals, nature, pathways
- How the river is so calming and help reflect why I'm so lucky I have this
- How calming it is
- How nice and awesome it is
- Lakes, paths, wildlife
- I like kayaking
- It provides us water for swimming, drinking and other things
- ducks, beavers, swallows
- Swimming
- the scenery, the walking paths, everything
- The water and the animals and stuff
- Bike riding around the resevoir
- Paddle boarding down the bow river
- Go swimming
- Just peaceful walking through
- Walking, biking, fishing, swimming
- The rivers and teepees
- The fact that I can fish, play and do many recreational activities
- Frogs, trees, walking, running, biking
- I love how natural it is, skating, swimming, sledding, benches, tubing/floating
- I went sailing and it's nice to be in nature.
- I like to walk and bike
- Just being in nature
- walking, biking
- The close feeling to nature
- going on walks and looking at the nature during them



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- biking
- rafting
- They are quiet and relaxing
- I do not go often
- Nature, rivers, lakes and animals
- All the nature, I love to take walks around the place
- fishing
- walks, hikes
- The nature! I love the nature in our calgary river valleys.
- My dad loves fishing in the river valleys.
- I like wading in our river valleys, my family bikes A LOT in the river valleys.
- I enjoy walking the river valleys
- Drinking water, the river, moonlight reflected light off the river

Things I wish we could do in the river valleys

- Fishing
- I mean, you can almost do everything so...
- I wish we could try not to build too much communities
- litter!
- The river valleys are so beautiful I wish we could expand them
- I wish I could fish
- I wish that we could clean the pollution
- Protect it
- I wish we could go fishing in the river valleys
- Go everyday
- Make sure it's clean
- take care of it



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- I am content with the rivers as they are
- I wish we could expand the valleys
- Fresh fruit stands like LA
- more excitement
- Kayak, Swim, eat, drive through
- more rental places for floating, hiking equipment etc
- More food stores
- I wish we could make the river valleys bigger and make the river better for not flooding
- I wish that we can clean the valleys more
- more rental and stores to use things
- I don't know
- No
- Spend more time in the valley
- I wish we could have more fish that's in the valley
- Canoeing
- I wish we could reduce pollution
- I wish that one day I can see Mooses, Deer and other wildlife
- nothing
- more animals and protection
- I think that we can make sure the paths are clear
- The paths are sometimes blocked
- I wish you could fish, but I think you can't
- I like it the way it is
- I don't think there is anything to change about it
- more communities in the river and recreation
- To swim
- Catch frogs



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- I wish we could go motor boating in the river
- I wish some things are easier to get to
- Swim
- Fly fishing
- Hike bike and fishing
- Be able to swim
- Catch fish
- More playgrounds
- Keep it the same
- Playgrounds
- Go out for more field trips
- More protection
- Expand and make more pathways
- More solar
- Stricter pollution rules
- Swimming
- Everything I want to do we can do
- Magnet fishing
- I want the city to protect them by taking out pollution
- more nature
- Maybe protect it more
- try to prevent flooding
- more recreation
- Baseball
- Different flowers
- Have Park rangers
- Have only catch and release licenses for fishing



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- More nature
- Keep it the same
- Explore under water
- Let people learn about the river valley to help protect it and more nature and let people go to the rivers
- I wish that it will always stay clean and protected
- More nature
- Only use what is necessary for us
- Recreation and access
- Breathe under water
- Keep it the same
- More nature and less pollution
- make a safe place for dogs and a dog park
- more swimming
- have more places to camp/camp overnight
- nature
- more paths
- add more parks, maybe put places for swimming and have more recreational activities
- play basketball
- Camping
- swimming areas
- More nature
- ice cream truck
- I think we should keep everything the same. Or add more biking paths
- I don't want to change anything
- Walk more
- recreational stuff
- Prevent floods

- more recreational activities as tech advances
- make the river wider to reduce the damage of floods
- more recreation
- have it protected more because you never know if animals are nice to the land
- thank you if you do any of the things
- Clean all the garbage up
- more binoculars / bike trails
- Protect our rivers better.
- Have special teams clean trash out of our river valleys
- Add more bike trails
- I want to keep the same

Verbatim Comments - Miskanawah Youth Council (In-Person)

Things I love about the river valleys

- being able to walk down to the river when it's hot
- The walking accessibility. Coming from Edmonton I find the river valley to be fine as it is in my eyes. At least we can walk next to it. The green of it all, you've got both rural and urban feel depending what side you are on.
- I highly respect river valleys because it's been around for thousands of year and given it's the main water source for our city it caught my eye every time
- I love how easy it is to access the river, and how clean it is, and how beautiful it is
- Floating down the river, natural parks like Carburn and Fish Creek. I like the natural paths. Fish reek has a bathroom and that's very nice
- public access, cleanliness, limited restrictions, nude beaches, water health
- I love the ease of access to the river and how serene the walks are around the area
- nature / balance between human access to rivers and leaving nature the way it is, swimming

Things I wish we could do

- having more access to swim in the river
- get better transit access to certain parks along the river, breaks in the trail
- recommended swimming, inglewood more safe,
- I wish there was more places for the public to swim in the rivers, like swimming in smaller streams. And cleaner river water if we could swim in it, panic buttons and if it's dangerous - danger signs
- more natural swimming, more bathrooms, more medicines that can be harvested (sweetgrass)
- Better float launches - I think of Kelowna float at this point
- more natural, non-invasive plants
- ensure houseless population who use river banks as housing have access to services and are informed/prepared for flooding
- more access for WHOLE city (NE access), more river cleanups, more trash cans, panic or help buttons
- more swimming/fishing opportunities
- more land (more space for swimming/access to space near the river)
- volleyball nets/sport/rec access (FREE to the community)
- Expand Sandy Beach, easy access by car or transit

Verbatim Comments – Action Dignity (Paper)

What roles do you think are most important to Calgary's river valleys? (ranking the following: A place to live; A connected system of natural areas; A recreation space for walking, water activities and leisure; A place to take visitors; A place to work, dine and enjoy other businesses; A location with unique public space design and artistic expression)

- a place for schools, libraries etc
- A Synthesis of ecological system, recreation and cultural landscape with a development of natural space
- affordable housing is important
- all good

- Arts is important for me. Also recreation space and have fun
- As a single person, it is very important for me to have activities near me to enjoy and to be close to my business. On my off days, I enjoy walking and enjoying scenery. I can live anywhere I choose so a single place to live is not important
- Because I live close by the river
- because if there is development planned for the future, it has to take into consideration the artistic expression of people who will use the area
- because priority for me is to protect the river valley as a natural resource and as a unique public space, able to be enjoyed as it is. It should be seen as the beautiful ecosystem that it is capable of
- Calgary's river valleys should be preserved as nature and since Calgary has lots of space we should look into further developing old areas before urbanizing other areas
- Don't know
- Ecology is very important to me; we should prioritize maintaining positive feedback
- Every downtown needs residential areas, keep the beauty of the city, to keep calgarians healthy, show out of towners a reason to visit/live, after work dinners/evening, brunch for reset from work, personally not into this (public art)
- Everyone wants good place to visit that has good recreation spaces for water
- feels right
- For me to enjoy nature while on breaktime
- good, but security an issue. More trees, for handicapped people on sundays parking free, affordable restaurants more unique artwork
- Heritage Park, it is beautiful and there is place for kids to play
- Home is the most important, the rest brings added value to the home and location
- I believe that Calgary's development should be the governments top priority
- I did rank this way to contribute my view of the future of the river valley
- I enjoy taking walks and spending time with family at the river valleys and feel that other areas can be better used for community development
- I have lived in Cranston for 5 years and since the first day I walk with my dogs around the river
- I like people more nature, and open markets so people can enjoy and teach importance of nature to kids

- I like the city to preserve the nature
- I like wide spaces, not too crowded in the nature
- I live downtown and enjoy the park and river. It's nice and accessible. I would love to see more affordable places to eat and picnic areas, places for people to meet. I find the river valley a nice place to walk and bike with my toddler and husband.
- I live near the river and I enjoy it's amenities everyday. However, I would love to see more amenities like more affordable restaurants and picnic areas, places for people to meet. I find the river valley an awesome place to get away from the hustle and bustle of the city.
- I love outdoors with friends
- I love physical activity. I wish there was a large recreation facility here/close
- I rank it this way because a place to live here in Canada is most important. Next is to have work for you to be able to provide for your needs then the safe places for us to travel. And the least one is the place for us to visit, we should give more importance to the things that matter most.
- I rank it this way because I work in downtown and if there is a place to hand out on lunch breaks during summer days is good for recreational purposes and more activities
- I ranked it according to my preference
- I ranked them according to my values in order of what is important to me. 1) all living organisms on this planet 2) community for most people. Money and the economy is important, but not important to me. Those who want to create businesses will create them where they will.
- I ranked them based on necessity
- I ranked them this way as I work near the river. It would be a nice break to walk around
- I really feel that all of these topics are super important
- I see this way the future of the river valley
- I think nothing is missing
- Important connection to nature. For me, it helps me with my mental health. I love nature very much
- It is most important for us to be comfortable in our residence and to feel secure. Second to that is to be near a natural environment. Third is to be near amenities a location nearest public art is preferred so that interest never dies. A recreational for family is of course needed and lastly is a place to take visitors as we don't have many or often for that matter

- I've ranked them in order of what is important to my values. A roof over my head is always #1, second to that is the access to nature and everything after that is a bonus
- I've ranked them this way according to how important this is for me as someone who goes there to relax and unwind
- Just think that more natural spaces around rivers would be safer than homes or businesses.
- Kids entertainment has to be considered and options for local business
- Love my place
- More fun stuff for kids. Animals in the park will be great so kids will be happier. Animals (like goats, pigs, chicken etc). Accessible to all. Important for kids to grow happy and healthy
- more priority for nature the community
- My home
- nature is very important for the physical and mental health
- No
- No
- No
- No
- None
- Not sure
- Not sure
- Nothing is missing as far as I know. I believe I ranked it this way as this will provide basic necessity for people, water.
- nothing is missing, my ranking is based on my lifestyle of being a nature lover, safe social space for people interactions,serenity and love of artistic atmosphere
- Place for entertainments
- Place to live
- Rivers are important for fishing
- Safety, cleanliness, better pathways geared towards handicapped
- security and cleanliness are equally important
- should be a place to live, work and entertain



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- That we must live
- The first important thing is to have a place to live, work and or have a recreation space to every place we go
- The safety or the area, free parking and close to downtown
- There would be a water source for the people surrounding the area. A place for recreation which is a good spot for family and friends
- These are my priorities for city life
- This is the way I like things
- wanted to rank all of them 6 as I don't feel secure downtown river walks. Too many homeless people camping also lots of garbage
- We have lots of family and visitors year round. Having a space for the family and visitors to see not far from our home is important.
- We need to build more places. Calgary have not got enough housing for it's growing population. Very expensive city
- Wildlife preservation is very important to me

What are your hopes for the future of the river valleys? (prioritization matrix the following items: Nature; Culture; Recreation & Access; Building & Development; Flooding)

Based on your selections above, why should those aspects of the river valley STAY THE SAME?

- Access to nature
- to avoid flooding
- include more art
- access to nature
- The natural feel and the safe environment.
- To stay less commercial
- Sustainability for future generations of people and animals
- The river and this area looks great and think everything's of the river should stay the same way

- botanic parks to attract locals and tourist
- safer river valleys for the future
- Happier river with more animal, happy nation
- Beautiful landscapes
- Stays the same
- Keep the river valley healthy so my grandson can fish in the future
- Keep the water clean. A lot of us don't buy bottled water
- The way it is set up, the forest around and the rule of no alcohol
- better place for cyclists and less pollution
- Stay same
- variety of trees like cherry trees. Homeless can eat or people that cannot afford to buy
- continue to expand and add affordable housing to the city project. People with low need to have more affordable housing in downtown also
- trees, animals
- The nature
- Wildlife
- connection with natural systems, recreation with some arts expansion
- restoring the river for better quality of life and control water for floods. Because climate change and rain will have an impact on floods. Arts that will include other cultures
- My hopes for the future of the river valley is to preserve the culture and the nature of the river. I hope the Elbow river area will stay the same
- Clean, bike friendly, pedestrian friendly
- The way it designed the land scape closeness to transport
- It's appearance, how it is set up, how close to transport, how accessible for disabilities
- green freshness everywhere to be admired by locals and strangers
- a lot of nature and family fun parks and recreation
- environmental facilities
- paths and access to the water and parks and bathrooms

- accessible to the public, places to congregate, bbq's
- current density
- parks are always filled with beautiful flowers and greenery that provide the city with some beauty
- maybe maintain the landscape, case of the surrounding and bring harmony in the atmosphere. Maintain few more seating areas
- Secure it from flooding
- Stay clean and beautiful to look at
- cleanliness of the river
- peace and quiet, maintain the pathways
- dog friendly
- I like artists performing in the river valley
- Great and safe places where people socialize or meditate
- I can have more equipments to do exercises, more free parking lot and scooters for rent. They also can have more night markets in the summer. IN the winter time they can have a small heat like in the C-Train station so people can go to the river, sit there and enjoy
- more natural activities such as playground or some events connect with nature. Less homeless and develop more buildings for restaurants
- Keep going with current parks
- Hopefully the city will keep protecting the natural as good as now. Flood is a problem we should think about when we are living near the river valleys
- More trees, have a help button to ask for help if needed more warnign signs if there is flood, construction info for the local citizens
- because the beauty of the city in the picture of the river which as created the richness of nature and human development for the city. Looking at the river in all directions and position makes us have peaceful feeling and proud of being calgarian. The City Council & leaders pay a lot of attention on the heritage protection and development the bridges getting through the downtown with the river right under. calgarians take advantage & value the river by working, exercising and sailing etc.
- I hope the people of Calgary will become more educated with taking care and taking ownership of the river systems. Educated with the importance of keeping our waterways clean.

- greenways, flowerbeds
- I have everybody safe around beautification for relaxation, recreational park
- greenery
- I want spacious environment not too much crowded by buildings
- mountains and nature acceptance to diverse cultures
- more recreational facilities needed to be added. Easy access
- ecofriendly, cultural hostings
- preserve nature, open spaces, multi-cultural environment
- The beauty of the river valleys will be maintained, there will be more ways to protect the river valleys
- can add more things close to the river valleys to showcase the culture of Canada...maintenance
- a safe and more secure place where we can work and enjoy our lives. The bike pathways are wonderful
- clean open areas, less density
- More activities during summer days and the activities are extended throughout the river valleys, not just limited to downtown. More water activities such as water rafting, boating, more accessible washrooms, water fountains and resting areas. Also mitigation initiatives to avoid flooding
- I am hoping that the river valleys keep their natural environment as a habitat for animals and for people to enjoy.
- Animal friendly, street lights, streets & pathways, trees and plants
- Nature walk, bike path
- hoping that it will be better every year
- boat/water (recreational) dock, fishing area, accessibility to washrooms, pathways, bike paths
- The connection to nature, culture, opportunity to explore outdoors or a great spot to socialize with other people or with family
- Same natural formation
- I like to sit down by river
- Just a place to walk

- there is room to improve. Eg have a party every 3 months or more event like education etc
- more affordable housing, flood mitigation and recreation - parks.
- Fishing during the spring and summer (trout)
- Greenery around the river, more trees, wider pathways, access for handicapped people
- holding markets, i.e. easy days
- More of the recreational activities to enjoy with family, more activities for older adults, more cultural sharing activities
- any provision for housing for homeless
- More garbage pick up options
- cleaning of green areas so that everyone can enjoy walking on grass
- more recreational activities like learning water sports.
- More activities for older adults as there many senior homes in the area.
- Adult theme park like shouldice park
- More affordable restaurants
- Flood mitigation, housing for homeless, garbage pick up
- better access for seniors
- A place more friendly for family and easier access
- It being clean and free for all to use. Making the space more acessible for people with disabilities
- The valley will be accisible and open to everyone, it will be free, no payment to access.
- natural environment and maintain cleanliness
- that the homeless issue gets addressed more
- natural habitat of animals and a place to enjoy nature
- preparedness for the next flood
- building up what was destroyed
- cleanliness
- to avoid the flooding that happneed in June 2013
- the cleanliness of the river, beautification of the surroundings

- lots of nature spaces
- keep it natural, keep bike paths, build close but not on trail system
- Clean pathway, clean river
- No flooding, easier access by transit, more restaurants and bars
- I hope it all stays the same, so far so good!
- nature, development and activities
- safety and security
- cleanliness
- to be untouched, cultivated
- the connection pathway to Cochrane
- risk free settlement along the river valley
- new development opportunities like riverstone
- That the continue to be maintained with nature plants and walking and biking. No more building developments
- As we all know, the bow river was heavily used by people that results in strain on the river. I hope to have constant care for it.
- I hope this river has a constant renovation and plans to avoid droughts and floods
- Hope they will be maintained
- preservation and access
- Hope that the river valleys are always safe to walk by and enjoy always watching the beauty of the nature
- To be made attractive, moer accessible and more safe for the sake of people living nearby
- Hope to remain useful and well landscaped
- The environment not getting ruined by wildfires and environmental catastrophe. Development of culture and the arts
- Parks and recreation. Sustainable environment
- pathway would always be there, provincial parks would always be there
- I hope fish creek park will stay as a family friendly nature enviroment
- more cultural events about nature and how we can work together to preserve nature



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- as natural as it is now
- I hope that the natural environments remain conserved and that access to the river is not stalled by construction
- My hope is that less area around them is used for creating apartments and high rises as this takes away from Calgary's natural beauty
- nature, recreation
- The river is nice and clean here, very beautiful, sunny all the time!
- There is not much culture places like my culture or for my culture. I am from Saudia Arabia and only a few business display my culture. Also needs more buisness around to make the rivers beautiful
- We love the beauty of nature, always nice walk and much to see near water. We hope the animals and plants are protected by the city government.
- there is a locaiton in Red Deer called Kin Canyon. Great for kids and family. Calgary can do similar and be prospourous
- Remain conserved and that the multuiple entrances remain avilable to every community.
- I hope that the rivervalleys remain conserved and that there are more conserved efforts to keep the river environments clean
- I hope that the greenspaces stay rather than being developed on
- Isaw a beautiful river valley in the next 10 years. Where I will not have to care about homeless. Otherwise river valley is so nice, I am very pleased with it
- more community programs for kids and young adults also for the seniors.
- More recreation and cultural programs such as dance, music etc
- the peaceful vibes, the happy faces of people after being here.
- natural balance
- natural river environment with lots and lots of attractions of parks
- good maintenance of parks for visitors and play areas for kids
- The river valley sideisgives the good walking experience. It give relaxation I like this nature
- a place for people to gather and have fun. More programs for seniors

Based on your selections above, why should those aspects of the river valley CHANGE?

- a few symbols of arts that represent humanity, natural space and culture
- access to parking
- add recreational facilities specifically in downtown
- added lights and washroom
- allowing it to be open for longer hours
- benches, water fountains
- bike system, make it scooter one side
- cleanliness, access for more garbage bins, the benches cleanliness so that easy to use
- clean area, no garbage, play area
- Clean often
- clean system to provide good ambience for visitors
- Cleanliness, access for seniors, pathways should be concrete for older adults and handicapped
- cleanliness, safety and security
- Construction of canals, more concrete for people to walk on to
- creating snack bar, coffee pop up may be once a week have community together. Maybe promote the racialize communities to participate in dinner activities
- don't know how
- easier access to transit, more bike paths, move the homeless centre on the river pathway
- easy access by more of transit and shady pavements to rest
- easy accessibility, nature oriented
- Family area, refreshment places
- few spots with dogs and artistic expression
- flood mitigation should be enhanced
- homelessness and mess
- hope to be safer than before
- hope to have future plans for the safety of every individual

- I don't know
- I guess not throwing any garbage
- I have not visited every public river valley park. St. Patrick's Island has greatly improved since the 90s. So has Prince's Island Park. I think Bowness Park could be developed a bit more. I would add more resting area along Bowness Park to encourage music and having refreshments. I really enjoyed Eau Claire when it opened, I love the market feel it has. It is a shame that it has not attracted many businesses and consumers over its lifetime.
- I have only been in Calgary 6 months, so far, nothing needs to change
- I hope there would not be so high buildings to the banks of the river, which makes the beauty of the river narrow and people should keep it cleaner by putting garbage in proper places and there will be more creation for access of all kinds of people can join, especially in the summer time.
- I prefer not to change the natural beauty and structure of the river valleys. I prefer to preserve the natural habitat.
- I wish it was cleaner I think there needs to be more done about the litter
- I would allow more space for local art. Murals are a great source of culture and expression that I believe the City can house
- If they can fix the Peace Bridge immediately
- improvement in all aspects of concern especially the security safety, cleanliness and health conditions of the residents
- increase recreation during winter, boat access, cafeteria
- increase safety of community walking around the riverside
- install washrooms and keep them clean. Usually washrooms are quite dirty and only cleaned once in a while
- Install washrooms more as seniors walking around rivers need to use that often
- install washrooms, maintain them
- Just wish there were more garbage bins so people wouldn't litter as much
- Keep clean
- keep it well lighted at night
- less building and development
- Less condo buildings going up

- less homeless
- less homeless people, cleanliness, more lights at night
- less man made encroachment on natural spaces
- less urbanization towards harmony with nature
- maintenance seems to be not enough. Actions could be taken in the near future the lack of maintenance ruins any project and attempt to look forward
- Make them safer for homeless
- more accessibility
- more affordable restaurants, more security and safety, more cleanliness
- more bike lanes, less environmental degradation, less racist people, more diversity and inclusion in sectors that aren't usually for us
- more cafes should be installed, more cultural program should be held, authority should take proper action against natural calamities
- more community centres, seniors health system, less ?
- more greenspace for customers
- more maintenance, move out encampments and ensure no needles and drug paraphernalia are laying around
- more parking space
- more pathways, more benches
- More patrol for safety
- more picnic tables
- more real estate opportunities
- more recreation centre, less construction sites
- more recreation facilities
- more safety measures for families to enjoy all the time
- More seats and water fountains. If you don't have money in Calgary, you don't drink. No one will give you free water
- more security to protect citizens from the homeless sometimes, there are many homeless and make the place less safe to walk or ride a scooter

- More space between houses
- More transportation linked and faster public transport services
- more trees for beautiful landscape
- more trees for human and animals to enjoy
- more trees, more accessible washrooms, more tables and chairs, accessible drinking faucets, cleanliness of the area
- More wholesome plus diverse cultural recreation
- more wildlife sites
- needs more places for businesses and Saudi culture. We have very beautiful culture and language and we love to see Canadians enjoy it
- nil
- No homeless people will live along the banks
- Not sure
- not sure
- Nothing
- nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing
- nothing
- Nothing much, as I said I want to see more cherry blossom trees in the river bed
- parking, seating places, swimming pool
- People clean up after their dogs
- pick up garbage, install washrooms
- planting trees near the river is good. Different trees specially. Like in Africa it is beneficial for humans and wildlife
- riparian restoration
- safety and security
- safety and security, cleanliness, more activities, more affordable restaurants

- safety, better lighting, more fun events
- Safety, I don't feel secure as an older adult walking in this neighbourhood.
- Safety, I think safety is more important for all ages. Sometimes there are needles in the green area
- The animal wastes are lying in the banks of rivers.
- The city of calgary maintains the beauty and the natural ecosystem of the river. The parks the attract birds and wildlife are incredible
- the danger
- the place could be more clean
- the presence of homeless population around riverfront downtown. It's my favorite place to hang out with my kids
- The river cally side is to improve cleaning services, they will add summer shop to increase more
- There needs to be a more concerned effort to clean river valleys especially adter winter when there is a lot of litter and little clean up done
- There needs to be more children places everywhere. We walk far for the park, we want our kids to be close, but everything is a long ways away. More parks and play spaces
- there should be more options for recreations
- they work fine right now
- To maintain quick and easy access to the Bow River, which is now blocked by new constructions
- walking good
- Washrooms, more access for the washrooms

What is your favourite spot in Calgary's river valleys? Why?

- All
- all
- any greenspaces developed near the river valley
- Around the bow
- Baker Park - ver clean, nice to look at

- biking the pathways
- Bow river
- bow river
- Bow river and downtown. I picturesque view, good transport systems, shops, restaurants, parks, indoors, everything is available. Lovely communities with guest ambience
- Bow river to walk and bike
- Bow river valley, best place to play and meditate
- Bow River, calm and nice
- Bow river, Fish Creek
- Bow river, Fish Creek
- Bow River, for walk and views
- Bow river, it surrounds the scenic view of the city as well as to do some fun activities ex: rafting, kayaking and more
- Bow river, people can do water activities, river surfing, floating, picnic etc
- Bow river. I walk to clear my mind. It makes me happy
- Bow river. It's close to my and I like it
- Bow river. It's quiet and I like walking
- Bow valley river, like fisher
- Bowness Park
- bowness park - family and friends. Special events and gathering
- Bowness Park because of easy access to nature
- Bridgeland
- bridgeland bike pathstowards Inglewood
- Bridgeland/Renfrew bikepaths
- calgary zoo. As it has great collection of animal species that is good fun for all age groups
- East Village, walkable, coffee, food
- East Village. I enjoy biking there. Get water, take a break
- Eau Claire

- Eau Claire and Kensington are by eau claire spot
- Eau Claire because of the walking paths and the access to all the food places
- Eau Claire Market
- Eau Claire river
- Eau Claire/Bow River - relaxing, meet friends, enjoy view
- Edworthy, Eau Claire, East Village, Bowness, love recreational spaces for people watching
- elbow river
- Elbow River
- Elbow River for walk and relax
- Elbow river valley, it's the second biggest valley in Canada
- Elbow River. I like watching canoe and activities. Nice Place
- Fish Creek
- Fish creek park, fish creek park is a great place for outdoor fun and leisure
- Fish Creek Park, I have spent a lot of time there with family and is a nice place to walk
- Fishcreek, Carburn dog park, relaxing environment, good recreation spot for biking
- Griffith Woods - discovery ridge
- Heritage Park
- I am living near Prince's Island Park and I enjoy walking as well as biking almost all days of the week here. I think the best thing I love is can spend a lot of time with nature. I still connect to the workplace easily
- I like the pathways because they are nice to walk along for scenery
- I like to walk
- I love the parks, particularly prince's island, east village with St. Patrick Island, crescent heights hill. They are therapeutic, calming and joy to the soul. They're accessible to me and I enjoy the offerings, celebrations of music, concerts, dancing etc
- I love all spots at bowness park and prince edward park, peace bridge. Specially in summer for us to join gathering with our groups or just wandering around
- I prefer prince's island park most. I am very new to Calgary. During summer I spend good times with my husband in the evening, we walk and talk very safely

- I really enjoy the space near the water where nature is welcoming. Then I feel activities with the family and diverse populations when everyone is meeting each other. I like learning their culture
- I think that would be by the river along the sidewalk so I can do my walk, ride my bike
- I think this question is subjective. The river valleys are amazing and have greatly improved since the 90s. I arrived in Calgary in 1993. My favorite spots are those with history attached to them because I am interested in history. For example Lindsay Park that has an old historical railway station close by that is now for the home of the Alberta Ballet.
- I would love to go to Prince's Island Park every weekend because that is a place which connects with natural space. I like the atmosphere and the way to get there is easy.
- Kensington, because it is close to the river and close to many restaurants and Ctrain, nice views
- my favorite spot in Calgary's river valleys is the Prince's Island Park as it's a great place to spend time with your loved ones or alone and the scenic beauty is too mesmerizing.
- My favorite spot is Bow River which is near to Eau Claire Market because it is natural and near to many restaurants
- My favorite spot is Bow River, close to Cranston communities. I can walk with my dogs. It's very safe for them also it's not crowded
- my favorite spot is Elbow Valley, for example, Stanley Park and Sandy Beach because there are many trails and it's perfect for picnics
- my favorite spot is near Prince's Island park. It is the perfect mix of urban and nature. In fact, I do wish there was more business in this area, like oil and gas for investment
- my favorite spot is Riverbend because of the community and real estate opportunities
- my favorite spot is the Cranston ridge. It's easy access to a beautiful nature walk and incredibly close to our house
- My favorite spot is the fish creek park and the swimming lake. The kids love the wide space for swim. We love to let them enjoy and have time to ourselves.
- Near Bow River to get fresh air. I like biking near Bow Valley (side river)
- Parks as they are very peaceful full of oxygen, trees. Prince's Island Park
- Pathway by the river nice place for a walk
- pathways for biking
- Peace Bridge - very chilling/relaxing



Calgary River Valley Project

Public report back: What we heard

August 21, 2023

- Peace Bridge, Bow River
- Peace Bridge, Bowness Park
- Pearce Park in the SE. It is big and it has hiking path around the river
- Prince's Island
- Prince's Island
- Prince's Island because it has park for kids and walk ways and biking space. It's the place we can enjoy with family and friends.
- Prince's Island Park
- Prince's Island Park
- Prince's Island Park
- Prince's Island Park
- Prince's Island Park
- Prince's Island Park - awesome green space
- Prince's Island Park - this park is very close to where I work and very accessible. I always enjoy people watching and enjoying the nice view of the water. I love that the birds and animals found here feels safe and protected.
- Prince's Island Park because it's nice and so many things happens
- Prince's Island Park suits me
- Prince's Island Park, like clean and calm
- Prince's Island Park, there we can have the beauty of the river as well as nature and it is in the heart of downtown
- Prince's Island Park. There are lots of activities and events, many opportunities to connect with nature and people. It is good for mental health to reconnect with nature
- River walk
- Riverbend area. I love searching on the bench overlooking the bow river when I bring my kids downtown
- Riverside
- riverside, I like to sit and have a picnic with my friend
- road perfect for jogging

- Shouldice Park. I really enjoy the view of the river and it is family relaxation spots
- sidewalk and the benches. These are my favorite places as I am fond of walking and sight seeing
- Sikome lake because it is a nice way to make use of that area for leisure
- St. Patrick's Island
- St. Patrick's island - it has everything I enjoy. It has places for children to have fun, picnic areas, natural and man made pathways
- St. Patrick's Island - walking path, children playground, nature, picnic area
- St. Patrick's Island as it has everything I need in a park
- St. Patrick's Island there's nature spots, peaceful areas and place for children to play. Also picnic spots and a place for have events
- The arts and crafts district such as mission and 17th Ave, arts commons, stephen ave
- The bow river. Cause it's the most managed river in the city and connects many intersecting cities that helps people live their everyday lives
- the fresh air
- The natural habitat and the walking and bike paths. The nature garden plants and the beauty of the plants. I love taking people to see the beautiful river. It is the more pristine river I have ever seen. Keep it Blue!
- the park which is close to Chinatown. I love the trees and stuffs
- The river by east village. I chose this as I work in east village and I like to take breaks by the river. I also enjoy the markets held there as it's near transit.
- The riverwalk, great place to relax/bike/run
- the water because it's nice
- the weaselhead natural environment is our families preferred spot in the city, connected to elbow river. We really appreciate the access to the parks for the kids, the adults really appreciate the access to the parks for the kids and the adults REALLY appreciate Calgary's efforts to establish a safe nudist environment.
- Trees
- Walking early morning for a very fresh air

How might The City lead by example to make our river valleys a great place live, work, and enjoy for everyone?

- For example, our artificial lakes close to our communities, they can great for our families and visitors
- The new communities are great because they are either near a river or they have an artificial lake (ex. Auburn Bay, Riverstone Cranston etc).
- The City should make sure that river is protected - environment/eco friendly. Clean water first, free of pollution, green parks, sustainable environment
- A great place to enjoy for everyone
- More seats in parks and near rivers. Safer Calgary to walk around evenings and week ends
- more fun things to do in downtown during summer, fall, spring
- To bring new fun thing to do all year (activity) preserved the nature
- Improve public transportation to encourage people to choose public transport
- more accessible to everyone, less discrimination for healthy nation
- More activities and safer
- keep natural so people get to have more fishes
- Involve more people
- More food truck or street food
- Safer and affordable to welcome everyone
- Keeping the park and water clean
- adding more seats. Accessible to everyone
- ask people what they want
- not sure
- I don't know
- as a recreation, expansion of arts, source of ecological function
- Survey like this to include everyone
- enjoy everyone
- urban planners - accessible to everyone
- talk to people

- I don't know
- provide people with recreation and meaningful moments of leisure
- improving infrastructure near the river valleys
- model for security, cleanliness, health, sanitation our concern in front of city hall
- maintain roads, walkways and mark bike lanes etc well
- make places accessible for those with walking limitations
- initiate and act immediately
- Maybe improve garden space, keep benches to where people can sit together and communicate with each other. Maybe water fountains (drinking water), few ducks in the pond, few trees
- keep it safe for everyone
- By providing budgeting to support to maintaining the river valley and invest in people centred recreation and keep public safety in place
- The need to reinforce safety so as to enjoy nature without fear. The good maintenance and cleanliness of the parks add to their attraction of citizens. Scheduling festivals and celebrations contribute to the vitality
- I do enjoy the scooters near the river, so I hope they can have more scooters and bicycle for renting. Besides they can have a show or small music events in the park and do marketing more to let residents know about it
- less homeless, more security and more recreation nearby
- I suggest that City of Calgary should design more leisure centres in downtown. I have a difficulty to find out then in downtown for example, YMCA locations. Construction sites are increased too much this summer time, it makes traffic very bad
- well, I believe that an ideal area is made by many reasons, and the City lead can create some ideas, have some plans and make it widely available to everyone. A place is fresh, no crime and many activities
- I hope to see more sport activities in the summer and music to encourage people to use this public space
- cleaning the road is important, helping homeless to have their own spaces instead of letting them sit around the bridge
- they do a great job right now on the construction, buildings and parks for people live work and enjoy while living in the city with beautiful river

- IT would be great if people could be taught better manners. I think that it is too much for me to ask. I think some people need to realize the park areas are not race tracks. Those ridden by cyclists and e-scooters need to slow down. Some people are respectful, but not all.
- keep them clean and maintained
- safe and clean place
- more recreation centre, more cultural places to visit, more easy accessibility and recreation centre
- in winter clean the roads, secondary and tertiary roads as it creates great chaos in winter. That can make life easy to live, go to work
- by adding more activities near the river valleys
- great place to live
- enjoy for everyone
- they are maintaining the river valleys well, by giving people the opportunity to enjoy it as well
- Can add more recreational places along the river valleys
- by improving the safety of people. Nowadays it's a bit scary to visit places alone
- Keep paths clear, safe and well maintained
- preserve/maintain the natural resource and at the same time improve the accessibility for everyone. More access to trains, bus etc. add more events and gatherings for everyone to enjoy
- It would be beneficial if they made it accessible to everyone from wherever you are in Calgary. More roads and bridges so everyone can enjoy.
- Have a more spot to do water activities, water park, paddle board, kayaking
- Keep it clean and always safe for everybody uses it
- by collaboration with communities around the valley
- Keep clean
- Keep it clean and make it user friendly
- maintain cleanliness
- Safety and security, cleanliness, pleasant spaced
- By creating more public places for people to enjoy themselves and by building more affordable housing to limit the number of homeless people around the river.

- more affordable restaurants, events/shows for seniors
- keep it clean from bird droppings
- safety to walk freely, cleaning of the pathway especially for kids, sometime its hard to keep them away
- easily accessible pathway for physically disable people, more interesting public art
- More Indigenous art to connect with the history
- Safety is of utmost importance to me. More areas near the river for maily fun, walking pathways especially for the handicapped. Entertainment, events that are inclusive, learning workshops, more interesting artwork, more native artwork and history
- More artwork, more accibility to parks, better lighting, safety, cleanliness
- more relaxation spaces
- By adding more activities for people to do
- make the parks more accessible with frequent bus trips to parks like bowness park
- maintain cleanliness
- make them safe, creative, visually appealing, family friendly
- more benches for customers
- make it clean and green
- picnic areas, reading spots, paved walking spots
- keep the city well maintained and clean
- by maintaining the river, clean and beautiful at all times
- I think the city can still improve by putting canals so there will be a passage of irrigation and human waste
- more food trucks, hot dog stands. Make it fun to bring friends
- make sure it's clean, easy to access by transit, make sure lots of good food places
- Keep it clean, possibly have security around
- overall to live and enjoy with families
- maintain cleanliess and safety
- keep it clean, keep it accessible, small businesses along the valley
- develop moer areas so that they are easily accessible by transit and personal vehicles

- Calgary is doing an amazing job taking care of the river. Keep up with nature and recreation. Less businesses and homes
- we should have a continuous plan for the river for it's not to be subjected to periods of drought
- Keep it clean and accessible to everyone
- We should focus on preservation and ease of access
- the patrol officer are making sure the river is clean
- by taking care of it. By keeping it clean and safe
- I believe that we should invest more in our cultural sector for this place to be a great place to work, live and STAY
- if the city of calgary is set on the river valleys then make it safe to live there even during a flood
- communities like riverstone and quarry park
- wildlife preservation
- putting more readily available dog walking garbage composts down so that less dog walkers toss their garbage into the rivers or by sidewalks
- I would prefer the river valleys to stay as parks for recreation rather than living areas
- The city needs to build more business near parks. It is too far to walk for food or drink when I am not downtown.
- Calgary is so beautiful and gorgeous, but there is not much things for our kids like parks. I wish there to be more parks or play spaces
- The city could implement more policies to halt littering on river pathways and make more disposal units available
- ensure that it is safe and clean for everyone to enjoy comfortably
- I wish river valley had more cherry blossom trees
- creating more job opportunities for the immigrants
- the city should be more neat and clean
- great place to live and work
- make more safety a priority
- cleanliness, more art work

- more safety, look after homeless, cleanliness a must

Verbatim Comments – Pop ups (In Person)

- Widening of pathways on south side of Edworthy Park
- all the ridges in the pathway hurt bike riders with bad backs
- Riverwalk is a beautiful place but due to homeless and DI a lot of crimes, vandalism and garbage. It would be nice to clean up regularly, not just once a year.
- South side of Edworthy have spring run off and path is dangerous/closed.
- Clean up litter on the bridge to St. Patricks.
- More garbage cans and have them emptied more often - willing to pay more for that to happen
- More bathrooms
- Cut down vegetation/trim away from the seating
- doesn't feel friendly
- at Riverwalk, steps used to go to stone benches and water, now are overgrown
- Peace bridge - vegetation is cleared out and can walk to the water
- East Village needs more picnic spaces. Lots of weeds and undergrowth, lots of garbage
- Need more bathrooms
- lots of rafts that need space to exit the water safely
- Rafting, make it safer getting in and out of the water
- Pathways by Pumphouse/car dealership/old Greyhound station - move 11th St away so that the pathways have more space away from the cars
- Rewild the river valley
- the City listened to protect the escarpments in Silver Springs
- Ricardo Ranch - protect it so the herons can nest
- I wish river valley was more vital. Like San Antonio, etc. I wish to see more music, stores and restaurants
- More bike lanes, fewer cars in East Village
- More education for pathway users

- Edmonton has full size sandwich boards reminding users of pathway etiquette. Calgary should use that instead of tiny signs that no one sees
- unhoused and encampments
- More benches on the pathway
- More natural uses
- Better access for more activities
- in and near downtown need to have green spaces for picnics and BBQs
- Workers in the area can take their lunch in the park near the river
- dead tree maintenance
- biking speeds
- separate bike pathways from other workers
- more recreational focus (bikes so fast and not sharing)
- more places to sit (picnic tables & benches)
- Places to sit in shade
- housing for this unhoused
- supply bags for pet waste
- parks in the area used and have a lot unhoused
- recreational spaces eroded by garbage and presence of unhoused
- footbridge maintenance (footbridge by Lindsay Park)
- House the unhoused
- increased graffiti
- more area to access and view the water (to gravelly banks to set up lawn chairs, enjoy the water)
- enforce leashed areas improve dog waste pick up/disposal
- footbridge at 23rd ave to accommodate restaurants in mission
- maintain greenspace with MNP rec expansion
- more awareness around care for river
- more litter pick ups/clean ups

- struggles around encampments and drug paraphenalia
- more public washrooms
- I live here because of the access like biking, walking, hiking
- a really walkable neighbourhood
- hikes, walks, taking care of people
- can go almost anywhere
- hang out along the shore and take a dip
- can't think of anything to change about the nature
- I don't like the bikes or the scooters
- post pandemic there's been less animal control on the river valley now
- too many off leash dogs because of no enforcement
- young families don't want to use space because dogs are off leash and poop everywhere without it being picked
- more density - residential and commercial space
- 25th & Macleod intersection needs improvement
- Creeping Bell Flower along elbow river pathway in Lindsay Park (it's an invasive species)
- safety - no homeless
- parking access to busy river area
- more trash bins
- clean washrooms
- wheelchair accessebility at the south side of the river - this is a special place for health care workers to bring their clients for a walk
- No McDonalds - small café's - not chains
- lovely small café to have a drink
- more parking at Edworthy (the Angel's sied is so full)
- More bathrooms
- need more benches along the river (esp. Sandy Beach)
- More bathrooms



Calgary River Valley Project

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August 21, 2023

- more nesting areas for eagles and ospreys
- More pollinator (bee) plants
- replant with native tree species
- encourage plants that produce food - berries etc
- make a nature preserve
- native animals for life cycle
- more ways to connect with nature
- educational signage about how to leave species alone
- more cafes
- benches near river banks or spaces for people to sit
- preserve nature, no big development / buildings
- wider pathways
- separate paths for bikes and walkers
- user conflicts - separate bikes and pedestrians
- increased winter maintenance cleaning pathways of ice
- more benches along the path for persons with disability and washrooms
- electric bikes, scooters, segways - dangerous, need a way to regulate and enforce
- ambience of small cafes are good
- Douglas Fir trail maintenance on the south side
- drainage and icy on south side trail in Edworthy at the base of the wildwood hill
- signage on trails, signage for safety purposes (waypoints on the trail to communicate to EMS)
- Emergency access for trails - specifically talking about Douglas Fir Trail
- bikers go on pedestrian path, don't read signs to dismount - should be ON the path (painted on pavement)
- bike racks on Angel's café side for No bikes - needs to be moved to the north side of the building (rented from Parks, can they be moved close to foothills?) the south path is used by wheelchairs

- educational signage about cyclist behaviour - example of signs in China with "Do nots" for cyclists
- regulate use of Ebikes
- bikes on the bridge are dangerous, people need to dismount on Edworthy bridge
- Fenced off leash area
- more cafes - spaced out along the path - quick/affordable, coffee & donut
- rest spots with food along the way
- more washrooms on south side of Edworthy park
- get rid of homeless people
- bathroom maintenance, upkeep, people using it improperly
- water fountains that work
- pave parking lot on north side (of Edworthy Park) and add lines
- more parking, safe wading area in the river for kids
- update playgrounds
- more access to water - more important with climate change
- recreation river swimming
- more trees
- more dog parks and off leash at river
- safety in downtown/St. Patrick's island - mental health/people crazy put them off from visiting downtown - more patrols on bikes
- adult exercise equipment not working - increase maintenance
- too many off leash dogs in on leash areas (especially in natural areas)
- clear walking path as well as cycling path
- pathway clearing in winter on walking paths - cycle tracks are clear so makes walkers conflict with bikes
- better snow clearance and ice clearance in the winter
- less privatization along the river. Public access, not houses
- add maps/wayfinding



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- fix parking - overcrowded
- some paths need repaving
- mor washrooms and water stations
- splits cyclists/runners
- maps with distances and directions
- more green the better
- wildflowers along the banks
- native fruit trees for birds/nature - add habitat to keep out of housing areas
- connected wildlife corridors for animals
- as natural and beautiful and safe as possible
- close to home
- running - straight flat path that goes a long way
- connectivity of pathways to downtown
- picnic facilities
- no additional commercialization
- love the accessibility to nature
- wants to see it as it is - natural, lots of trees