



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard  
July 28, 2017

## Project overview

This is my neighbourhood (also referred to as TIMN) was created to provide an opportunity for residents to partner with The City of Calgary to identify ways to help make their neighbourhood an even better place to live, work and play.

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

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

## Engagement overview

This report back covers what we heard during the visioning for Spruce Cliff. This is the first step in the engagement for the this is my neighbourhood program.



## What we asked

Residents in Spruce Cliff were asked:

What would make Spruce Cliff a better place to live, work and play? They were then asked to choose their top three vision words from a list, see below, or to add their own and explain why they chose that word.

- Accessible • Active • Beautiful • Clean • Connected • Diverse • Family-friendly • Healthy • Inclusive • Safe • Walkable

### Step 1 Tell us your vision

What would make your neighbourhood a better place to live, work and play? Choose your top 3 words from the list, **or add your own**, and tell us why.

- Accessible • Active • Beautiful • Clean • Connected • Diverse • Family-friendly • Healthy • Inclusive • Safe • Walkable

Vision Word (example)	Why? (example)
Accessible	I see many seniors with walkers and parents with strollers who have a hard time crossing streets.
Vision Word #1	Why?
Vision Word #2	Why?
Vision Word #3	Why?



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard  
July 28, 2017

## How we connected

There were three different ways that citizens could provide feedback:

1. Everyone in the neighbourhood was mailed a postcard with vision question and could drop it off at Wildflower Arts Centre and the Spruce Cliff Centre. The postcards were sent to 1,030 residents.
2. The vision survey was available online through the <http://engage.calgary.ca/myNeighbourhood/sprucecliff> portal page from April 7, 2017 until July 7, 2017. The survey was promoted on neighbourhood bold signs, through Facebook, Tim Horton's TV, and recreation facilities as well as on Spruce Cliff community association websites. We received 197 ideas in Spruce Cliff through online engagement.
3. City staff attended various community events to gather feedback. We received 174 ideas through in person engagement. The table below summarizes the events we attended, where the event was and how many people we reached at each event.

Event name	Number of people reached at events
Neighbour Day Community Event	100
Outdoor Garage Sale	125
Coffee for Commuters - Westbrook LRT Station	65
Retree TTC Event	11
Retree YYC Education Event	13
Coffee for Commuters - Westbrook LRT Station	108
<b>Total</b>	<b>422</b>

4. When asked online how participants heard about the project, participants provided the following information.

Source	Number of participants
In the mail	21
Social Media	10
Community Event	3
Recreation Facility	1
Bold Signs	9
Word of Mouth	6
Tim Horton's TV	1
Other	1



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

## What we heard

Generally speaking, the majority of stakeholders who provided feedback identified the main vision words as safe, beautiful, active, and accessible. When further examining the question of “why”, the following themes were identified:

**Safe** – Participants of Spruce Cliff TIMN expressed a high value in upholding safety within the neighbourhood. Input on themes such as increased police presence, traffic calming measures, increased lighting, City owned infrastructure maintenance, and flood mitigation measures was received.

**Beautiful** - Participants of Spruce Cliff TIMN expressed a high value in the beautification of the neighbourhood. This beautification included themes such as the removal of litter, increased greenery and trees, regular landscaping, regular maintenance of infrastructure, and increased public art.

**Active** – Participants of Spruce Cliff TIMN expressed a high value in having active and recreational opportunities and programs within the neighbourhood. Residents suggested many specific kinds of activities that can be found within the verbatim section.

**Accessible** – Participants of Spruce Cliff TIMN provided insight within the vision word of accessible in two interpretations. Some participants expressed a high value in the neighbourhood having a well-integrated connection system for pedestrian/cycle/car mobility that is regularly maintained to ensure safe access and connections. Other participants interpreted the vision word of accessible to place a high value in affordable access to programs and services within the neighbourhood.

For a verbatim listing of all the input for the visioning, please see pages 5-35.

VISION WORD: SAFE	5
VISION WORD: CONNECTED	10
VISION WORD: DIVERSE	11
VISION WORD: ACTIVE	12
VISION WORD: BEAUTIFUL	13
VISION WORD: CLEAN	16
VISION WORD: INCLUSIVE	17
VISION WORD: ACCESSIBLE	19
VISION WORD: HEALTHY	21
VISION WORD: WALKABLE	23
VISION WORD: FAMILY-FRIENDLY	25
VISION WORD: OTHER	25
VISION WORD: OTHER	27
GENERAL SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTS	32
GENERAL MAP COMMENTS	32



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard  
July 28, 2017

## Vision statements

There are 3 vision statements for Spruce Cliff. A quick poll on the <http://engage.calgary.ca/myNeighbourhood/sprucecliff> page will be available from July 28 – August 8 where you can pick your favourite one. The vision statements are based on the vision words you shared with us through the engagement.

*Spruce Cliff values being a safe, beautiful, active, and accessible neighbourhood.*

*Spruce Cliff values safety, having activities for all, being well connected, and being a beautiful neighbourhood.*

*Spruce Cliff values safety, having accessible activities for all, being well connected, and being a beautiful neighbourhood.*

## Next steps

In July and early August we will be planning the creative process. First, we will share with you a number of neighbourhood vision statements and have you select your favourite one.

From that vision, members from your community will work with City staff, to come up creative ideas (programs, services and small-scale infrastructure improvements) that support that vision.

In 2018 those programs, services and infrastructure projects will be implemented.



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

## Verbatim Comments

The following is all of the verbatim comments we received for Spruce Cliff. The verbatim is broken down into the submissions received online, and those received in person through the postcards. One exception is If an inappropriate word was used then the following is used to indicate that it was removed: [inappropriate word removed].

Vision Word: SAFE

**Selected – 66 times. Answers to “why” below**

- Wire fencing in community by park is not safe
- Transient people in the community
- Programs are expensive hard to afford
- Lack of child supervision vehicles coming in fast in community
- Drugs in the community transient people coming in
- Bullying in the community - need support
- Better lighting in the community. More chances to meet neighbours to be more safe
- Safety for little children is important. Many older kids smoke, drink, leave glass on the floor
- ages 13+ shouldn't play in playground
- I would like to see more kids stop bullying and using offensive mang towards others
- children need security to develop and become future leaders
- We have seen some shady activity with the opening of the Westgate station. Overall, the community feels safe but there is room for improvement
- No homeless drunk/drug camps living in the woods, littering, starting fires, and harassing people.
- More police patrols are needed as lots of rental homes that are housing stretchy people.
- This is a high density neighborhood and now that the c train is here there are more problems with theft, drugs, violence in our neighborhood.
- "Our lane & rear properties flood with fast winter melts & heavy rains/hail storms for the past 3 years. This is because there is an excess amount of fill spread in the lane from new construction.
- As home owners we have try to do everything you could think of to try and stop this flood, but without the fill being removed it will not stop."
- Most of Spruce Cliff is in the designated walk area for Wildwood School, yet the traffic on 36th street and especially 37th street is high and sometimes far too fast for kids to safely cross. I would like to see this area assessed for different options. Perhaps these roads that divide the community should be closed with better accessibility at 45 street, or some pedestrian signals be set up for safer crossing. I believe the pedestrian walkway across Bow Trail is also being revisited, which is badly needed.
- We've had our vehicles broken into several times over the 4 years, as well as caught people loitering and scoping out our property. There are also people going through recycling and trash every single night and we do not feel safe to go into our own back alleys or access our garages at night if alone. In close proximity to low income housing and the train, there is high number of transient people around and we do not feel safe going out alone at night. There are also a lot of old bungalows being rented out; earlier this year



## This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

there was a large police search in our area, with suspects being arrested, ghost cars blocking off our streets, and helicopter and ground searches included.

- The gravel lane behind my house (and most of the houses on Spruce drive between 3rd avenue and 35a street) doesn't provide the right drainage and my garage is constantly flooded.
- [safe. speeds on spruce drive before school zone should be reduced to 40km]blind corner. failures to slow in time.
- "Slow down the speeding traffic on 37th street. Would be nice to see more speed enforcement after peak hours when there is more speeding or reduce the speed limit to 40kph.
- There are more children around and there are too many vehicles speeding through."
- "Discourage loitering in and around the LRT terminal and Westbrook Mall.
- More police presence at the Barbary Walk complex.
- Discourage the itinerant camps on the Quarry Road trail and along the trails to the river."
- There is not enough street lighting and with the LRT line, more vagrants are walking into the neighbourhood and peoples yards. The overhead power lines need to be buried. Gross looking and a serious hazard.
- Turning lane into 8th from Spruce drive and removal of parking for first 50 ft of 8th Ave SW as very unsafe right turn on to 8th Ave from Spruce
- Feeling safe (while going for a walk, communicating, staying alone in the house and at night) is one of the most important factors to consider when choosing a place to live.
- There needs to be a reduced speed sign on the curve section at the north end of Spruce Drive. Drivers are going too fast and are ending up in the park, which is very dangerous

- "The low income housing area does create a concern with trespassing, theft and property damage to various areas in the community.
- Additional CEPTD measures should be implemented to reduce crime in the area."
- Multifamily homes/ rentals you don't know who you're neighbors are.
- could have said walkable - east –west walkways feel unsafe, walking surfaces are uneven, they are poorly lit & overgrown with adjacent property bushes, cars often park at the ends making it difficult to cross the street to the next section, and there are no curb ramps for bikes or grocery caddies. These walkways are well positioned as we have few east west streets, but they are often covered in ice because adjacent properties direct there down spouts there and it seems unclear who is supposed to shovel the snow off of them.
- Crime has grown recently with more vehicle thefts, drug use and possible drug "house" in the area. We need to understand the "bottle picker" life; how to engage with vulnerable people, if necessary; who to call if one observes criminal and non-criminal activity, empower residents to take ownership of their community, be observant of what goes on in the neighbourhood and chat with neighbours.
- Spruce drive between 3 Ave SW and 35a Street sw is potentially hazardous for drivers who approach it inadequately. Even at 50km/h the turn is tight and consistent enough to get cars to slowly drift outwards.
- There is this pass on the curb going from the entrance of WestGate High-rises building to the Bow Trail where there is no pedestrian pass (approx. 6 meters). When it snows or rain this area is either full of snow or flooded and you have to walk out if the curb and get to the street to be able to get to the corner of the street. With



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

the summer coming perhaps is not a big issue but it is a pain in winter time.

- We have had lots of car prowling's and vandalism over the past few years. Also, the intersection at Bow and 37 Street SW is very unsafe for pedestrians because of the strange angles that cause drivers to need to look almost backwards to see pedestrians. We were told improvements to this intersection were coming but nothing has happened.
- Undesirable characters come from downtown on the train to our neighbourhood.
- Get rid of the trash and the under-utilized properties. Get rid of the grime and you get rid of the crime. Take the time to come up with a design that is cohesive but inclusive. Create spaces that can be used by all people in the community. For example, include some green spaces and play areas for children that will attract parents from all ethnic backgrounds where they will feel safe but also feel like they belong there. Find the common denominator. Coffee shops are also great for this. Perhaps even a movie theatre? People are naturally drawn to spaces where they feel they can be part of society. Right now there are only pockets of spaces within Westbrook that accomplish this but it's very disconnected and patchy. Simply filling in the gaps in a random process will not achieve this.
- We are experiencing vandalism and break-ins of autos and our building.
- "Park maintenance and cleanup is very important, the tall grass hides the dangerous bio-hazards from the illegal encampments that are taking over our parkland as well as others who miss use our park.
- As of late walking through our park is scary and uncomfortable with all the encampments and unfriendly people living there."

- the walk to & from the Westbrook LRT feels like a tunnel in the block south of 8th, in part because there are no people around on the golf course side and seems to be high walls on the west side. I often have to step out onto the road to pass people. If you walk the other route south down Poplar Rd, you hit a wall at the old library and if you go over to Bow Trail & south you are on a pathway on the edge of fast traffic that does not get cleared like a sidewalk does in winter, and you get sprayed from the road stuff.
- 37 street from bow trail to spruce drive is an obstacle course after all the constructions from the last few years (potholes, uneven road surface, elevated/sunk-in manhole covers).
- In several discussions lately, from different demographic groups- all appear unwilling to call the police or bylaw services for different reasons... including that they have no right to do so because of the development where they live or that it might affect area property values...( they want / expect someone else to do this for them) resulting in a false perception by statistical measurement that the community could not use a little help managing "bad behaviour". – Perhaps some awareness programming on how & who to ask for help, and the reasons why that is important – how we all have a part in the wellness of the community.
- "Spruce Drive between Wildwood School and Spruce Cliff school requires to be slowed down. I appreciate playground zones in place for part of this however we have a number of residents that do not observe these zones and the long drive between the 2 schools typically has cards travelling well over the speed limit. We need speed bumps put on this road to slow this traffic down once and for all. Perhaps even putting a 4 way stop at Spruce Drive and 37th Street SW.



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- As well, there are a number of pedestrians (adults as well as children) where there are not enough cross walks on Spruce Drive (again between 45th Street SW all the way to the and 37th Street SW). A suggestion would be to include cross walks at Spruce Drive and 37th Street SW."
- lane way drainage restored to pre infill construction patterns, gravel levels have risen 150 cm in areas with the redistributed excess construction fill causing flooding of yards and garages. Every year for many years (5?) we are told annual lane maintenance will fix it but it never does and last year gravel was added making it even worse - although the bigger "clean" rocks did help with the dust.
- Urban forest planted (way back) cotoneaster shrubs at the back of walk that now are bigger than I think most expected them to get - in the days of the owner no long allowed to prune these bushes. – so they overhang the sidewalks – right at eye level for some of us. And every year some of us ask that they be pruned back – which is done to the edge of the sidewalk. Need a different solution – perhaps remove some of the sidewalk side branches at the base so this can become a 5 year cycle and not a ½ season cycle and reduce the eye poking risk.
- I don't feel safe walking by the low income housing.
- Just heard they are going to repave Spruce Drive and take out all the bumps; that currently act like speed bumps – really concerned; that the soon to be smooth surface will have cars / cyclist traveling even faster than some of them already do. Can anything be added to crowd the street?
- "East west travel between 8th Ave & 3rd Ave – we have the gated lane behind 8th Ave – we have the disconnected sidewalks in front of Spruce Cliff Centre ( which is not a sidewalk for

parks rule issues) – we have the unsafe route through a parking lot , we have the reasonably safe sidewalk in front of the strip mall, and the lane behind the strip mall.

- Could someone look at can the rule be changed and connect the sidewalks at Spruce Cliff Centre ? walk from the bus stop to the entrance of the building and see how that goes ;).
- Could the lane behind the strip mall become a street – to move the traffic that cuts through the parking lot (vehicle /cycle traffic) to a less conflicted route. And in an ideal world the above ground electrical wires on the edge of the school playground would be put underground- although the wires are handy for stopping the odd soccer ball."
- House numbers on the lane way face of properties to assist with emergency response call out.
- With 37 Street being a major artery into Spruce Cliff, I wish there was a way of making this more walkable, beautiful and safe. It is a concrete road with cheque cashing stores, Mr. Lube and the backside of a mall. I am not sure what can be done about promoting more retail locations that have a better feel to them...coffee shops, etc. I feel like the backside of the mall will always be an eyesore and not sure if the City can do anything about it since it is private land. Also, the Bow Trail green space beside the apartments...is anything being done with this? Just an open space...trees? Something?
- Someone keeps removing the "no bike sign plates" from the park walking pathways ... and could the police bike patrols occasionally travel these walking path routes off of the paved pathways ... the encampment population seem to know they generally do not and behave as if it is a safe haven. The camps are not just a behaviour issue, they do significant damage to





## This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

the park - cutting trees, the added risk of open fire pits and the bio hazards they sometimes leave behind.

- Road slowing measures as Spruce Drive, 2nd Avenue and 3rd Avenue are sometimes used as shortcuts into and from Wildwood.
- Road out front of lobby very icy in winter, broke my ribs once
- So we feel safe outside from danger
- Better lighting in the community of Spruce Cliff. Police presence - deal with drug dealing in community - in Shag.
- Speeding through the community - and in the complex - put playground sign back in
- There many unreported crimes here with a code of silence. Within the last week an alarmed robbery. There is much evidence of drug activity.
- No lights on courts
- Many kids resort to violence stealing - need more programs
- Police presence, drug deals
- So many flowering weeds in the 'grass' in the park that they attract stinging insects where our feet & seats are supposed to go. An issue for those of us allergic

- Accurate mapping of the walking pathways down to the river. Lots of visitors thru the community use this park too
- People travel too fast around the blind corner where Spruce Dr. changes direction. We have many 'T' intersections along Spruce Dr. & 37th St as well the North end of Cedar Cr. is one of the worst
- If the trees are planted between (on the side of) the main road, they also increase safety, mostly for young kids; conclusion: this would make the LRT access from Spruce Cliff much nicer too! Side-note: the mall would benefit also (& Calgary transit)
- All ages and families need to be safe to exercise and dog walk
- Cut down on vandalism
- Good lighting for a more secure feeling. Regular patrols around comm. Events
- More street lights
- We have no problem because we have a 30 zone



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

Vision Word: CONNECTED

## Selected – 25 times. Answers to “why” below

- Feel connected to others - neighbours / know what's going on
- Know what services are available, know what activities are happening
- Meeting people outside of complex - get to know neighbours
- Better communication within neighbourhood. Don't know what's going on/ where to find it
- no comment
- Community events - advisory group to solve problems in the community meet others in the neighbourhood
- More community events & activities. More volunteer options in Spruce Cliff
- The quarry trail behind the golf course connects to the pathway system and would be great for cycling commuters, except it's in disrepair and very dangerous. Loose gravel and rutting mean people fall cycling there regularly. Consultations happened already and construction was supposed to begin in late 2016 but so far, nothing. Attempts to get updates from Evan Woolley have been unsuccessful. Very disappointing to have a path that connects to the pathway system that is so terrible for commuting.
- It would be nice if the adjacent high-rise apartments would share their fitness and pool facilities with Shaganappi High-rise residents. I would pay a fee if it was available to low-income residents.
- A connected community ensures that we look out for each other. How do we make 37 more ped friendly
- We have a beautiful library (Nicholls Library) but I see that space is limited. We would love to get a bigger space to be able to enjoy more of the computer area. Some times at that area you see lots of people waiting to be connected and in this era of internet connections we need to offer to more accessibility.
- Because we are a multi-cultural, mixed income community that does not really engage people living in the large apartment, town home, and condo complexes in the area. We are living in separate realities, and not necessarily participating or feeling as though we belong to an integrated community.
- We enjoy walking in the neighborhood and we've noticed that there are several places where the sidewalks end abruptly. It would be nice to see those finished.
- "Build a pedestrian overpass at Bow Trail and Spruce Drive
- Lots of foot traffic occurs from Spruce Cliff to the LRT. Bike traffic also could use this overpass.
- The benefits are to people and bikes directly, but also to cars that do not need to wait for either bikes or pedestrians to cross Bow Trail"
- Seems the only way in or out is Spruce Drive or 37th. Even if you go down into the green space by the river, there's no nearby footbridges to cross the river.
- "The Spruce Cliff strip mall does provide quality goods and services to the residents of Spruce Cliff.
- The area should be more connected with better sidewalks, parking, and improved



## This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- public realm to attract people to this shopping centre."
- such a diverse community, we need to come together
  - Ensure that the services & businesses are working together
  - More community celebrations & networking opportunities to meet other neighbours
  - More community events to meet neighbours & learn about community
  - walkways needed for better linkage to park, playground at wil flower/better bridge more communities

Vision Word: DIVERSE

### Selected – 8 times. Answers to “why” below

- "Add a family friendly bison paddock at the park. We need to introduce Bison back into the neighbourhood. ONLY JOKING!
- Maybe some Goats"
- Spruce Cliff is a warm and welcoming community. Over the past few years we have learned how to embrace our diversity and understand how it can enrich our community.
- There are various different age groups, cultures and socio-economic statuses in Spruce Cliff. I think that everyone would or could enjoy more activity though. There seems to be green space that is rarely used along Spruce Drive (school yard)? I know the new lawn bowling facility has added a HUGE improvement to the area. I would also like to see an

- People are nice on S.C. like opportunities to meet people
- bow Cliff Seniors (poor choice of name to include all adult ages) Community Centre - activities news ltrs politicians
- Song nights, 3am sessions, interest or connection; info sessions, paper newsletters; 3am talbot, reading w/children
- A place to meet at night for coffee; alum in signs, gas pipes, place to stage, kids, dogs

outdoor fitness gym/park. I have seen them in a few areas in Calgary and first noticed them when I travelled in Asia. Adding something that is interactive like that (playground for adults AND kids) would promote more of a community mix.

- Have different cultures
- Transit & mall are important & bring interesting people to the area; positive need to make those connections across Bow Trail
- Celebrate other cultures in neighbourhood get to know one another
- Seniors quest - children with disabilities working class adults arts centres, bus routes easy access to larger malls - a nice variety of stores in small local mall. Some young children. All income ranges



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

Vision Word: ACTIVE

**Selected – 38 times. Answers to “why” below**

- Outdoor rec gyms - things to stay active on low budget
- Benches - not enough (around the park) - some shade over benches
- More programs to keep kids & adults busy, adult & child fitness
- would like more basketball programs for youth and exercise classes for adults
- Soccer nets/posts - better ones for both adults & children to pay
- more programs/opportunities for fitness activities
- I would like to see many more physical activities offered by programs
- Basketball programs for kids in the community
- There is less green space to play now that the Ernest Manning football field has been replaced with the train station and the baseball diamond beside the Wildflower Arts Centre has been replaced with a Seniors Centre.
- With the golf course adjacent to Spruce Cliff and Edworthy, it is important for the community to be seen as an active area in Calgary. Additional Tennis Courts, bike lanes/paths would attract and promote an active lifestyle in Spruce Cliff
- It would be great if we had walking access to the shaganappi golf course right beside the community. A gate on the west side of the course would make it way more convenient to walk there. I'm sure there would be the odd person that tries to golf for free, but the many marshalls on the course would quickly identify them.
- Ensure that sidewalks are easy to use to get to lrt
- There doesn't always seem to be many things going on in the community and often we have to leave Spruce cliff to find something going on.
- how about some turtle ball courts?
- Similar to walkable, this allows people to meet and enjoy exercise and maintaining their health in a fun and sociable manner. While the Spruce Cliff Seniors centre is available for older folks, for the majority of the residents who are younger than that, there are not a lot of options. The kids have their playgrounds but they seemed to be underutilized due to the relative lack of children in the area. There is city land available in the area to incorporate more adult-focused activity-based equipment.
- The Douglas Fir trail was closed without notice or signage, and again, little communication from the city on the future plan for it. A great inner city park that has been made inaccessible without adequate communication.
- A fitness center in the old library building would be ideal for low-income residents.



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- When decisions are made in the neighbourhood make sure that the neighbourhood and City use Active/Healthy lense. Focus on people movement
- More activities, more course would be great.
- "Getting outside for the sake of enjoying our surroundings promotes fitness and emotional wellbeing. Neighbors meet neighbors and we promote community
- Maybe a parkour gym in the park behind wildflower? A community garden in that school yard? Pickle ball court?"
- Great outdoor amenities. Basketball courts are great but here is no seating for friends and family.
- More events in the area to draw the community closer and make it even more appealing to visit, live, and play.
- There are a ton of kids in the area. It would be neat to do something for them, some free activity or sport or something.
- Spruce Cliff feels like quite a stale neighborhood. New stores have started to move into the little strip mall and it's becoming more lively. I'd like to see some incentives for neighborhood businesses and perhaps a little rezoning.
- Provide some vitality to the area instead of just driving by. Vendor in park days or promote food trucks around the sport courts.
- Programs that bring community residents out and to attract residents from neighboring communities.
- Exercise parks, Eliston park
- Youth programs, soccer/basketball/dance programs
- Basketball programs as well. Group recreation activities cycling/yoga
- Structured programs get kids involved in more activities - sports swimming soccer/ clubs gymnastics
- Summer programs & through fall - education - reading/ tutoring / art programs that we can afford
- I have actively participated for 16 years cleaning up this community and not one person has assisted me it requires many hands to show an effort to care for the common areas as well as individuals homes
- Want kids to be busy - need programs like sports - art programs (soccer)
- A better place for kids had a bad childhood, kids come first
- Youth play basketball after dark w/ no lights
- Like to play at the park lots of kids at the park to play with
- We can't play bball when weather is bad - need indoor access
- Activities in evening for seniors, walking, drop in convo/coffee/games, 7-9 pm

Vision Word: BEAUTIFUL

**Selected – 45 times. Answers to “why” below**

- Benches - not enough (around the park) - some shade over benches
- Littering - lots of garbage in community / gardening in the community
- Maintain the fences in Shag. Villages - upkeep it. Makes whole community look run down



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- Garbage around the community, seating & art work
- Replace fencing in Calgary housing. Would improve look of neighbourhood
- To have lots of plants and trees everywhere
- I would like to see many more plants and artwork
- flowers in the surroundings of the complex on the outside
- Spruce Cliff is already nicely located, but it lacks a sense of personality.
- I think neighbourhoods present themselves as beautiful when other criteria are met. There is appealing green space ( spruce cliff is blessed with the golf course, parks, the escarpment and watery trail). But properties need to be tidy and well maintained, and streets need to be clear of litter. (Spruce drive just off bow trail is quite bad. Lots of garbage blows into the golf course fence). The subsidized housing near there is in desperate need of some Maintenance, new sturdy fencing etc. It looks like a slum
- All the highly sought after communities have mature trees. We don't plant enough elms to cover our boulevards to create picturesque scenery. We need to take pride in our elm status.
- Trees along Spruce drive adjacent to Golf course. Removal of advertising portable signs that junk up and distract from beauty.
  - not in a flowery way, but parks & boulevards cared for. Free of dandelion & clover in grass areas, with no litter or dirt mounds from the rodents. Could something not be done with the center median with weed growing from the cracks in the first block north of Bow Trail along Spruce Dr. so we do not look as poor as we really are.
- "Turn area NW of Spruce Dr and Bow Trail into a park
- The space is too small for anyone to buy for commercial development. It is an eye-sore and will continue to be an eye-sore forever (as no one will buy it commercially).
- Turn it into a park so all can enjoy it AND as a welcoming introduction into the community."
- Would love more outdoor spaces to walk through, sit in, ride around, and enjoy. A promenade lined with trees in front of shops, park benches to sit on shaded by trees, green spaces to play and have picnics.
- The spruce trees along Spruce drive have suffered stress from the past droughts. Don't replace them, just add small spruce trees to prepare for succession
- Would like to see better ways to advertise infills. This would make one small thing more beautiful
- It would be lovely if there were more gardens or, public art. With the amount of bike traffic, and increasing local business, and an many green spaces, it would be great to have an increase in the look of the community to go from dated to more modern shift that already started!
- Many homes are old and rundown. Please allow for development and renovations that help to beautify the area.
- For the benefit of the community and the public generally but also to avoid this area from becoming simply an over developed over density area and "drive through zone" to other remote/ newer areas... make/keep this historical and existing green spaces as a part of this area where people wish to live to avoid



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

sprawl and increased municipal resources associated with sprawl...

- Keep the green areas mowed down a bit better to keep the dandelions down. Could bring in the goats! (Or is it sheep?)
- We have a variety of public spaces (parks, natural areas, community centres etc) and we need to celebrate these spaces. Foster a community's sense of pride in, and ownership of, their public spaces
- The entrances to our community are very tired looking and run down. Poor first impression of our community . The green spaces are full of weeds.
- Calgary housing units need some TLC - inside and out!
- With the Wildflower art centre located here I think Spruce Cliff has the potential to attract artists and become known as a quaint and artsy neighborhood. Perhaps encourage some public art, make art studios available or something like that.
- Calgarians and, more specifically in this context, Spruce Cliffians (?) tend to be fairly active and healthy people. Our adjacency/proximity to the Bow River escarpment and the associated walking trails is one of the unique and wonderful features of Spruce Cliff. To this end the continued improvement, expansion and maintenance of these trail systems is of benefit to our community and, by extension, to all Calgarians. One segment of the hillside Douglas Fir trail (between the Spruce Cliff access point and that segment below Wildwood) has been closed for a number of years. It would be nice to see these communities once again connected and accessible by this beautiful trail system.
- the weeds growing up the chain link fence from Bow Trail to 8th Ave – beautiful? Not so much! Could the golf course not weed wack along the fence line on the golf course side just a foot width once a month and just before snow in the fall.
- There have been lots of trees planted and I would love to see more!
- While the Alberta government has removed the dandelion from the 'noxious' weed category and the City is therefore not obligated to control it as such, it still seems irresponsible for the City to allow our park spaces to become overrun with this troublesome weed. We, the citizens of this City, can be fined (or at least given harsh warning) if we do not properly tend to our own yards and allow them to be overrun with weeds, etc... and yet the City seems to have abandoned their duty to do the same for our public parks. Every public park or school lot in Spruce Cliff is a full of weeds! As responsible citizens we spend time, money and energy keeping our own yards weed free, a task that is that much more difficult and costly as seeds constantly fly in from that park across the street or down the block.
- More age related activities, group projects, etc.
- More flowers/grass to community. Limited funds to do so - need help for this
- More gardens, flowers in the community/ art work/ gathering places for families
- Make park more accessible by Quest for people w/ disabilities (the equipment itself) paint the playground fence by Quest
- More outside lights to make it look nicer
- More gathering places in the community with picnic tables/art to gather to neighbours & family



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- More flower beds, more garbage cans (in Shaganappi) more seats at playground
- More on street planting of flower beds & pots
- Plant trees along all 4 side-walks between Bow Trail/ 17 Ave and 33 /37 Street SW (LRT to mall entrance)
- I see not NOT to overpopulate the area. Keep green space LIMIT high rises
- It adds to the quality of life, plant trees!
- Trees clean the air. Natural filters
- Trees provide shade in the summer
- Cleaner neighborhood
- Wildwood Dr - 173 , green space, used to be mowed, not mowed now, why?
- But in our complex this is very good, so no complaints

Vision Word: CLEAN

**Selected – 25 times. Answers to “why” below**

- Garbage in the community, people dump in the complex
- Like everything clean, garbage in community
- Many adults and children leave garbage on the floor and outside it makes the area look ugly
- There is a lot of garbage lying around it makes this place look poor
- High density development has created more litter and a noticeable issue with dog [inappropriate word removed] everywhere. Although Edworthy park is nearby, it seems people generally prefer to walk their dogs in the neighbourhood. Some sort of program to encourage people to pick up their dogs poop would be helpful. Example: more signage, poop bag dispensaries and garbage cans. The single sign in the middle of the little park in the neighbourhood isn't effective/enough.
- "Too much dog poop in plastic poop bags being left in the alleys and walking pathways down to the river valley. Let's get some ads telling people to discard of dog poop properly.
- Maybe dog poop garbage cans would help.
- Garbage clean up along golf course fence would be nice as well."
- "Need more trash pickup along Spruce Drive by the golf course fence.
- We're glad to see our streets were well swept by enforcing the tow-away bylaw."
- Clean up the "Shaganappi Village"... Fences need repair and paint. Residents must be taught to take pride in their home....no clutter in the yard, grass cut/snow shovelled, windows cleaned, and suitable eye-pleasing window coverings.
- Some properties could use some cleaning up. I would not be adverse to noticed, warnings when properties are left un-kept. Same with cars parked for prolonged periods of time.
- The community housing located just north of the condos on the corner of Bow Trail SW and Spruce Dr SW are a filthy mess. This area has become a ghetto because there is no integration of this community with others in the community. There is constantly garbage along the sidewalks and street surrounding this area. The dumpsters are over-flowing with garbage (including furniture and other larger items that should not be disposed in a dumpster). The trash from this area spreads out and de-values adjacent properties. There





# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

is constant crime in this area, as evidenced by police constantly visiting this area. Several bush shelters have been smashed in the area and there is graffiti appearing on public and private property. These properties should be torn down. Come up with a better design. It seems that the City is working on things from the wrong end, always trying to jam things in the make them fit (i.e., jamming a square peg into a round hole). It's not working. Work on it from the other end. Design it right first and then build it.

- Clean the sidewalk/road (Spruce drive) by the empty space, during the winter when all the snow melts, it pools in the middle of the road/sidewalk and hard to walk across. Often not shoveled in the winter.
- A lot of garbage flies out of the open garbage bins along Spruce Dr. It would be nice if the city could replace these bins with ones that have a lid, or build a cover over them or something. There's always lots of garbage around Spruce Dr near the condo development and affordable housing area, and along the fence for the golf course.
- There are often shopping carts pushed around from Westbrook mall and left in the alleys or against bushes/trees. People are not diligently picking up their dog droppings and leaving a mess behind.
- There is constant littering in the woods and path areas.

- More garbage receptacles along Spruce Drive
- Having more trash bins available in community
- I believe it is important for our health and also makes for a proud community. Keeping our yards and community clear of garbage, animal waste, cigarette butts, garbage will make our community a happy, healthy place to live as well as keep the value in our homes.
- Cleanliness of the neighbourhood is important to have a quality living.
- Garbage collects along the fence by Shaganappi golf course. It would be nice to find a solution to keeping that area clean.
- I see lots of garbage in some areas of our community .
- To help make the earth green
- Referring to Shaganappi village - the community here is unsafe with used needles, condoms, human & animal feces, children are barefoot
- Grass where the bare patches are cleaner complex
- The above trees also absorb CO2 reduce noise levels, shelter from wind & (snow blowing sideways)
- Makes for a better feeling and pride of community

Vision Word: INCLUSIVE

**Selected – 19 times. Answers to “why” below**

- 
- More events in the community that bridge different cultural groups in the community
- There are some people who can't speak English, so it would be cool to get programs for them



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- Educational programs for ELL parents
- "Original plans for the new building occupied in part by The Bow Cliff Seniors showed an extension agreed to by all parties at the city meetings.
- The majority of participating members of the BCS are women. In order to INCLUDE more men, unstructured offerings were considered to be the answer.
- A games room with a pool table (provisionally donated), dart board, shuffleboard was part of the long-term vision - with a room upstairs for card games, popularly Bridge games and tournaments.
- From the beginning of all-party discussions and BCS planning the extension was an accepted integral part of the new facility, appearing as an outline on many of the architectural plans and a positive part of discussion.
- To INCLUDE males, who need to be encouraged to participate in some away-from-home activities, this promised space for BCS extension should remain a vital part of the Spruce Cliff scene"
- [Inclusive: Allow the spruce cliff shopping plaza to have an outdoor patio at the coffee shop and pub. Allow the mall to have a specialized liquor store]. Walking distance of the large condo complex. It's center of the neighbourhood so you don't drive across bow trail to Westbrook mall. Allow an easement for proximity to the special needs school if that is the problem.b
- It would be nice to have more events in the neighborhood that bring ALL Residents - including Calgary Housing and the AHS
- With the diversity of the community it would be great to see more inclusive or community events. There are many cultures in the area, and it would be great to have opportunity to have events that everyone could attend, and meet one another.
- We have an incredible range of people in this neighbourhood. It would be great to find a way to include and engage us all in common activities.
- This idea goes along with "Diverse" as this is a very diverse but fragmented neighbourhood. People tend to live and play within their social strata so there are divisions and barriers that prevent people from meeting others especially from different socio-economic groups. It would be wonderful to see opportunities developed within the area to allow different groups of people to mingle and meet. Again, the Spruce Cliff Community centre is focused on seniors leaving those of us not in that demographic without options to interact with others in our own community.
- We moved here knowing the Shaganappi Village was a major low income housing development in the area. There are also expensive in fills with young new and sometimes affluent families, and older residents in modest bungalows. We really like and value the diversity of this neighbourhood. However, the low income housing seems not to be very culturally diverse. Over the last year, I have read about one family in particular that felt there was reverse discrimination in this facility. Can the city aim to have a more diverse group of individuals talkative it makes low incoming housing available to?
- The city has planted more trees in our Cedar Cr community park in the last couple of years – they need to grow BIG – so water please. And some benched closer to the street



## This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- amongst the trees would be nice for the less mobile group.
- "Park access to Spruce Cliff Park from the south and east. –park space & the awesome play structure in the lands around the Wildflower Art Centre.
  - Access is now through a narrow opening beside the lane gate and then a narrow opening in the post a cable. There is no way family visiting the care centre across the street can push a wheel chair this way to access this park - unless you go all around to the parking lot of the Art Centre it is pretty much impossible to get access to the grass area. The go around route – down 8th then north on Poplar there is no sidewalk on the east side of that section of Poplar Rd ... just try pushing a wheel chair/ stroller through that often filled with water “ditch” after a rain."
  - Spruce Cliff has embraced and welcomed everyone...seniors, families, children young professionals and the multi-cultural community. We continue to strive to engage everyone through the community association, business community, churches and organizations (Bow Cliff Seniors).
- "Access to the park from the route using the cross walk at the Wildflower Art Centre – to the south there is no opening in the fence until you get to the lane behind 8th Ave and to the north there is no obvious path down beside the building to get to the kids play structure... especially if you are pushing a stroller.
  - Could the lane become a more official pathway... we have very few east west travel corridors from Spruce Dr. to Poplar Rd. Is the lane gate still needed – could it be smaller or a post? In the winter the little space opening often gets piled up with snow from sidewalk clearing to make access an even bigger challenge."
  - Projects and programs that support all of the community supporting each other
  - Programs in Spruce Cliff community - tutoring/education & basketball - available for all people
  - More events/activities for all ages & socio-economic backgrounds
  - Not a lot of things for teens to do
  - Must be place for all cultures and multicultural teens activity

Vision Word: ACCESSIBLE

**Selected – 32 times. Answers to “why” below**

- More programs, sports (soccer, basketball), tutoring
- Near by in the community family / child activities, anything outside the city programs are expensive
- Younger camps & programs for kids 4-5 yrs. Preschool in this program, nothing close by for families to use.
- Boring(?) / no events; groups & programs for adults & children, close by
- For those in walkers and wheelchairs, to be better access around the community
- More affordable programs in the community - keep kids active
- Education/tutoring programs for kids/youth that is low-cost



## This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- More tutoring & reading programs for children close in the community
- ESL classes for adults in the community - low cost
- Spruce Cliff features a diverse population, from young families to seniors. It's home to both a private special needs school, as well as a senior center, and ARBI. Despite that it lacks wheelchair lips along the side walks, and accessible playground. Wouldn't it be great to have a nice accessible park, where the young and old could come together. Where families of seniors could take them to a park (art center in spruce cliff is a good start) and be able to enjoy time at the playground, without having to worry that they will not be able to push a wheel chair all the way there.
- One of the main reasons I bought my condo in Spruce Cliff is that there is a C-Train station within a walking distance and it is close to downtown (close to downtown but not in downtown).
- More paths to the river, that are at grade, lit, and safe to travel at night on. Getting into edworthy on a busy day is crazy.
- With cycling in mind, the Douglas Fir Trail erodes due to rainfall every spring and requires ongoing maintenance. The bike lane along Spruce Drive becomes impassible due to plowed snow in the winter.
- paved path between shaganappi clinic and the park would be great
- The inter-block walkways in our neighborhood are a unique and useful feature of Spruce Cliff. However, they have been allowed to fall into disrepair and are now becoming difficult to safely ride or walk upon. Perhaps new (and modernized) signage could be considered and the bike prevention rails removed from those walkways that still have them in place.
- As an inner-city community Spruce Cliff is ideal for the growing bicycle commuting and/or pleasure riding population. The accessibility afforded to us (and all Calgarians) by the bike paths in our communities is a health and accessibility benefit and so the growth and integration of bike lanes and paths should be fostered. Spruce Cliff community demographics are changing. We are seeing an older population giving way to young and growing families. A safe, accessible bicycle route/lane/path system is and will continue to be an important aspect of Spruce Cliff and, more generally, Calgary.
- There is a seniors villa housing development, nursing home, and special needs charter school all in close proximity. It would be nice to see more ways for those neighbours to enjoy Cedar Crescent park and the other green spaces, maybe more paths and adding benches.
- Recently the recreation department – community walking route map accessed through the Wildflower Art Centre site – was updated to remove half of the walking routes in the Spruce Cliff Community... most missed by me is the access down to our off-leash park in Lawery Gardens (could someone fix the spelling on the city off leash web site map?) via. the Douglas Fir Trail (east route) that starts at a branch north from Quarry Road Trail (west end). – understand this is in part due to temp closure of Quarry Road Trail for improvements & ATCO pipeline work – but there are other well established routes from the west entering at 3440 Spruce Dr. that could be put on the map for the walking



## This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

community. A big chunk of our community land is now not accessible to residents – with our demographic free park use/activity is very important and the walking loop options of varying lengths down to the river is a big part of that.

- A common centre where community residents can openly use which will bring people together.
- Our bike pathways are important to the neighbourhood
- Bridge specifically
- More affordable programs hard to pay for them
- Struggle with math - tutoring in the area. Too expensive & out of the community - hard to drive
- Tutoring program in the community - transportation is a barrier - expensive programs

- Make fees lower to join local community association, sports, lawn bowling etc.
- Many seniors with walkers and parents with strollers who have a hard time crossing streets, make cross walks more visible - lined crosswalks
- Even sidewalk on the corner of Balsome Dr.
- Basketball & dance programs for the kids on weekends to keep busy & programs for adults, yoga
- Seniors programming that more affordable . Bow Cliff is too expensive, computer lessons, coffee time
- Carry bikes right on the bus
- Be friendlier , bus benches @ each stop. Free bus pass - rides
- Repave Spruce Dr. bad identification for curb projects

Vision Word: HEALTHY

**Selected – 15 times. Answers to “why” below**

- Children are picking up bad habits of older people and its not healthy for them
- There are a lot of stuff like glass and cigarettes lying around the park, and it isn't healthy
- Regarding of the age, gender or race we are a very active community, you see lots of people going to work every day and lots of people around the neighborhood all day. We need to be healthy and we need locations where we can gather and meet in order to be able to workout. I think would be good idea to get a place where Yoga, Exercise and Indoor activities that can bring better health and well-being.
- A community garden would be cool
- This word encompasses active, walkable and safe as well since all of those aspects create a healthy community. It also relates the litter/poop issue. It also applies to ongoing issues with Shaganappi Golf course. Because they are exempt from residential noise by-laws they are quite disruptive to the residential developments that back on to them. In the past they have not being respectful neighbours and choose to start their lawn maintenance first thing in the morning (6am) along the residential portion of their course instead of starting away from the residential areas. They also use machinery



## This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

that creates significant exhaust. This frequently affects the air quality of those residential areas (can often smell the exhaust in the immediate area). Although the golf course is beautiful, the maintenance of it creates quite a bit of noise and air pollution to the immediate area. Simple updates in maintenance planning and machinery would make a positive difference.

- It to protect and honor the existing green space and other natural resources in our area for the benefit of the public and to promote more parks, bike access and green access to allow for a healthier lifestyle
- Love that we have the beauty of the golf course here and mature trees as well as the river. It would be great to see more classes that cater to de-stressing such as meditation, walking, stretching, hatha yoga, painting, tai chi in the evenings so those of us that still work could participate. Everything seems to be catered to daytime. There are a lot of active people, but also those of us who want more low key exercise.
- Neighbours who are healthy have time for one another! Food gardening could benefit our health for many reasons.
- A gate on the west side of the golf course would encourage more people to walk there.
- "Cedar Cr park - Little things to encourage activities – this park is beside a busy walking / cycling route to Quarry Road Trail that links to the Bow River Pathway.
- Some kind of subtle programming – station posts with suggested exercise for circuit training as you work your way around the perimeter of the park ... need to be graffiti proof.
- Or without paving it all – kids games like hopscotch... the types of activities that the kids draw on the roads & sidewalks with chalk ... it would be better if they were in the park."
- Recently the recreation department – community walking route map accessed through the Wildflower Art Centre site – was updated to remove half of the walking routes in the Spruce Cliff Community... most missed by me is the access down to our off-leash park in Lawery Gardens (could someone fix the spelling on the city off leash web site map?) via. the Douglas Fir Trail (east route) that starts at a branch north from Quarry Road Trail (west end). – understand this is in part due to temp closure of Quarry Road Trail for improvements & ATCO pipeline work – but there are other well established routes from the west entering at 3440 Spruce Dr. that could be put on the map for the walking community. A big chunk of our community land is now not accessible to residents – with our demographic free park use/activity is very important and the walking loop options of varying lengths down to the river is a big part of that.
- Calgarians and, more specifically in this context, Spruce Cliffians (?) tend to be fairly active and healthy people. Our adjacency/proximity to the Bow River escarpment and the associated walking trails is one of the unique and wonderful features of Spruce Cliff. To this end the continued improvement, expansion and maintenance of these trail systems is of benefit to our community and, by extension, to all Calgarians. One segment of the hillside Douglas Fir trail (between the Spruce Cliff access point and that segment below Wildwood) has been closed for a number of years. It would be nice to see these



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

communities once again connected and accessible by this beautiful trail system.

- While the Alberta government has removed the dandelion from the 'noxious' weed category and the City is therefore not obligated to control it as such, it still seems irresponsible for the City to allow our park spaces to become overrun with this troublesome weed. We, the citizens of this City, can be fined (or at least given harsh warning) if we do not properly tend to our own yards and allow them to be overrun with weeds, etc... and yet the City seems to have abandoned their duty to do the same for our

public parks. Every public park or school lot in Spruce Cliff is a full of weeds! As responsible citizens we spend time, money and energy keeping our own yards weed free, a task that is that much more difficult and costly as seeds constantly fly in from that park across the street or down the block.

- The above trees also absorb CO2 reduce noise levels, shelter from wind & (snow blowing sideways)
- Trees green space, nearby river pathways, bike paths, no flowering trees in green space, west of Cedar Crescent

Vision Word: WALKABLE

**Selected – 23 times. Answers to “why” below**

- More green spaces, baseball diamonds / replace soccer domes
- I would like to see more retail, markets, restaurants, coffee shops, food shopping, personal services within the community so that I would not need to get into my car to access groceries etc.
- To promote well being, a sense of community and engagement and to reduce carbon footprint
- "When people are walking outside, they have the opportunity to meet their neighbours, enjoy the outdoors, appreciate their neighbourhood and get some wonderful exercise. This is especially important in an area such as Spruce Cliff as so many of us live in condos so no backyards or gardens.
- I am an avid walker and one of the reasons I chose to live in Spruce Cliff was because of the opportunities to walk with access to the Quarry Trail and the Bow River Pathway

system as well as the stores and transit at Westbrook and 17th Avenue.

- There has been a lot of emphasis on biking in the area with the bike lanes incorporated into Spruce Drive; now we have to focus on pedestrians which outnumber cyclists in this area. Make our area more walkable! There are lots of issues such as missing sidewalks on the north side of Spruce Drive west of Cedar Crescent, no enforcement of speed limits and lack of safe crosswalks in the area."
- The community is traffic-oriented - sidewalks are not pleasant to walk on - no buffers - they are right on the street. Crossings need improvement. Speeding is sometimes a problem. There are almost no services. Other than a coffee shop and convenience store, everything else requires a drive to the mall. Walking to the mall is not pleasant. Spruce Drive is the space that needs the most



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

improvement to make it walkable and attractive.

- "A community that feel easy and safe to walk around will bring people outside to promote community, healthy living and I think promotes a safer neighbourhood .
- Improve sidewalks and clearing are good. A new better designed overpass on bow trail is needed
- There is no decent way to walk along the golf course side of bow trail"
- A gate on the west side of the golf course would let us walk there.
- The sidewalks around the high density areas, community services and retail spaces seem run down and too narrow for the increased pedestrian traffic. Making these areas more pedestrian friendly would be nice. Wider sidewalks and a few benches throughout the neighbourhood (not just in the park area) would make walking around more appealing.
- empty space should be utilized for something. Should at least have grass or trees.
- The Ramp over Bow Trail is dangerous in the winter. Make a pedestrian light to cross Bow Trail from Balsam Dr instead. It would mean better access to the Westbrook Shopping Mall and Library.
- Enhance Westbrook Mall for more shops and restaurants. It needs a complete make over.
- Sidewalks must be maintained and level to prevent falls, especially by seniors. Old sidewalks have become unlevel so that trips occur. Plus, some have sloped making them difficult in icy conditions, especially for those having hip and/or knee replacement.
- I find that the fencing along the subsidized housing on Spruce Drive is old and an eyesore. New fencing and/or vegetation in this area would be welcomed not only by the

residents in this housing project but also by the residents of the area that drive by it every day. It is low income housing and it looks like low income housing.

- Recently the recreation department – community walking route map accessed through the Wildflower Art Centre site – was updated to remove half of the walking routes in the Spruce Cliff Community... most missed by me is the access down to our off-leash park in Lawery Gardens (could someone fix the spelling on the city off leash web site map?) via. the Douglas Fir Trail (east route) that starts at a branch north from Quarry Road Trail (west end). – understand this is in part due to temp closure of Quarry Road Trail for improvements & ATCO pipeline work – but there are other well established routes from the west entering at 3440 Spruce Dr. that could be put on the map for the walking community. A big chunk of our community land is now not accessible to residents – with our demographic free park use/activity is very important and the walking loop options of varying lengths down to the river is a big part of that.
- Bow Trail is a long road to cross and the only bridge is accessible through Shaganappi Village which is NOT enjoyable to walk through nor is it aesthetically pleasing. The cross walk at Bow and 37th Street SW is also dangerous. In order for our community to be considered as "walkable" we require safer access to cross Bow Trail.
- A lot of people use the Quarry Road as a walking path and a bike area. It would be nice to see more little businesses that these folks might stop in at.
- Recently moved here from Cougar Ridge & miss our walking paths





# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- Plant trees along all 4 side-walks between Bow Trail/ 17 Ave and 33 /37 Street SW (LRT to mall entrance)
- Uneven pavement & sidewalks make it difficult to use, accessible
- Nicer sidewalks paved roads
- Roads need to be less signage, bike lanes, need to be repositioned
- Walking path reopened. Walking activities in evening, somewhere to meet
- Walking path open so we can walk in the evening

Vision Word: FAMILY-FRIENDLY

**Selected – 11 times. Answers to “why” below**

- More benches around the playground
- basketball court
- More updated parks and streets that ar easier to cross with drop down cement would be helpful.
- There are lots of kids in the neighbourhood, and we are a unique neighbourhood with the size of the low income Shaganappi Village housing unit where lots of kids also live and play. Unfortunately, JJ's pub attracts patrons that are stumbling around by the afternoon. There are also sometimes shopping carts left around by homeless people that sleep down the hill by the river. It would nice to have a community garden in some of the green space, but I don't know if it would be safe from vandalism in our neighbourhood unless some of these other problems can be addressed.
- We do not have children yet, but to entice young families or future families to live in our area, we would like to see it be safer, cleaner, and more welcoming to families. We are lacking in parks and safe spaces and a stronger sense of community for families would be nice to see. There are also no highly regarded schools in this area or daycares.
- To provide children focused programs at the Community Centre
- Kid friendly programs to bring young residents from Spruce Cliff as well as other communities together. Not to conflict with neighboring communities programs.
- We have a LOT of rentals with landlords that do not take care of the properties and allow less than desirable tenants (drug houses) - this does not help to promote a clean & family friendly environment. The City should look at requiring people who rent their properties to have a business license as they are generating income.
- More events to meet neighbours
- If the trees are planted between (on the side of) the main road, they also increase safety, mostly for young kids; conclusion: this would make the LRT access from Spruce Cliff much nicer too! Side-note: the mall would benefit also (& Calgary transit)
- Community, dog show/kids 1/yr - community event, dog turning in park; cost walking/coffer groups; day or night

Vision Word: OTHER

**Selected – 61 times. We asked if people had “other” words to share. When “other” was selected people gave these other words:**



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- Friendly
- Affordable
- Accessible programs
- Senior friendly
- Peaceful
- Welcoming
- Food secure
- Energetic
- Connected – Community Garden
- Continuity
- Vibrant
- Update
- Over Reach
- Single Family Homes Only
- Nature
- Diversely
- Inclusive
- Friendly
- Green
- Bike Friendly
- Expensive
- Proximity
- Maintenance of back lanes
- Helpful
- Neighbourhood Friendly
- Attractive
- Traffic Congestion
- Integrated
- Excessive
- Quiet
- Peaceful
- Thriving
- Improve
- Shaganappi Village
- Welcoming
- Identity
- Engaged
- United
- Events
- Senior Friendly
- Positive
- Participation
- Community Messaging
- Pedestrian Access



## This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- Wildflower
- Fun
- Green
- Transit
- Education
- Controlling Traffic
- Community Communication
- Welcoming
- Recreation
- Noise
- Sport
- Space
- Light
- Friendly

Vision Word: OTHER

**Selected – 61 times. Answers to “why” below**

- Feel welcome in the community
- Programs for children & youth in the community - expensive around the community
- Far away from area - programs for youths & kids in the community, avoid fighting & trouble
- Kids getting in trouble,, gang mentality - need them engaged in positive programs, parent watch needed
- Forgotten because older comm. Walkable - limited to get around - mobility issues - hard to get around & get places
- Kids throwing rocks/acting up - programs needed to keep them busy
- Programs & services are too expensive
- Have lots of diversity, want everyone welcome where they go
- Activities / sports - keep kids away & young adults - bored & get into trouble
- everyone has a right to healthy nutritious food
- No bullying in the community. More education programs around it
- Be a way to work towards a common goal, to connect the neighbours and to get people outside.
- We'd like to see more continuity in our community in the sense of residences, stores, restaurants and green spaces, specifically in the area within the boundaries of Bow Trail SW and 17 Ave SW, and 33 St SW and 37 St SW. There are so many random patches within this area but there is no continuity. In terms of housing, we see modern looking condos, dilapidated community housing, pre-existing bungalows (many of which look worse for wear), old and new 3-4 storey apartment buildings, and various types of in-fills (many of which do not suit the area or tower over adjacent homes). Does the City not have any rules on planning development or is all about issuing as many permits as



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

quickly as possible to collect as much property tax as possible? There are many modern stores and restaurants dispersed throughout this area but also many undesirable (Cash Money) and not utilized businesses. Westbrook Mall has some random stores but at least it's cohesive. Westbrook LRT station is modern and clean but completely under-utilized (no commercial). There is no green space within this area to make walking through this area pleasant. It's all over the place!

- All types of people walking and using the public spaces
- Update the pedestrian bridge by Westbrook mall. Looks old and unsafe.
- "Government should be shrinking, NOT looking for ways to justify higher taxes.
- This is expanding into areas that this tax PAYER does not support."
- This area is getting too dense. We pay a larger price to live in a neighborhood not full of multifamily homes. There is not enough parking for these people and it is getting way too crowded. There are enough apartments close by, we don't need to wreck every street by putting in multi home buildings.
- I love being close to Edworthy Park, the river pathway, the Douglas Fir Trail, streets with large beautiful trees, etc... Natural areas of the areas need to be enhanced, protected, and maintained. Many people from neighbouring communities often enjoy walking around Spruce Cliff. I love the open park areas around spruce drive as well.
- The variety of residential accommodations, business/service operations, cultural groups, demographics, scenery, challenges, differing community needs and solutions. The diversity is an advantage and a challenge to facilitate

inclusivity of these characteristics within the community. I think that bringing this residents together as a dynamic, friendly thriving entity will always be a challenge and limited as a whole . Enclaves of small communities within Spruce Cliff could solidify & connect such as the ethnic groups, seniors and young families once the latter reach a tipping point. Many residential towers are slated for development which would further impact diversity and questionable involvement of the residents. I think that mini communities may have some validity here. I've lived in Spruce Cliff since 1992 and I feel that the community has an "identity" crisis as high density development and societal pressure encroached upon the community.

- Too many people don't know each other. Making a vision of friendly means we are back to being neighbours
- The residential streets are beautiful, but Spruce Drive is a big open unattractive area. The area around the CTrain and the mall and the apartments near bow trail are also pavement-intensive. See point 1. Plantings along cedar crescent have been a welcome improvement.
- I cycle commute around the city, pathway access and maintenance is very important to me
- Cut back on programs/services, NOT expand - I am very capable of making the choices as to which I personally wish to pay for - I do not need city hall sticking it's hand into my pocket in order to force their choices onto me.
- I love being in a community that is close to downtown, mass transit, shopping (Westbrook and Westhills), and the TransCanada highway. The spruce cliff strip mall could stand to be updated/improved. The



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- city spent a large sum of money renovating a parking lot for a strip mall that is rarely visited.
- "grading should be done to lower grade level, remove overfill.
- over time fill has been added raising the level and resulting in flooding of garages"
- In order to be friendly, we have to be helpful to those in the neighbourhood. What skills and talents can we share with one another
- How do we get know our new neighbours as we are getting new infills? (Love the rejuvenation)
- Same as #1. Also, more people must pick up by having additional garbage receptacles plus a doggie bag dispenser.
- Make Hemlock Crescent a one-way street with entry at 8th Ave. and exit at Spruce Drive to the north.
- Because we are a multi-cultural, mixed income community that does not really engage people living in the large apartment, town home, and condo complexes in the area. We are living in separate realities, and not necessarily participating or feeling as though we belong to an integrated community.
- "Like all city hall projects - this program will be hugely expensive and only partially functional - where is the audit of value for dollars?"
- Look at the Spruce Centre parking lot as an example:
  - it is now an obstacle course - especially for seniors & the handicapped
  - challenge any politician to wheel themselves in a wheelchair from Bow Centre to the grocery store across the parking lot & back - even in good weather..!!..
  - parking has been reduced by 50%"
- Multifamily/ rental homes lead to citizens who do not value their home or neighborhood. This leads to bylaw violations whether it be fire pits, noise, parties, parking, drugs, theft, etc.
- Although the community is almost considered inner city (10 minutes from downtown) and very close to Bow Trail it has maintained its quiet and peaceful feel. The residential streets rarely feel congested. Its is a concern though that the peaceful nature of the community may be threatened through large multi-storey developments like the Ovation, Brava and Encore towers just off of Spruce Drive and bow trail. The tranquility of the community must be preserved!
- It is a walkable and beautiful neighbourhood and with further improvements & developments designing "theme" type features along the streets, businesses, parks, schools, improving pathways, adding youth activity areas and adult/senior " exercise features to encourage activity & health will help to improve connectivity and inclusivity. It's accessible to bike ride or walk to work or just enjoy the river and parks as well as golf and winter activities.
- [improve maintenance at Shaganappi Village] replace grass with artificial turf; plant more trees;more recreation area for adolescent and adult activities
- Too many unfriendly and unhelpful people don't appreciate families and children. Being child friendly means our neighbourhood once again remembers what it is like to have a



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

friendly helpful place that children (and their family) feel not only welcomed, but included

- Spruce Cliff seems invisible, some think they live in the community to the west, others think the Srs. club which draws from everywhere, speaks for all. Some know us only by the failed model of social housing that segregates whole sections of our population. New condo developments have not helped as they are insular in their form. Community Signage on the NW corner vacant parcel at Bow Trail and Spruce ... and maybe even on the NE vacant corner at Bow & 37th?
- Too much of a divide
- The main entrance to Spruce Cliff at Bow Trail and 33 street has a vacant lot on the corner, and the golf course on the east side. The golf courses chainlink fence is unsightly and usually has litter along it. The vacant lot looks abandoned and neglected - a landscaped green space would be nice. It seems like a missed opportunity to beautify a very busy corner of the city. The public housing on 33rd street is kind of run down and the fences are in disrepair. I'm sure the residents there would have a healthier outlook if their homes were better maintained by the property management.
- In several discussions lately, from different demographic groups- all appear unwilling to call the police or bylaw services for different reasons... including that they have no right to do so because of the development where they live or that it might affect area property values...( they want / expect someone else to do this for them) resulting in a false perception by statistical measurement that the community could not use a little help managing "bad behaviour". – Perhaps some awareness programming on how & who to

ask for help, and the reasons why that is important – how we all have a part in the wellness of the community.

- Because our neighbour is so segregated between house, low income housing, seniors, and condo residents. There isn't one thing that ties us together as neighbours and it doesn't seem to be encouraged either.
- I moved to this neighbour from Deerrun and we had a community center that held a variety of events monthly for adults, kids and families. It was amazing to be able to attend and meet others in the neighbourhood with similar interests. I'm very sad we don't have a community center and that the users in the current new building are very possessive of the space. The City needs to reclaim the space and direct users appropriately. Right now as a young family in the neighbourhood the building is uninviting as it is run by the Seniors or Lawn Bowling. This building should be for the community and should be all inclusive. I'd rather become a member in Wildwood than our community. Change needs to happen to get this community united.
- The community is an ideal home for seniors. There is excellent access to transit and shopping. The community has organized senior clubs, lawn bowling and a variety of good senior friendly housing.
- Activities for the community that encourage sharing, connectedness and shared support
- A community website that allows local businesses to advertise or create listing of offerings by the people who live in Spruce Cliff. The entrepreneurs who sometimes struggle to get the word out that they are in the community and have great things to offer. The website should include the ability to



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

purchase a membership, calendar of events, advertising, etc.

- Bow Trail is unsafe for a pedestrian; pedestrian access to Ctrain is awful
- Awesome
- Group related activity of shy & socially anxious
- Our trees make the space welcoming
- Transit accessible with route 93, 94
- Making accessible Calgary West
- Making road, safer for pedestrians
- To be more aware of events, dinner's volunteering, events
- Coming from different cultures learn from one another but also meet Canadians
- 3 on 3 basketball tourney
- no comment
- After 1 A.M.
- Allows community to engage
- Allows for meeting space for groups to gather
- Bright neighbourhood makes it safe
- I live on Cedar Cres. Every summer 2 flying bats can be seen in our yard. Could the city place a bat house shelter or two in the pathway park to encourage these friendly pesty insect eaters to thrive or maybe in our yard bordering the park



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

## GENERAL SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTS

The project received 32 likes, 11 shares, and 4 comments on social media. The verbatim comments are listed below:

- Spruce Cliff borders Edworthy Park which could definitely use some work on the upper trail system (bridges are out, sections have been closed for years). One of the best views in the city is at the top of Quarry Road - pathway enhancements would be great. The fence along the golf course as you turn into the community from Bow Trail is a real garbage-collector - maybe some ways to deal with that? There has been great work done with the Lawn Bowling and Strip Mall - any visual improvements there would be great.
- Broke my left wrist and right elbow on Spruce Drive but it's still the best.
- I'm so happy they chose Spruce Cliff, and are leaving us alone.
- This [positive emoji]

## GENERAL MAP COMMENTS

This project received 65 comments on a map of Spruce Cliff that was present during all face to face engagements sessions.

- Improve trail network Douglas Fir Network
- Douglas Fir trail east PATH
- Douglas Fir TRAIL EAST
- Less Infills
- School Zone Marking
- Less speed
- Trees overgrown into property
- Huge amount of Canadian thistle here!
- Mobile adventure playground?
- Gangs of kids
- Calgary Quest School
- Great Park
- Spruce Cliff mall needs a "spruce Up"!
- Move handicap busses to here during peak times (popular)
- Traffic calming measures? -Speed feedback, street narrowing, speed bumps
- Public Art -totems in Parks



- Great having winter access to ski trails in winter - signage about polite use (i.e. don't walk on ski tracks) at gates
- Trail Access ->
- Ugly snow dump in winter. How about some trees
- A few trees and benches here would be nice
- Quarry Trail route by closed
- Speeding
- Noise from court late in evening
- More parking
- unused bike lane no parking
- tennis courts missing
- car prowling.theft (36 st)
- Speeding
- speeding issues
- No parking (dangerous corner)
- Access in winter
- More promotion of xc ski trails? Community led classes
- Accessibility Issues (signals too high and fast)
- please wider sidewalks
- New CHC location?
- CPS helping kids cross bow trail
- Bad intersection at the shell exit entry, no left turns
- need a concrete divider
- What is happening here?
- Worst intersection. Solution - needs better lane delineation
- No friendly way to cross bow trail
- Want mall to stay
- close to amenities
- Great redevelopment site!
- good schwarmas ->
- More LRT Park 'N Ride
- Hole in fence needs to be continually fixed (keep it up). The hole is not used for honest reasons
- When will new bridge be built?
- can the bridge be cleaned of snow more often
- LRT parking
- 1 way for buses 1 way for cars + speed bumps
- Pedestrian friendly crossing/speed bumps
- LRT Parking
- night drop at the library x2



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017

- library lack of children's books
- Community amenity?
- What will this be?
- synchronize the lights for pedestrians
- automate pedestrian walk (no button pressing)
- people asking for money
- Keep fences in good repair (important community entrance)
- Love the new flowers -more of this
- The fences at this complex need some loving'. They make an impression on our community and need to be improved
- Better walking path to Edworthy
- Vancouver development looking to buy property
- CA playground



# This is my neighbourhood Spruce Cliff

Stakeholder Report Back: What we Heard

July 28, 2017



\*\*Photo of the map featured at the in person events