



# 144 Avenue N.W. Functional Planning Study

Reveal Phase  
What We Heard Report  
November 2019

## Project overview

The City of Calgary has been undertaking a functional planning study for 144 Avenue N.W. This study looks at the general design and location of 144 Avenue N.W. between Symons Valley Road N.W. and Panorama Road N.W., including the West Nose Creek crossing and the realignment of Symons Valley Road N.W. onto Mountain View Road N.W. Existing growth in Symons Valley and planned growth in the Glacier Ridge Area Structure Plan area drives the need for infrastructure improvements to the area transportation network, including providing support for important active travel modes and transit connections.

The functional planning study takes existing and planned communities into consideration as part of the mobility review to determine the long-term needs for all travel modes. Some of the many other considerations that have helped inform the functional planning study include:

- Engagement feedback
- Previous plans
- Environmental and historical conditions
- West Nose Creek requirements
- Utility and storm water accommodation
- Existing terrain and slope stability
- Community / development access
- Right-of-way (property) requirements
- Construction costs
- Public safety

## Engagement overview

In the fall of 2019, The City of Calgary completed the third and final round of engagement (Reveal phase) with key stakeholders, community associations and the public to provide an update on the 144 Avenue N.W. Functional Planning Study. The objective of this round of engagement was to reveal and gather feedback on the recommended plans for 144 Avenue N.W. and Symons Valley Road, including the creek crossing options for the study area.

Meetings with key stakeholders and community associations were held in September and October 2019. The public information session was held on Tues., Oct. 22, 2019 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Symons Valley United Church (38 Kincora Rise N.W.). Approximately 30 people attended the information session where participants discussed the project with the project team and were invited to complete a comment form. An online tool was also available for Calgarians who could not attend the event, to submit feedback.



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From Oct. 22 to Nov. 6, 2019 The City of Calgary hosted an online survey on its engagement portal at [engage.calgary.ca/144AveNW](https://engage.calgary.ca/144AveNW) to solicit feedback from Calgarians.

Ten comment forms were submitted at the information session and there were five responses to the online tool.

Input collected from stakeholders and the public will be considered as the project moves forward into preliminary and detailed design in 2020.

## What we asked – In-person and online

### Recommended Plan for 144 Avenue N.W.

1. What do you like or not like about the recommended plan for 144 Avenue N.W. for people who walk, bike, take transit and drive? Tell us more about what else we should keep in mind as we move forward with preliminary design.

### Recommended Plan for Symons Valley Road

2. What do you like or not like about the recommended plan for Symons Valley Road for people who walk, bike, take transit and drive? Tell us more about what else we should keep in mind as we move forward with preliminary design.

### Creek Crossing Options

3. What do you like or not like about the creek crossing options for 144 Avenue N.W.? Tell us more about what else we should keep in mind as we move forward with preliminary design.

### About the session (for in-person only)

1. How satisfied are you with today's session?
  - Clarity of information provided
  - Format of today's session
  - Opportunity to provide my input
  - Opportunity to hear others' input
  - Session location
  - Session time
2. What worked for you about the session format and activities today?
3. Is there anything we could do differently to make it better?
4. How would you like to provide feedback on the study and receive project information in future?
  - Open House
  - Community Association Newsletter



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- City Social Media – Twitter
- City Social Media – Facebook
- Community Association Social Media – Facebook
- City Website – [Calgary.ca/144AveNW](http://Calgary.ca/144AveNW)
- Community Association Website
- Online tool/survey
- Project Emails – City
- Project Emails – Community Association
- Other

## About the engagement process

5. How satisfied are you with the overall engagement process for the project?

6. Is there anything we could do differently to make it better?

## What we heard

The key themes that were heard during the public engagement throughout the Reveal phase included:

- Participants indicated that they liked the recommended plan for 144 Avenue N.W. and Symons Valley Road.
- Participants indicated a slight preference for creek crossing option 2 or 3 as they had less impact on West Nose Creek and were more visually appealing and better protected the creek. However, some participants liked the lower cost of option 1.
- Participants indicated that it is important to continue to minimize adjacent landowner impacts, accommodating people who walk, bike and take transit, reduce noise and visual impacts and reduce environmental impacts, particularly to West Nose Creek, while the functional plan is finalized and moves into preliminary design.

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

For a verbatim listing of all the input that was provided, please see the [Verbatim Responses](#) section.

## Next steps

The 144 Avenue N.W. Functional Plan will be finalized and approved in Winter 2019.

Preliminary design will begin in 2020. Construction and staging timeline will depend on funding and engineering design decisions.



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## What we heard - summary of input

### Recommended Plan for 144 Avenue N.W.

#### Overall recommended plan themes for 144 Avenue N.W.:

- Participants indicated that they liked the recommended plan for 144 Avenue N.W.
- Some participants were concerned about the proximity of the roadway to homes in Evanston and suggested that it be moved further away from properties.
- Some participants were concerned about the impact that the new roadway for 144 Avenue N.W. would have on the residents such as increased noise and light shingling onto their properties from the streetlights along the new section and intersections along 144 Avenue N.W.
- Some participants suggested that The City consider a traffic circle or roundabout along 144 Avenue N.W. instead of an intersection with traffic lights to reduce costs and visual impact on adjacent residents and improve traffic flow.
- Some participants liked the recommended pathway connections along 144 Avenue N.W. for people who walk and bike.

### Recommended Plan for Symons Valley Road

#### Overall recommended plan themes for Symons Valley Road:

- Participants indicated that they liked the recommended plan for Symons Valley Road.
- Some participants liked that the once recommended plan was implemented that it would reduce congestion on Symons Valley Road and Beddington Trail. However, some were concerned that it would cause increased traffic on Shaganappi Trail.

### Creek Crossing Options

#### Overall creek crossing themes for 144 Avenue N.W.:

- Participants indicated a slight preference for creek crossing option 2 or 3 as they had less impact on West Nose Creek and were more visually appealing.
- The cost of the bridge option selected was highlighted as a concern.

### About the session

- Participants were generally satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the clarity of information provided, the format of the session, the opportunities to provide input, the opportunities to hear others input and the session location/time.
- Participants indicated that they would like to provide feedback and receive project information in future at open houses, on The City website and by email.



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## Verbatim comments

Following is a record of the feedback captured, as submitted, during the public engagement opportunities.

**Please note:** *Personally identifying information, as well as any portions of comments not in compliance with the City's Respectful Workplace policy, are removed from participant submissions, the intent of the submissions remains.*

### Recommended plan for 144 Avenue N.W.

1. **What do you like or not like about the recommended plan for 144 Avenue N.W. for people who walk, bike, take transit and drive? Tell us more about what else we should keep in mind as we move forward with preliminary design.**
  - No traffic lights, traffic circles only – traffic flows better
  - Road needs to be set back further – way too close to homes; people bought in the area before the 144 major expansion – this needs to be considered when making major changes
  - I like it
  - No one bikes along major roads – the 144 Ave needs to be moved away from the homes that already exist. The only 6-lane road in Calgary (Calgary Ring Road) has 300 feet setbacks; why would The City even contemplate 6-lanes without ANY setbacks – poor planning, 0 concept of planning with people in mind
  - No traffic roundabouts
  - Practical road design; looks like good traffic flow
  - Plan seems good; concerns via noise section between Panorama and 14th Southside
  - Looks like it considers all transit modes; keep the pathways and consider connecting to other existing communities (Creekside etc.)
  - I like the height of the sound barrier to keep noise from homes; put fountains and light up pathways by road; wall could use some artwork; make pathways wider and plant trees along walls; replace the wooden fence with tall stone sound barriers
  - Don't want to see traffic light at night when trying to sleep – light intersection between 144 and 24
  - 6-lane roadway and bus bypass is not required – horrible idea/design
  - Delete all traffic lights and build roundabout; traffic light intersections are expensive and traffic roundabout with landscape would look nicer and be more cost effective
  - Too close to residential; don't want a big giant wall along 144 to block our green view; don't want to feel like living in a prison compound
  - Concerned about increased truck noise on Shaganappi given the realignment of Symons Valley Road. Need a sound barrier along Kincora.
  - Another high-volume roadway that does not connect to major roadway creates a number of issues and must connect to Stoney Trail to carry volume
  - Our house backs onto 144 Ave which is causing a great deal of concern regarding a substantial decrease in the value of our house.
  - I would request to move 144 Ave NW a little north or further away from the existing houses in Evanston to lessen noise and air pollution



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- Invest in the best bridge model to support year-around cycling. The cheap model will be prone to ice and flooding as are other tube tunnels

## Recommended plan for Symons Valley Road

### 2. What do you like or not like about the recommended plan for Symons Valley Road for people who walk, bike, take transit and drive? Tell us more about what else we should keep in mind as we move forward with preliminary design.

- I like it
- The cheapest option
- Looks good
- Future park looks great!
- Have some signs indicating the way to Stoney Trail; my friends get lost driving and they do not have AGPS (and too cheap to buy one); plant lots of trees along the pathway so it is not so warm when walking down sidewalk in summer (provides shade)
- Concerned about increased truck noise on Shaganappi given the realignment of Symons Valley Road. Need a sound barrier along Kincora.
- Remove congestion onto new roadway off Symons Valley Road and Beddington Trail. Biking, walking not important on major roadways, moving traffic is
- Cyclists deserve a safe space on roads, as pathways have a limit of 20km/h which is too slow for commuter cycling speeds. Design for cycling

## Creek crossing options

### 3. What do you like or not like about the creek crossing options for 144 Avenue N.W.? Tell us more about what else we should keep in mind as we move forward with preliminary design.

- I like it
- The culvert option – reduce cost
- Not option 1 – looks crappy; any of the other two options would be okay
- Option 2 looks like a good balance
- Put pathways on both sides of creek; pave pathways and make pathways wider
- Delete traffic lights – too many traffic light intersections and are not efficient for smooth traffic flow
- Bike paths are not being used and wasting taxpayer's money; I have been downtown a lot and do not see a lot of people using bike paths – what about winter months? Should snowmobile and other small recreational vehicles be allowed to use bike paths?
- Option 3. Stop messing with natural water ways, leave it alone as much as possible.
- The cheap bridge design is awful - tube tunnels will ice up and flood in spring and during storms. They are unsightly and are not safe.



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## About the session

### 1. How satisfied are you with today's session?

	Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Not Applicable
Clarity of information provided	5		1		
Format of today's session	5	1			
Opportunity to provide my input	4	1	1		
Opportunity to hear others' input	4	2			
Session location	6				
Session time	6				

### 2. What worked for you about the session format and activities today?

- Able to ask questions frequently
- Panels and images
- Open house presentation, presenters on-site
- All good
- I wasn't working and could make other ones
- Signs are large

### 3. Is there anything we could do differently to make it better?

- No x2
- Signage outside the building
- N/A

### 4. How would you like to provide feedback on the study and receive project information in future?

Open House	7
Community Association Newsletter	1
City Social Media – Twitter	
City Social Media – Facebook	1
Community Association Social Media – Facebook	
City Website – Calgary.ca/144AveNW	4
Community Association Website	2
Online tool/survey	2
Project Emails – City	
Project Emails – Community Association	1
Other	



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## About the engagement process

### 5. How satisfied are you with the overall engagement process for the project?

Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Not Applicable
4	1	1	1	1

### 6. Is there anything we could do differently to make it better?

- N/A
- Better advertising along boulevards of open houses and this page. Signs along Beddington Tr. Please.