



north saskatchewan river valley
conservation society

Landsdowne Staircase + Trail and Mill Creek Ravine Trail Realignments before Council

On May 21, the Urban Planning Committee will consider decisions on two river valley locations; Landsdowne and Mill Creek. A staircase and trail are proposed at the intersection of Landsdowne Drive and 47 Avenue, to connect the neighbourhood to an existing shared use path in the Whitemud valley. The North Saskatchewan River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan, Bylaw 7188 requires City Council approval of the Environmental Impact Assessment and Site Location Study.

Three sections of the trail system in Mill Creek Ravine require rehabilitation as creek erosion and extensive use have compromised its integrity and stability. The rehabilitation is intended to address the trail impacts resulting from the erosion activity and ensure that Edmontonians can continue to enjoy the trails safely.

The reports on these two items issue can be accessed at

<http://sirepub.edmonton.ca/sirepub/mtgviewer.aspx?meetid=2337&doctype=AGENDA>

Click on agenda item 6.3 to access the Landsdowne Staircase and Trail Concept Design reports and 6.4 for the Mill Creek Trail Ravine Trail Realignments reports.

If you would like to speak to this item, contact the Office of the City Clerk at city.clerk@edmonton.ca or 780.496.8178 to register to speak. The other option is to show up before the meeting begins at 9.30 am in the River Valley room at City Hall and inform the Clerk that you wish to speak.

Riverdale residents call for homeless camp solution after multiple fires

Residents in Edmonton's Riverdale neighbourhood are calling on the city to get a handle on homeless camps after a series of fires over the past few days. Since Saturday, Edmonton Fire Rescue Services has responded to eight reports of smoke and fire around Dawson Park in the river valley, east of downtown.

On May 7, Community and Public Services Committee passed a motion titled Reduction of Makeshift Camps "That Administration provide a progress update report to Committee, on the work underway to reduce the number of Edmontonians sleeping in makeshift camps around the city, including Dawson Park." The report is due August 21, 2019.

Residents say the fires start at homeless camps in the area, which are uncomfortably close to their houses. Treena Michayluk, who has lived in Riverdale for 10 years, said a large fire in the park on Monday night didn't come as a surprise. She and her neighbours became aware of the blaze after hearing a loud bang, which Michayluk believes was the sound of a propane tank exploding. Read more at <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/dawson-park-fires-homeless-camps-1.5136342>

Tell City what you think about the Rossdale River Crossing Business Plan

River Crossing is a long-term city-building initiative that will work to transform the western area of the Rossdale neighbourhood. A Vision for River Crossing sees this area evolving over time into a vibrant community and special place in our city; a place that embraces and celebrates its rich history, and that creates excitement about our shared future.

Edmontonians are invited to share your feedback and perspectives on the preferred land use concept and draft Business Plan at a drop-in public open house on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, from 5-8pm at the Old Timers Cabin, 9430-Scona Road NW. Learn more at https://www.edmonton.ca/projects_plans/communities_neighbourhoods/west-rossdale-river-crossing.aspx

Picnic in the River Valley

As the largest urban park in Canada, with more than 160 kilometres of maintained pathways and 20 major parks, the River Valley is a natural wonder for all Edmontonians to be proud of. The City of Edmonton boasts some of the most beautiful and scenic picnic areas in all of Alberta. Located in the heart of the city's parks, the picnic sites are available for reservation (if you want a guaranteed spot) or on a first-come, first-served basis. Different picnic sites offer different amenities to fit your needs and additional services, and power or vehicle access where available may come with additional fees and conditions of use.

Picnic Sites are available for bookings from May 1st to October 14th. For more information, go to https://www.edmonton.ca/activities_parks_recreation/picnic-sites.aspx

Proposed river valley solar power plant adds trails, bridge and education opportunities

A new footbridge across the North Saskatchewan River, Indigenous art and a wildlife corridor

are all proposed additions to make a new solar field planned for the river valley more palatable to regulators and the public.

Epcor intends to build a 23-hectare, \$26-million solar farm next to its riverside E. L. Smith water treatment plant in southwest Edmonton, which would provide about half the plant's power. It's expected to add about seven cents a month to a typical homeowner's utility bill.

The proposal faces opposition from people and organizations, including the North Saskatchewan River Valley Conservation Society, who say Council should protect the river valley from industrial development. Would Council approve a coal or gas powered electrical generation plant in the river valley? Why solar power in the river valley when there is lots of land elsewhere in Edmonton and Area for a solar powered electrical generation plant? Read more at <https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/proposed-river-valley-solar-farm-project-adds-trails-bridge-and-education-opportunities>

North Saskatchewan River Valley Conservation Society

<https://www.facebook.com/NSRVCS/>

<http://www.edmontonrivervalley.org/>

