

# Mayfield

Hi everyone! My name is Andrew Knack and I am very fortunate to be serving as the City Councillor for Ward 1 which includes the community of Mayfield. Although I have the opportunity to meet with residents while attending community events and meetings, I also like to go door-knocking once or twice a month to chat with people one-on-one. That gives me the chance to connect with those who are not able to attend the public meetings and gather a wide range of feedback. As you may have additional questions or comments not covered here, please feel free to contact me using the information on the back page.



## Cannabis: Options for regulating public consumption

Last week our Community and Public Services Committee made a recommendation to City Council around the public consumption of Cannabis. There were two options presented.

**Option 1: Prohibit Public Consumption (Except in Certain Areas)** This option would prohibit all public consumption, including all sidewalks, except in certain areas within parkland or in designated smoking areas. The intent of this option would be to provide some public space for consumption in areas that have no specific recreational purpose, areas not frequented or used by children, and to limit consumption to lesser used park spaces, such as pocket parks, greenways, or grassed utility lines, to reduce nuisance odour complaints.

**Option 2: Provincial Model (with Additional Restrictions)** The Provincial model proposes to restrict smoking or vaping of cannabis in vehicles and in the same public places where tobacco smoking is prohibited under the Tobacco and Smoking Reduction Act, which includes buildings, patios, and in public transit. Aligned with the Government of Alberta's objective of limiting cannabis exposure to youth, additional restrictions were also included by the province to prohibit cannabis consumption:

- on any hospital property
- on any school property
- on any child care facility property
- in or within five metres from a playground, sports or playing field, skateboard or bicycle park, zoo, outdoor theatre, or any outdoor pool or splash pad.

This option mirrors the existing provincial regulations, as outlined above, but adds further restrictions including prohibiting cannabis consumption at family-friendly City attractions, cemeteries, off-leash areas and golf courses.

One final note, the report talks about the possibility of aligning the public tobacco consumption rules with the cannabis rules. The reason for this is because from a distance, it may be challenging to determine which substance is being used. I think there is a strong case to connect the two together but it would be more challenging if option 1 was selected.

Gathering your feedback on this issue is important as council will discuss and draft amendments to the Public Places Bylaw in July. This allows us to consider option 1 or 2 or a hybrid of the two options. I would like your thoughts on the various options. Which option do you prefer? If you think a hybrid would be better, what does that combination look like? **Please go to my website [Andrewknack.com](http://Andrewknack.com) and check out the link in the Events section to fill out a survey.** You can fill out the survey until July 3rd. You'll also find my blog post and video on this topic which references the full report and detailed explanations of both options. Thanks in advance for your feedback.



## Space for Students in the Britannia Area

In the spring 2016, Edmonton Public School Board began a conversation with parents and community members in the greater Britannia area to talk about creating learning spaces for students attending Brightview, Britannia, Mayfield and Youngstown schools. After collecting ideas and feedback, working committees were formed to develop concepts based on what was heard. Using the feedback from the community and the independent cost-benefit analysis conducted by an external vendor, three concepts are now being considered. You can view those on their website [epsb.ca/schools/spaceforstudents/britannia](http://epsb.ca/schools/spaceforstudents/britannia)

For questions about the concepts or next steps, contact Infrastructure Stakeholder Engagement and Support at 780-429-8539.

## Alley Renewal

On May 9th 2017 City Council voted to set the Alley Renewal Strategy's target at a medium-high level of service. This option requires approximately \$20.0 million (in 2016 dollars) annually for the next 25 years. A gradual ramping up of the program starting in 2019 would require an incremental tax levy increase every year from 2019 to 2022 to achieve a 1.18 percent cumulative increase - approximately a 0.33% tax increase each year for four years.

At that time, Council also asked that Administration report back on options to accelerate work needing to be done in alley's that are in very poor condition. That report just came back to Council and I'm pleased to report we voted to proceed with Option 1 - High Level of Service. This option would achieve an overall alley network average of Condition Index Grade B (good), with zero alleys at condition index Grade F (very poor), within 25 years (2019-2043). The cost for this option would include the previously set \$20 million annual commitment, in addition to an extra \$2.3 million annually starting in 2022, for a total of \$22.3 million annually (in 2016 dollars) for 21 years.

## Leisure Access Program update

The City of Edmonton's Leisure Access Program provides free and discounted admission to recreation facilities and attractions to low-income Edmontonians. Historically, program eligibility has been limited to those living below the low income cut-off determined by the Government of Canada. At the April 11/12, 2017 City Council meeting, a new "sliding scale" approach was approved by City Council. Applications to the Leisure Access Program will be available at any City of Edmonton Recreation Centre and Edmonton Tower Service Centre. For more information go to [www.edmonton.ca/programs\\_services/leisure-access-program.aspx](http://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/leisure-access-program.aspx)

## Subscribe to my website for updates

From time to time I'll send out an email to residents with updates, invitations, and to gather feedback on upcoming council items. For those interested, please go to my website [AndrewKnack.com](http://AndrewKnack.com) and sign up. You'll also find blog posts and videos with detailed information on a variety of topics. As always, I welcome your feedback so feel free to get in touch anytime using the contact information below.

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