

Blue Quill Community Poll Printing Version

Blue Quill Community Poll

Blue Quill is currently facing several "congestion" issues that may affect everyday life in the neighbourhood. In order to address them, the Blue Quill Community League (bqcl.org) has established a "Transportation and Development Committee". Please note that Blue Quill community includes the neighborhoods of Blue Quill, Blue Quill Estates, Sweet Grass and Skyrattler.

We would like to get an understanding of your perception, your opinion and ideas, especially regarding to:

- parking
- bicycle lanes
- planned development on school surplus sites - "First Place Home Ownership Program"

Parking

1. Are you experiencing any problems with non residents parking in front of/around your residence?

- Yes Somewhat No

The City of Edmonton offers a "Residential Parking Program", which is designed to alleviate parking issues in congested areas, such as neighbourhoods around LRT stations (http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/roads_traffic/new-residential-parking-program.aspx). The program does not eliminate non-resident or public parking and it does not guarantee residents an on-street parking space.

Typically, the parking is limited to residents only during specific (peak) time only, with short-term (1-2 hour) parking for visitors and no restrictions outside of the specified time. Parking permits for residents are issued on annual basis, and residents can obtain permits for visitors (one time - social events, or long-term - visitors, renovations), free of charge.

The City of Edmonton requires 66% residents in affected area to agree with this program.

2. Are you in favour of parking restrictions for non-residents in your area?

- Yes No Undecided

Bicycle lanes

The City of Edmonton, as part of the 2009 Transportation Master Plan, is committed to promoting active forms of transport. As part of this initiative, city officials decided to create an integrated bicycle network. The City now plans to install close to 500 km of on-street cycling facilities (http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/cycling_walking/bicycle-transportation-plan.aspx).

In the summer of 2011, the City installed 20 km of on-street bicycle routes in 4 areas of South Edmonton. The 4 areas are – the Saddleback Road Loop, 106 Street, 97 Street and 76 Avenue.

These bike lanes have generated much discussion and comment. The purpose of this part of the survey is to gather public opinion on the effectiveness of the bike lanes.

3. Do you think that dedicated on street bike lanes on residential streets are:

- Necessary Beneficial Not needed No opinion

4. Do you approve of eliminating residential parking to provide dedicated bike lanes?

- Yes No No opinion

5. Do you think that the roads are safer now for cars, bikes and pedestrians or were they safer before the on-street bike lanes were put in?

- Safer before Safer after No opinion

6. Has the parking in front of your house or apartment been affected by the installation of bike lanes?

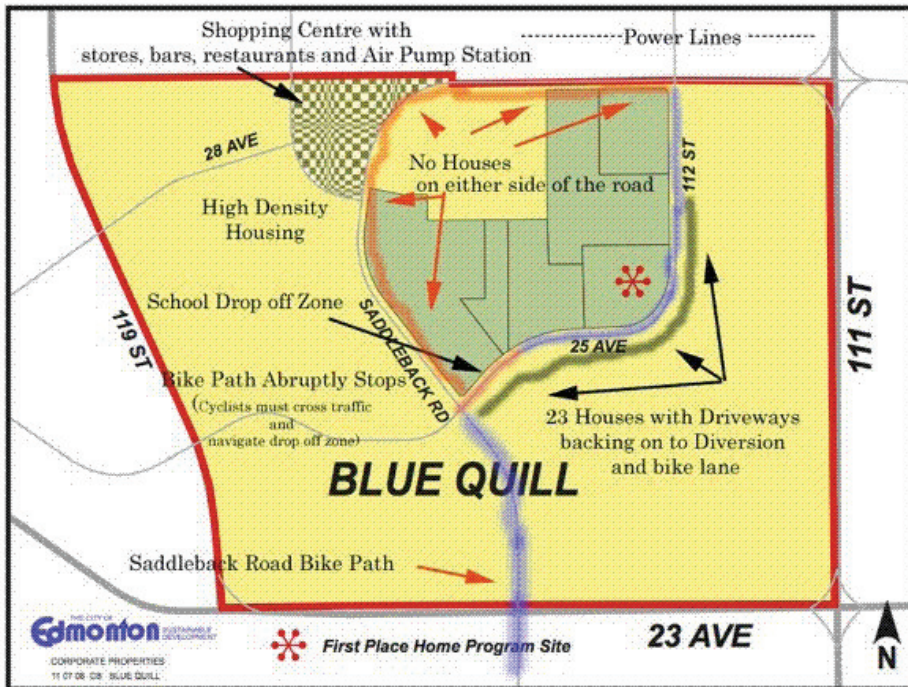
- Yes No Didn't have parking

7. Do you support giving up your street parking in favour of on street bike lanes?

- Yes No No opinion Not applicable

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In Blue Quill, a dedicated bike lane was installed on the 25th Ave/112 Street road.



The members of the Blue Quill Ad hoc Transportation/Development

Committee believe that Saddleback Road is a superior location because:

- the bike lane could be placed on Saddleback Road without disrupting residential parking, while taking advantage of passing the shopping centre with access to various services
- Saddleback Road is wider and safer for bikers, motorists and pedestrians. On the 25th Ave/112 Street road, half of the bike lane is next to the curb, where bicyclists are forced to deal with gravel, snow and ice. Eliminating curb side parking results in pedestrians and delivery people jaywalking.
- Saddleback Road requires less maintenance. The 25th Ave/112 Street collects heavy snow windrows because of the northwest winds across the park. This is a very difficult area to keep clear of snow. Saddleback Road does not face this high accumulation of snow and as a bus route, has higher priority for snow removal in winter.

8. Do you support moving the 25th Ave/ 112 Street bike lanes to Saddleback Road?

Yes

No

No opinion

9. Should the sidewalk along 23rd Ave. west of 111th Street be made into a multiuse trail to provide better access to the cycling trails on 111th Street?

Yes

No

No opinion

First Place Home Ownership Program

Traditionally, developers would set aside a certain amount of land (10%) in anticipation of a school being built within the community it was developing. The homeowners paid for this land with an increase in the price of the homes in the neighbourhood. After some time, if the school board determined that the land would never be used for a school, public hearings would be held to determine the best use of that property. When it was sold by the city, a certain part of the proceeds would be returned to the community for building playgrounds and other facilities to enhance community life.

In 2006, the City of Edmonton decided that it needed to induce school boards to more quickly declare surplus lands. It prevailed upon the provincial government to grant an exemption to the City whereby it could offer half of the proceeds of "surplus" school sites as the inducement to remove selected lands from the public inventory. Simultaneously, the City introduced the First Time Home Buyer Program (Now called First Place Home Ownership Program) (http://www.edmonton.ca/for_residents/programs/first-place.aspx). The purpose of the program was to urgently develop certain selected lands as residential housing for first-time home buyers without the need for public hearings. Accordingly, communities that are selected 1) permanently lose the potential for the school they bargained for, 2) are not allowed to participate in the land-use decisions, and 3) lose the benefit from the land sale. So far as we have been able to determine, the selection criteria for lands that are subject of this program have never been published.

The City of Edmonton has designated two locations within Blue Quill to be developed under this program. (Please review the maps as outlined below). The City of Edmonton is the developer of sites at the south end of Blue Quill Park ("X") and at Skyrattler Park ("Z").

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(http://www.edmonton.ca/for_residents/FIRST_PLACE_PROGRAM_PROPOSED_PHASED_DEVELOPMENT.pdf) A further site on the north side of Blue Quill Park ("Y") is being considered for development under a separate protocol. With the abandonment of Surplus School Site policy, we are unsure how to deal with the city on this site.

Since the announcement a First Time Home Buyer Program in 2006, many things have changed in Edmonton and Blue Quill: Century Park Condos were constructed, Century Park LRT was built, Anthony Hendey was constructed, 119 Street was widened, 23 Avenue bridge was built, 23 Avenue/Calgary Trail Interchange was constructed, and the draft guidelines for encouraging high-density housing around LRT stations have been published.

10. Were you aware there were three surplus school sites within Blue Quill identified for housing?

Yes

No

11. If yes, how did you find out?

Community League

Word of mouth

Not applicable

Newspaper

City website

Internet

Other

12. Are you aware that as a result of these three developments, multiple soccer fields and baseball diamonds would be lost?

Yes

No

13. Do you want to keep the toboggan hill (marked X on the map)?

Yes

No

14. What Facility would you like to see on

	Park/Athletic field	Bicycle Park	Library	Seniors housing	Community garden	School	Don't care	Other
Site Y (north-east Blue Quill)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site X (south Blue Quill)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site Z (Skyrattler)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Suggestion(s) for "Other":

15. Do you think there is currently too much congestion (e.g. traffic, people, overall feel) in Blue Quill?

Yes

No

16. Do you believe we need higher density (e.g. housing, people, overall feel) within Blue Quill?

Yes

No

17. Would you be interested in having your property taxes increase by a small amount in order to preserve the green space, parks, soccer fields and reduce congestion?

Yes

No

Demographics

Thank you, we're almost done :)

We would appreciate if you could help us understand how your perception of issues relates to where you live:

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18. Which neighbourhood do you live in?

- Blue Quill Proper Sweet Grass prefer not to disclose
 Blue Quill Estates Other neighbourhood
 Skyrattler Outside Edmonton

19. If you live in Blue Quill or neighbouring community, do you:

- Own Rent Other

20. If you live in Blue Quill, are you a member of the Community League?

- Yes No Not sure/Don't want to disclose

21. If you live in Blue Quill, how long have you lived here?

- 0 - 3 years 8 - 12 years Not sure/don't want to disclose
 4 - 7 years over 12 years Not applicable

22. Would you like to be provided updates about the issues in the Blue Quill community? (If yes, please don't forget to provide your contact information!)

- Yes No

23. Would you be willing to join a committee, or provide other help (such as dropping off pamphlets, moderating a community forum), to assist in solving these issues?

- Yes No

24. Following information is NOT required, but is helpful, especially if you'd like to provided with updates about Blue Quill community. The contact information would not be shared outside of the Blue Quill Community League. The Transportation and Development Committee will only have access to statistical data.

Name:
Address:
Postal Code:
Email Address:

25. Are you a parent with children involved in community activities?

- Yes No

26. What is your age range?

- less than 20 40-50 Prefer not to disclose
 20-30 50-60
 30-40 over 60

27. Your gender?

- Male Female Prefer not to disclose

28. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions about transportation and development related issues in Blue Quill?