



Graduate Students Association

## **Building an *Edmonton for Everyone*....**

Michael Janz, City Councillor Ward Papastew

## Goals for tonight:

- Explore pathways for putting your education into action
- Provide pathways for future employment, volunteerism, and activism
- Share an inspirational vision for our future
- Have fun
- Remember to take a picture, Michael (his staff)

**Sign up for Email news  
michaeljanz.ca/**

**Insta: michaeljanzyeg**

**Follow Mayor  
and all councillors**



## Everything I need to know in life I learned through student government...

- Lister Hall 2003-2007
- UASU President 2007-2008, BOG 2009
- Edmonton Public School Trustee 2010-2021
- City Councillor, Ward Papstew 2021

## Guiding Questions

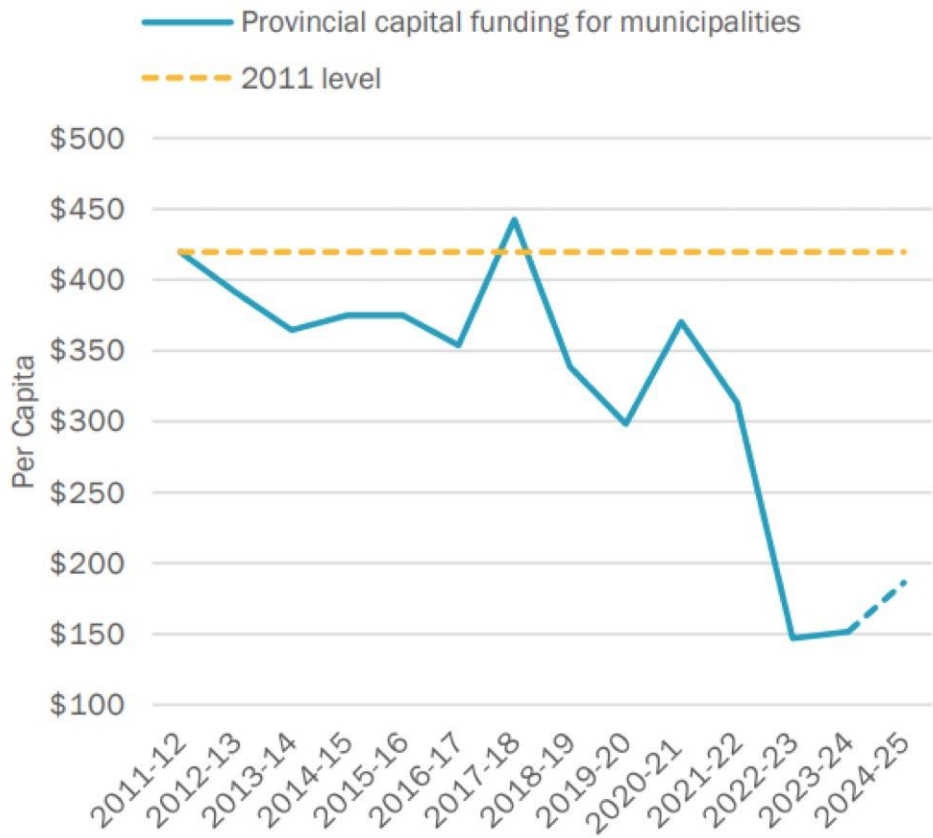
- How can we build a more affordable city by legalizing more housing choices?
- How can we make a city that is “smooth to move” with more transportation choices?
- How can we build a city that is vibrant, fun, exciting, and provides opportunities for you to build a life here following graduation?
- What role can you play as future professionals?

- **Young, Educated and Growing (YEG)**
- HUGE Footprint 782 square KM.
- 1.15M people (growing 5% per year)
- 17.6% Under 14 years old
- Average age 38.4
- \$108,390 median total income all families



# Total Provincial Per Capita Funding for Municipal Infrastructure

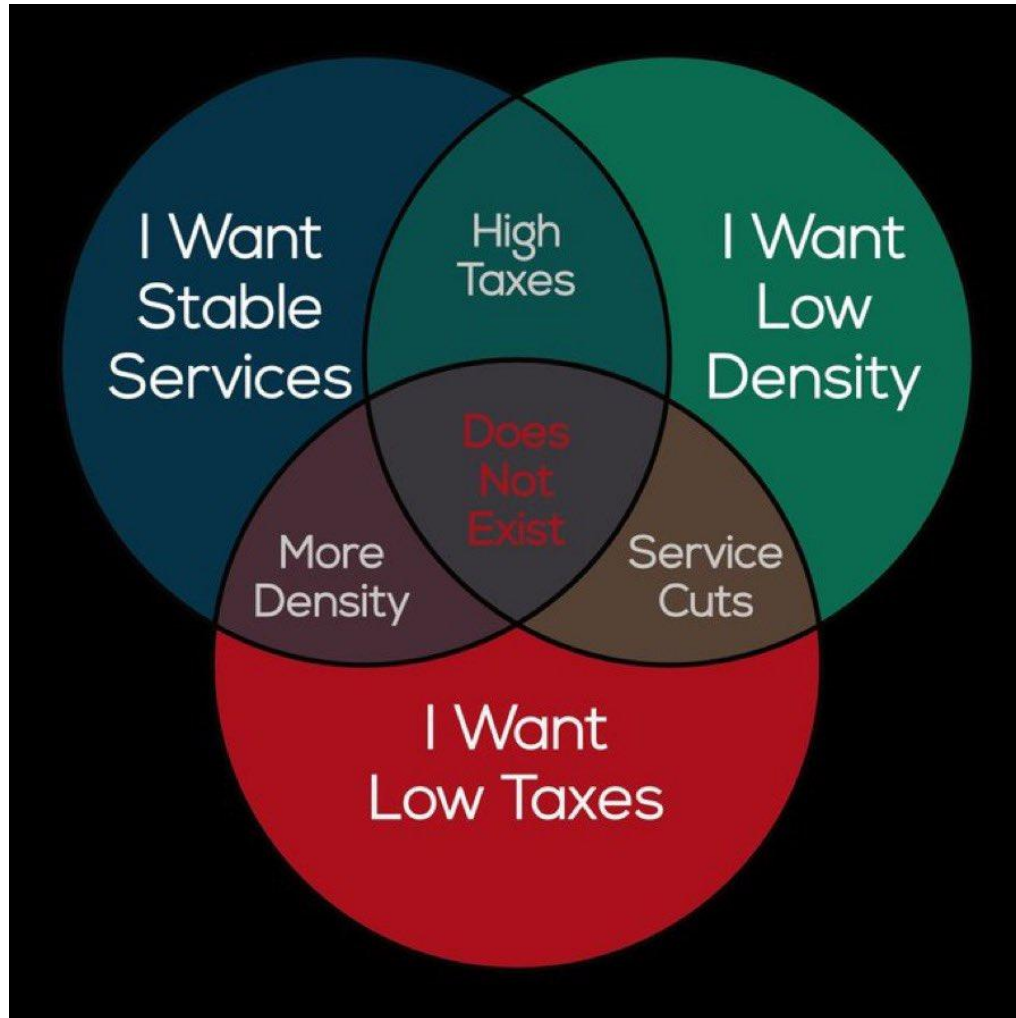
(excluding federal funding)



## Good News: HOUSING

- More housing choices legalized
- Zoning Bylaw Renewal
- City Plan calls for more housing choices, building in and not out. (Densification, Infill, curbing sprawl, refill)
- Financial imperative, affordability, climate goals
- Did you know that you can speak at public hearings?
- Skyrise Edmonton, Grow Together YEG, Situate newsletter, so many opportunities





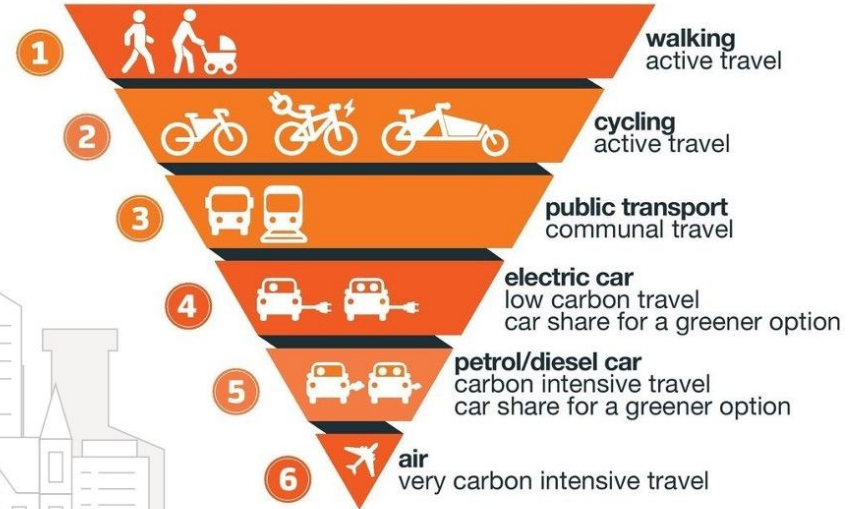
## Transportation Choices

- Finally raising per capita transit funding
- Bus Network Redesign
- LRT Expansion
- Active Transportation Expansion

# Why Create 'Low-Car' Cities?



- o>o Livability
- o>o Public Health
- o>o Sustainability
- o>o Equity
- o>o Resiliency
- o>o Affordability
- o>o Social Cohesion
- o>o Age-Friendliness
- o>o Noise/Air Pollution
- o>o Congestion
- o>o Public Space
- o>o Local Economy
- o>o Road Safety



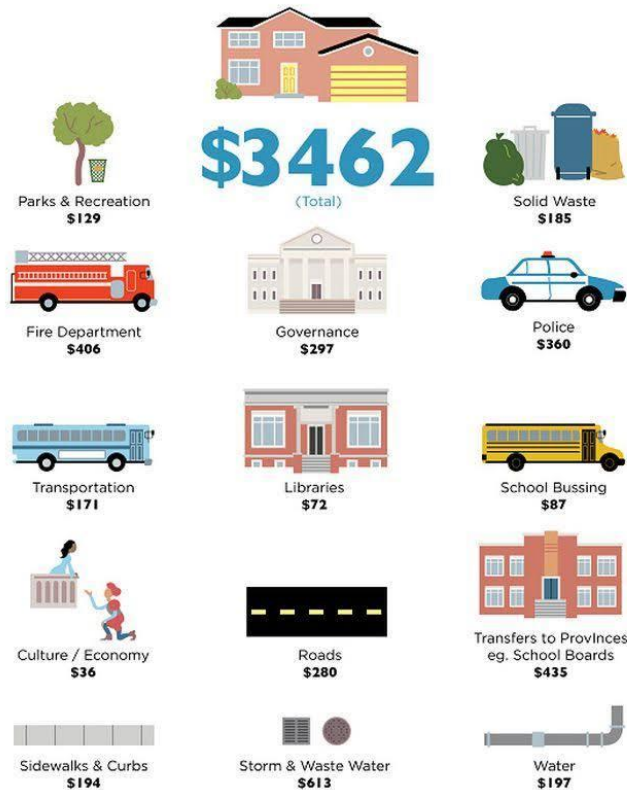


# Cars or People?

→ We are going to be a city of 2 million people: **we can't afford to be a city of 2 million cars.**

# Suburban

City's Annual Cost, per Household



# Urban

City's Annual Cost, per Household



## Caveat: It's about enabling choices!

- *"I'll never be able to take the bus because I start work at 3AM at the Airport"*
- *I'll never be able to ride my bike to take my grandma to hockey practice with all of her equipment."*
- **THAT'S OKAY!** Just because we allow <row housing>, doesn't mean you have to live in <row housing>.
- Just because we create bike infrastructure doesn't mean you have to bike 100% of the time.
- It's about choices!

## Enormous Costs of Car Infrastructure

- \$4.2 Billion in roads 2019-2026 Capital budget. That is \$4,200 million dollars
- Over 11,000 kilometers of roads, sidewalks etc.
- Maintaining \$10 Billion of roads with average life of 40 years. Spending \$170 million on neighbourhood renewal and alley renewal.
- The entire LRT expansion is 5 billion.
- Properly contextualizing capital vs operational costs of roads. (fewer lanes = fewer sweeps and snow removal trips)

**Question:**

What is the monetary and percentage total of spending in A) Renewal and B) Growth for 1) cars 2) active transportation 3) sidewalks?

**Answer:**

**Infrastructure Planning and Design Branch**

The breakdown of investment is as shown below and when referenced against Table 7 in the Proposed Capital Budget 2023-2026, incorporates spending from growth and renewal standalones and composites within Active Pathways and Roads Service (Roads, sidewalks, bridges, bike lanes), Parks and Open Space Access Service (Shared Use Paths, trails), and the transformational Yellowhead Trail projects. The percentages represent the percentage of the proposed overall capital investment for 2023-2026.

Roads (Inc. Roadway and Bridges)

Growth: \$837 million - 12%  
Renewal: \$965.2 million - 13.84%  
Total: \$1802.1 million - 25.84%

Active Transportation (Inc. Ped. Bridges)

Growth: \$66.2 million - 0.95%  
Renewal: \$53.7 million - 0.77%  
Total: \$119.9 million - 1.72%

Sidewalks

Growth: \$38.7 million - 0.55%  
Renewal: \$163.3 million - 2.34%  
Total: \$202 million - 2.9%

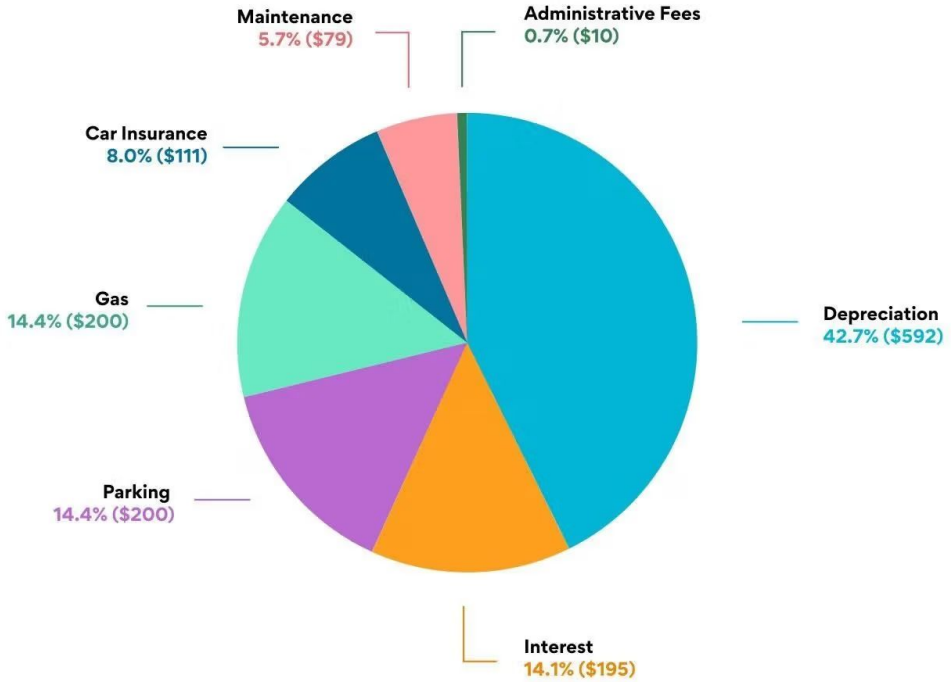


## Costs to the individual

- Ratehub clocked car ownership in Canada at \$1300 a month, roughly **\$15,000 a year**. (parking, insurance, maintenance, gas, depreciation)
- Most people can't drive for the last 20 years or the first 20 years of their life. They deserve mobility choices.
- 30% of americans do not have a driver's license

# The total cost of ownership for a car

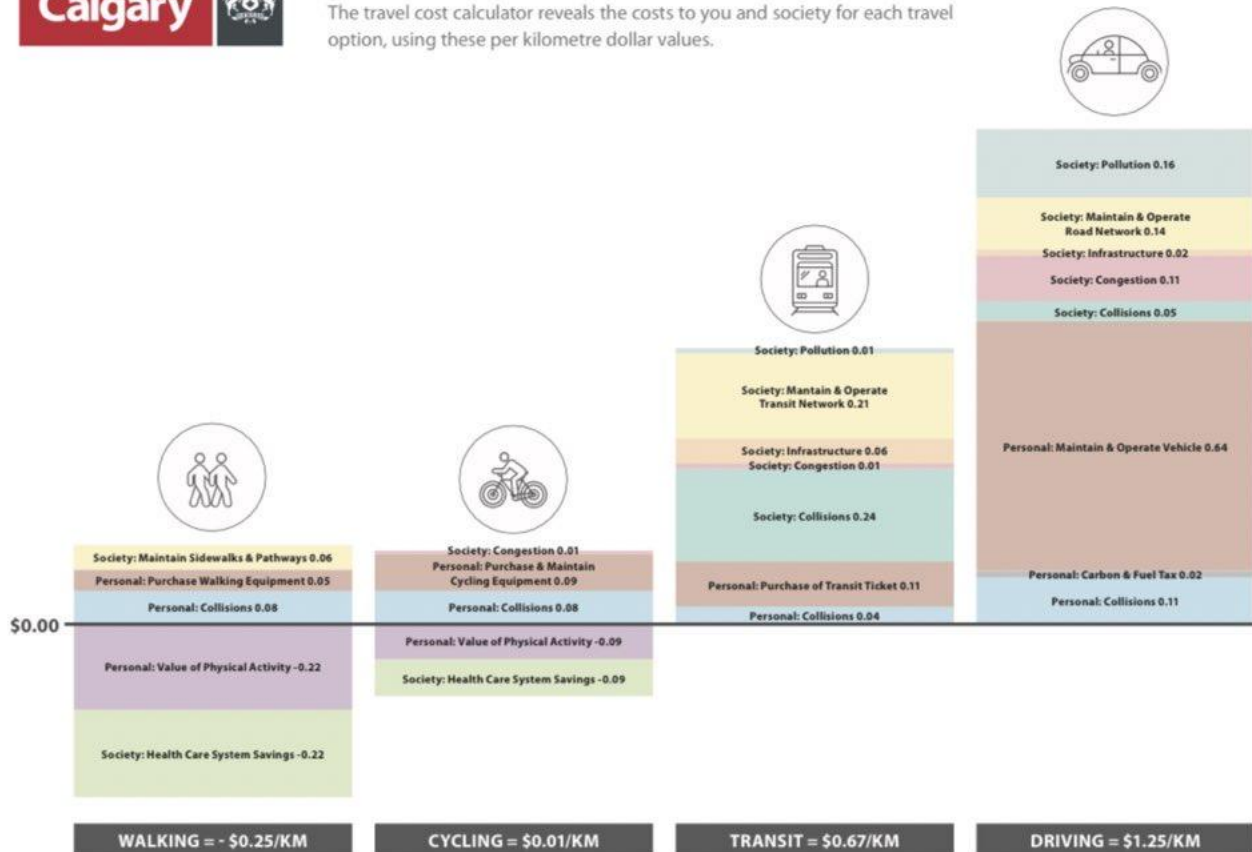
Average cost in Canada: \$1,387/month





### Travel Cost Calculator - costs per km by travel option

The travel cost calculator reveals the costs to you and society for each travel option, using these per kilometre dollar values.



## Vehicle Registrations

- Vehicle registrations have hovered around 700,000 for the last five years.
- One car per 65% of the people

## Safety Woes

- First Canadian city to adopt vision zero in 2015. Since then traffic fatalities have decreased 50%, serious injuries by 32% and pedestrian and serious injuries by 27%
- Upgraded 375 crossings with 400 more locations planned in next four years.
- Default speed limit reduction from 50 to 50km/hr.
- Complete streets standards filling in the pedestrian network

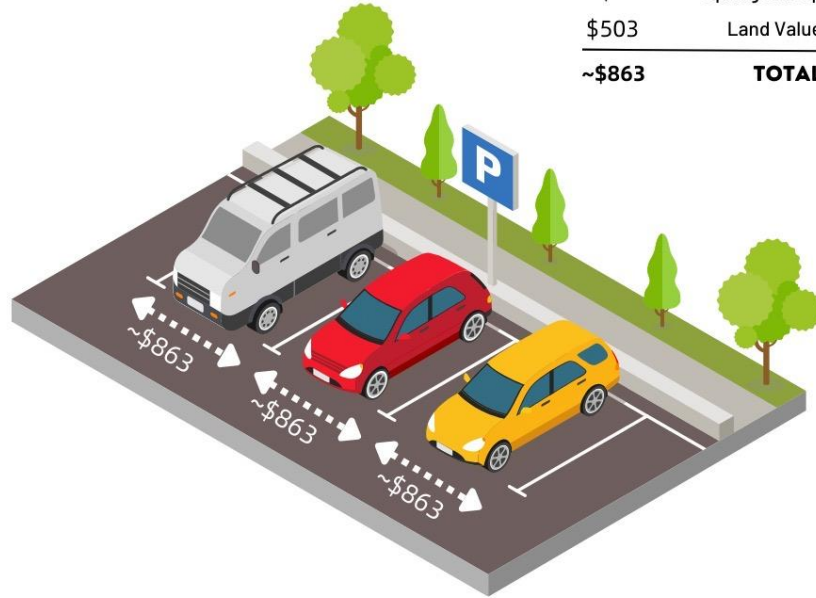


# PARKING

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## FREE STREET PARKING IS EXPENSIVE

Did you know a parking stall costs ~\$863 a year?	\$288	Snow & Ice Control
	\$72	Spring Sweep
	\$503	Land Value
	<hr/>	
	~\$863	<b>TOTAL</b>



**LEARN MORE AT**  
**[MICHAELJANZ.CA/BETTERTRANSIT](https://michaeljanz.ca/bettertransit)**

# How Many Homes Does a 5,000ft<sup>2</sup> Lot Create?

Land Needed Per Home

5,000 ft<sup>2</sup>

2,500 ft<sup>2</sup>

1,600 ft<sup>2</sup>

800 ft<sup>2</sup>

400 ft<sup>2</sup>



Single Family Home



Home + ADU



Rowhouses



Sixplex



5 Story Apartment



1-4 People



2-8 People



3-12 People



6-24 People



12-48 People

Population Per Building



## Parking Woes

- Parking is not the highest and best use of city land
- Parking stalls are expensive and add to per-door costs
- First Canadian municipality to eliminate mandatory parking minimums citywide in 2020. Open option parking and curbside management strategy.
- Not an elimination of parking, merely correcting oversupply.





# Thinking About Transit

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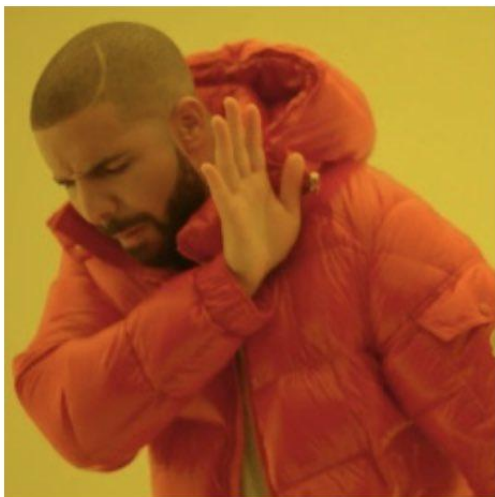
**ONE MORE LANE  
SHOULD FIX IT**





## Location Efficiency

- Purchasing a home on a high-frequency transit route could allow a family to save \$15,000 a year towards their home (going from a two car to a one car family).
- Purchasing power increasing another \$1000 a month!
- Too long we've thought about TOD as LRT - How can we think about the Bus Network Redesign the same way?



**Subsidize  
housing**



**Subsidize  
parking**

Survey question	Percentage of respondents ages 15-24	Percentage of respondents ages 25 and over
<b>Transit usage</b>		
ETS is my primary means of transportation	29%	23%
Frequently take transit (more than 6 one-way trips per month) for a variety of trip purposes	55%	37%
<b>Demographics</b>		
Persons with disabilities	13%	12%
Racialized/visible minority	25%	20%
Indigenous	11%	9%
LGBTQ2SA+	16%	5%
Woman	59%	50%
Household income less than \$30,000 annually	26%	17%



# Reviewing Transportation Progress: Bus Network Redesign

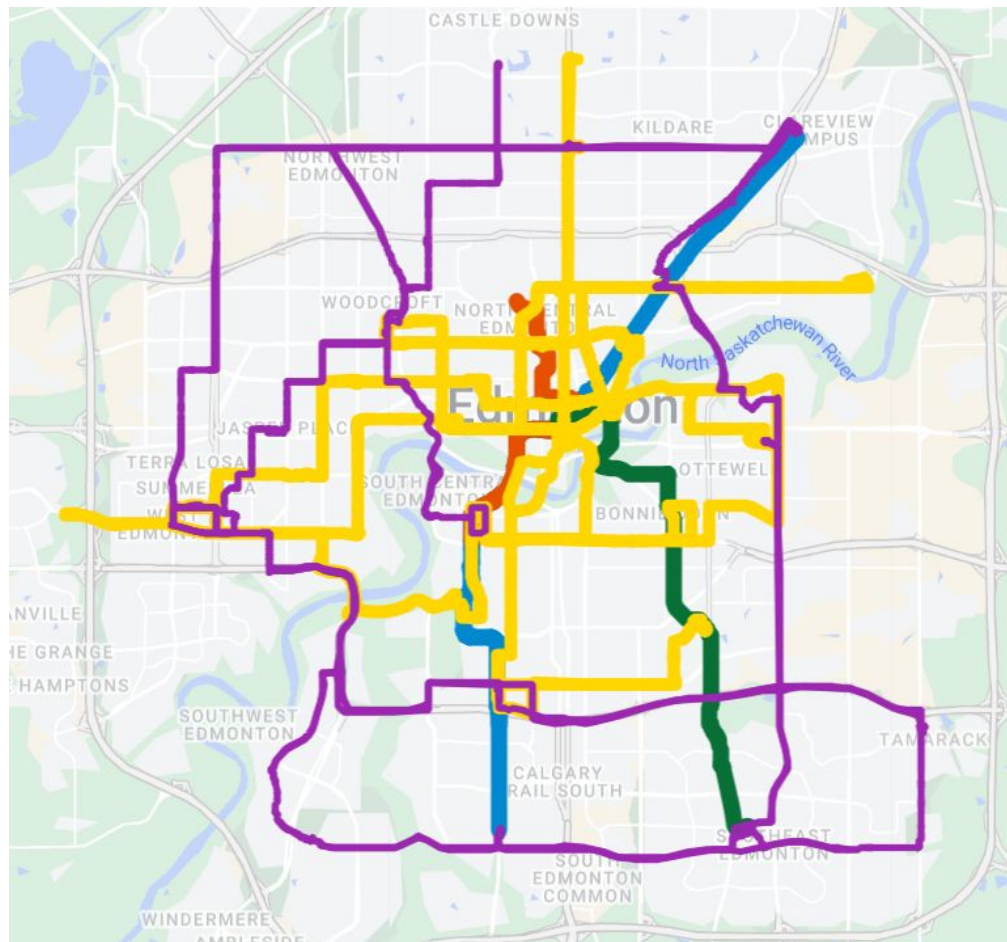
- Ridership Growth
- Service Hours Improvements
- Ridership has grown by 27% in 2023 and since that time, has continued to climb.
- January 2024 is up 5% year over year
- February 2024 is up 7% year over year

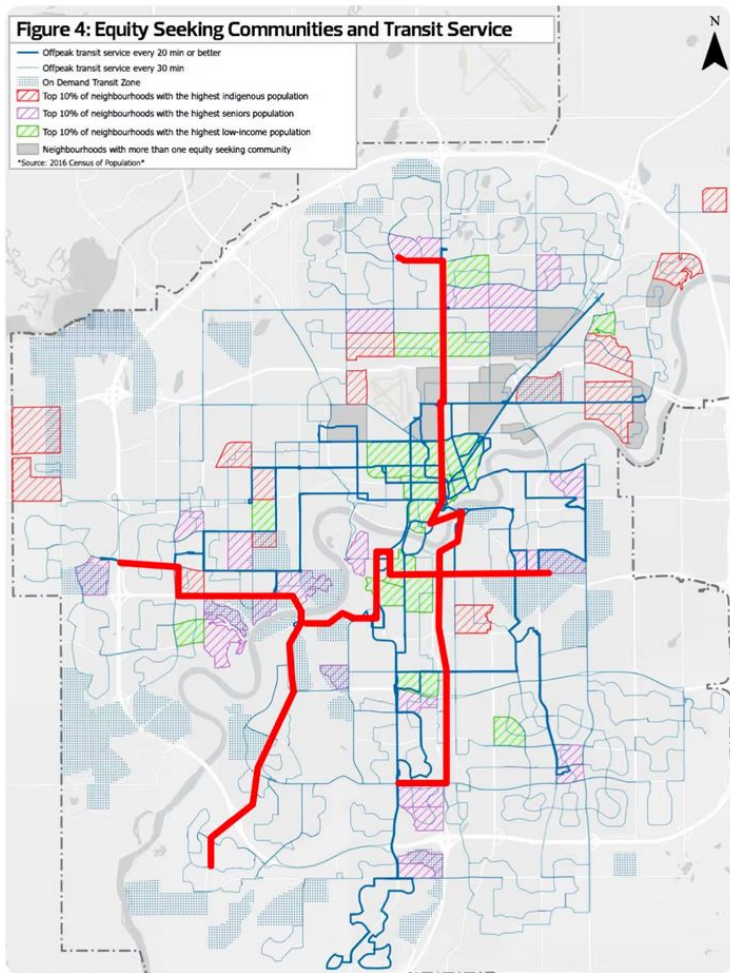
## Service Improvements

- Edmonton is one of 5 cities with a high frequency bus service corridor in the core of the city. Service every 15 minutes or better, seven days a week, most times of day.
- We've added more off-peak service, too. People are using transit more outside of peak times and on weekends. We connect people to places, people and essential aspects of our city through transit.
- We deliver 2.3 million service hours each year and more than 175,000 rides are taken every day. We're growing our bus service and LRT across the city.

## Safety Improvements

- Recent “Here to Help” campaign saw reduction of incidents across the system
- Perception vs. Reality: How do we fix perception?
- ● 33 per cent decrease in high-priority calls at the eight target locations compared to 2023.
- ● 25 per cent decrease in high-priority calls across the entire network compared to 2023.
- ● Residual effect noted after the campaign, showing reduced high-priority events for at least five weekdays following the project wrap-up.





BRT network denoted in red

## Bus Rapid Transit – \$7.3 Million (unfunded)

Serves areas that will never get LRT

Corridors such as 97 Street are highly transit-dependent

- Routes that use this corridor have approx. 15,000 trips a day
- 500 buses everyday
- Entire corridor serves several equity seeking communities

Airport Express would greatly benefit from the BRT program development along Calgary Trail/Gateway Blvd

- Significant low wage employment along this corridor

Route 4 on Whyte Avenue is most frequent and highest ridership bus route in the city

Transit Map: URL

(Host to email)

[https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=19zMYdcf9WheTVKKxRsujx\\_-qFdYQdcA&femb=1&ll=53.5180769935589%2C-113.51003189105225&z=14](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=19zMYdcf9WheTVKKxRsujx_-qFdYQdcA&femb=1&ll=53.5180769935589%2C-113.51003189105225&z=14)



# Active Transportation

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# Cycling cities are pleasant cities

## Cycling creates public space

Bicycles take up less space than cars, both for driving and in the amount of space taken up by parking.<sup>13</sup>

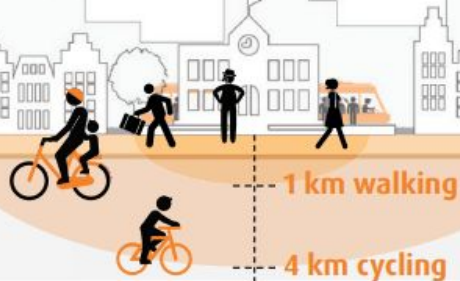
**1**  
car parked  
**=**  
**10**  
bicycles parked



## Bicycle is the easiest mean of transportation

Within the urban environment, locations are easier to reach by bicycle or a combination of bicycle and public transport than by car.<sup>14</sup>

The service area of cycling is **15x** larger than for walking!



## Cycling saves you time

No need to search for a parking spot. Within the urban environment, the bicycle is the fastest mean of transportation.<sup>14</sup>





# Reviewing Transportation Progress: Bike Plan

- New routes underway this summer
- [https://www.edmonton.ca/projects\\_plans/roads/active-transportation-network-improvements-project](https://www.edmonton.ca/projects_plans/roads/active-transportation-network-improvements-project)
- More routes under construction next summer

## Reviewing Transportation Progress: Bike Plan

**In 2024, approximately 17 kilometres of the network will be completed.**

- 106 Street from Princess Elizabeth Avenue to 118 Avenue
- Princess Elizabeth Avenue from 103 Street to 106 Street
- 102 Avenue from 136 Street to 139 Street
- Fort Road/Manning Drive from Belvedere Way to 153 Avenue
- 50 Street from 153 Avenue to 162A Avenue
- 66 Street from 137 Avenue to 153 Avenue
- 153 Avenue from Griesbach Road to 82 Street
- 97 Street from 153 Avenue to 160 Avenue
- 23 Avenue from 50 Street to 85 Street
- 23 Avenue from 111 Street to 119 Street

## Reviewing Transportation Progress: Bike Plan

- Connecting all districts with separated, safe, protected infrastructure for all ages and abilities.
- Connecting to multi-use pathways, the river valley, and existing infrastructure.
- Remember: the goal is to not every single person becomes a cyclist for every single trip, but rather more people choosing active modes more often.

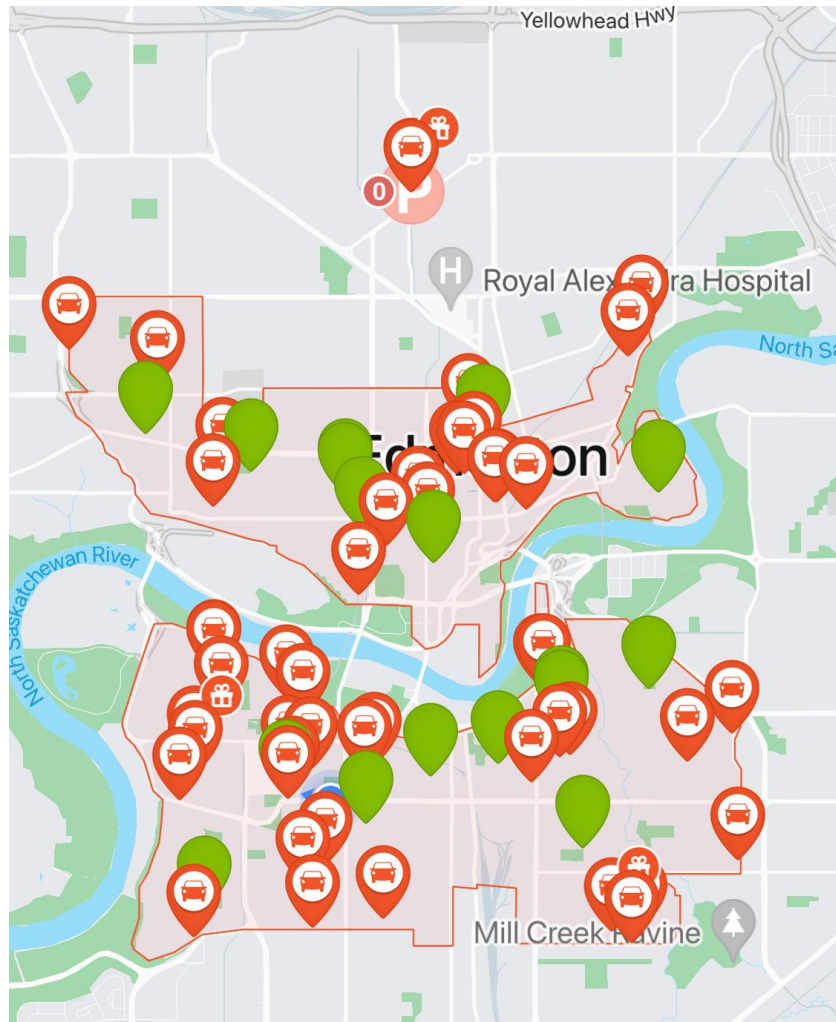


# Thinking About Carshare

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## Carshare Zone

- At this time, Communauto is the only car share in Edmonton
- According to Communauto, one of their cars takes seven personal vehicles off the road.
- They are looking for hosting spaces
- Carshare can save you time, money, and provide choices to people who only need the car on the weekend or emergencies.





# Conclusion

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## Fight Back against Austerity

- The cumulative wealth of 10 of the wealthiest Canadians is \$260Billion dollars. We could fix homelessness for \$5B a year.
- Cuts to cities, cuts to post secondary, cuts to health care- what do these have in common? A private interest, not public interest agenda.
- The many can defeat the money, but it takes a lot of work.
- The system was created by some, for some: Name the villains: who benefits?



## Take Action

- Engaged Edmonton, Council Meetings, spread the word, help students see how they will inherit this city
- Frequent, Reliable, Safe Public Transit (Fight for U-Pass?)
- Expanded All Ages and Abilities active transportation
- Curbing urban sprawl and legalizing more housing choices within redeveloping areas
- Advocating for equitable public transportation funding from the provincial and federal government.

# Questions

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