

PROJECT NOTICE

Ottewell Flood Mitigation Project

JUNE 2023

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Ottewell Flood Mitigation Project has been initiated to reduce the risk of flooding in the Ottewell and area neighbourhoods.

The Ottewell neighbourhood is primarily serviced with a mix of combined sanitary and storm lines, and some separate storm lines. There is no stormwater management facility in the neighbourhood, and the current overland (or surface drainage system) is not effective. There are several areas in this neighbourhood where water can pool during intense rainfall events, which puts the Ottewell community at a higher risk of flooding.

To reduce the flood risk, EPCOR will be constructing a dry pond in Ottewell Park and installing/upgrading various storm infrastructure throughout the neighbourhood.

Dry ponds are stormwater management facilities, which are dry the vast majority of the time. These facilities are designed to temporarily hold stormwater when the drainage system cannot handle the water volumes due to severe storm events. Events such as thunderstorms

are challenging to predict because they can come with little warning. They can be very intense for a short period of time in a localized area causing flooding of roads, properties and sewer backups in basements.

During severe storm events, dry ponds act as storage facilities and help protect local homes and businesses. The stormwater will then drain from the dry ponds into the downstream drainage system when there is capacity.

This project is currently in the preliminary design phase and is part of EPCOR's Stormwater Integrated Resource Plan (SIRP) which aims to reduce the risk of flooding in Edmonton neighbourhoods and is funded in part by the Government of Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF).

Construction is anticipated to start in **2024** and will be done in phases with the sequencing and timing of the work to be determined once the contract has been awarded. The overall project is expected to be completed within **two to three years**. *Please note: These timelines are estimates and are pending internal approvals, contractor procurement/availability, construction conditions and weather.*



Example of a dry pond, adjacent to Steinhauer School, from the Steinhauer and Ermineskin Flood Mitigation Project where three soccer fields and a baseball diamond were re-established.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

To support the design of the dry pond and storm infrastructure upgrades, a geotechnical investigation is required to determine the soil types that are present below the ground surface. This activity will involve drilling boreholes at **approximately 15 locations** along public roads and in grassy areas in the Ottewell neighbourhood.

Additionally, **approximately 67 hydrovac excavations** will be necessary to locate and identify existing underground infrastructure throughout the neighbourhood. A topographic survey will also occur throughout the project area.

All work will be completed in public right-of-way, except for the three school locations. Some excavation locations will be in grassy areas adjacent to sidewalks.

All affected landscaping, pavements, sidewalks and alleyways will be restored to their original condition. Impacted grassy areas will be restored using top soil and sod or grass seed.

The activities will involve:

- Excavating using a hydrovac truck
- Drilling boreholes using a truck-mounted drill rig
- Temporary steel plates on roadways, where required
- Backfilling and surface restoration of all test holes
- Surveying

During the geotechnical and hydrovac investigations, residents may experience general noise from the hydrovac trucks, and equipment used for drilling, excavation, and restoration.

OVERALL PROJECT MAP



TRAFFIC IMPACTS

During the geotechnical and hydrovac excavations, some lanes will be temporarily closed. Lanes will be closed as the work progresses and will reopen once the work has been completed in the area. At least one lane of traffic will be maintained at all times.

Some temporary sidewalk closures may be required where hydrovac locations are adjacent to sidewalks. Pedestrians will be directed safely around the work area.

SCHEDULE

The geotechnical and hydrovac investigations are scheduled to begin in **late June 2023** and is expected to be completed within **one month**, weather permitting.

Construction of the proposed dry pond and storm infrastructure upgrades is anticipated to start in **2024** and will be done in phases with the sequencing and timing of the work to be determined once the contract has been awarded. The overall project is expected to be completed within **two to three years**. *Please note: These timelines are estimates and are pending internal approvals, and contractor procurement/availability.*

More detailed information will be provided to residents before construction begins in 2024 and will include details of traffic accommodations, construction impacts, and timelines.

RECREATION AMENITIES

Dry ponds typically contain recreational amenities, such as soccer fields and baseball diamonds, which can be used when the pond is dry (the vast majority of the time).

Based on the current concept design, all existing amenities are expected to be replaced with some amenities reoriented or relocated to another area within Ottewell Park.

It is EPCOR's responsibility to build the dry pond and maintain the underground drainage infrastructure. However, once the project is complete, the ownership and responsibility for maintenance of the dry pond surface, vegetation and recreation amenities will rest with the City of Edmonton. *The City of Edmonton is the final decision-making authority on the recreation amenity replacements.*

As we progress through design, EPCOR is committed to an engagement approach that provides project transparency, a process to manage any questions or issues, and provides meaningful communication to residents.

SAFETY

The investigation locations will be barricaded and marked as a restricted area. We will take every precaution to ensure public safety. Please keep a safe distance from the investigation sites and the equipment.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we perform this necessary work.

PROJECT UPDATES

If you would like to receive updates on the Ottewell Flood Mitigation Project, including opportunities to provide feedback, please send your email address to EPCORdrainage@epcor.com.

OTHER WORK IN THE AREA

City of Edmonton Building Great Neighbourhoods – Neighbourhood Renewal

To reduce the impacts to the community, EPCOR will be coordinating the construction for the flood mitigation project with the City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Renewal construction. The City's construction is currently underway to rehabilitate residential roads, replace street lights, sidewalks, curbs and gutters and add missing sidewalk links where possible.

Any inquiries about neighbourhood renewal can be directed to City of Edmonton by calling 311 or emailing BuildingGreatNeighbourhoods@edmonton.ca.

BOOK A FREE FLOOD PREVENTION INSPECTION

Recovering from a flood can cost you thousands of dollars, but you can prepare your home and help reduce your risks. EPCOR offers a free inspection program to help identify your risks and options to help protect your property.

Book a free inspection with one of our flood prevention advisors to help identify individual property risks and recommendations to mitigate those risks. A subsidy for a backwater valve, which helps to protect your home from a sewer line back up, is also available.



BOOK A FLOOD PREVENTION INSPECTION BY JULY 22 AND RECEIVE A FREE WI-FI WATER SENSOR!

The water sensor connects to an app on mobile devices.



Contact us at floodprevention@epcor.com or visit epcor.com/floodprevention to learn more. When booking your appointment, use the code **FLOOD** to receive the sensor.

MORE INFORMATION

EPCOR Drainage Services

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