

Lynnwood Pole Replacement Project



Frequently Asked Questions

What is this project about?

In May of 2011, EPCOR began a pole replacement project in the Lynnwood community. This project involves replacing the aging wood power poles with new fibreglass poles.

As a proactive safety measure EPCOR will also lower the voltage on the power lines to 120/140 volts (average household voltage). This will increase accessibility to EPCOR workers while lowering the chances for the power line to come in contact with trees during storms.

Why are you replacing the poles?

This project is an upgrade to the neighbourhood's infrastructure and is also a proactive measure to continue providing safe, reliable power in the area. The new fibreglass poles are lightweight, easy to install and safer for EPCOR to access. The poles are also resistant to corrosion, acids, rotting, fire, temperature changes, insects and birds.

When are you replacing the poles?

The project started in May of this year and will continue into 2012.

I have a pole in my backyard; will you be replacing that pole?

Yes.

Will EPCOR notify me when they will replace the pole in my backyard?

An EPCOR representative will come to your house the day before to notify you when we will be in your backyard as well as answer any questions you may have.

I have a pole in my backyard; will my yard be disturbed by construction? Will my fence be removed?

This will depend on the location of the pole and what is around the pole. EPCOR may need to: remove a portion of a fence, a portion of landscaping or any item that is close to the pole. This is to allow the pole to be replaced. An EPCOR representative will discuss your specific situation with you to ensure you understand how your property may be temporarily affected by construction before a crew starts working in or around your yard.

Are there any safety precautions or preparations I should be aware of?

Yes. Please ensure any pets you own are kept in the house while EPCOR is working in your backyard.

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Is there any safety concern for people or pets near the power poles?

There are no safety concerns on or near power poles or padmount transformers. Above-ground equipment has been an industry standard for many years.

Why are some wooden poles being replaced with fiberglass ones?

Fibreglass power poles will replace wooden poles that are currently in the backyards of area residents that live along the ravine. EPCOR has chosen to use fiberglass poles in these areas to ensure safety to residents. Fibreglass poles are also easy to install and safer for EPCOR workers to access.

Will there be any other power upgrades in the community?

Yes. Padmount transformers will also be installed. These padmount transformers will be located on public lands.

Have you determined where the transformers will be located?

Yes. Padmount transformers will be located on public land.

Is there any safety concern for people or pets on or near padmount transformers?

There are no safety concerns on or near transformers. Above-ground equipment has been an industry standard for many years.

Will I experience power outages while you are working in the neighbourhood?

Yes. You will encounter some outages when the old poles are taken out of service. EPCOR will try to minimize the outages while working on the project and make every effort to give notice to customers prior to any outage.

How long will this work go on?

The pole replacement project started in the back lanes of your community in May 2011. The pole replacement and padmount transformer installation is scheduled to begin fall of 2011 and will continue into 2012.

Will the streetlights and lampposts be replaced as well?

The streetlights and lampposts belong to the City of Edmonton. All requests to replace the streetlights and lampposts with newer, more decorative ones should be directed to them. The contact number is: City of Edmonton – 311.

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What can I expect during construction?

- Approximately 12–15 workers on site during a typical construction day
- Heavy equipment on site
- Work hours: Typically 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Operational constraints may require extending the hours over the weekend on occasion.

Traffic / Roads

- No road closures
- No disruption to bus service
- Employee and contractor vehicles on site

Power Interruptions

- Residents will be given 24-hour notice of outages that are one (1) hour or longer in duration.
- Most outages will be temporary and very short in duration (less than 15 minutes).
- Outages will be between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. unless notified otherwise.

If you operate a home business that requires uninterrupted power

- We recommend a UPS battery back-up outlet system to safeguard your work. This can be purchased at any computer store.

Safety and Security

- Fencing will be installed around the site trailer.
- All open holes and trenches will be covered and surrounded by barricades.

Noise

- Noise typically associated with construction.
- Not expected to exceed allowable levels set by the City of Edmonton's Noise Bylaw.

Ground Disturbance

- Will be kept to a minimum.
- Landscaping and pavement will be removed as necessary for construction.
- Restoration of the site (landscaping and pavement).
- Some dust expected from digging holes.

Who do we contact if we have follow-up questions after the open house?

Please contact Allie Lam at 780-412-4073.