# Wondering what the Plan is all about and some of the key ideas?

# Foster Vibrant Transit Station Areas

The Heritage, Southland, and Anderson LRT Stations serve as important gateways to the Heritage Communities and connect these communities to each other and the broader city. We heard that these transit station areas should transition into vibrant, better connected, mixeduse areas that provide new homes and amenities for current and future residents. The Plan envisions these transit station areas accommodating a greater variety of buildings that feature safer and more direct pedestrian and cycling connections to the LRT stations as well as enhanced public spaces that are safe and welcoming.

To help foster more vibrant transit station areas, the Plan provides specific direction for improvements within these areas including the creation of public space plans that include elements such improved pedestrian infrastructure, landscaping, lighting, sitting and gathering areas, and wayfinding.

A greater variety of homes and amenities will allow more people to choose to live and work in proximity of the LRT, make it easier to get around, and help enhance the transit station areas as focal points of the Heritage Communities.

excited to see a focus on developing the transit hubs.

There is so much potential to create interesting places surrounding the CTrain stations.

-Participant





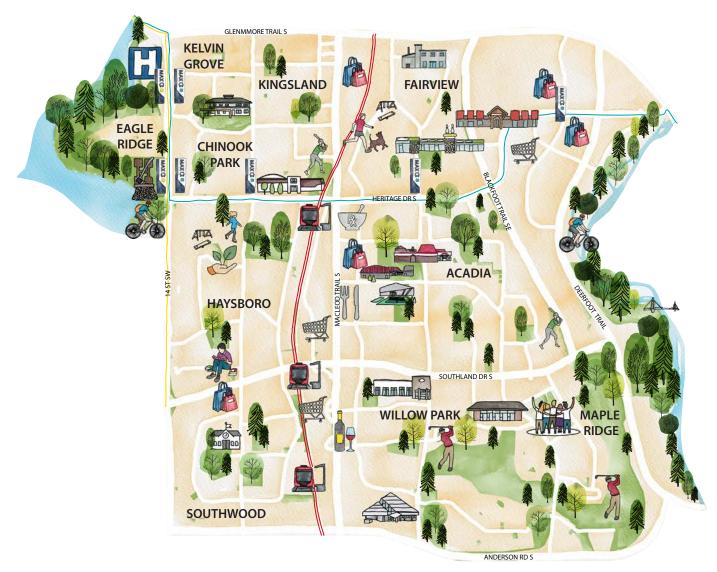




Acadia, Chinook Park, Eagle Ridge, Fairview, Haysboro, Kelvin Grove, Kingsland, Maple Ridge, Southwood, and Willow Park.



The Heritage Communities Local Area Plan is ready. The Heritage Communities Local Area Plan sets the vision for the evolution of the area over the next 30 years, including direction on future development and investment in the area.





## **Connect the Heritage Communities**

We heard a strong desire from residents to improve walking and wheeling connections between communities as well as to important destinations like transit stations, commercial amenities, parks and open spaces, and natural areas. Better connecting the Heritage Communities is a key focus of the Plan and will help provide residents, visitors, and workers with safer and more convenient mobility options to move throughout these communities and beyond.

The Plan seeks to create a network of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure that is Always Available for All Ages and Abilities (5A Network). This includes prioritizing walking and wheeling connections and completing missing links between transit station areas, commercial areas, community association sites, schools, and parks, open spaces, and natural areas.

The Plan identifies specific potential walking and wheeling improvements along key routes such as 5 Street SW, Haddon Road SW, and Sacramento Road SW, 89 Avenue SW, 90 Avenue SE, Acadia Drive SE, and Flint Road SE to better link these communities together and to adjacent areas.

I think densification and having a variety of housing options is important but I also know that there is a lot of resistance to any change in our community.

—Participant







# **Increase Housing Choice**

Population change is a key consideration in the Heritage Communities. People have different preferences and needs when finding a home (location, price, size, style, location to amenities or outdoor space). Having a variety of homes to choose from helps people stay in the area as they age or when their needs change, and also helps attract new families to the area. Increasing housing variety and choice helps stabilize and grow a community's population, while restricting housing to only single-detached homes limits options for people and results in population decline.

We heard a wide range of perspectives on housing choice, from those who welcomed all types of small-scale homes (such as single-detached homes, semi-detached homes, and rowhouses) throughout all communities, to those who wanted to limit housing to only the forms that exist today. The Plan considers these differing perspectives and takes a balanced approach that supports single and semi-detached homes throughout, while focusing rowhouses and townhouses in specific areas such as around transit stations, larger parks, and on corner lots. Larger multi-residential homes are also supported in specific areas including along Macleod Trail S, near transit stations, and in key places along community corridors such as Elbow Drive SW, Heritage Drive S, Fairmont Drive SE, Acadia Drive SE, and 90 Avenue SE.

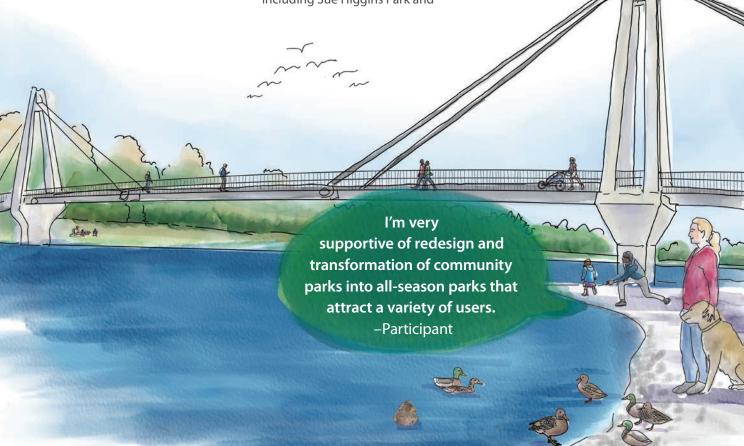
Welcoming more homes means more people can choose to live in the Heritage Communities which in turn helps support local schools, amenities and businesses. The Heritage Communities Local Area Plan balances the need for increased housing choice with concerns we heard about neighbourhood change.

## **Enhance Parks, Open Spaces, and Natural Areas**

We heard that parks, open spaces, and natural areas are very important to residents in the Heritage Communities. Not only do these areas support recreational activities and active lifestyles but they also contribute to the overall ecological health of the area by providing cooling, shading, wildlife habitat, and stormwater retention. The Plan recognizes the importance of parks, open spaces, and natural areas for future and existing residents.

New small-scale homes adjacent to parks and open spaces (such as semi-detached homes and rowhouses) will help enhance the interface with park space, allow more families to live in close proximity to these spaces, and increase their activity and use of these spaces. The Plan supports accessible, inclusive, and yearround programming for parks and open spaces and recognizes the importance of natural areas including Sue Higgins Park and

the Bow River pathway. The Plan also provides direction to protect, maintain, and support the urban tree canopy throughout the Heritage Communities.





#### **Revitalize the Macleod Trail South Area**

Residents identified the need to revitalize the Macleod Trail South area so it's easier for people to move around and visit businesses without a vehicle. We also heard a desire to improve east-west connections across Macleod Trail S.

Due to the vehicular nature of Macleod Trail S and the large size of parcels along it, the Plan considers Macleod Trail S as a redevelopment area that extends to the streets on either side such as Bonaventure Drive SE, Horton Road S.W., and Southport Road SW. The Plan envisions this area evolving to include a greater mix of commercial, residential, and mixed-use buildings that face both Macleod Trail S and adjacent streets. The Plan includes specific direction to enhance pedestrian routes and improve connectivity with new

development sites to better link side streets through to Macleod Trail S. The areas of Macleod Trail S that are close to LRT stations will welcome the greatest number of new residents and businesses and contribute to strengthened connections to LRT stations and adjacent communities.