



SOUTH SHAGANAPPI COMMUNITIES

Local Area Planning Project

Phase 1 – ENVISION: What We Did Report

Fall 2023



South Shaganappi Communities Local Area Planning Project

Phase One: ENVISION
What We Did Report

Report Back – Fall 2023

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Project Overview

The South Shaganappi Communities Local Area Planning project includes the communities of Banff Trail, Montgomery, Parkdale, Point McKay, St. Andrews Heights, University of Calgary, University District, University Heights, and Varsity.

Through the local area growth planning process, we'll work together to create a future vision for how land could be used and redeveloped in the area – building on the vision, goals and policies outlined in [Calgary's Municipal Development Plan](#) and [The Guide for Local Area Planning](#).

The South Shaganappi Communities Local Area Plan will fill gaps in communities / areas where no local plan currently exists and replace other plans that are largely outdated.

What did we do with the input received?

This input was used to update the concepts presented to the public for Phase 2: EXPLORE. This is the What We Did Report which demonstrates how your feedback in Phase 1 was used to inform the draft concepts in Phase 2, and what we are now looking for feedback on.

We encourage you to review the Phase 1 - ENVISION What We Heard Report to understand our communications and engagement approach, the questions we asked, and the feedback we

collected during the phase of the project. It also will provide you with the context of how feedback collected in Phase 1 helped to inform the concepts in the draft local area plan in Phase 2 that The City is looking for feedback on from November 14 – December 11, 2023.

What We Heard / What We Did

Below you will see the themes that emerged from our public engagement and the responses from the team as to how that feedback will be used to further refine the plan.

PAST

Q1 - What is important for people to know about the area's history?	
Theme	What We Did
<p>Participants value the natural spaces, parks, and wildlife that have been historic to the area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft local area plan includes draft core value for Parks, Open Spaces, and the River Pathway System. This draft core value focuses on conserving and protecting natural areas and wildlife. The core value will assist in policy development during Phase 2 of the project and will be embedded throughout policies and implementation options in the Plan. • Core value: Enhance and conserve existing local parks, open spaces and natural areas such as the Bow River pathway network to protect local biodiversity and wildlife, while providing inclusive programmable spaces for social gathering and year-round activities.
<p>Participants highlighted the importance of recognizing the Indigenous history and cultural heritage in the area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft local area plan will continue to integrate work from internal and external planning expertise and historians whose work focuses on Indigenous matters within The City to explore incorporating Indigenous histories into the Plan.
<p>Participants identified the University of Calgary as an important longstanding institution for the area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Chapter 1 and Appendix F focuses on additional historic information in the Plan area and has a specific section for University of Calgary. • The draft vision emphasizes the major, longstanding institutions in the Plan area including the University of Calgary, Foothills Medical Centre, and Alberta Children's Hospital.

PRESENT

Q2a - What do you love about the area and your community and why?	
Theme	What We Did
Participants value their parks, trees and open spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft local area plan includes a draft core value for Parks, Open Spaces, and the River Pathway System. The core value will drive decision-making and policy development as part of Phase 2: EXPLORE and be embedded in policies and implementation options throughout the Plan. • Core value: Enhance and conserve existing local parks, open spaces and natural areas such as the Bow River pathway network to protect local biodiversity and wildlife, while providing inclusive programmable spaces for social gathering and year-round activities. In addition, the draft local area plan acknowledges urban tree canopy, and natural features and open areas such as Dale Hodges Park, Shouldice Athletic Park and Varsity Ravine Park as significant community characteristics in draft Chapter 1, while policies specific to parks, civic and recreation and landscape design are highlighted in draft Chapter 2. • The draft local area plan will continue to prioritize suggested parks and open space improvements that will inform the content in Chapter 3: Supporting Growth of the local area plan. The purpose of Chapter 3 is to highlight the suggested improvements and areas of investment in the South Shaganappi Communities that will further the Plan’s Vision.
Participants value the walkability, pathway network and accessibility to public transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft local area plan includes a draft core value that speaks to the mobility network. This core value emphasizes the connectivity of various mobility options to the major public transit network. In Phase 2, we additional policies on mobility connectivity and accessibility will be developed. Both the draft core value and draft vision will drive decision-making and policy development as part of Phase 2: EXPLORE and be embedded in policies and implementation options throughout the plan. • Core value: Improve connectivity by providing safe and accessible mobility options, including transit, walking, and wheeling networks that efficiently connect institutions, recreational assets, Red Line LRT and MAX BRT stations,

	<p>and major destinations within the Plan area and surrounding communities to allow all residents and visitors to access employment, housing, and recreation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft local area plan will continue to prioritize suggested mobility improvements that will inform the content in Chapter 3: Supporting Growth of the local area plan. The purpose of Chapter 3 is to highlight the suggested improvements and areas of investment in the South Shaganappi Communities that will further the Plan’s Vision.
<p>Participants value proximity to amenities and destinations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity and accessibility to amenities and destinations is reflected through the draft core values that speak to the Mobility Network and Transit Oriented Development. These core values will be further integrated into policies in subsequent chapters. • Both the draft core value and draft vision will drive decision-making and policy development as part of Phase 2: EXPLORE and be embedded in policies and implementation options throughout the plan. • In addition, the draft local area plan recognizes the significance of Main Streets, Transit Station Areas, and Activity Centres as focus areas to inform the approach to potential focus areas for growth with access to amenities and services. The South Shaganappi Communities Working Group and local community associations have reviewed public feedback from the Phase 1 engagement on what exists today and discussed areas where there could be potential for additional growth in the future. We are continuing to work on the potential focus areas for growth in response to ongoing engagement to inform the rationale for the future growth concept and policy development in draft Chapter 2 for Comprehensive Planning Sites, Main Streets, Transit Station Areas, Activity Centres, and other key nodes and corridors. • Core value: Improve connectivity by providing safe and accessible mobility options, including transit, walking, and wheeling networks that efficiently connect institutions, recreational assets, Red Line LRT and MAX BRT stations, and major destinations within the Plan area and surrounding communities to allow all residents and visitors to access employment, housing, and recreation. • Core value: Strengthen the transit station areas at Dalhousie, Brentwood, University of Calgary and Banff Trail

	<p>LRT stations as community hubs that provide services and amenities for residents and visitors by concentrating a mixture of high-quality pedestrian-oriented commercial and residential development that encourages environmentally sensitive design and climate resilience transportation options.</p>
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Q2b - What are the challenges your area is facing and why?

Theme	What We Did
<p>Participants expressed concerns around public safety and increased traffic in the area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe mobility through the South Shaganappi Communities is presented in the draft core value that speaks to the mobility network which emphasizes efficient, accessible, and safe movement throughout the Plan area, with a priority placed on walking, wheeling and transit. This core value will be reflected in the plan’s policy framework as it is further developed. • Core value: Improve connectivity by providing safe and accessible mobility options, including transit, walking, and wheeling networks that efficiently connect institutions, recreational assets, Red Line LRT and MAX BRT stations, and major destinations within the Plan area and surrounding communities to allow all residents and visitors to access employment, housing, and recreation.
<p>Participants are concerned with an increase in social disorder</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social disorder is a multi-faceted issue that cannot be totally addressed through the local area plan process. However, two draft core values speak to safety: the Mobility Network and Transit Oriented Development. These draft core values will be supported by future policy that makes public spaces safer and more accessible It will drive decision-making and policy development as part of Phase 2: EXPLORE and be embedded in policies and implementation options throughout the Plan. • Residents are encouraged to contact 311 Calgary via phone or online (Calgary.ca/311) to report bylaw-related issues. • For life-threatening emergency assistance (fire, ambulance, or police) or to report a crime, please call 911.

FUTURE

Q3. What’s important to you and for future generations when thinking about how the area could evolve in the next 10-30 years and why?

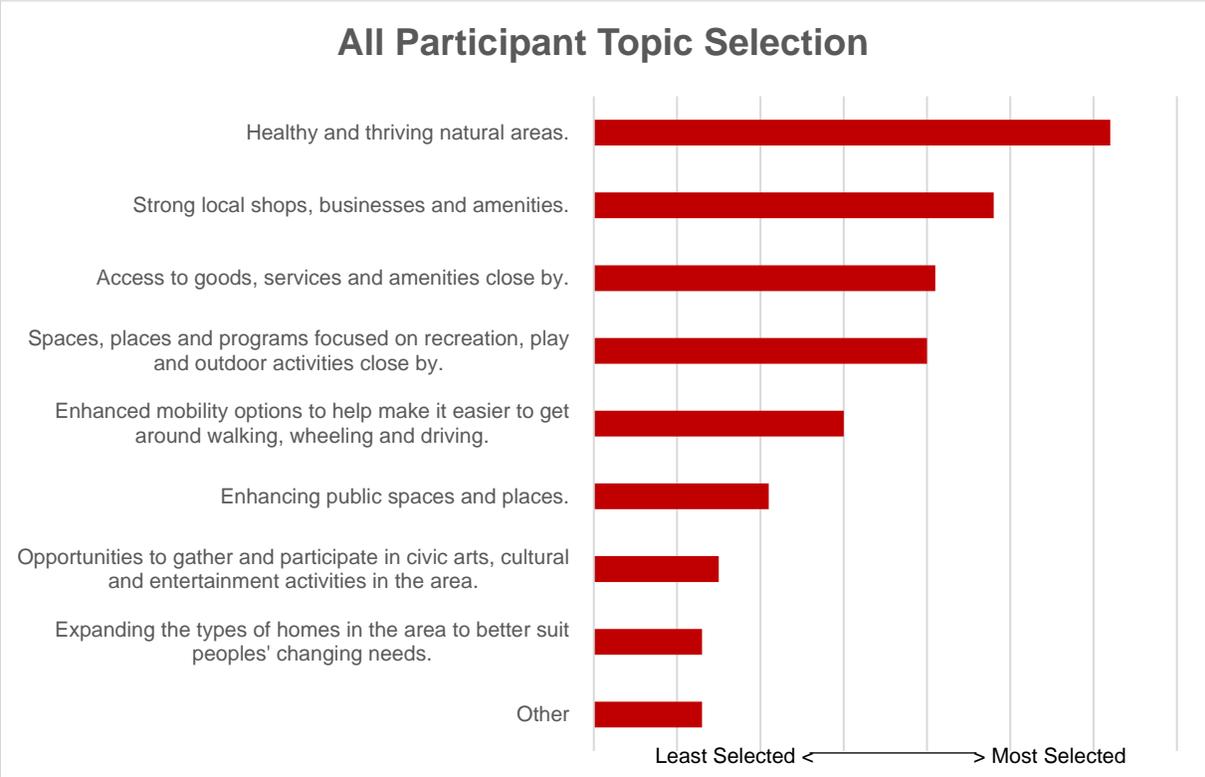
Theme	What We Did
<p>Participants highlighted the importance of access to goods, services, and amenities within their community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft core values that speaks to access to amenities are Transit Oriented Development, an Improved Mobility Network, and Diversity of Housing. These values are intended to guide the placement of goods, services, and amenities in areas with strong support from public transit and higher population density. As subsequent plan chapters are examined, policies will be developed to strengthen these initial core values. • Transit Oriented Development Draft Core Value: Strengthen the transit station areas at Dalhousie, Brentwood, University of Calgary and Banff Trail LRT station areas as community hubs that provide services and amenities for residents and visitors by concentrating a mixture of high-quality pedestrian-oriented commercial and residential development that encourages environmentally sensitive design and climate resilience transportation options. • Improved Mobility Network Draft Core Value: Improve connectivity by providing safe and accessible mobility options, including transit, walking, and wheeling networks that efficiently connect institutions, recreational assets, Red Line LRT and MAX BRT stations, and major destinations within the Plan area and surrounding communities to allow all residents and visitors to access employment, housing, and recreation. • Diversity of Housing Draft Core Value: Provide diverse housing choices in the South Shaganappi communities to meet the evolving needs of existing and future residents of all income levels, ages and abilities while supporting major institutions and local employment centres in the Plan area, achieving a welcoming and inclusive community environment. • Core values will drive decision-making and policy development as part of Phase 2: EXPLORE and be embedded in policies and implementation options throughout the Plan.

<p>Participants expressed a desire to expand and improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is reflected in the following draft core value regarding the Mobility Network which states that mobility options including walking and wheeling (pedestrian and cycling) networks in the area will be improved. • Improve connectivity by providing safe and accessible mobility options, including transit, walking, and wheeling networks that efficiently connect institutions, recreational assets, Red Line LRT and MAX BRT stations, and major destinations within the Plan area and surrounding communities to allow all residents and visitors to access employment, housing, and recreation. • In Phase 3, the Plan will examine potential investment priorities and options that could have a focus on maintaining, improving, and expanding pedestrian and cycling infrastructure in the South Shaganappi Communities.
<p>Participants expressed the importance of conserving and protecting natural areas, parks, and trees in the area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is reflected in the following draft core value regarding Parks, Open Spaces, and River Pathway System which emphasizes the importance of conserving parks and natural areas, including biodiversity and wildlife in the area. • Enhance and conserve existing local parks, open spaces and natural areas such as the Bow River pathway network to protect local biodiversity and wildlife, while providing inclusive programmable spaces for social gathering and year-round activities. • In Phase 3, the Plan will examine potential investment priorities and options that could have a focus on conserving, improving, and expanding the inventory of parks and open spaces in the South Shaganappi Communities.
<p>Participants expressed the desire to increase walkability and connectivity of the mobility and transit network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is reflected in the following draft core value regarding the Mobility Network as well as Transit Oriented Development. Both draft core values reflect the importance of improving connectivity of the transit and mobility network. • Improved Mobility Network Draft Core Value: Improve connectivity by providing safe and accessible mobility options, including transit, walking, and wheeling networks that efficiently connect institutions, recreational assets, Red Line LRT and MAX BRT stations, and major destinations within the Plan area and surrounding communities to allow all residents and visitors to access employment, housing, and recreation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transit Oriented Development Draft Core Value: Strengthen the transit station areas at Dalhousie, Brentwood, University of Calgary and Banff Trail LRT stations as community hubs that provide services and amenities for residents and visitors by concentrating a mixture of high-quality pedestrian-oriented commercial and residential development that encourages environmentally sensitive design and climate resilience transportation options. • In Phase 3, the Plan will examine potential investment priorities and options that could have a focus on maintaining, improving, and expanding pedestrian and cycling infrastructure in the South Shaganappi Communities.
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TOPIC SELECTION

Participants were asked to select from a list the top three topics that are most important to them as the South Shaganappi Communities continue to evolve and comment on why they made those selections. The results are presented in a visual form below, from most to least selected topics.



Topics	What We Did
1. Healthy and thriving natural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parks, Open Spaces and River Pathway System draft core value emphasizes the importance of conserving open space and natural areas, and the importance of having natural areas to help support biodiversity and wildlife.
2. Strong local shops, businesses, and amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Transit Oriented Development draft core value reflects having more services and amenities in areas that are accessible to current and future residents of the Plan area. Easily accessible goods and services will be enabled through the policies framework, which will be further developed as the project progresses.
3. Access to goods, services, and amenities close by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two draft core values speak to access to amenities; the Diversity of Housing and the Transit-Oriented core value. The Diversity of Housing draft core value provides for more housing in areas where they will support employment areas and major institutions. The draft Transit-Oriented core value provides for amenities and services in key locations within the Plan area. The plan will support both these two core values by providing policy framework, which will be further developed as the project progresses.
4. Spaces, places and programs focused on recreation, play and outdoor activities close by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Recreational Opportunities and Parks and Open space draft core values emphasize high-quality recreational spaces, both indoor and outdoor, that are accessible to all ages and abilities. These core values will be further explored as the plan’s policies continue to be developed.
5. Enhanced mobility options to help make it easier to get around walking, wheeling and driving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft core value on Improved Mobility Network emphasizes a safe, accessible and efficient movement throughout the Plan area, through the prioritization of walking, wheeling and transit. The plan’s investment priorities will explore where infrastructure improvements can be made to support growth and change, as well as what pieces of infrastructure are right-sized to meet the current and future needs of the population.
6. Enhancing public spaces and places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft core value for Parks, Open Space and the Bow River Pathway system prioritizes the enhancement and preservation of public open spaces and places, with an emphasis put on social gathering and year-round activities. The plan will aim to support and strengthen cultural activities, venues and groups
7. Opportunities to gather and participate in civic arts, cultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parks, Open Space and Bow River Pathway System core value encourages the creation of public spaces that support people of all ages and abilities, and for four-season activities with the South Shaganappi Communities. The

and entertainment activities in the area.	plan’s policy framework will be designed to support this goal further.
8. Expanding the types of homes in the area to better suit people’s changing needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft core value for Diversity of Housing supports the growth and change of the South Shaganappi Communities through the prioritization of diversity of housing choices to meet the evolving needs of existing and future residents.

Project next steps

We will be back in the community from November 14 – December 11, 2023, for Phase 2: EXPLORE. This phase will include multiple engagement opportunities including in-person, mail-in and online engagement, to review and further refine the concepts in the draft local area plan for the South Shaganappi Communities. Please pick up the engagement booklet to review and provide feedback, participate in an online Q&A session with the team, or attend the public open house on November 30, 2023, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Varsity Community Association. All details for these events including how to register, and information about where and how engagement booklets can be found (landing in your mailboxes from November 14, available to be picked up at My Idea Stations, and a downloadable version) are available online through our project website.

To stay up to date on project details and future engagement opportunities please visit calgary.ca/Shaganappi and sign-up for email updates.