

# COMMUNITY LEAGUE PLAZA

## GENERAL PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Community League Plaza celebrates the Community League movement in Edmonton - the millions of voluntary hours, the stories, the history that help make our city an internationally recognized place to call home.

### 2011

EFCL Board members start planning for 2021 centennial

Met with City of Edmonton – discussed three potential parks in the City

City and EFCL settled on W. Hawrelak Park

City and EFCL discussed best location, most needed area for improvement.



### 2012

Community Services Committee passed a motion to explore partnering with the EFCL for a capital project at W. Hawrelak Park to commemorate the 100th Anniversary in 2021

EFCL and the City worked together to create the initial conceptual design and budget.

City Council approved motion for EFCL allocate \$ to 100th Anniversary Project

2012 Concept – Phase 1 – Community League Plaza – Targeted Construction Date 2016  
Phase 2 – Pathways and Stream Enhancement – Targeted Construction Date 2021  
Phase 3 – Waterplay area – City of Edmonton working with EFCL to coordinate with potential City Beach Area – no scope or target construction date determined yet.

EFCL Annual General Meeting – membership approved project concept and approved community league financial support to be secured annually for the years 2012 – 2016.

### 2013

EFCL hired Project Management Firm to create the project conceptual designs

EFCL began Public and Stakeholder Engagement – Public Open house sessions and one-one presentations Silverskate Festival ( Oct 21), Triathlon ( Oct 9) , Heritage Festival (Oct 7) , Arts Council

City decision to move forward with leading the waterplay feature, at the current proposed site to be near playground and EFCL project which now will only have the Plaza and stream loop within it's scope. Concept development engaged with the public and stakeholders (April with City, October just EFCL)

### 2014

Final concepts passed with EFCL membership; Public Concept Design Consultation completed

Initial Review with Edmonton Design Committee; Environmental studies, research and reports

Major corporate and partner funding contribution agreements celebrated.

Began public consultations for features at Silverskate Festival, Heritage Festival



## 2015 - 2016

Initiated fundraising and history committees

Set up Edmonton Community Foundation Legacy Fund to receive donations

Raised \$5,000 at EFCL Showcase event in June

Received grants and implemented Historical Research Project to develop historical project content

Began detailed construction designs; Discovered proximity to City Waterplay Project

New Stakeholder Consultation; EFCL decided to reduce Secondary Plaza to improve pedestrian flow at pond. Sent letter to City Council.

EFCL set up Capital Campaign Committee

Started Great Neighbour Race to bring profile to the project - \$ proceeds went to project.

Finished detailed designs approved through Edmonton Design Committee; Building Permit approved; Costing estimates a challenge – delayed project

Began Tendering Process

## 2017-2018

Tendered project – invitation bid; Construction bid costs were higher than estimated. ( 1 million)

Economy challenges with fundraising; Reached out to funders for consultation; Project paused while new fundraising efforts explored

Review Project options and fundraising; Hired new project management; Reached out to Stakeholders; Presented new funding plan to Funders



## 2019-2020

Project viable with successful \$1 million from Provincial Government

Park event stakeholders expressed operational concerns; EFCL, City and stakeholders met to discuss.

City of Edmonton shared Park Rehabilitation Project and potential park closure in future; EFCL, City and Stakeholders assessing impacts of emerging changes; EFCL advocating to complete build by 2021 anniversary date

Hired a new project manager- Scott Varga with Avison Young

Received confirmation from the City of Edmonton of an additional \$750,000 to complete the project.

Met with major stakeholders of Hawrelak Park to understand and mitigate any concerns

Re-engaged the building permit and development permit for the site; Completed pre-engagement work with interested General Contractors; moved forward to a construction start date for early September 2019. Will put construction on hold for February 2020 to accommodate major winter festival

Fall 2019 Construction started on the main part of plaza.

Engagement opportunity held in November for events and festivals. Engagement opportunity held in December for community leagues, COE representatives, area councils, and other interested persons and organizations.

Anticipated completion May 2020. Any remaining follow up of details of overall build will happen fall 2020.

No construction during February 2020 to allow for Silver Skate festival. No construction scheduled May-Sept 2020 to allow for events and festivals.