

Engagement and Communication Summary

Centre City Cycle Track Network

Calgarians have had opportunities to learn about cycling in the Centre City and provide input through workshops, presentations, open houses public displays, and online feedback forms.

The project team has hosted 90 open houses, information sessions and one-on-one meetings since spring 2013. Over 2,200 feedback forms have been collected in the same timeframe.

Key messages

Cycle tracks provide more transportation choices in Calgary's busiest areas- the Centre City.

- Cycle tracks make cycling a quality, year-round transportation option that's affordable and healthy, making Calgary's downtown more accessible to more people.
- Choices give people the option to leave their car at home, which avoids traffic congestion, lowers the stress on the road network, and avoids the expense of parking
- Offering more transportation choices, like quality transit and good spaces for walking and cycling, helps manage future congestion

Cycle tracks make roads safer.

- Provides a safe space for cycling and a more predictable space for walking, driving and transit vehicles
- Decreases cycling on the sidewalk
- Reduces the chance of collision
- Encourages people to follow traffic laws, whether walking cycling or driving through new road designs

Cycle tracks connect people to major destinations in the downtown.

- *Where you live*- Communities like Erlton, Beltline, Eau Claire, Downtown West, Sunalta, Cliff-Bungalow Mission, Chinatown, and Victoria Park
- *Where you work*- office buildings with bike facilities; Bow, TELUS, Keynote, City Hall, Eighth Avenue Place, Nexen, Western Canada Place
- *Where you shop*- BRZ's like 17 Avenue, 4 Street, Victoria Park, Calgary Downtown Association, Stephen Avenue, and Chinatown
- *Where you play*- Stampede Grounds, Prince's Island Park, Millennium Park, EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts, Talisman Centre, Bow River and Elbow River pathways
- *Where you learn*- Glenbow Museum, Calgary Public Library, Bow Valley College, University of Calgary and SAIT downtown campuses
- Connects under the CPR tracks

Engagement timeline

Phase 1- A conversation about cycle tracks and cycling downtown (June -September 2013)

- Introduction to cycle tracks as a bikeway option
- Asked Calgarians:

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- Where do you want a cycle track?
- What is needed to make cycling better in Calgary's downtown?
- Feedback was considered when identifying street and avenue options for cycle tracks
- Events
 - Open house (1): June 19
 - Public presentations and panel discussions (5): June 18 & 19
 - Place-based engagement (10): Aug. 3-Sept. 14
 - Feedback form (online and hard copy)- 827 responses

Phase 2- Cycle track location options (November- December 2013)

- Introduced all streets and avenues that were being considered for cycle tracks
- Grouped the streets and avenues into corridors
- Introduced 1 Street S.E. as the recommended next location for a cycle track
- Asked Calgarians:
 - What should we consider when choosing the cycle track network?
 - What are your preferred streets and avenues for a cycle track network?
- Feedback was considered when identifying the proposed cycle track network
- Events
 - Open Houses (3): Nov. 28-Dec. 6
 - Public presentations (3): Nov. 28
 - Place-based engagement (2): Nov. 30 and Dec. 4
 - 1:1 meetings (9): Nov. 12-Dec. 16
 - Feedback form (online and hard copy): Nov. 28, 2013 to Jan. 17, 2014- 561 responses

Phase 3- Proposed cycle track network (January-February 2014)

- Introduced the proposed cycle track network
- Showed preliminary designs of the 1 Street S.E. cycle track
- Asked Calgarians:
 - What streets or avenues are missing from the network?
 - What should we consider when designing the 1 Street S.E. cycle track?
- Feedback will be considered when choosing the recommended cycle track network
- Events
 - Open Houses (3): Feb. 6-14
 - 1:1 meetings for cycle track network (4): Jan. 23-Feb. 4
 - 1:1 meetings for 1 Street S.E. cycle track design (14): Dec. 19, 2013-Jan. 23, 2014
 - Feedback form (online and hard copy): Feb. 6-Feb. 23 (896 responses)

Phase 4- Recommended cycle track network (March-April 2014)

- Inform Calgarians of the recommended cycle track network and pilot installation timeline
- Listen and Learn from Calgarians from their feedback on the recommended cycle track network
- Events
 - Open Houses (3): April 9 and 10
 - Static display: April 10-18
 - 1:1 meetings for cycle track network (9): Feb. 5-April 3
 - 1:1 meetings for 1 Street S.E. cycle track design (23): Jan. 24-March 31
 - Feedback form (online and hard copy): April 7-11, 2014

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Stakeholder groups contacted and engaged (emails, phone calls, meetings)

Alberta Motor Association
Bike Calgary
Beltline Community Association
Building Owners and Managers' Association
Calgary Chinese Cultural Services Association
Calgary Chinese Elderly Citizens' Association
Calgary Chinese Merchants' Association
Centre City Bicycle Projects Committee
Calgary Chamber of Commerce
Calgary Downtown Association
Calgary Economic Development
Calgary Hotel Association
Calgary Municipal Land Corporation
Calgary Stampede
Chamber of Commerce
Cliff-Bungalow Mission Community Association
Eau Claire Community Association
Elbow Valley Cycle Club
Inglewood BRZ
Mission/Cliff Bungalow Community Association
Open Streets Calgary
Sunalta Community Association
Uptown 17 BRZ
Victoria Park BRZ

Project updates sent by email to distribution lists

- Centre City Cycle Track Network project
- Centre City Bicycle Projects Committee

Property owners, managers and businesses along 1 Street S.E.

- Ongoing meetings (37)
- Email distribution list
- Project information and open house notices (hard copies and email)

Talking with the public

- Visiting experts' week (June 2013)
- Business workshops and presentation (June 2013, November 2013)
- Public information sessions: static mall displays, open houses, displays at summer festivals, lunchtime office lobby sessions, outdoor store Saturday session
- Roadside signs advertising the public information sessions (March-April 2014)
- Feedback forms
- Online surveys

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- Social media: Twitter (@yyctransport and #yycbike), City of Calgary Bicycle Program Facebook page
- Project webpages: 1 Street S.E. cycle track and calgary.ca/cycletracknetwork

Talking with members of Council

- Lunch-hour drop-in information sessions (December 2013, March 2014)
- Lunch-hour presentation (March 2014)