

Applicant Outreach Summary



Franklin Area Improvements

Report Back: Engagement Summary
May 31, 2024

Project overview

The City of Calgary is pursuing a land use change to redevelop the south Park-and-Ride lot of the Franklin CTrain Station for housing and mixed-use buildings. As part of the project, The City asked for the input of Calgarians' on the public space enhancements, and ways to improve the proposed concept.

Referred to as Franklin Station Area Improvements, the project is located in the community of Albert Park/Radisson Heights and includes the south Park-and-Ride lot of the Franklin CTrain Station, nearby green space, and the appearance of a portion of Radcliffe Drive SE. Public space improvements in the community will enable better mobility, connectivity, and safety to and from the station, and help address the current housing and affordability challenges Calgary is experiencing.



Note: This engagement summary provides an overview of the engagement that took place for the project, and early findings only. A final *What We Heard and What We Did* report will be available in the fall of 2024 and will include all engagement findings. The fall 2024 report will be included in a presentation to the Calgary Planning Commission.



Franklin Area Improvements

Report Back: Engagement Summary

May 31, 2024

Engagement overview

The City of Calgary led a comprehensive and inclusive public engagement program before the application submission for the Franklin Area Improvement Project.

The engagement approach took place over two phases. The first phase included early meetings with key interested parties to gather initial feedback to help shape the project and second phase of engagement. The second phase was centered on information sharing with the broader community and a public engagement event.

Several tools were used to communicate the launch of the project and encourage participation, including a dedicated engagement webpage, community mailing, temporary street signs, digital ads at transit stations, email updates, social media, and a strategic media relations campaign.

The public were invited to get involved in the project through the engagement webpage and online survey, a public pop-up community event, meetings with interested parties and email/comment form submissions.

A summary of engagement taken place to-date is as follows:

- Project introduction meeting with Grace Baptist Church – Thursday September 14, 2023
- Project introduction meeting with Albert Park – Radisson Heights Community Association – Tuesday September 19, 2023
- Project introduction meeting with Radisson Park School – Monday December 18, 2023
- Project overview meeting with Ward 9 Councillor – Tuesday April 16, 2024
- Project follow-up meeting with the Grace Baptist Church – Tuesday April 23, 2024
- Project follow-up and public engagement overview meeting with the Radisson Park School – Tuesday May 7, 2024
- Public Engagement – April 29 – May 13, 2024
 - 'The Future of Franklin' Community Pop-up Event – Wednesday May 8, 2024

What we asked

The following questions were asked during public engagement through an online survey that ran from April 29 to May 13, 2024, and at the Future of Franklin Community Pop-up event. The purpose of these questions was to draw feedback from the community on public space elements and the proposed Land Use concept.



Franklin Area Improvements

Report Back: Engagement Summary
May 31, 2024

TOPIC 1: Streetscape

1. What public space elements are currently working well along Radcliffe Drive? What isn't working well?
2. What elements should be prioritized as part of the public space improvements along Radcliffe Drive S.E.?
 - a. Safety improvements for walking and wheeling
 - b. Trees and greenery
 - c. Street furnishings
 - d. Automobile movement and on-street parking
 - e. Other
3. Do you have any other ideas of elements that should be prioritized as part of the public space improvement along Radcliffe Drive S.E.?

TOPIC 2: Park Space

4. What kind of opportunities would you most like to see included in a redesigned park space? (select one)
 - a. Passive Activities
 - b. Active Recreation
 - c. Flexible and Dynamic Community Gathering
 - d. Other
5. What type of active recreation space would you like to see within the park? (Examples could include a sport court, playground, community gardens, outdoor skating rink, etc.)
6. What type of flexible events would you like to see take place within the park? (Examples could include performances, theatre, pop-up markets, food truck stalls, etc.)
7. Do you have any other comments about the public space improvements for this project?

TOPIC 3: Proposed Land Use and Concept Plans

8. Do you have any questions or comments about the redevelopment of the south Park and Ride lot at Franklin Station Area?



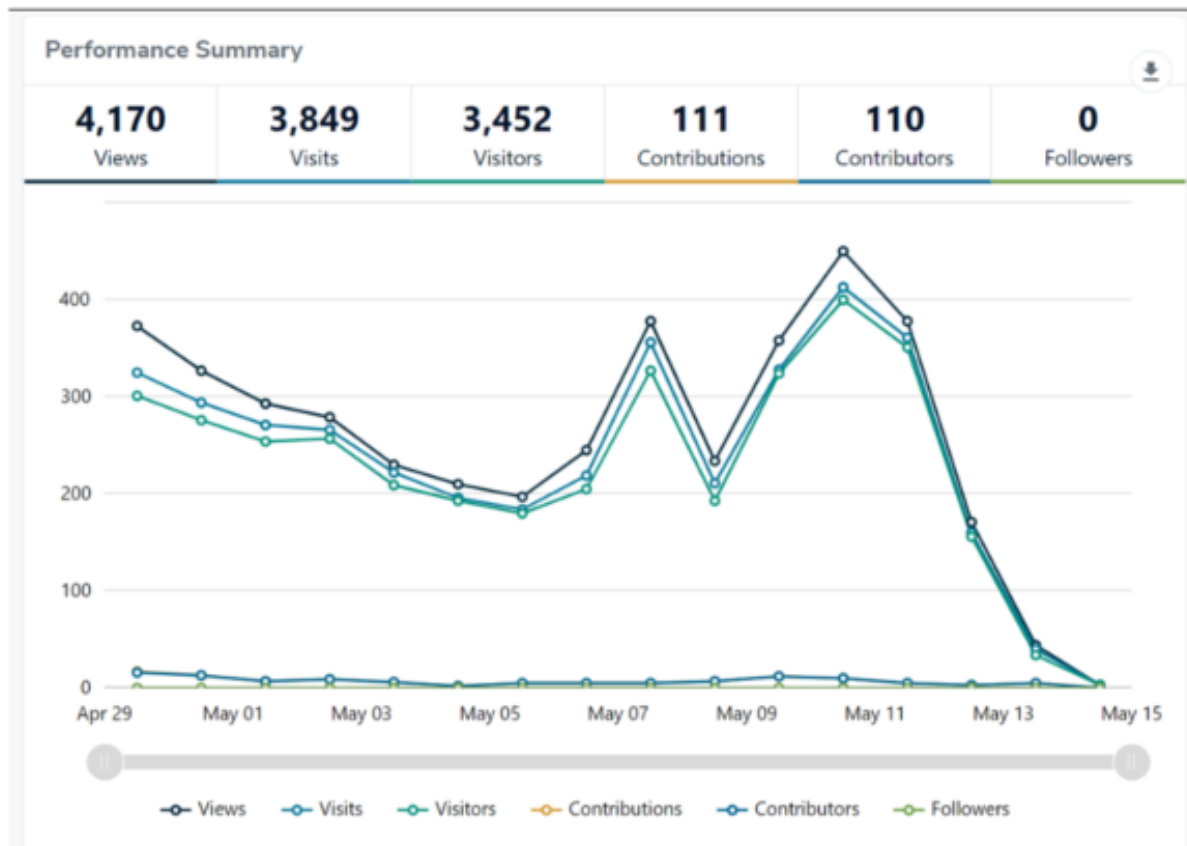
Franklin Area Improvements

Report Back: Engagement Summary
May 31, 2024

Participation

Online Engagement

A total of 3,452 unique visitors accessed the engagement webpage while the survey was live, and 110 unique contributors provided feedback. The following graphic shows total online participation.



- **Views:** The cumulative number of times a visitor visits the page in a site.
- **Visits:** The number of end-user session associated with a single visitor.
- **Visitors:** The number of unique public or end-users in a site. A visitor is only counted once.
- **Contributions:** The total number of responses collected through the participation tools.
- **Contributors:** The unique number of visitors who have left feedback through the participation tools.



Franklin Area Improvements

Report Back: Engagement Summary

May 31, 2024

Future of Franklin Community Pop-Up Event

About 240 people visited the Future of Franklin Community Pop-up Event to learn about the project, speak with subject matter experts, ask questions, and provide feedback. Input was collected through interactive display boards, comment forms, and through face-to-face discussions. About 230 comments were recorded through the display boards.

What we heard

Listed below are the main themes captured through the online survey, meetings with interested parties, and the Future of Franklin Community Pop-up event.

- **Safety** – a range of comments regarding general safety concerns were brought up throughout the engagement, with many requests for more lighting as part of the project. Other concerns about social disorder issues were shared including the impacts of these issues on Churchgoers, transit-riders, and children that attend the nearby schools. Some felt the proposed project would help address some of these issues by adding more people into the community to look out for one another.
- **Parking** – general comments were made about the inconvenience and cost associated with losing parking at the south park and ride lot. Many felt that the recommended alternatives were not sufficient. Others from within the community noted that taking away parking near the station would lead to increased parking in the community. Some also noted that they were willing to lose parking to make room for more housing.
- **Housing types** – a range of comments about housing types brought forward with some in support of non-market housing, and others opposed. Generally, most people were sensitive to the need for more housing in Calgary.
- **Traffic congestion** – comments about traffic congestion at school pick-up and drop-off time was noted as an inconvenience and that a local increase in population may make this worse. Many expressed the desire to keep the bus loop within the subject site rather than on Radcliffe Drive to prevent further congestion.
- **Flexible and active recreation** – many expressed excitement and interest in potential opportunities for both flexible and active recreation within the park space. Some felt there were enough benches and playgrounds within the community and want to see something different here.

For a detailed summary of the input that was provided and verbatim comments, please see the future *What We Heard and What We Did* report to be posted on the engagement portal in Fall 2024.

Next Steps

Public engagement for this project closed in early May 2024 and the Land Use Amendment and Concept Plan application was submitted to The City of Calgary on May 31. The submission includes this engagement summary and a more detailed *What We Heard and What We Did* report will be developed and presented to Calgary Planning Commission in October 2024. A public hearing of Council is planned for



Franklin Area Improvements

Report Back: Engagement Summary
May 31, 2024

December 2024/January 2025 which will include a decision on the project. If the project is approved, construction and the delivery of public space improvements is expected to begin in 2026.

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