

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

King Albert Avenue Active Transportation Improvements

1. Why is this project being planned?

King Albert Avenue is designated in the City's 2012 Strategic Transportation Plan as an important greenway corridor for people walking and using micromobility. Once complete, the active transportation improvements will improve safety and accessibility for all, create a connected active transportation network, and enhance the natural landscape of this urban area. The active transportation network will connect to key destinations such as parks, schools, SkyTrain stations, employment areas, and neighbourhood centres where mixed use residential towers with shops and retail spaces are located.

2. What is the current stage of the project?

The project is currently in the early stages of research and information gathering, which includes hearing feedback from residents directly fronting the final phase of the street. Once this stage is complete, staff will develop design option(s), which will then be shared with the broader community for feedback in spring 2025. Later in the year, the design option(s) will be presented to City Council for their input, along with a summary of the community feedback and planned refinements, which will inform the final corridor design.

3. Why is the City engaging with us now?

Staff are seeking early input from residents of King Albert Avenue who have used the earlier phases of the active transportation improvements, and can provide insights about the area and the current challenges on the street. This feedback will help inform future decisions and design option(s) for discussion in 2025.

4. When can we see the City's proposed design?

There is no proposed corridor design that has been developed or finalized at this time. After conducting initial research and gathering input and ideas from residents directly fronting the street, proposed design option(s) will be developed and shared with the broader community in spring 2025.

5. Have other routes been considered?

While King Albert Avenue has been identified as the preferred route in the City's 2012 Strategic Transportation Plan, staff evaluated other routes, such as Haversley Avenue and Austin Avenue, as part of the update to the Transportation Plan (currently in development). However, these other routes were found to offer less direct connections and offered fewer opportunities to connect to trails within Mundy Park than along King Albert Avenue. The City considers King Albert Avenue as the main east-west active transportation corridor north of Austin Avenue.

Although King Albert Avenue also presents some challenges, it remains the most viable route to achieve the goal of providing continuous, safe, and comfortable corridors for people walking and using micromobility.

6. Will the active transportation improvements on this final phase of King Albert Avenue be designed as a Multi-Use Pathway (MUP), similar to the earlier phases?

As we have not yet reached the design stage for the final phase of the King Albert Avenue Active Transportation Improvements, the City has not proposed a MUP or any other design at this time. However, the City has received valuable feedback from residents about the challenges of the previous phases, and this final phase offers an opportunity to explore other design ideas and concepts. The *British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide* allows different designs depending on the daily traffic volumes and speeds along corridors, and design option(s) for this phase will consider all of these factors.

7. How will this project improve safety on King Albert Avenue?

There are a variety of options for speed reduction in street and active transportation infrastructure design that can be considered once the project enters the design phase. The City's Transportation Planning study indicates that daily traffic volumes on King Albert Avenue are fewer than 1,000 vehicles per day, of which the 85th percentile of speed along the final phase of the corridor is 48 km/h. While this is less than the current posted speed limit, it is still too high when considering the needs of people walking and using micromobility along the corridor, including people accessing the trails to Mundy Park, and will be a factor in decision-making on the final design.

8. A group of residents presented concerns and ideas for a potential design to Council-in-Committee in October 2023. Will those ideas be considered as part of the design process?

At this stage of the project, staff welcome ideas and concepts from all residents directly fronting the final phase of King Albert Avenue. Before design option(s) are developed, all residents of the street are invited to share their ideas on how to meet the objectives of improving safety and accessibility for all, creating a connected active transportation network, while working within existing constraints of the corridor.

9. How will this project benefit residents of King Albert Avenue?

Once complete, the project will bring enhancements to the street that will benefit residents living along the corridor. Along with establishing a network for active transportation users, safety improvements will help reduce speeding, and accessibility along the street and to Mundy Park will be enhanced, allowing individuals of all abilities to navigate the area without barriers. Additionally, there may be opportunities to add street trees and landscaping to beautify the area.

10. How is this active transportation improvement project funded?

This project is primarily funded through Development Cost Charges (paid by developers) and TransLink grants.