



QUARTERLY REPORT

FOR THE QUARTER ENDED
JUNE 30, 2023





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TRENDING DATA

Building Permit Activity

Building permit activity in the first half of the year is slightly lower when compared to the same time period in 2022. Since the start of the year, 396 building permits were approved compared to 443 permits during the same time period last year, of which 301 were for new dwelling units (including secondary suites). The construction value of permits in the first half of the year is significantly higher at \$153 million. This includes permits related to the construction of the Civic Centre valued at \$58 million. Excluding the Civic Centre permits, construction would be valued at \$95 million in the first half of the year compared to \$100 million in the first half of 2022.

The value of construction in the residential new single and semi-detached category is 22 per cent lower this year than last year. This category makes up most of the overall construction value, excluding the Civic Centre permits. The construction value in the new commercial category is up slightly to \$3.2 million while the construction value in the new industrial category is up significantly to \$12.3 million when compared to the same time period in 2021 and 2022.

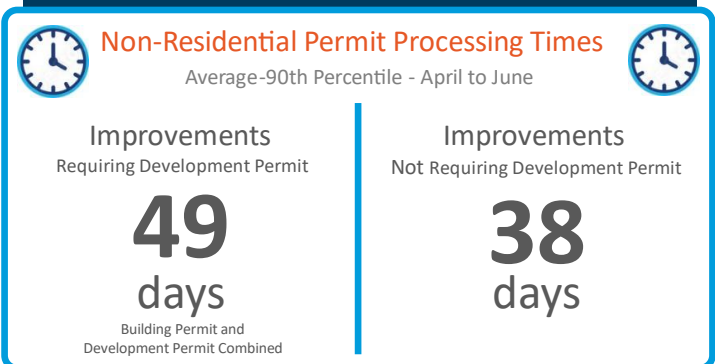
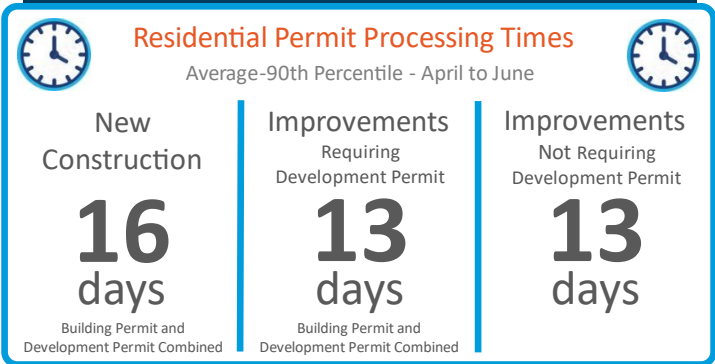
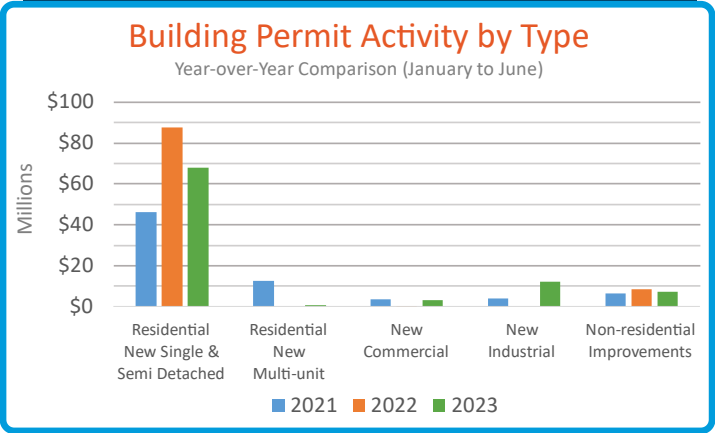
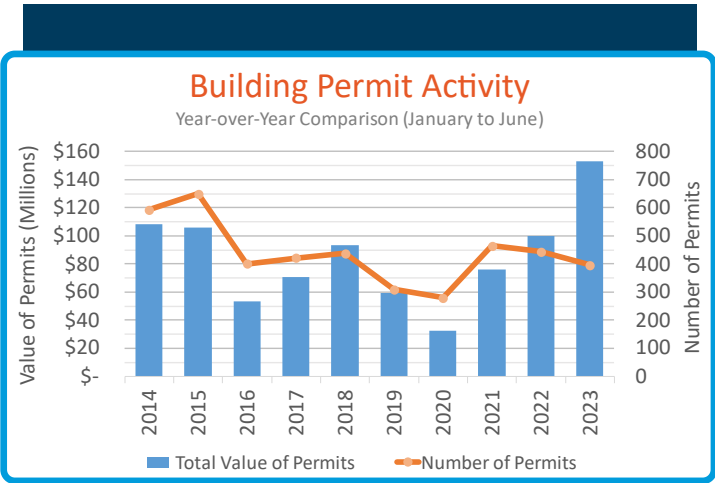
Permit Processing Times

The data represents the typical total customer wait time in calendar days for building permit issuance combined with the development permit when a development permit is required.

The total wait time for residential new construction permits is 16 days. This includes both the development and building permits combined. The total wait time for residential improvement permits is 13 days whether a development permit is required or not.

The total wait time for non-residential improvement permits requiring a development permit is 49 days, while for those not requiring a development permit it is 38 days. The wait time for non-residential improvement permits is expected to vary from quarter to quarter as it is based on a small number of permits and projects typically vary in complexity. Wait time for non-residential new construction permits is not reported as the sample size is too small and projects vary greatly in complexity.

The average 90th percentile is used to provide the most common wait time that most customers would experience.



On-Demand Transit Ridership



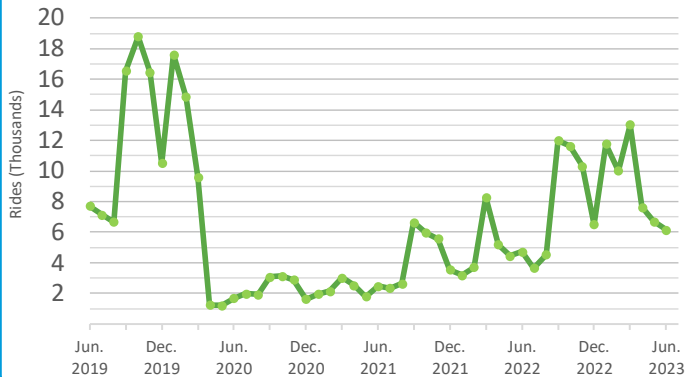
Transit Ridership

On-Demand Local Service

On-demand local transit service ridership continues to grow since the integration of transit service with Stony Plain and Acheson. In the last quarter, ridership increased by nearly 15 per cent, with 4,617 riders in June 2023.



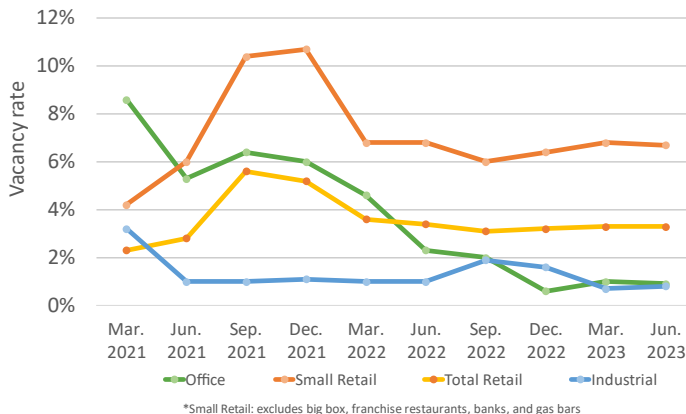
Commuter Service Ridership



Commuter Service

June saw 6,139 riders on the commuter service, which represents a decrease of 53 per cent from the end of the first quarter, but an increase of 30 per cent when compared to the same month in 2022. May through August typically sees a significant drop in ridership due to post-secondary students not using the service. The June ridership is near pre-Covid levels.

Commercial & Industrial Vacancy Rates



Economic Activity

Commercial & Industrial Vacancy Rates

The vacancy rates in the commercial and industrial sectors are relatively unchanged from the last quarter. Both industrial and office vacancy rates remain at or near historic low levels of just below 1 per cent.

The vacancy rates for small retail and total retail remained steady and are sitting at 6.7 per cent and 3.3 per cent, respectively.

Labour Force Trends¹

The Edmonton region's unemployment rate increased to 6.1 per cent in June, up 0.7 percentage points from March 2023. Alberta's unemployment rate is unchanged at 5.7 per cent. The unemployment rate across Canada also increased slightly to 5.4 per cent, up 0.4 percentage points from March 2023.

The Edmonton region as well as the Alberta employment participation rate is steady at around 70 per cent and continues to be above the national average rate of 66 per cent. Participation rate measures the total labour force (comprised of those who are employed and unemployed) relative to the size of the working-age population.



Residential Housing Statistics²

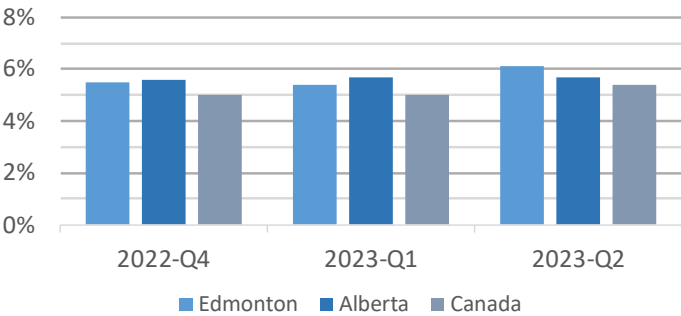
Single-family homes averaged \$500,496 in the Greater Edmonton Area in June, a 1.8 per cent year-over-year decrease and a March-to-June increase of 2.9 per cent. Condominiums sold for an average of \$194,910, seeing a decrease of 4.9 per cent year-over-year and an increase of 1 per cent when compared to March.



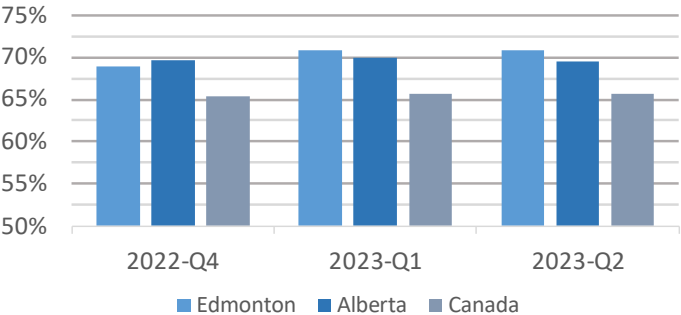
¹ Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0287-03 Labour force characteristics by province, monthly, seasonally adjusted
<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1410028703>

² Realtors Association of Edmonton. Monthly Market Statistics,
<https://realtorsofedmonton.com/stat-type/monthly-market-statistics>

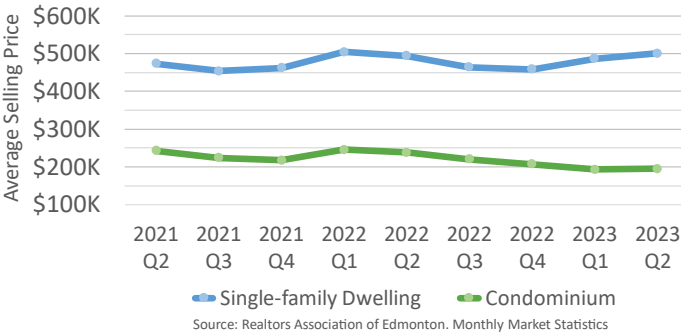
Unemployment Rate



Participation Rate



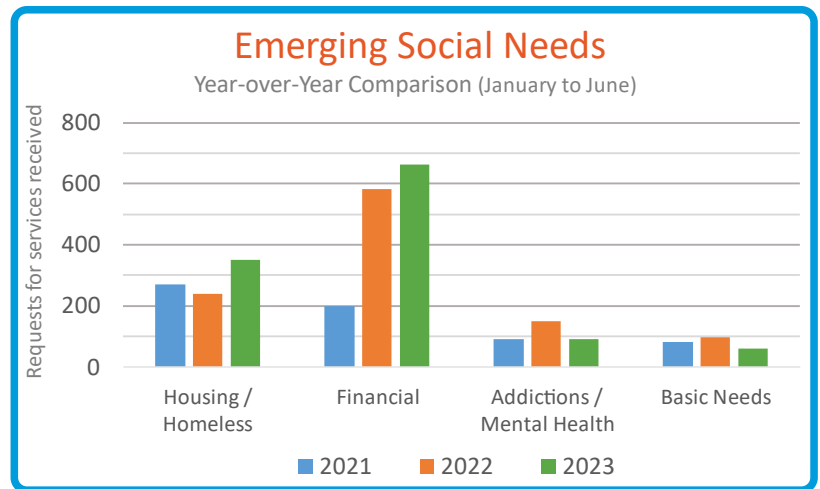
Residential Housing Statistics Greater Edmonton Area



Emerging Social Needs

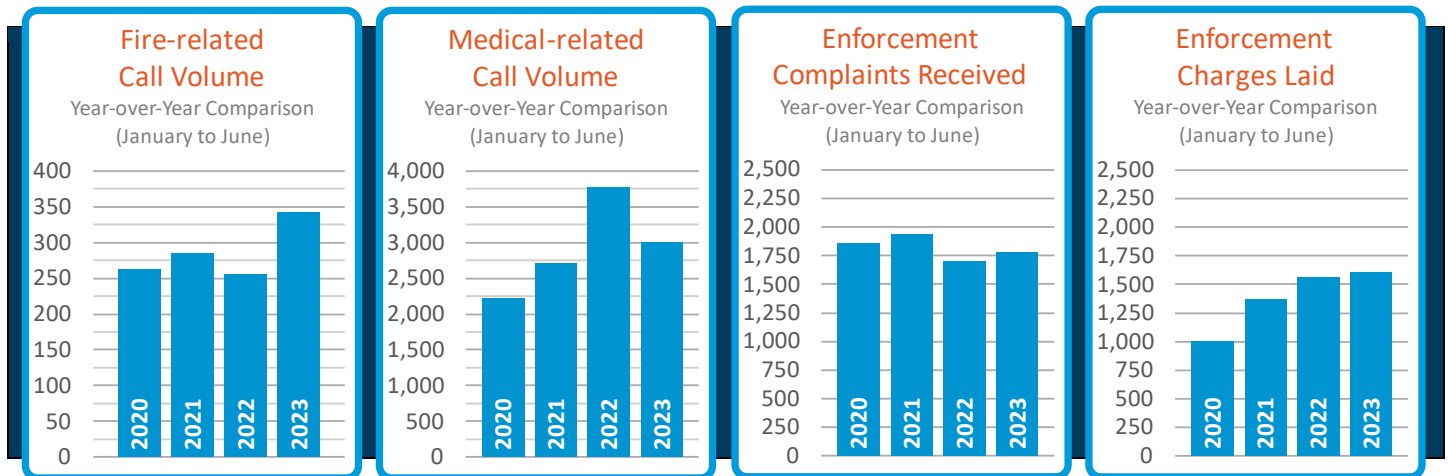
The chart represents the most common requests for services received through the Family and Community Support Services Information and Referral front desk, as well as from new and existing clients as supported through the Case Management Program and Regional Housing Program.

Assistance to access financial supports continues to be the most requested service so far in 2023. In the first half of the year, a total of 664 requests for financial support were received, an increase of 14 per cent when compared to the first half of 2022. The increase in the cost of living is continuing to put a strain on low-income families to meet their basic needs.



Protective Services Statistics

The charts below represent the call volumes related to fire and medical calls as well as enforcement complaints received and charges laid. Enforcement complaints and charges laid represent both citizen-initiated and officer-initiated complaints and charges.



Customer Experience - SeeClickFix

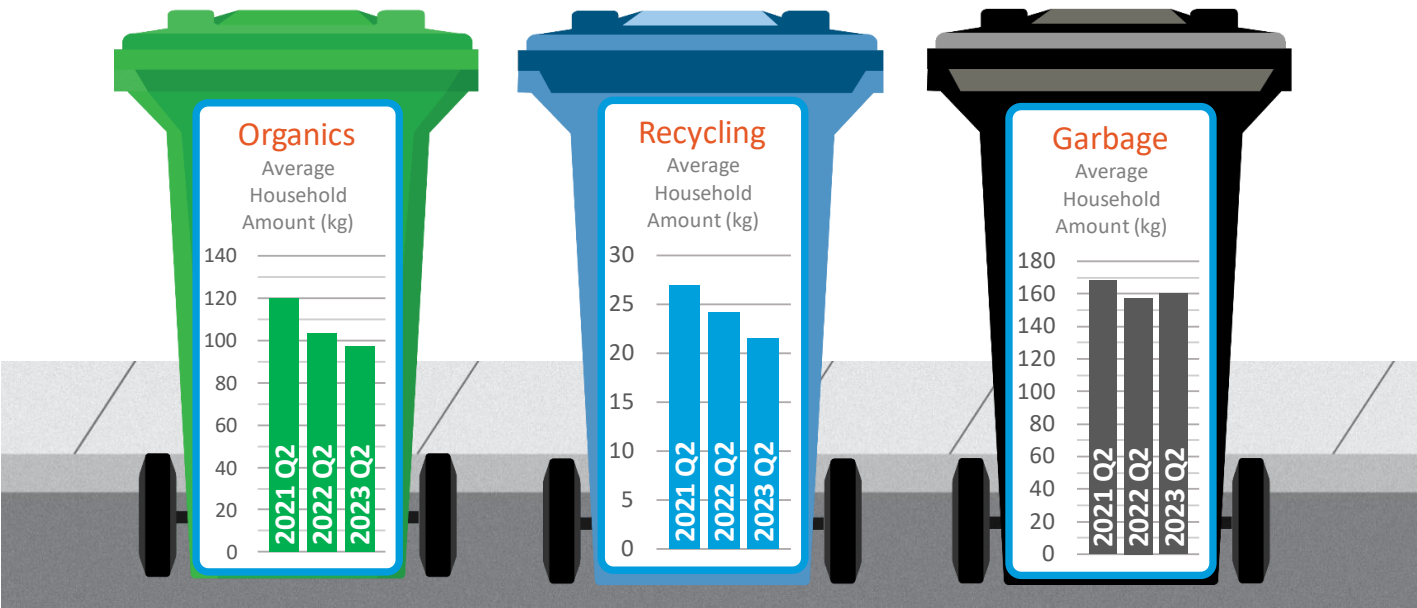
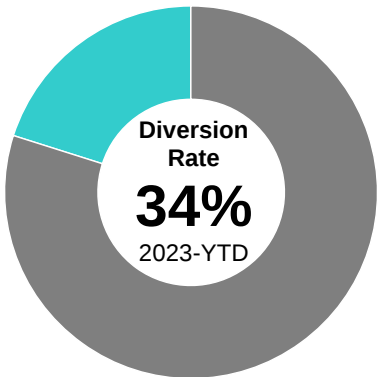
In the second quarter of 2023, the City responded to 197 service requests related to parks, trails and open spaces, graffiti, missed waste collection, debris on roadways, potholes, sidewalk damage, and other categories. This compares to 113 service requests during the same time period last year.



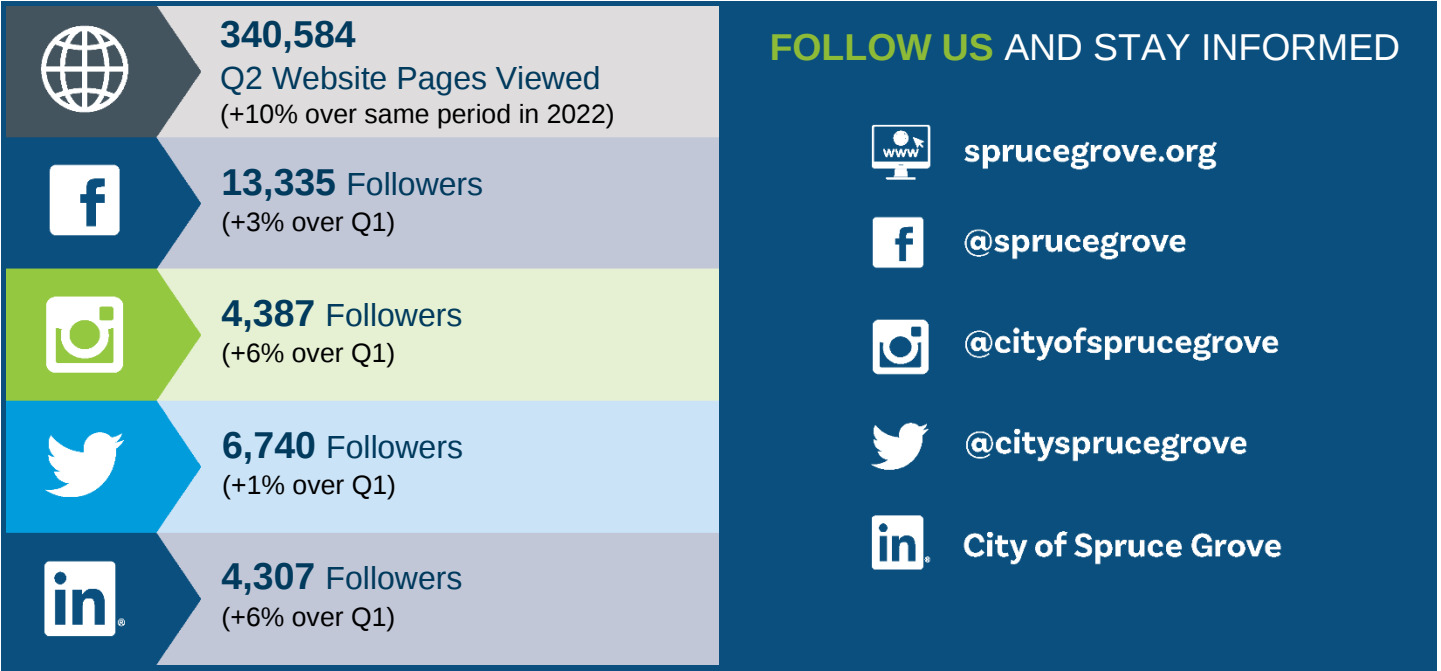
Solid Waste Collection Statistics

The charts below represent the year-over-year comparison (April to June) of the average household curbside solid waste collected in kilograms (kg) for each of the three streams. Between April and June 2023, on average, the City collected 98 kg of organics, 22 kg of recycling, and 160 kg of garbage from each household.

The waste diversion rate for the first and second quarter combined works out to 34 per cent. Waste diversion rates fluctuate through the seasons and the rate is typically higher in the spring and summer months due to yard waste. Waste diversion represents the proportion of waste diverted from the landfill and is calculated by dividing the amount of organics and recycling by the total waste collected.



Social Media and Website Stats



Our most popular Facebook post of the quarter

Our most popular Facebook post from the first quarter was all about our newest piece of public art.

In May, the City unveiled a mural painted by Alixandra Jade to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Spruce Grove & District Agricultural Society. It illustrates the progression of agriculture in Spruce Grove from the early 1990s up to the present.

To see the locations and stories behind our other murals and public art, visit sprucegrove.org/PublicArt.



Programs & Events



Spruce Grove's Canada Day celebration took place on July 1 starting in the morning with a pancake breakfast held at the Protective Services Building, before the action shifted to Jubilee Park for the remainder of the day.

The opening ceremony included the recognition of this year's Awards of Excellence recipients and birthday cake. Due to weather, the SkyHawks were unable to drop on-site, however their flybys were included in the ceremony and the SkyHawks joined the community on site for autograph signings later.

The event featured fun activities, stage entertainment, dock jumping dogs show, crafts and games for the whole family including inflatable bouncers, trains, obstacle courses and slides.

Residents were able to stroll through the exhibitors at the Community Market, check out artistic creations and enjoy a wide variety of food and drinks.

Entertainment included the eight-time Juno nominated Canadian rockers 54-40 as well as performances from the Dueling Pianos and country-folk musician Don Amero.

A fireworks display capped off the day with a mesmerizing performance high above Jubilee Park.

A free park and ride bus service was available from several locations around the city, including accessible parking with shuttle service.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 4.b:
Enhance offerings in culture programming events offered to the community.



Did you know?

As part of the Canada Day Pancake Breakfast, a total of 94 kg of waste was diverted from the landfill.

Summer in the City



The Recreation and Culture teams offer Summer in the City camps every summer. The camps offered this year include:

[Adventure Camps](#) are registered weekly programs for children ages 6-12. Each week follows a theme including Adventure Time, Mission Impossible, Launch into Movement, Minute to Win It, Lost in Space, Going Green, and Superheroes. Activities and experiences provided in the Adventure Camps include biking, swimming, hiking, games, crafts, and a weekly field trip. Registration numbers are similar to last year with 143 total participants registered as of July 13.

[Art Explorer](#) camp activities and experiences include arts and crafts projects, games, and play. These camps vary in age and themes each week – Unleash the Artist in You, Comic Fanatics, Fantastic Sculptors, Musical Theatre, Create your Musical, Build your World, and Painting FUNdamentals. As of July 13, 99 participants are registered.

[Pop-Up Playground](#) is a free drop-in program with fun activities that take place throughout the parks of Spruce Grove in July and August. Pop-Up Playground is designed for kids to attend with friends, parents or caregivers. Each week features a different theme and special activities with games and crafts.

[Leaders in Training](#) (LIT) is an opportunity for youth ages 13-17 to assist the summer Recreation and Culture program staff with children's programming in Spruce Grove. Youth looking for an opportunity to develop job skills and work in the community can join the LIT program. Participants will meet new friends, gain confidence and challenge their leadership skills in a fun and exciting atmosphere. New this year – program participants took part in a two-day training program and are certified in High Five: Principals of Healthy Child Development. Registration for this program is full with 38 participants in placements.

[Youth at the Log Cabin](#) is for youth ages 12-18. Participants can drop-in and relax, play games, read, and connect with friends at the Log Cabin. Themed programming started July 4 and runs throughout July and August.

New this summer! [Teen Retreat](#) is a weeklong program providing experiences for teens ages 13-17 to make friends, gain life insight, get active with swimming, engage in healthy competition and more. As of July 13, 11 participants have registered for Teen Retreat.

Further detail on the Summer in the City attendance will be included in the Q3 report.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 3.a:
Offer recreation and leisure programming that best serves the community.

Block Party Program



Registrations opened for the 2023 Block Party program on April 14. As of the end of the second quarter, 32 block parties have been booked of which 13 have been completed. Starting this year, there is no limit on the number of block parties that can be booked.

The program creates an opportunity for residents to get to know their neighbours and help build a more connected community.

Our communities are stronger when we care about each other and the neighbourhoods we live in. Friendships amongst neighbours result in safer, more caring communities.

A detailed [How-To Guide](#) is available for block party hosts to help plan a successful event.

Block Party hosts are eligible to receive a voucher to help pay for food and refreshments and have access to games/activity rentals and signage to advertise the party.

Block party applications are accepted until August 31. Parties can be held until September 30.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 1.b.2:
Identify community groups the City can build capacity within to deliver programs and host events.

E-Scooter Pilot Program

The City has partnered with Bird Canada to conduct a six-month e-scooter pilot program in Spruce Grove.



In the first month of operation, residents took over 4,000 e-scooter rides, and travelled just over 17,000 combined kilometres.

After the pilot program is complete, the City will host a public hearing (likely in early 2024) where residents and users can provide their feedback and ask questions. City Council and Administration will consider the data collected when deciding whether to offer an e-scooter program on a permanent basis.

Brave Space Event

On June 5, a free, outdoor pop-up circus performance, Brave Space, was held at Jubilee Park. Brave Space is the building of a blanket fort, sneaking under a hoopskirt, an impulsive congregation in the tiniest of tents. Starting as a puddle of fabric on the floor, it grows to encompass a world of wondrous circus. This intimate and low-tech event was attended by 350 residents.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 4.a.1:
Determine new culture programming for residents that provide diverse culture experiences while leverage existing spaces.

Spruce Up Spruce Grove a Huge Success

Over 1,250 people took part in the city-wide clean up in 2023 including 64 teams, classrooms, businesses and community groups.



Results from the participant survey show that on a scale of 1-10, the average rating of how much participants enjoyed the program was 9. In addition, 86 per cent of participants who completed the survey indicated that they either somewhat or very much felt an increased sense of community connection. Nearly all participants who completed the survey felt an increased sense of volunteerism/community service, environmental activism, and pride/ownership of their neighbourhood.

Spruce Up Spruce Grove is a self-directed, volunteer cleanup program that focuses on encouraging participation, supports enhanced opportunities for community connections and encourages environmental sustainability, stewardship, and preservation of natural heritage.

Spruce Up Spruce Grove ran from April 26 to May 31 and focused on community parks, school yards, green spaces, and trails. A free community BBQ and engagement event was held at Central Park on May 7 to create awareness of the program as well as other City and community services and programs.

10 More Accessible Bus Stops



A total of 10 new concrete bus stop pads have been constructed so far in 2023. The new concrete pads make the bus stops more accessible and easier for individuals to get on and off the bus.

An additional 50 bus stop signs will be installed at virtual bus stops around the City to enhance visibility of the on-demand service.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 2.b:
Reduce accessibility and affordability barriers to housing, programming, and transportation services.

Civic Centre and Transit Centre

The Civic Centre will be located north of Westwind Drive in the Westwind development. It is anticipated to open to the public in early 2025.

Civic Centre amenities will include a spectator arena, community arena, satellite location for the Spruce Grove Public Library, black box theatre, art gallery, dedicated program room, and community walking track. The Spruce Grove Transit Centre will be adjacent to the Civic Centre and will share the parking lot.

This quarter, significant construction work occurred at the Civic Centre site. Construction is proceeding as planned and scheduled. The mild and dry spring has been ideal weather for the initial earthwork construction. As of the end of May, some of the initial work is slightly ahead of schedule.

So far, an estimated \$6.4 million worth of construction has been completed on the Civic Centre.

By the end of June, the structural piling was complete, as was the sanitary, storm, and water networks that will service the Transit Centre and nearby commercial property. Utility installation to the Civic Centre facility and the rest of the site is ongoing.

The focus of construction for the summer will be completing the utilities, foundations, and backfilling the site in preparation for the installation of structural steel and the pre-engineered buildings.

Administration, as well as the design and construction teams, continue to work to deliver the projects in the most cost-effective manner given current economic conditions.

The Civic Centre project has been made possible through the support of several partnerships including the Government of Alberta's Municipal Sustainability Initiative, a funding contribution from Parkland County, the support of the Town of Stony Plain, and other partners and groups.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 3.c.:
Invest in infrastructure to support recreation programming.



Climate Change Implementation Plan



As part of the Climate Change Action Plan, an implementation plan has been developed and was presented to the Governance and Priorities Committee in May.

This tactical plan will serve to create momentum and kick start action in the near-term, laying the foundations for ramping up climate actions in the longer-term. It demonstrates the City is acting on its aspirational carbon reduction targets.

A number of initiatives are well underway, including the installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and the development of the Clean Energy Improvement Program.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 7.b.1:
Review recommendations from the City's Climate Change Action Plan and develop a subsequent implementation plan for specific recommendations.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



New electric vehicle charging stations have been installed in Spruce Grove thanks to a partnership with the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC).

As part of the MCCAC's Electric Vehicle Charging Program, the City of Spruce Grove has installed 17 charging stations. Twelve are available for public use and five are located internally at City facilities for City fleet vehicles. Locations of the public electric vehicle charging stations include Fuhr Sports Park, the Agrena, and City Hall.

The stations use SWITCH electric vehicle chargers and the cost to charge a vehicle is \$2 an hour.

In the first month, the chargers have been used 23 times for a total of 68 hours, delivering over 350 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of energy.

For more information, visit sprucegrove.org/ElectricVehicles.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 7.c:
Enable residents and businesses to reduce their environmental impact.

Tri-Municipal Region Rain Barrel Sale

On April 29, the Tri-Municipal Region Rain Barrel Sale took place with partnering business Rona which resulted in the sale of 233 rain barrels.

Rain barrels provide a great opportunity to harvest a free and sustainable source of water for indoor and outdoor plants and gardens. Rain barrels not only reduce the water bill, but also promote both water and energy conservation.

It is estimated that with 233 rain barrels sold, it could have the potential to conserve 628,000 gallons of water from residential neighbourhoods and rural areas in the region over a seven-month rainfall capture timeframe.

[Stay tuned](#) for updates about when the next rain barrel sale will take place.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 7.c:
Enable residents and businesses to reduce their environmental impact.

Climate Adaptation Education Program Kick-off

The City initiated partner engagements to develop a program aimed at effectively communicating climate change impacts. The program's objective is to enhance the capacity of individuals and communities to respond to climate change through informed behaviour, decision-making and making sustainable choices. A core outcome of this work is to increase community awareness of climate change resilience and individual options for action. The Youth Advisory Committee provided its thoughts on the program development as well as the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre and Alberta Capital Airshed.

The program, slated to launch later this year, will include web-based education materials, social media posts and a pilot program which will include a learning workshop this fall. The program development and pilot are being fully funded by the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 8.c.2:
Develop an education program for residents about local climate change impacts.

Shred-4-Free and E-roundup Event



The City held its annual Shred-4-Free and E-roundup event on June 10. Approximately 350 residents attended the event. The event was set up as a drive through service, allowing documents to be shredded on the spot in a secure shredding truck. E-waste was also collected at the event and taken to a recycling facility. A total of 1.6 tonnes of electronics were collected.

Shredding documents containing personal information is an effective way to prevent identity theft, while also clearing out old paperwork.



Did you know?

This spring, the City planted almost 1,500 new tree seedlings in Heritage Grove Park.



Photo courtesy of ISL Engineering

City Centre Revitalization

Construction in the City Centre resumed in spring and will continue throughout summer.

This year, work will primarily focus on Main Street and McLeod Avenue surface work and landscaping, as well as Calahoo Road underground work. This stage of the project is expected to be completed by fall 2023.

The streetscape revitalization work is part of the overall City Centre Area Redevelopment Plan, which was approved by Council in 2020.

For more details and to stay updated on this project, please visit sprucegrove.org/CCARP.



*Strategic Plan Alignment to 11.a:
Create opportunities for residents to
experience a revitalized City Centre.*



CityCentreOpenForYou.ca

Residents are reminded to continue supporting City Centre businesses by shopping local. Visit CityCentreOpenForYou.ca for a business directory and interactive map to find businesses and parking in the area.



Storefront Improvement Program



In the second quarter, the City Centre Storefront Improvement Program opened for applications. The City launched the program to provide commercial property and business owners in the Spruce Grove City Centre with a funding incentive to make exterior improvements to their storefronts.

Between May 1 and June 30, seven applications were received, requesting just over \$27,000 with two projects still waiting for cost estimates.

The City of Spruce Grove has allocated \$75,000 to provide 50% matching grants of up to a maximum of \$7,500 per storefront or up to \$10,000 for improvements on a street corner where improvements are made to two façades.

This program will benefit many City Centre businesses and building owners by increasing sales and foot-traffic, improving window shopping and curb appeal, encouraging a high general standard of storefront maintenance, fostering stability and renewal of existing businesses, attracting new types of businesses, and helping to fill vacancies.

For more information about the program or to apply visit investsprucegrove.ca.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 11.a.3:
Promote a welcoming and safe environment in the City Centre to encourage increased tourism and visits.

Check out the June edition of the Economic & Business Development Newsletter

Find out about this month's featured local businesses, stay informed about new development, and learn about interesting upcoming events. Visit investsprucegrove.ca and subscribe to the newsletter.





SPRUCE GROVE Census

According to results from the City's 2023 municipal census, which was conducted between April 17 and June 16, Spruce Grove has a population of 38,985 residents. This represents an increase of approximately 3.56 per cent or 1,340 residents compared to the 2021 federal census.

City Administration is undertaking an in-depth analysis of the demographic data collected during the census and a report will be presented to City Council in the fall.

Customer Experience Policy Statement

Through a resolution Council reviewed and approved a customer experience policy statement that reflects a commitment to customer service and the importance of focusing on that commitment when delivering City programs and services.

The resolution also directed the City Manager to enact a Customer Experience Policy that reflects Council's direction and commitment to providing a high level of service to all its citizens, visitors, community partners, and to one another. This policy is expected later this year.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 12.d.3:
Review and update the City's current Customer Service Policy and associated service levels to reflect a customer-centric focus.

Community Standards Bylaw



The City is developing a [Community Standards Bylaw](#) (CSB), a tool for ensuring a safe, healthy and inviting community. To ensure the CSB reflects the needs and values of the community, the City sought public input from residents and business owners May 7 to July 9 through an online survey and at various local events. Public information sessions were also held at Elks Hall on May 18 and June 3 where City experts and City Council members were available to answer questions.

Over 1,200 responses to the online survey were received which included four major themes: Public Behaviour, Property Maintenance and Neighbour Relations, Noise Control, and Smoking and Cannabis. There were also questions on the survey about backyard hens and beekeeping.

The feedback received will be presented and discussed at the September 18 Governance and Priorities Committee meeting. It will inform the development of the CSB and impact discussions on the future of licensing for hen and/or beekeeping practices in the City.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 6.b.3:
Review City bylaws to differentiate definitions of unkempt properties from land use standards that provide opportunities for eco-landscaping.

City Hall First Floor Renovations

As of April 24, City Hall Reception returned to the first floor of City Hall from its temporary location at 414 King Street. Additionally, the City's Planning and Engineering departments moved from 414 King Street across the street to City Hall. Several popular services were combined in one main location. Residents and businesses can come directly to City Hall for permits and business licences, as well as transit passes, in-person payments and inquiries.

City Hall hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Property Taxes



2023 property tax notices were mailed to residents in late May. Property taxes are used to fund a variety of services in Spruce Grove. For more details on how property taxes are calculated and how they are used to provide residents with everything from parks and roads to programs and services, view this [video](#).

Roadway Speed Limit Reductions

Based on recommendations from a recently conducted Spruce Grove Roadway Speed Limit study, City Council has approved some upcoming roadway speed limit reductions in Spruce Grove.



Some schools are being re-evaluated and relevant school and playground areas/zones will have updated speed limits and will be signed accordingly. These changes will be in effect in advance of the start of the 2023/2024 school year.

The speed limit on local roads will be reduced from the current 50 km/h to 40 km/h. This will go into effect in summer of 2024. This time frame will allow for the development of an implementation plan, as well as a communication plan and education campaign to ensure community members and motorists are aware of the change.

Additionally, further analysis will be done on major collector and arterial roadways with recommendations coming to Council by June 30, 2024.

Information will be shared with the community as these changes come into effect.



Strategic Plan Alignment to 6.b.1:
Continue to work with the Community Road Safety Advisory Committee and support the actions identified in the 2022 Work Plan.

Reporting Dashboard

The City's reporting dashboard provides key data to monitor and share important information about the community and the City's programs and services.

The dashboard includes data related to population and demographics, development and construction, local economy, community safety, social media, environment and transit.

The dashboard is updated quarterly and displays historical data trends.

To view the Reporting Dashboard, please visit sprucegrove.org/dashboard



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Municipal Operating Summary

- Second quarter municipal operating results reflect a projected annual surplus of \$207,000 based on projected revenue increases of \$688,000, offset by projected increases in expenses of \$481,000.

Municipal Revenue Summary

The following are revenue highlights from the Municipal Operating Summary attached to this report.

Projected revenue increases of \$688,000 are primarily comprised of the following:

- **Sales and User Fees** are projected to decrease by \$148,000 due primarily to lower than planned transit commuter ridership, and subdivision application and land use bylaw fees trending lower than anticipated.
- **Fines** revenue is projected to be \$100,000 lower than planned as the Province will retain a larger portion of the fines revenue that is collected (previous share was 26 per cent, new share is 40 per cent).
- **Government Transfers – Operating** is projected to increase by \$822,000 due to a number of factors. Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) operating grant revenue was increased by \$260,000 to reflect the Government of Alberta doubling its MSI operating grant funding to municipalities. There is increased revenue projected from Parkland County: a \$190,000 increase for on demand transit service and a \$65,000 increase in the Agrena capital cost share revenue, which is offset somewhat by a reduction in transit revenue from the cancellation of a route in Acheson. The City also received or anticipates to receive several other government operating grants that were not budgeted at the start of the year, such as grants in support of building climate resiliency, community outreach, provincial wildfire recovery, and engaging audiences.
- **Licenses and Permits** revenue is projected to increase by \$220,000 as revenues have been trending higher than budgeted this year.
- **Investment Income** is estimated to be \$251,000 lower than planned on bond investments.

Municipal Expense Summary

The following are expense highlights from the Municipal Operating Summary attached to this report.

Projected expense increases of \$481,000 are primarily comprised of the following:

- **General Government** expenses are projected to increase by \$104,000 resulting primarily from:
 - An estimated \$57,000 increase in casual support staff and contracted services costs for development of the Clean Energy Improvement Program in the Finance department. These funds were initially approved for the Environment department and an adjustment in expense is reflected under Transportation and Roadway, and an adjustment in expense is reflected as the Environment and Transit department rolls up into this segment of City operations.
 - An estimated \$46,000 increase in uncollectable debts resulting from increased additional ambulance billing and more transient patients receiving services.

- **Transportation and Roadway** expenses are projected to increase by \$96,000 resulting primarily from:
 - a \$111,000 increase in unexpected CN work at Century Crossing; additional \$80,000 for water monitoring at Fen Aquifer offset by a net \$95,000 decrease in expenses made up of a number of factors (staff vacancies; bus maintenance, on-demand service for Parkland County and cancellation of a transit route in Acheson, and a reduction for the Clean Energy Improvement Program support that is being delivered under the General Government segment).
- **Community Services** expenses are projected to increase by \$273,000 resulting primarily from implementation of the community outreach program, and increase in the Accessible Transportation Service cost share.
- **Development Services** expenses are projected to be \$106,000 lower than planned due to salary savings resulting from staff vacancies.
- **Transfer to Restricted Reserve** is expected to be \$100,000 higher than planned related to the City's Concrete Crushing program. The City typically crushes concrete every second year at an estimated cost of \$200,000 but smooths the cost to residents of concrete crushing by budgeting \$100,000 annually and transferring the amount to the City's specific purpose concrete crushing reserve in non-concrete crushing years. As 2023 is a non-concrete crushing year, the \$100,000 is required to be transferred to the concrete crushing reserve to fund future concrete crushing.

Utility Operating Summary

- Second quarter utility results are projecting utility expenses \$363,000 lower than budgeted, which can primarily be attributed to:
 - A net decrease of \$316,000 expenses in waste utility from anticipated cost savings of \$350,000 under the new waste services contract that was signed in March 2023, and offset by a \$33,400 increase in salaries and wages.
 - A net \$26,000 decrease in water utility expense resulting from savings in salaries and wages, and repairs and maintenance, offset partially by unplanned repair costs to water utility infrastructure (i.e. underground water leak repair), and additional equipment and training costs.
- The lower than budgeted expenses results in an increased Transfer to Reserve of \$363,000.

Developer Summary

- Second quarter developer results are aligned with budget expectations.

Capital Summaries

The following are capital highlights from the Capital Summaries attached to this report.

Municipal Capital Summary

- **Renovations planned for 410 King Street** are no longer going ahead, as the project has been determined to not be cost-effective. The total project budget of \$5.0 million is not required.
- Cost escalations have resulted in an expected cost increase of \$4.9 million for the **Civic Centre** and \$788,000 for the **Spruce Grove Transit Centre**.

- **Pickleball Courts and Henry Singer Park Upgrades** project of \$1.98 million has been put on hold, as the Water Reservoir site is no longer considered suitable for pickleball courts. Council has approved providing \$400,000 in support of an alternative site for pickleball courts.
- **Spruce Grove – Stony Plain Trail** is projected to be \$100,000 less than budgeted as the Town of Stony Plain has provided updated costs on this partnered project.
- The cost to complete Phase 1 and 2 of the **Re-imagined Central Park** project is anticipated to be \$3.8 million more than initially identified in the Outdoor Amenity Functional Plan (2018).
- **Workplace renovations at City Hall** has a \$223,000 cost increase due to tendered costs being higher than budgeted, as well as additional architecture and abatement costs. Final costs came in \$29,000 lower than estimated at first quarter, with savings in abatement work.
- **Facilities Lifecycle Replacement Plan** is projecting a \$140,000 reduction in cost due primarily to work not required for artificial turf at Fuhr Sports Park.
- **Public Transit Lifecycle Replacement Plan** is projecting a \$150,000 increase due to cost escalation on several planned replacements as well as an unexpected transit bus engine failure.
- **Fleet (Vehicles & Equipment) Lifecycle Plan** is projecting approximately \$210,000 cost increase due to cost escalation on most of the units requiring replacement.

Utility Capital Summary

- A Stormwater project, **Greenbury Dewatering** has a decrease in the budget of \$150,000 due to an alternate method for the repair, and tender also came in less than anticipated budget.
- Water projects, **Support to City Centre ARP** tender came in less than budget for \$289,158 and is offset by the addition of **Installation of Pressure Reducing Valves** for \$1.2 million increase to the **2023 Utility Capital Plan**. This project was originally approved by Council as part of the **Developer Capital Plan**, but was determined to be an ineligible developer project.

Developer Capital Summary

- **Pioneer Road Top Lift Asphalt** project has a \$655,000 savings as tenders came in lower than planned.
- A project to install **pressure reducing valves** for a total cost of \$1.2 million was originally approved by Council as part of the Developer Capital Plan. In finalizing the Off-site Levy bylaw in December 2022, this project was moved to the Utility Capital Plan for 2023.