

P

# CATWALKS

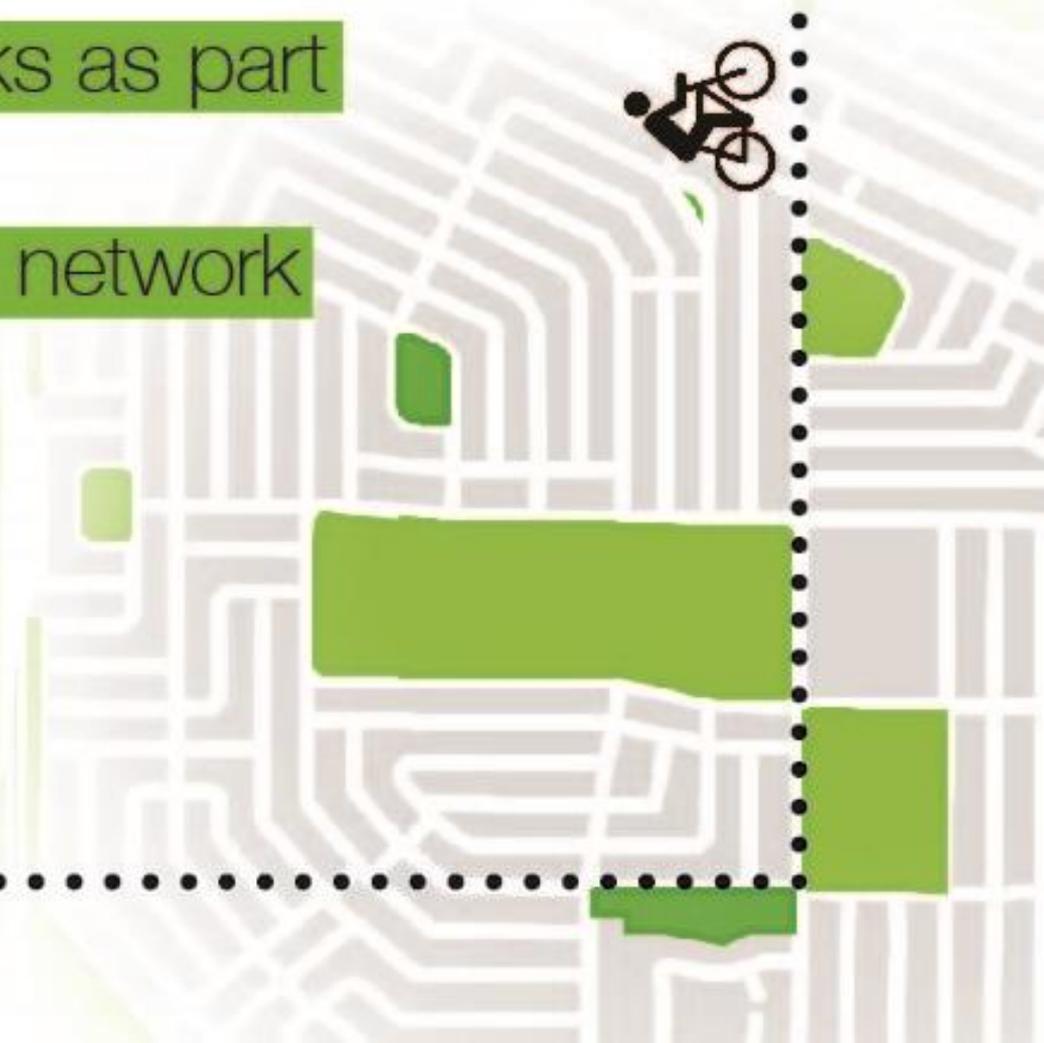


R

reframing parks as part  
of an active  
transportation network

K

S



# WHO WE ARE



**Taylor Felt, Mplan**

Research Assistant &  
Community  
Engagement  
Facilitator



**Leticia Chapa, Mplan**

Research Assistant &  
Community  
Engagement  
Facilitator



**Srimal Ranasinghe, MEDES**

Community Lead –  
Housing,  
Transportation, Food  
Nexus & Active  
Neighbourhoods  
Canada

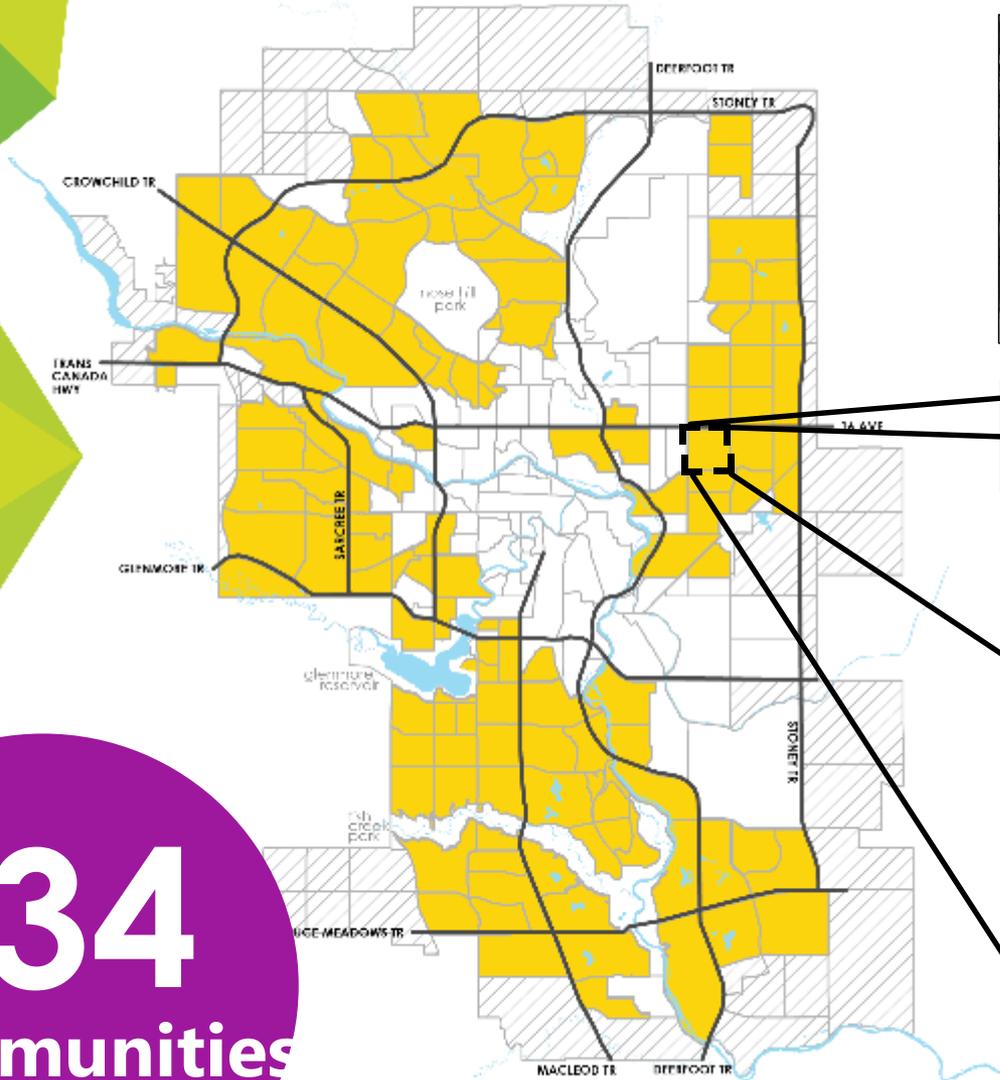


<http://www.sustainablecalgary.org>

## **Proposal:**

Enhancing parks by  
extending them through an  
activated green network to  
get people moving

# Calgary



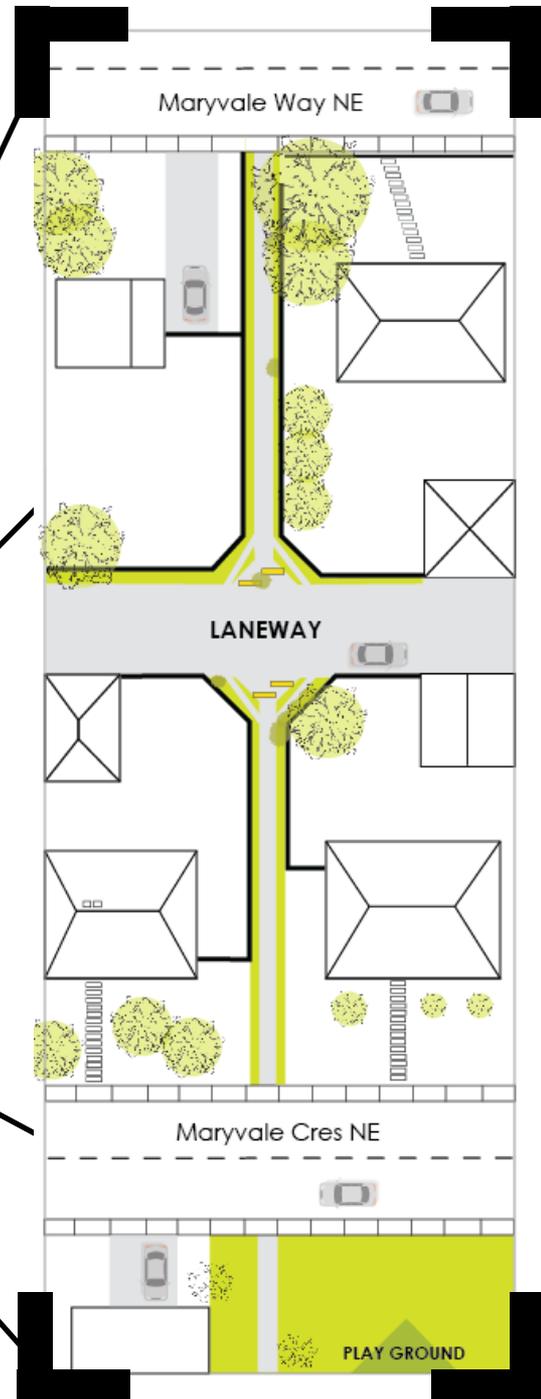
Marlborough

134  
communities



THESE ARE OUR  
*Catwalks*

Network of engineered pathways designed to connect children to schools, families to parks and people to retail spaces.



**21**  
**Catwalks**

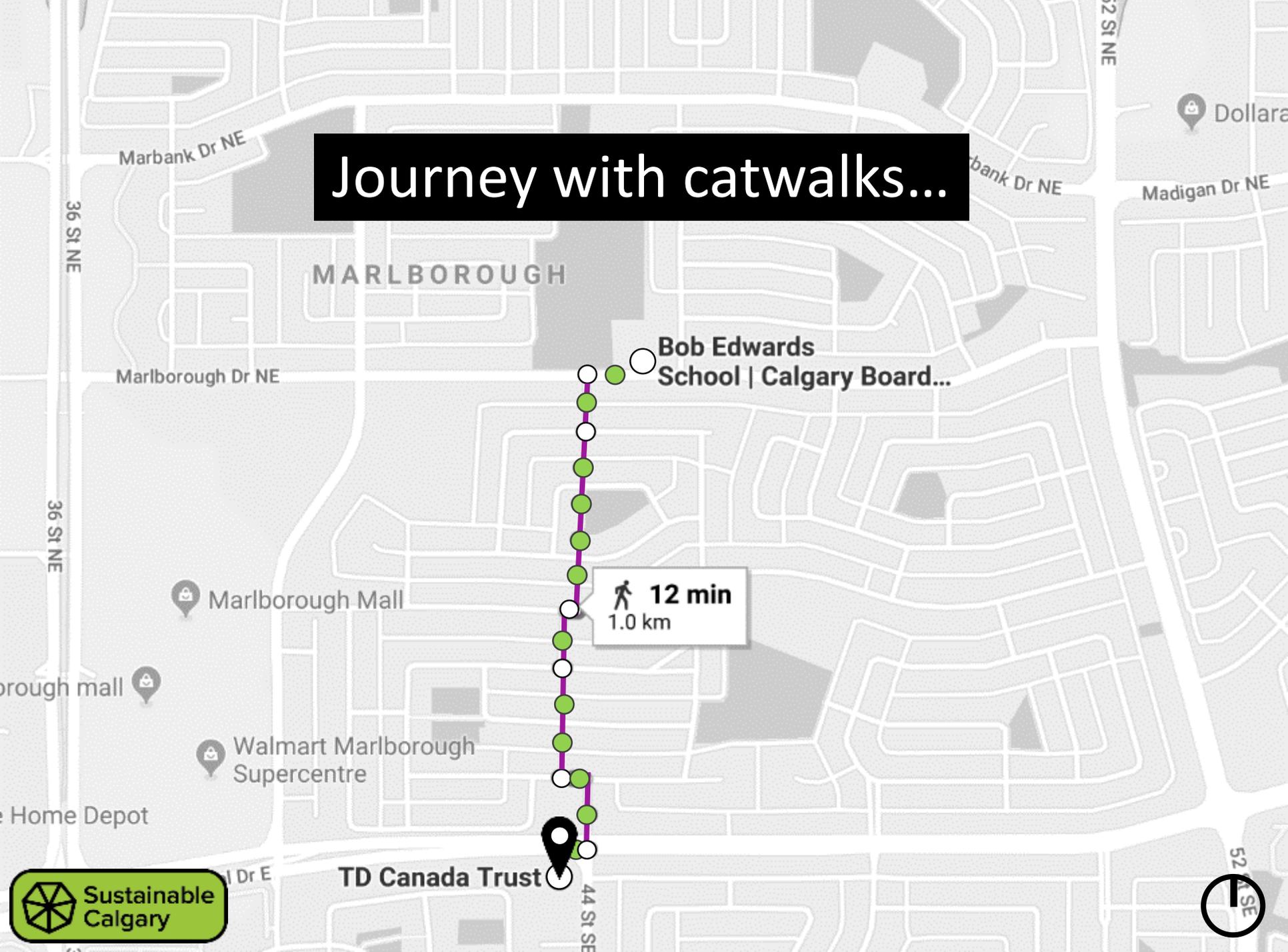
# Journey without catwalks...

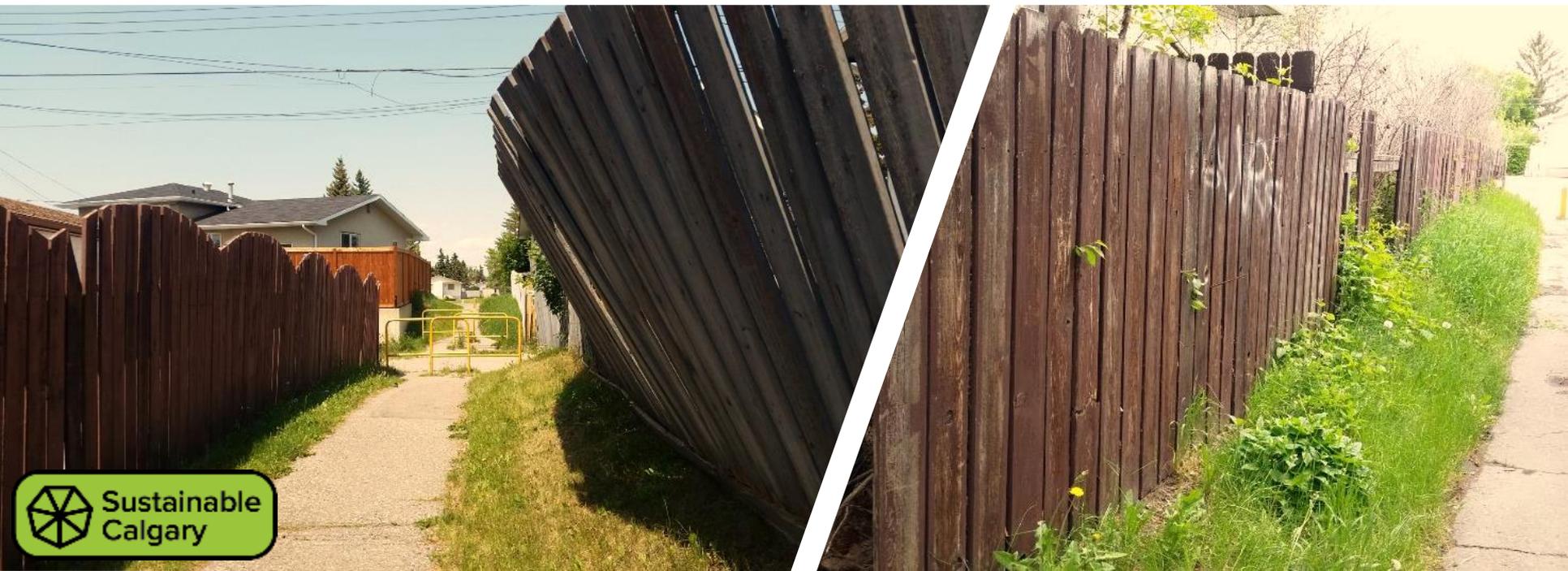
**Bob Edwards  
School | Calgary Board**

 **22 min**  
1.8 km



# Journey with catwalks...







useful

safe

comfortable

+ interesting

*Think of parks not as isolated spaces, but as spaces that extend into the community.*



# ENHANCING THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

## (A) PLAY



## (B) CREATE



Murals deter tagging  
TORONTO

 **Michelle Cavanagh**  
@Cimelle

@SustainableYYC I purposely take a longer route home, just to walk through this amazing Catwalk.



## (C) LEARN



## (D) GROW



Edible Landscape  
CALGARY

## (E) REST



MONTREAL



CALGARY



VANCOUVER

## (F) IDENTIFY



TORONTO  
Place-making strategy by naming a Laneway



Introduction of lighting into catwalk  
CALGARY



SEATTLE



CALGARY

## PRODUCTIVITY

Creating productive spaces that bring communities together



## TRAFFIC CALMING

Installation of speed tables to elevate the pedestrian - protecting users as well as providing a continuous connection to the catwalk system



## ACTIVITY

Encouraging pedestrian activity through the creation of useful, safe comfortable and interesting spaces



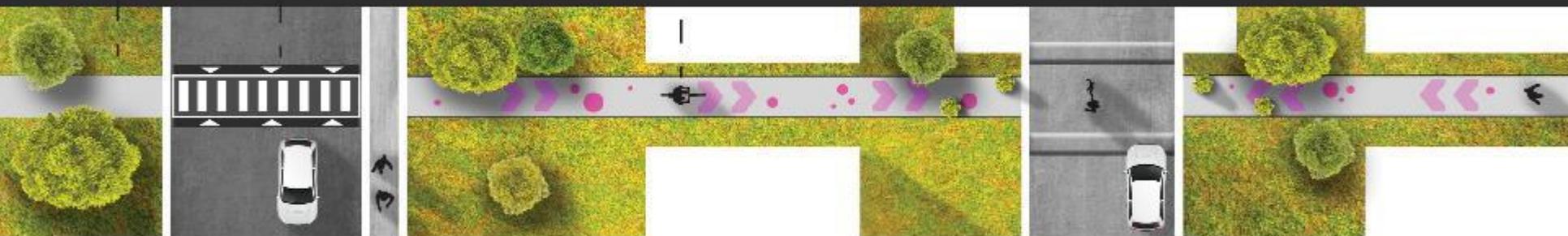
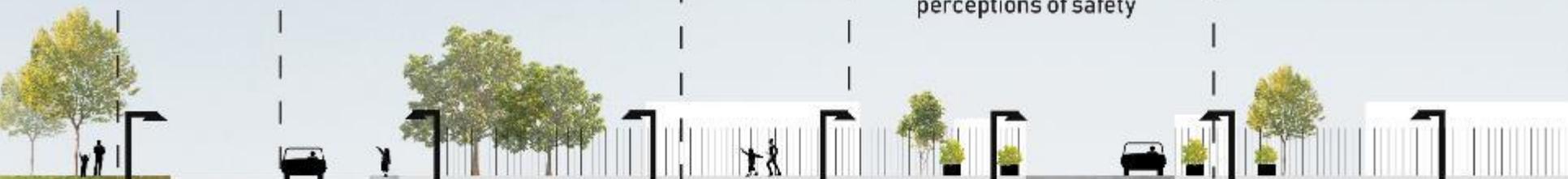
## EQUITY

Removal of maze gates to improve accessibility for wheelchairs, strollers, trolleys and electric scooters



## LIGHTING

Installation of lighting to improve visibility and increase perceptions of safety



43m

9.6m

1.5m

36.6m

6.8m

42.2m

PARK

CONNECTION

CATWALK

CONNECTION

CATWALK



## Danielle & Americo

“

We've seen more people walking through the space. The other night one of the neighbours came over with his wife and picked enough kale, tomatoes, and onions for their salad and brought a watering can in hand!

”



useful | safe | comfortable | interesting



useful | safe | comfortable | interesting



## Joan & Wesley

“ We're out in the yard last night and see the children with their families cycling through the space, stopping to admire all of the art on display. I actually overheard one of the boys asking his father about all the different birds eating out of the feeders you made!

I'm really proud to see work like this being done in our community

”

useful | safe | comfortable | interesting



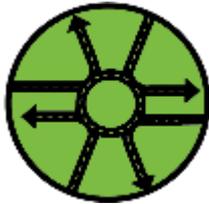
useful | safe | comfortable | interesting



# Policy Implications



Collaboration

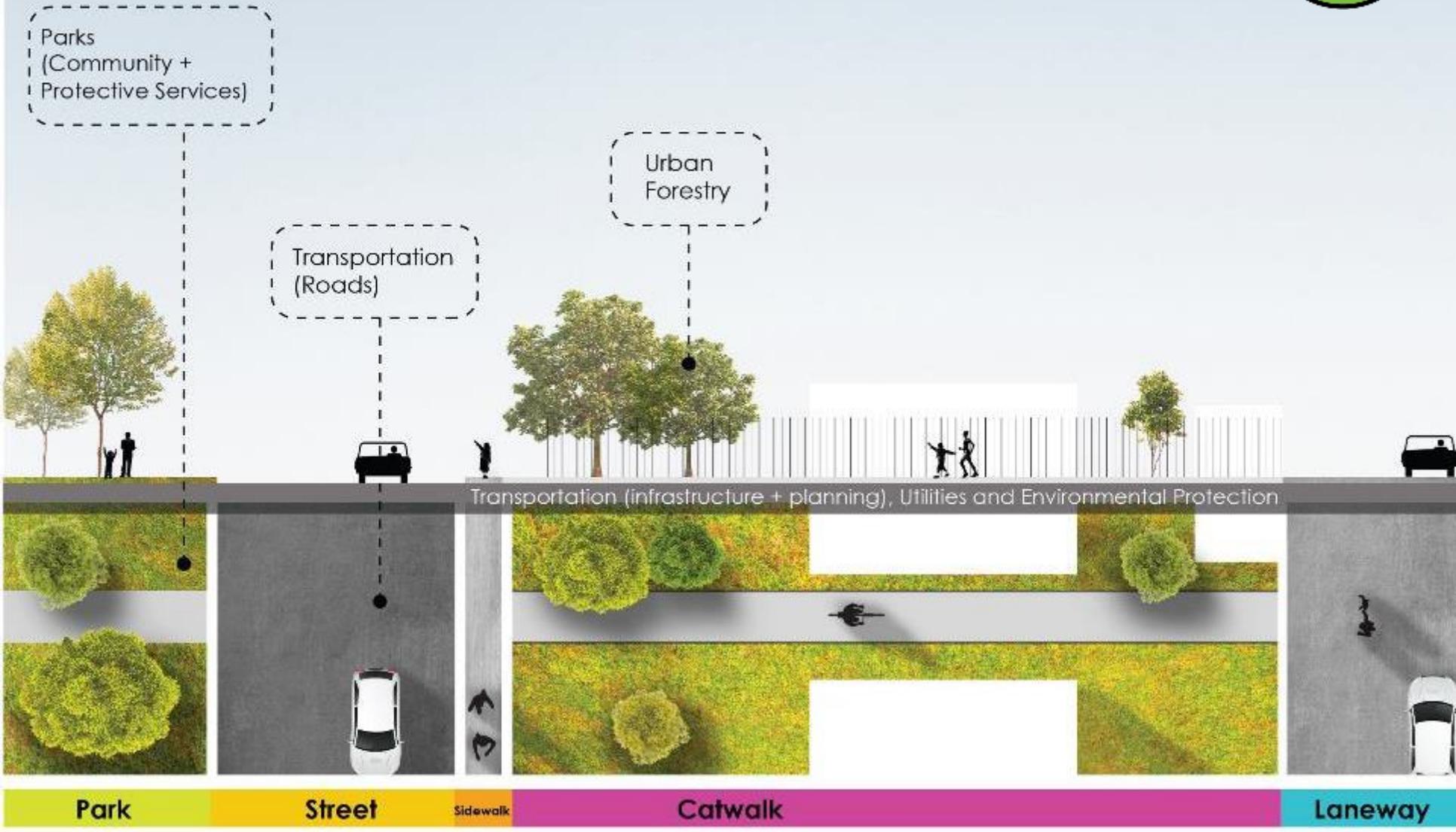


Design

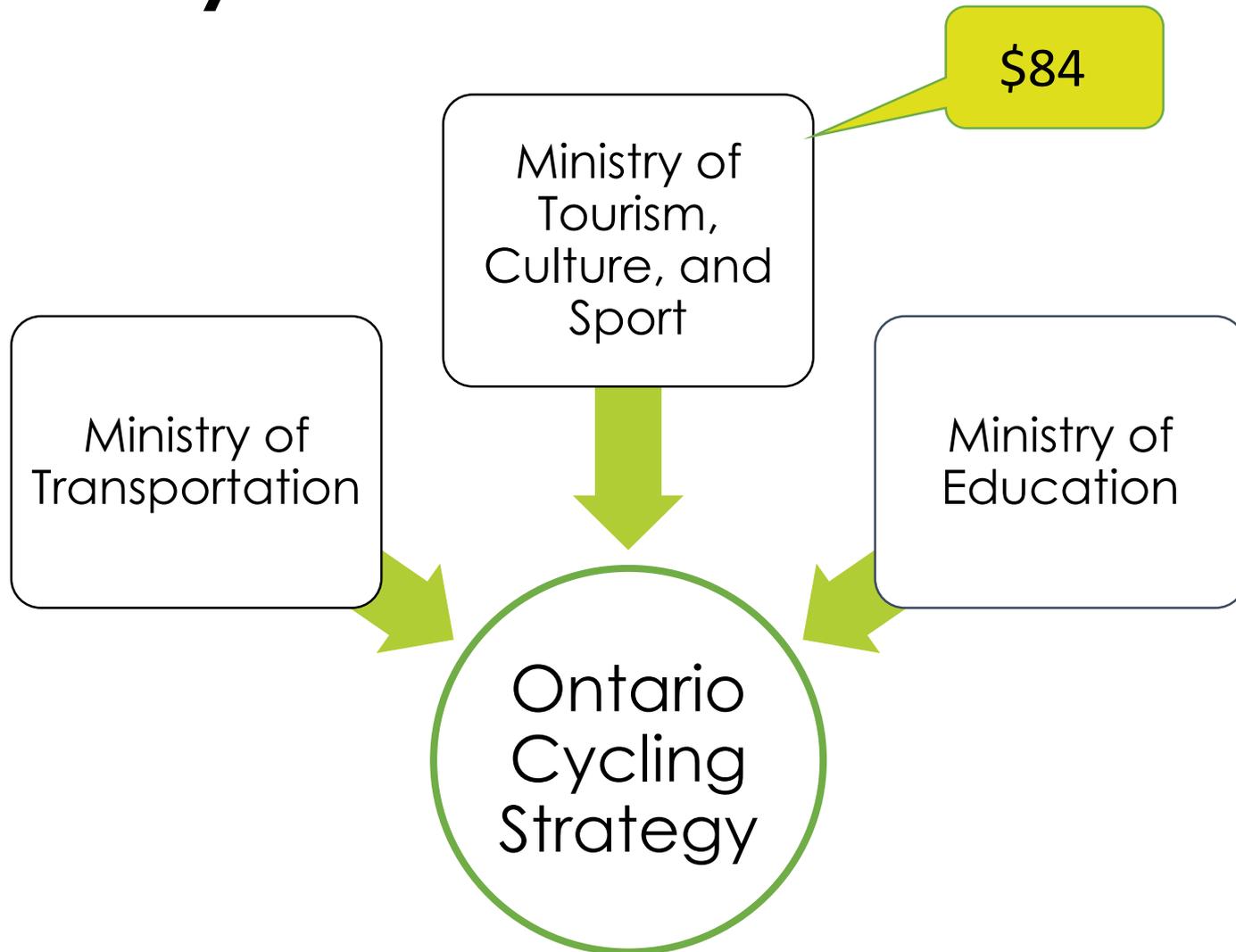


Budget

# Collaboration



# Policy Precedents

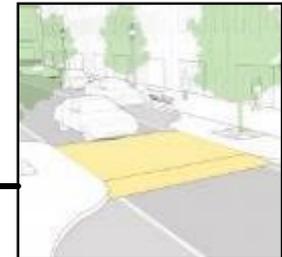




# Proactive Design



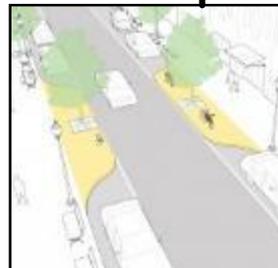
Lane Width



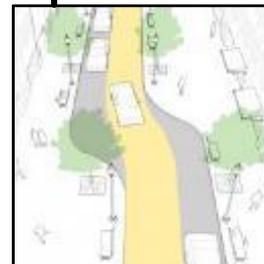
Speed Table



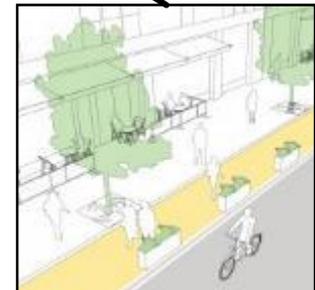
Curb Extensions



Pinch-points



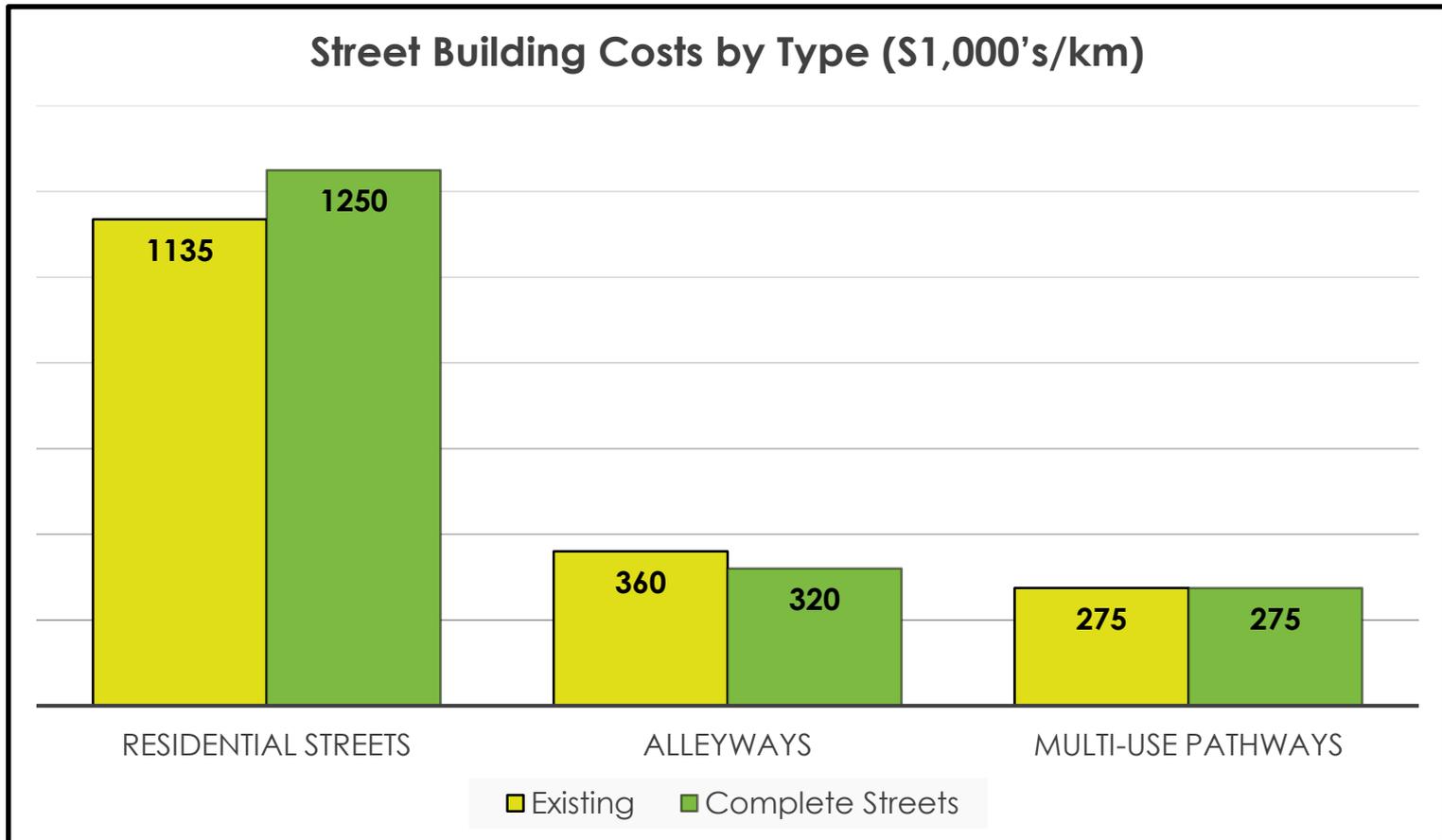
Chicanes



Moving-the-curb



# Budget



# Snow & Ice Clearing

City ▼	Roads (total lane-kms)	Sidewalk (kms plowed)	Annual snowfall (cms)	10 cm snow depth (days per year)	Snow budget
Calgary	16,700	268	128.8	16.3	\$38.1M
Edmonton	11,800	1,400	123.5	85.5	\$64M
Ottawa	12,800	2,100	175.4	84.4	\$64.3M
Winnipeg	8,000	2,900	113.7	73.7	\$36.5M

Total Km of sidewalk = 5,658  
Cost per km = \$10,000

Cost per km = \$4,300

# Conclusion

- 1) Healthy community parks = useful, safe, comfortable and interesting environment
- 2) Healthy parks are part of a community's active transportation (AT) network
- 3) This involves elevating the importance of active transportation networks through both design and policy

# Thank You!



Sustainable  
Calgary

City of Calgary. "Action Plan 2015-2018". <http://www.calgary.ca/cfod/finance/Pages/Action-Plan/Budget-Kit/BU/Default.aspx>

City of Calgary. "One Calgary: 2019-2022 Service Plans and Budgets". [http://www.calgary.ca/cfod/finance/Documents/Plans-Budgets-and-Financial-Reports/Plans-and-Budget-2019-2022/Service Plans and Budgets 2019-2022.PDF](http://www.calgary.ca/cfod/finance/Documents/Plans-Budgets-and-Financial-Reports/Plans-and-Budget-2019-2022/Service%20Plans%20and%20Budgets%202019-2022.PDF)

Fletcher, Robson. "What it would cost Calgary to have the snow clearing that other cities enjoy". CBC News Calgary, March 3, 2018. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/calgary-snow-clearing-costs-challenges-chinooks-1.4538706>

Joe Olsen, email to Srimal Ranasinghe, April 2 2019.

Laker, Laura. **"What would the ultimate child-friendly city look like?". The Guardian, Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2018.**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2018/feb/28/child-friendly-city-indoors-playing-healthy-sociable-outdoors>

National Association of City Transportation Officials. "Urban Street Design Guide". <https://nacto.org/publication/urban-street-design-guide/>

Sustainable Calgary. "Report: National, Provincial, & Municipal Active Transportation Policy Precedents". Active Neighborhoods Canada Program. 2019.