



Construction of Mechanized Access begins March 7

Construction of the Mechanized River Valley Access project begins March 7. Work in March will include tree and shrub clearing and setup of the top platform beside Hotel Macdonald.

To ensure public safety, the staircase connecting McDougall Hill Road to the top of bank near the Hotel Macdonald will be closed during construction. The existing wood staircase will be reconfigured and used within the new design to maintain this important pedestrian route into downtown.

Grierson Hill and McDougall Hill Road will have temporary traffic disruptions throughout the construction process, including a temporary lane closure at the top of McDougall Hill Road for approximately six months (during non-peak times only). Minor disruptions can also be expected across Grierson Hill and McDougall Hill Road as equipment is moved from construction storage areas to the site.

The City will replace shrubs and trees removed with an equivalent value of new plantings. The number of large trees being removed for this project is minimal, with the majority of the site being low-lying shrubs and brush. The City will reclaim temporarily disturbed areas with native seed mix.

The target for construction completion is fall 2017.

The Mechanized River Valley Access project will create a new destination in our city with accessible access and will include a funicular, an outdoor elevator, and a broad staircase with generous landings that will offer people places to stop and enjoy the panoramic views of the river valley.

In 2013, The City of Edmonton received \$72.9 million funding from the River Valley Alliance for five projects designed to improve access in the river valley (projects are funded by the provincial and federal governments). The combined budget for the Mechanized River Valley Access and Touch the Water projects is \$34.4 million, with \$24 million allocated to Mechanized River Valley Access.

For more information:

Edmonton.ca/rivervalleyprojects

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