

PLANNERS' PERSPECTIVE ON THE CO-CREATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGIES IN EDMONTON

Neighbourhood climate action plans are widely implemented in European cities and have arrived in the Northern America planning practices, including Canada. It provides the most localized impacts while being planned properly, involving collaborative work between governments, stakeholders and residents. Recently, the concept of co-creation appears to be a suitable approach in developing climate action strategies at the neighbourhood level. This concept requires residents' involvement and a continuous, frequent discussion with formal and informal stakeholders in the design process (Voorberg et al., 2015; Davis & Andrew, 2017). The City of Edmonton comprises hundreds of neighbourhoods where community-based initiatives in addressing climate actions are manifested. The City has established city-wide climate mitigation and adaptation plans. However, there is a disconnection between the city-wide plans and community member actions to achieve the overarching climate goals. This master's research paper (MRP) compliments the ongoing FES project about the co-creation of neighbourhood climate action strategies in Edmonton (Joshi & Agrawal, 2020). It aims to find whether the City has a neighbourhood climate action plan in place, gain planner perspectives about the FES project and identify the planner's roles in fostering the co-creation and implementation of neighbourhood climate action strategies in Edmonton. This paper uses combined methods of literature review and a semi-structured interview with professional planners. While the literature review presents a general understanding of neighbourhood climate action and guides interview questions, interview results are the emphasis of this paper. Findings reveal supports and concerns from planners on the co-creation of neighbourhood climate action strategies. Planners also provide suggestions encapsulated in a five-step approach to advance the co-creation project. This paper contributes to the process and outcome of the co-creation project and helps to evaluate its implementation.