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City of edmonton digging

This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. The homes will include a number of Landmark's green and energy efficient features. An artist's rendering of Promenade by Landmark Homes in Creekwood Collections at Chappelle. Photo by Supplied (Postmedia Reviews and recommendations are unbiased and products are independently selected. Postmedia may earn an affiliate commission from purchases made through links on this page. Southwest Edmonton continues to be a popular draw for new homebuyers, and Landmark Homes believes its latest development will keep that trend going. This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. Promenade, a collection of 49 townhomes in Creekwood Collections at Chappelle, just launched at the beginning of March. It's being described as modern and trendy, and each home will have a colourful front door. These three-storey townhomes are currently available in Landmark's Emerson model, with a floor plan that comes in at 1,312 square feet with three bedrooms and 2 1/2 bathrooms. The new Laval model, at 1,087 square feet with two bedrooms and 1 1/2 bathrooms, will be introduced a little later this year, with Promenade being the first to offer this floor plan. For the Emerson, the townhome's main level includes an entrance foyer, a flex space that includes a separated but attached mechanical room section, and a two-car garage. The next floor up is open concept with a galley kitchen with a 10-foot island flanked by an eating nook on one side and the living room on the entry level, which in turns allows for a larger kitchen pantry. Also are off this floor is a balcony, with a gas line for a barbecue. This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. The upper level includes the primary bedroom suite and two additional bedrooms. There is no below-grade basement. All floors are above grade. Prices start in the mid \$340,000 range for the Emerson. Pricing for the Laval has yet to be announced. Appliances are also included and are stainless steel, except for the washer and dryer, which are white. Landmark said personalization of the floor plan is possible: changing the bathtub in the primary ensuite to a stand-up shower unit if initiated early enough and before the townhome is framed. Landmark believes the Creekwood Collections at Chappelle will be a great spot for these townhomes, said Hafsa Khalid, Landmark's area sales representative. She notes that it's a very family-forward community with shopping and schools nearby, as well as quick access for commuters with Highway 2 and the Anthony Henday not that far away. Both South Edmonton Common and Edmonton's international airport are about 15 minutes away with local shopping even closer. This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. "It's a perfect location for these new townhomes," said Khalid. The homes will include a number of Landmark's green and energy efficient features. Demand is likely to be strong, she added. "If they are interested right now is the time to start inquiring," she said, noting that with interest rates slowly rising and what is traditionally a stronger market means Edmonton is finding itself in a seller's market, and existing inventory is moving quite quickly. When completed there will be eight sets of townhome buildings, with Block 1 being the first released — it will also include the Promenade's show home. "We're looking to start digging next month with approximate possession between November of this year to about January," said Khalid. This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. Edmonton Valley Zoo plans to upgrade Lucy the elephant's habitat to include a therapeutic wading pool, Postmedia has learned Lauren Boothby Mar 30, 2022 • March 30, the Edmonton Valley Zoo on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. Photo by Ed Kaiser /Postmedia, file Edmonton Valley Zoo plans to potentially upgrade Lucy the elephant's habitat to include a therapeutic wading pool, the zoo told Postmedia Wednesday — one day after again being named the worst zoo for elephants on the continent by an animal rights group. This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. An animal care expert who assessed the 46-year-old animal's health last year recommended adding a permanent wading pool to her habitat which would create an "enriching experience," allow for low-impact exercise and give her the chance to take the weight off her feet and legs. On Tuesday, In Defense of Animals listed the city's zoo as the worst for elephants in North America for the third time since 2010 — it's been in the rankings for 10 of the last 12 years — amid calls from advocates to move her to a sanctuary. But zoo director Gary Dewar said Wednesday talks about a pool have been going on behind the scenes for some time — more so since an expert recommended this in an October 2021 report — and the zoo hopes to build a multipurpose pool Lucy can use as part of the \$50.3-million renovations for the Nature's Wild Backyard project. Construction is expected to begin next year. This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. Upgrades to Lucy's habitat weren't originally part of the plans but designers will be seeing if it's possible with this renovation, Dewar said. "There's access to enjoy year-round," Dewar said. "Given the state of her health and her arthritis, one of the fellows who participated in the (October) assessment really reinforced the need for (a pool), and so that's where it brought it more to the forefront." Any pool would need to be built to her specific needs. "There's certainly some urgency, and that's why plan A (is) adjusting specifications for a pool that's already been designed," he said. "I wish it was as simple as digging a hole, throwing concrete in, filling it with water and calling it a day." This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. If the zoo can't make it work, it plans to ask council for funding in the 2023-2026 budget cycle to expand Lucy's habitat and build more enrichment activities. Lucy's yard is being expanded this summer and she will have more access to muddy areas. Debra Tychkowski was protesting the captivity of Lucy the elephant outside the Edmonton Valley Zoo on Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021. Photo by Larry Wong /Postmedia 'Everybody wants what's best for Lucy' Dewar said Lucy isn't confined to a "concrete prison" as some advocates have suggested. Her habitat has been improved over the years to include heated indoor areas, heated and rubberized floors, heated indoor exercise area and air filtration. Lucy can't go to a sanctuary because of her health and age and she prefers the company of her human caregivers to other elephants, according to Dewar. "Everybody cares about Lucy. Activist groups care about Lucy, (Lucy's Edmonton Advocates' Project) cares about Lucy ... everybody wants what's best for Lucy, and that's what I want," he said. This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. LEAP president and founder Mary-Ann Holm is skeptical Lucy will get a pool — she's heard this idea before. But she thinks advocacy from celebrities like Cher, Ricky Gervais, and Moby, has added pressure. "It sounds like (the zoo is) a bit more serious than they've been in the past, but it's just frustrating because this is something that should have been (done)," she said "I really want to believe it's true." However, Holm is still holding out hope Lucy can go to a sanctuary. She's insistent Lucy be evaluated by a panel including elephant and sanctuary experts, so advocates can know, for certain, that keeping her in Edmonton is truly what's best. "If they agree to it, the zoo, we guarantee — and I promise, I swear to it on my life — that this would be over." This advertisement has not loaded yet, but your article continues below. According to Dewar, the zoo has reached out to other veterinarians and experts but so far timing hasn't worked out. Coun. Aaron Paquette thinks the zoo shouldn't wait until the next budget cycle to build Lucy's pool. He also supports a third-party panel review. "We have to be very aware of the fact that Lucy is is a sentient being. She can communicate, she has thoughts on an elephant scale, and if we are going to be putting animals on display, regardless of if it's for scientific research or people to get to know the natural world, we (must) ensure that we're treating life with respect and with care," he said. Mayor Amarjeet Sohi said Wednesday Lucy's well-being has always been top-ofmind for zoo officials and budget talks will happen in the future. lboothby@postmedia.com @laurby

