



## **Edmonton Transit System (ETS)**

### **MARCH, 2012**

#### **1. ETS Promotions and Special Events:**

##### **Park and Ride**

The ability to park a private vehicle and then ride transit has become a very popular form of transportation in Edmonton, particularly along the LRT. This concept has also been included in a number of the newer transit centres located around the city. Meadows, Lewis Farms and Eaux D'Iaires, opened in the last couple of years, with over 200 parking spaces at each site available for customers. And the parking is free.

Express buses run into the downtown area during weekday peak periods offering a quick, stress free trip. Average travel time is 30-45 minutes depending on the transit centre you use. Some express routes also connect directly to the LRT. More information on the transit centre free park and ride opportunities is available at [www.takeETS.com](http://www.takeETS.com).

##### **Service Changes for Student Holidays**

ETS is providing regular weekday service during Teachers' Convention, March 1 and 2, and Spring Break, March 26 to 30.

The extra service ETS provides for students to get to junior and senior high schools will be cancelled for both events (the 600, 700, 800 and 900 series of school special routes).

Additional cancellations have been made for Spring Break. Routes 46, 165, 167, 186, 187 and 188 will not be operating, as well as the school loops on Routes 11 and 145.

For travel details check [www.takeETS.com](http://www.takeETS.com) or call BusLink at 780-496-1600.

### **New Art Installed in Eaux Claires**

A stunning new piece of art from Edmonton artist Gabe Wong has been installed in Eaux Claires Transit Centre.

Titled 'Creation Myth, Water Microorganisms' the artwork is a representation of a Cree creation myth of the world parent and her children. As a nod to the name of the station, the work is influenced by the look of water microorganisms.

It invites interaction. Run your hand over the surface and the image shimmers and twinkles in response to the movement.

The artwork is made of concrete tiles embedded with fiberoptic channels, known as Sensitile Terrazzo. Sensitile Terrazzo tiles magically shift, shimmer and twinkle in response to shadows, light and movement, creating a playful, living surface. Each 'pixel' in the tile is actually the end of a plastic light channel—basically a fiberoptic cable. When someone's hand covers one of the 'pixels,' it blocks the path of light to the other end of the channel, causing another pixel to flicker.

We're delighted with the addition of his unique piece of art to the ETS collection of Public Art. Enjoy!

### **LED Lights in Transit Centres**

We've installed new LED Lights at Millgate, Lakewood, and Coliseum Transit Centres. Although customers won't notice much of a difference in the lighting levels on the platform and the street, the LED light bulbs last around 10 years longer than traditional street light bulbs, and ETS can expect to see energy savings of up to 40%.

### **2012 Senior Passes**

The new 2012 ETS Senior Citizen Annual Pass goes on sale Tuesday, March 5 at the ETS Customer Service Centre on the mezzanine of Churchill LRT Station. Cost for the Annual Pass has increased to \$121.50. The Low Income Annual Pass now costs \$52.50. We're mailing out renewal packages for the annual passes in early March. You can continue to use your 2011 Annual Pass until March 31, 2012.

### **More Customers Riding Transit**

The latest ETS ridership numbers are in, and we're pleased to tell you that more Edmontonians are riding buses and LRT.

Overall, ETS ridership increased 5.2 percent from 76.3 million trips in 2010 to 80.3 million trips in 2011. Weekday LRT ridership increased from 92,000 to 95,300 daily passenger boardings in 2011. Weekday bus ridership increased from 297,000 to 302,000 daily passengers boardings in 2011. "Ridership on buses and LRT continues to grow as the City works to enhance its public General Manager Bob Boutilier. "Our strategy is paying off as more Edmontonians are choosing public transit as their preferred method of moving throughout the city."

### **Replacing Churchill Station Escalators**

ETS is starting a program to replace a number of the older escalators on the LRT system. The first to be replaced are the escalators in Churchill Station. Work

started on the escalator connecting the south end of the train platform to the pedway level last month. The escalator is expected to be out of service until July 2012. The north and south stairs, the north escalator and the elevator will remain in service for customers during construction. Once the south escalator is back in service, the contractors will begin work to replace the escalator at the north end of the platform. The replacement program will affect escalators currently in operation in older stations which have exceeded their design life of 25 years.

## **2. DATS News**

### **Vehicle Update:**

The first of the 16 new DATS buses are here. There are a few minor installations (such as radios and MDTs) required before being put into service later this month. These buses have a high ambulatory capacity (up to 12 seats) as well as up to four wheelchair spaces. Similar to the majority of the fleet, these buses come equipped with MOR/ryde suspension system which allows for a smoother, more comfortable ride.

### **DATS Stats**

- DATS carried 81,010 trips in February with an overall productivity of 2.7 passengers/hour.
- In February, DATS had an overall on-time performance of 92.53%, an improvement of 4.14% percentage points from this month last year.
- The number of un-accommodated trips in February 2012 was 1.5%, an improvement from the un-accommodated rate in February 2011 (3.57%).
- The number of complaints received in 2012 (159 year-to-date or 0.1% of carried trips) continues to decrease as compared to last year (290 year-to-date or 0.2% of carried trips).

The number of customer service activities (430 year-to-date) in 2012 is significantly higher than 2011 (197 year-to-date).

## **3. MINUTES FROM COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL:**

### **Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Minutes – February 21, 2012**

#### **5.3 [Transit Fleet Maintenance](#) - (No file available)**

#### **Moved J. Batty:**

That the revised due date of To Be Determined be approved.

Transportation Svcs.

**Due Date:**

To Be Determined

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

6.1 **LRT Development Strategy** - (Report No. 2012TS4860 attached to the Manager's Report)

B. Latte, Transportation Services; and L. Rosen, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, made presentations.

L. Rosen, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; and B. Latte, and R. Boutilier, General Manager, Transportation Services, answered the Committee's questions.

**Moved D. Iveson:**

**West to South LRT Development - Capital Project Profile**

That Administration prepare a Capital Project Profile for the LRT from West to Mill Woods Town Centre outlining:

- a. possible funding sources and cash flows
- b. additional information with respect to life cycle and operating costs

and return to the April 24, 2012, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for consideration at the May 2, 2012, City Council meeting.

Transportation Svcs.

Financial

Svcs.

**Due Date:**

Apr. 24, 2012

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

6.2 **Bylaw 15659 - LRT Governance Board Bylaw** – (Report No. 2012TS9324 is attached to the Manager's Report)

R. Boutilier, General Manager, Transportation Services, made a presentation.

K. Fung, Law, and D. Edey, General Manager, Corporate Services; M. Nathoo, Deputy City Clerk; and R. Boutilier, General Manager, Transportation Services, answered the

Committee's questions.

**Moved L. Sloan**

That Bylaw 15659 be changed as follows and that Bylaw 15659, as changed, be forwarded to City Council for the appropriate readings:

- a. a specific provision that requires all members of the Board to adhere to a code of conduct that will include conflict of interest provisions
- b. a provision that requires any deviation from current Administrative Directives respecting tendering and contract awards to be approved by City Council
- c. a provision that includes a half-day meeting remuneration rate for board members of \$750

Members of Council requested the motion be split for voting purposes.

**Part a. of motion, put:**

- a. a specific provision that requires all members of the Board to adhere to a code of conduct that will include conflict of interest provisions

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

**Opposed:**

J. Batty

**Part b. of motion, put:**

- b. a provision that requires any deviation from current Administrative Directives respecting tendering and contract awards to be approved by City Council

**In Favour:**

**Lost**

K. Diotte, L. Sloan

**Opposed:**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, S. Mandel

**Part c. of motion, put:**

- c. a provision that includes a half-day meeting remuneration rate of for board members \$750

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

**Opposed:**

J. Batty

**Summary of Committee's Decision on item 6.2:**

That Bylaw 15659 be changed as follows and that Bylaw 15659, as changed, be forwarded to City Council for the appropriate readings:

- a. a specific provision that requires all members of the Board to adhere to a code of conduct that will include conflict of interest provisions
- b. a provision that includes a half-day meeting remuneration rate for board members of \$750

**Moved S. Mandel:**

That Transportation and Infrastructure Committee recommend to City Council:

That Administration commence design of a recruitment campaign that will provide recommendations for board appointments for City Council's consideration prior to September, 2012.

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

6.3 **[Airport Service Operating Agreement](#) – (Report No. 2012TS8811 is attached to the Manager's Report)**

**Moved J. Batty:**

That an agreement with the Edmonton Regional Airports Authority for the provision of transit service by Edmonton Transit to the Edmonton International Airport, as outlined in Attachment 2 of the February 21, 2012, Transportation Services report 2012TS8811, be approved, and that the agreement be in form and content acceptable to the City Manager.

Transportation Svcs.

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

6.4 **[Diesel Bus Engine Purchase Agreement](#) – (Report No.**

2012TS5852 is attached to the Manager's Report).

**Moved J. Batty:**

That an agreement with Cummins Western Canada for the purchase of 32 ISL diesel bus engines in the amount of \$700,000, GST not included, be approved, and that the agreement be in form and content acceptable to the City Manager.

Transportation Svcs.

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

- 6.5 **Impact of Not Purchasing Buses on Overcrowding** – (Report No. 2012TS8767 is attached to the Manager's Report).

K. Koropeski and R. Boutilier, General Manager, Transportation Services, made a presentation and answered the Committee's questions.

**Moved D. Iveson:**

That the February 21, 2012, Transportation Services report 2012TS8767 be received for information.

Transportation Svcs.

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

**Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Minutes – March 6, 2012**

- 6.5 **LRT and Traffic Signal System Synchronization** – (Report No. 2012TS 3459 is attached to the Manager's Report).

**Moved S. Mandel:**

That the March 6, 2012, Transportation Services report 2012TS3459, be postponed to the March 20, 2012, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee meeting.

Transportation Svcs.

**Due Date:**

Mar. 20, 2012

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

- 6.8 [University of Alberta Health Sciences LRT Station Pedway Funding Contribution Agreement](#) – (Report No. 2012TS8633 is attached to the Manager's Report).

**Moved S. Mandel:**

That a Funding Contribution Agreement with the University of Alberta, in the amount of \$2,481,270, as the City's portion of costs for the University of Alberta – Health Sciences LRT Station Pedway, be approved and that the agreement be in a form and content acceptable to the City Manager

Transportation Svcs.

City  
Manager

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, S. Mandel

**Absent:**

L. Sloan

- 6.9 [Business Analysis/Case for Building a New Transit Garage](#) – (Report No. 2012TS3683 is attached to the Manager's Report).

R. Boutilier, General Manager, and P. Waisman, Transportations Services; and M. Hall, Sustainable Development, answered the Committee's questions.

**Moved S. Mandel:**

That Transportation and Infrastructure Committee recommend to City Council:

That the March 6, 2012, Transportation Services report 2012TS3683, be received for information.

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

**Moved L. Sloan:**

**Westwood Garage Relocation - Service Delivery Impact and Environmental Assessment**

That Administration provide a report on service delivery impact, including time, deployment operating cost impact



and any other impact arising from relocation of the Westwood garage, and that the report include an initial assessment of the funds needed for inclusion of environmental reclamation of the lands and that prior to disposal of the property, Administration will report back on the cost to conduct a Phase 2 Environmental Impact Assessment.

Transportation Svcs.

**Due Date:**

Jun. 12, 2012

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

D. Iveson, J. Batty, K. Diotte, L. Sloan, S. Mandel

**City Council Minutes – March 14, 2012**

8.1 **Transit Smart Fare System (D. Iveson)** – (Motion Pending)

**Moved D. Iveson - A. Sohi:**

That Administration work to update the Transit Electronic Fare business case:

1. include an analysis of the emerging “Open Payments” standard for Electronic Fare Collection
2. consult with our regional transit partners in the context of the ongoing Regional Fare Strategy
3. provide a report to Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in the 2nd quarter of 2012 identifying the pros and cons of the various options and outline the next steps to implement a Smart Fare system

Transportation Svcs.

**Due Date:** 2nd quarter of 2012

TI Committee

**In Favour:**

**Carried**

S. Mandel, A. Sohi, B. Anderson, B. Henderson, D. Iveson, D. Loken, E. Gibbons, J. Batty, K. Diotte, K. Krushell, L. Sloan, T. Caterina

**Absent:**

K. Leibovici

#### **4. OTHER INFORMATION**

<b>Transit Ridership Information for January 2012</b>	
<b>Ridership</b>	<b>Total Year to Date</b>
2011	7,672,716
2012	7,550,021
Change from 2011 to 2012	(122,695)
Percentage Change	(1.60%)

<b>Transit Ridership Information for February 2012</b>	
<b>Ridership</b>	<b>Total Year to Date</b>
2011	14,993,440
2012	15,083,947
Change from 2011 to 2012	90,508
Percentage Change	0.60%