

April 2013

NORTHWEST LRT NAIT TO NORTH CITY LIMITS

BACKGROUND

The City of Edmonton is planning to extend the LRT from the NAIT station currently under construction to the northwest city limits. Following an extensive corridor evaluation process, the 113A Street corridor was approved by City Council as the future Northwest LRT route on July 7, 2010.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Access to downtown in approximately 28 minutes
- 42,000 - 45,000 future daily boardings
- Service to communities in northwest Edmonton including Grand Trunk, Castle Downs and Griesbach
- Future regional park and ride facility at the city limits
- Feasible future connection to the City of St. Albert
- Estimated cost: \$1.589 billion*

Expanding the LRT system is a key priority for the City of Edmonton. No funding is currently in place to construct the Northwest LRT line.

**Excludes land costs. Detailed budget estimates to be refined and determined in subsequent engineering stages.*

HOW DO THESE PLANS FIT INTO THE BIGGER PICTURE?

It's part of an overall vision

The City of Edmonton's strategic vision calls for a more compact, livable and sustainable city where people have an opportunity and choose to use alternate transportation modes. This is outlined in *The Way Ahead* (the City's Strategic Plan), as well as in *The Way We Move* (Transportation Master Plan) and *The Way We Grow* (Municipal Development Plan). Expanding the Light Rail Transit (LRT) network is one of the ways the City is planning to meet these objectives.

It moves the project forward

Expanding the existing LRT line is a significant infrastructure project. It can take several years to move through the planning and engineering stages. We are still in the early stages of the Northwest LRT project.



THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS TO DATE

The public involvement process for the Northwest LRT has been extensive and involved 4 phases of consultation between April and December 2012, which included public open houses and stakeholder meetings at key project milestones. An additional open house on April 3, 2013 presented design changes to the 153 Avenue corridor, arising out of feedback from the December 2012 open house.

A total of 1,119 people participated in the consultation process by attending meetings and completing online questionnaires.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

The recommended Northwest LRT concept plan is presented to City Council for consideration. Should City Council approve the concept plan, the project would advance to the design phase and funding opportunities would be sought to continue the project to the next stages of preliminary engineering, design and construction.



URBAN STYLE

Though the Northwest LRT will be tied to the existing LRT system, an urban-style approach will be used for this future high-floor LRT line.

The LRT will continue to operate on a dedicated right-of-way and will not mix with traffic. It will have priority at intersections. LRT stations will not be as large as on the existing system, and stops will be spaced closer together. Reduced right-of-way and fewer barriers will be necessary. Great attention will be given to aesthetics for the LRT to integrate within its urban environment. Better links will be provided to a greater number of destinations, as well as more direct transit, pedestrian and cyclist connections.



A high-floor LRT station integrated into a building in downtown Calgary, Alberta

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE NORTHWEST LRT PROJECT

- Visit www.edmonton.ca/LRTprojects
- Call the LRT Projects Information Centre at 780-496-4874
- E-mail LRTprojects@edmonton.ca



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