

South**LRT**

making tracks

www.edmonton.ca/LRTprojects

Progress 2008

It's show and tell time — and as they say, pictures speak a thousand words. Here's the progress that's been made from spring to fall of 2008:



Track Installation

Track installation continues and is nearing completion in some areas from Health Sciences to South Campus. The leveller moves slowly back and forth, vibrating the ballast rock to compact it and bring the track up to final alignment and elevation.



McKernan/Belgravia Station

Work at McKernan/Belgravia Station is progressing. Tile work is completed, handrails have been added and benches and trash cans installed. Glass and heating units will be installed this fall. The station is expected to be completed by the end of the 2008 construction season.



76 Avenue Pedestrian Underpass

We were very pleased to have this underpass opened before the start of the school year. Some work on the handrails and art installation are to be completed. Landscaping will be completed by the end of the 2008 construction season.

continued on page 2



Multi-use Trail from Health Sciences to Belgravia

Multi-use trail (MUT) construction was completed from Health Sciences to just north of the McKernan/Belgravia Station and south of 76 Avenue to 74 Avenue by the end of September. MUT construction and landscaping is expected to be completed by the end of October right to South Campus.



Belgravia Road LRT Underpass

The underpass structure is substantially complete. Track installation will be completed by the end of construction 2008. Because of the slope, loose ballast is not possible; therefore concrete supports (called plinths) have been constructed and tracks bolted onto them.



Whitemud Drive LRT Bridge

The Whitemud LRT bridge is progressing steadily. Remaining work includes abutments, bridge rails, slope protection and concrete finishing. Whitemud Drive was restored to normal configuration and speed limit in October.



South Campus Station and area

The South Campus station and surrounding area, including MUT, are nearly complete. The fabric roof was installed on the station over the summer; glass installation and landscaping were also nearly completed.



Belgravia Bridge

Excellent progress has been made on the one-way Belgravia Bridge, which will carry buses from South Campus station across Belgravia Road to Fox Drive westbound. Dedicated bus lanes bring buses from the west into South Campus and east to the Quesnell Bridge will also be constructed in 2009. The trestles of the bridge were installed and work on the surfaces of the bridge deck and ramps continues. Landscaping will be completed in Spring 2009.



Catenary Installation

As tracks are brought up to their final level, catenary wiring can begin. The top photo shows the catenary poles awaiting wiring at Belgravia and the bottom photo shows wire installation south of South Campus Station.



South Campus to 61 Avenue

The LRT south of South Campus Station is also taking shape. The LRT curves and passes by the School for the Deaf, crosses 60 Avenue and heads towards the underpass at 111 Street.



Bus Turnaround at Confederation Leisure Centre

To help improve safety at 111 Street and 43 Avenue, students from Harry Ainlay and Louis St. Laurent schools now get off the bus at the Confederation Leisure Centre. All school special buses stop at the centre, so students do not have to cross 111 Street. The turnaround was opened in time for school start-up.



111 Street LRT Underpass

At 61 Avenue, the LRT slopes and curves (1) as it enters the north end of the underpass bringing it up into the median of 111 Street (2). The south portal was beginning to take shape (3) by the end of September. Excavation has begun and concrete will continue to be poured to construct it over the winter.



Southgate Station

The transit centre was moved back to Southgate in August (1). Tracks were also installed at Southgate (2), so transit service is not interrupted in 2009. The frames for the overhead pedway (3), connecting the east and west sides (right) of 111 Street to the station were installed and we expect to have the pedway opened by the summer of 2009, so pedestrians on the west side will have convenient access to transit and shopping at Southgate Centre.

111 Street Roadworks from 61 to 23 Avenue

We truly appreciate your patience as traffic was down to one lane in each direction for much of the summer and fall. Lanes were shifted east and west, power poles and traffic signals relocated and installed. Beyond Whitemud Drive, the Allan Block retaining wall nears completion, roadworks are nearly completed, and work has begun to prepare the median for trackbeds.



Century Park Pedway Installation

The precast concrete girders for the pedways at Southgate and Century Park Stations have been installed. These images of the night-time installation at Century Park on September 23 and 24 show concrete structures, each up to 23 metres (75 ft) and weighing up to 87,000 kg (192,000 lbs) (1) require two cranes to lift (2) and an incredible degree of accuracy (3). It is expected the pedways will be opened by the summer of 2009, to provide convenient access to the transit and shopping centres.



D.L. MacDonald Maintenance Facility

One new building and an addition are under construction at the D.L. MacDonald Maintenance Facility to house the additional 37 trains on order (see below) and crews, plus a specialized cleaning facility for LRT vehicles. These buildings are located between Belvedere and Clareview Stations on the north line.

New LRT vehicles sleek, modern, and loaded with goodies!

The first of 37 new Light Rail Transit (LRT) vehicles ordered by the City made its first public appearance on June 23, marking the thirtieth anniversary of the delivery of the first LRT vehicle to Edmonton's fleet.

- The SD160 comes with many improvements and conveniences, including:
- Air conditioned cars for passenger comfort.
- Doors slide out slightly and then to each side for a roomier entrance and exit.
- Interior message signs allow passengers to see the upcoming stop.
- Exterior electronic destination signs in the front, rear and side windows make it easier for passengers to see which train is coming. This will be especially important as new lines are built and passengers transfer trains.

For more details about safety, accessibility and environmental features, visit the www.edmonton.ca/LRTprojects and follow the links to South LRT Extension>Project Overview.





1

2

6

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7

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8

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9



A Bird's Eye View of South LRT

1. 111 Street from 61 Avenue to Whitemud Drive
2. Health Sciences to 76 Avenue
3. 76 Avenue Pedestrian Underpass and McKernan/Belgravia Station
4. Belgravia Road LRT Underpass
5. Belgravia Busway Bridge
6. Southgate Station
7. 111 Street LRT underpass at 61 Avenue.
8. South Campus Station
9. Whitemud LRT Bridge
10. Century Park Station
11. 111 Street from Whitemud Drive to Century Park Station

Be 'in the know' about South LRT construction

We do our best to keep you informed about progress of South LRT construction and upcoming traffic changes. Here are some of the ways you can find out what's happening:

South LRT Email List — Join our email list at lrtprojects@edmonton.ca for **immediate updates**. Just type "subscribe to SLRT email list" in the subject and we'll add your address to automatically receive all updates, including short notice messages that do not go out via regular mail. Do it today!

LRT Projects Website —

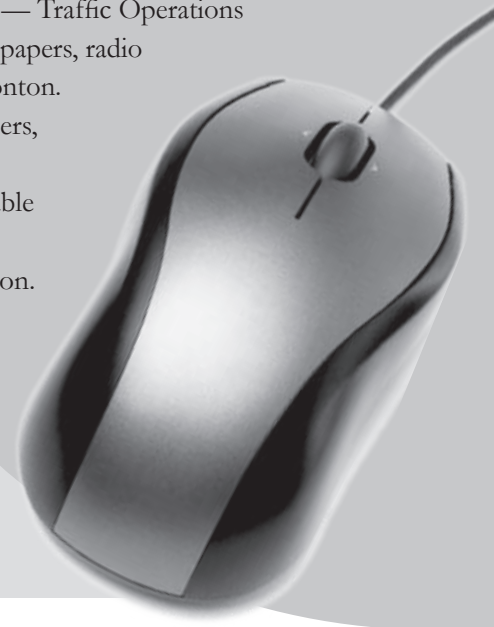
Visit www.edmonton.ca/LRTprojects for information that is usually **posted the same day**. Follow the links from South LRT Extension to Publications and News where all South LRT documents are posted.

South LRT Mailing List — Call the LRT Projects Message Centre at 780.496.4874 and leave us your name and address. You'll receive updates and bulletins by mail in about 7 days of the date on the flyer.

Unaddressed Admail — Construction Bulletins are issued to 24,000 households and businesses when there are major changes that will affect people who live around the South LRT construction zone. You'll receive a copy in your mailbox within about 7 days of the date on the flyer.

Traffic Advisories and Ads — Traffic Operations issues traffic advisories to newspapers, radio and television stations in Edmonton.

Ads are also placed in daily papers, electronic message boards are set up and notices are available online at the City's website at www.edmonton.ca/transportation.



Need info about SLRT?

Edmontonians are keenly interested in the City's plans for LRT, which has greatly increased the volume of enquiries. We've made getting information easier, by creating a one-stop telephone, email and website system for LRT South construction to Century Park, Downtown to NAIT, Southeast to Millwoods, North to Gorman, South to City Limits and regional studies as they become available.

Leave a message with your enquiry and contact information at this number and you will be contacted as soon as possible.

LRT Projects Voice Message Centre
780.496.4874

As always we welcome your suggestions, comments and questions about South LRT and the *Making Tracks* newsletter. For further information or to comment, please contact:

LRT Projects Email
lrtprojects@edmonton.ca

LRT Projects Website
www.edmonton.ca/lrtprojects