

Phase 2 Metro Northwest LRT: PROPERTY ACQUISITION March 2024

PROPERTY ACQUISITION

As part of the 2023-2026 Capital Budget, Council approved \$20 million dollars to acquire land for Phase 2 of the Metro Line Northwest extension from Blatchford to Castle Downs.

The [Concept Plan](#) for the Metro Line Northwest LRT Extension was approved by City Council in 2013 (the “Project”). When approving the [route](#), the alignment selected was chosen based on the alignment that minimized both the impact on private property and the need to acquire private property. Although impacts and land acquisition has been minimized, in some cases, privately-held property will need to be acquired in order for the project to proceed.

Currently the City is actively pursuing the acquisition of properties on a voluntary basis, focusing on those that have been listed for sale or otherwise offered by their owners. For properties that are not currently listed for sale, property owners will be contacted by a City of Edmonton property agent for the Project. Should an owner express interest in exploring the possibility of selling, the City of Edmonton will engage in negotiations in good faith, striving to reach a mutually beneficial agreement with the owners.

The ongoing property acquisition program is being conducted proactively to ready Metro Phase 2 for construction once funding becomes available. The City of Edmonton is focused on voluntary property acquisitions as part of its initiative.

PROPERTY EXPROPRIATION

Expropriation is a process by which an authority such as a municipality can compel a property owner to sell a property or a portion of property to it. The Alberta *Expropriation Act* sets out the procedures to be followed in the expropriation process. The Act can be requested from the Government of Alberta or accessed online at www.qp.alberta.ca. Expropriation in Alberta is overseen by the Land Compensation Board (<http://www.landcompensation.gov.ab.ca>). The Land Compensation Board website also provides an overview of the expropriation process and compensation rules.

If the City decides to proceed with an expropriation, it must notify a property owner of its intention to expropriate. Once notified, a property owner may consent to the acquisition or object and request a hearing to determine whether the expropriation is fair, sound and reasonably necessary. Throughout the expropriation process, the City and the property owner can continue to discuss compensation and try to reach an agreement. If the City and the property owner cannot agree on compensation, the Land Compensation Board may determine the compensation payable.

Only City Council can approve the commencement of the expropriation process. At this time there is no request to the City Council to consider expropriation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call the LRT Projects Information Centre: 780.496.4874

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