

THE WAY WE MOVE

# METRO LINE UPDATE

SUMMER/FALL 2015

TRANSFORMING | **EDMONTON**

BRINGING OUR CITY VISION TO LIFE



THE METRO LINE OPENED FOR SERVICE ON SEPTEMBER 6.

## METRO LINE NOW OPEN

It's official—the Metro Line is open for business! Service began on Sunday, September 6, offering an affordable, sustainable connection to major destinations like MacEwan University, NAIT, Kingsway Mall and the Royal Alexandra and Glenrose hospitals.

The new line will transform the way we move in Edmonton, in both the short term and the long term. In the short term, the Metro Line will have a significant impact on

transit service and traffic patterns (see p. 3). In the long term, the Metro Line will be a significant step forward in implementing the City's vision for LRT expansion. In the future, the Metro Line will provide LRT service to the new arena, Roger's Place, and the new community of Blatchford, with an ultimate plan to extend the line to northwest Edmonton and St. Albert.

*Continued on page 2*

**Edmonton**

# METRO LINE OPERATIONS

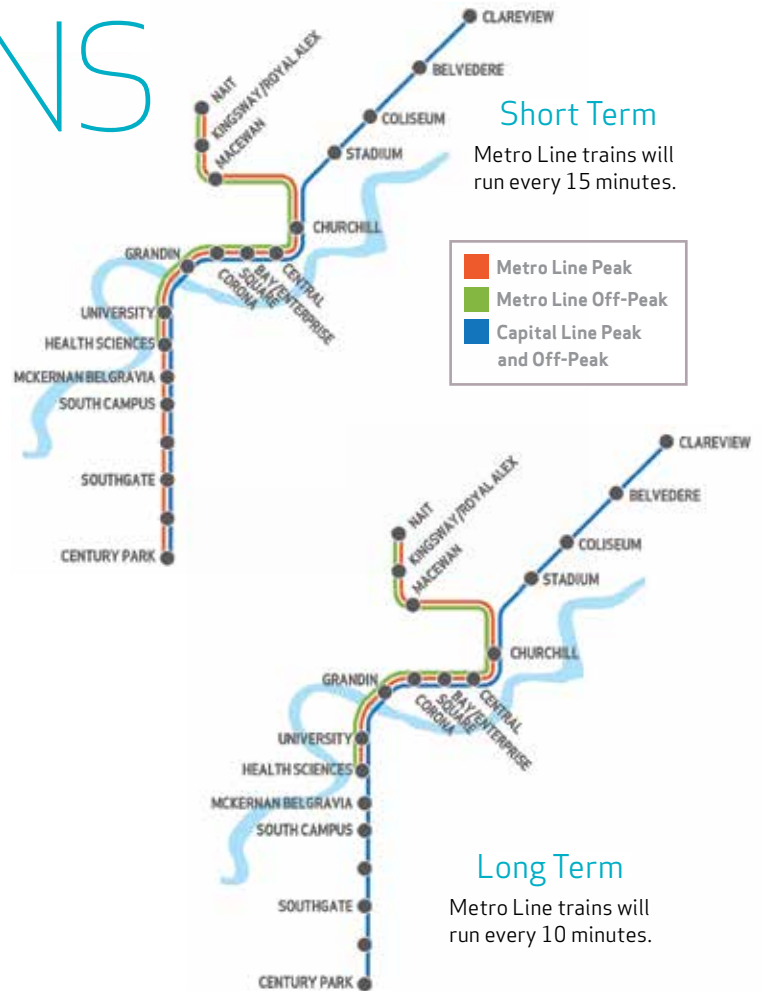
## A STAGED APPROACH

The City has taken a staged approach to Metro Line operations in order to open the line to safe, reliable service as soon as possible.

At first, the Metro Line is operating with some restrictions. Trains are running on a line of sight basis, which places a speed restriction on operators so they can bring a train to a stop within half the range of their vision if they spot a hazard, such as a car stopped in the tracks. This means that trains are travelling at reduced speeds (no more than 25 km/h) between MacEwan and NAIT stations. The speed restriction will be lifted once the City accepts the safety certification for the signalling system (see p. 4).

Until the new signalling system is fully operational, Metro Line trains are operating between Century Park and NAIT stations most of the time. Sometimes, (after 10 p.m. on weekdays, after 7 p.m. on Saturdays and all day Sundays), Metro Line trains run between Health Sciences/Jubilee and NAIT stations. This routing allows us to maximize the number of trains we can run during peak and non-peak hours.

In the longer term—once the new signalling system is complete—Metro Line trains will run at roughly



50 km/h every 10 minutes between Health Sciences/Jubilee and NAIT stations, as originally designed. This will reduce travel times to seven minutes between MacEwan and NAIT.

*Continued from cover page.*

Getting to this point has been a challenge. While construction of the Metro Line was completed in time for a spring 2014 opening, work on the new signalling system that controls the trains is still not complete. We will continue to work with the contractor, Thales Rail Signalling Solutions Inc., to bring the signalling system into full operation as soon as it's safe to do so (see p. 4).

Until then the City is taking a staged approach to Metro Line operations in order to bring the Metro Line into service as soon as possible. Trains are running every 15 minutes between Century Park and NAIT stations, operating on a line of sight basis between MacEwan and NAIT stations.

Metro Line trains are now serving more than 10,000 LRT riders. Thank you for your patience as we worked to bring Edmonton's second line into service, and for continuing to bear with us through this major transformation.

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

## TRAFFIC

The Metro Line is significantly changing how traffic moves through the communities it serves. While steps have been taken to help traffic flow as smoothly as possible between trains, including adjustments to roadways and fine-tuning traffic signals at Metro Line intersections, motorists driving in areas around the Metro Line will experience some delays. Please exercise patience when driving in areas near the Line:

- Expect delays at Metro Line crossings
- Allow extra travel time
- Consider alternate routes

The City is closely monitoring Metro Line intersections to find ways to improve traffic flow.

## LRT SERVICE

There's a second LRT line in town now! The Metro Line joins the pre-existing Capital Line at Churchill Station, and the two lines share a single set of tracks from Churchill southwards. The Metro Line is mostly running all the way south to Century Park, so passengers can change between the two LRT lines anywhere between those two stations. A few things to keep in mind:

- Board the correct train
- Give yourself enough time to get where you're going



RIDERS ON THE FIRST METRO LINE TRAIN ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2015.

## SAFETY

People may have gotten used to having the Metro Line tracks and stations around, but it's a different ball game now that trains are running on the tracks between MacEwan and NAIT on a regular schedule. Please stay safe and remember:

- Never stop on the tracks
- Obey all signs and signals

The City has developed the TraXSafe Program, which offers presentations about LRT safety to groups all over Edmonton. To book a presentation, please email [traxsafe@edmonton.ca](mailto:traxsafe@edmonton.ca).

Strategy

Concept

Design

Build

Where we are today  
**OPERATE**  
PHASE

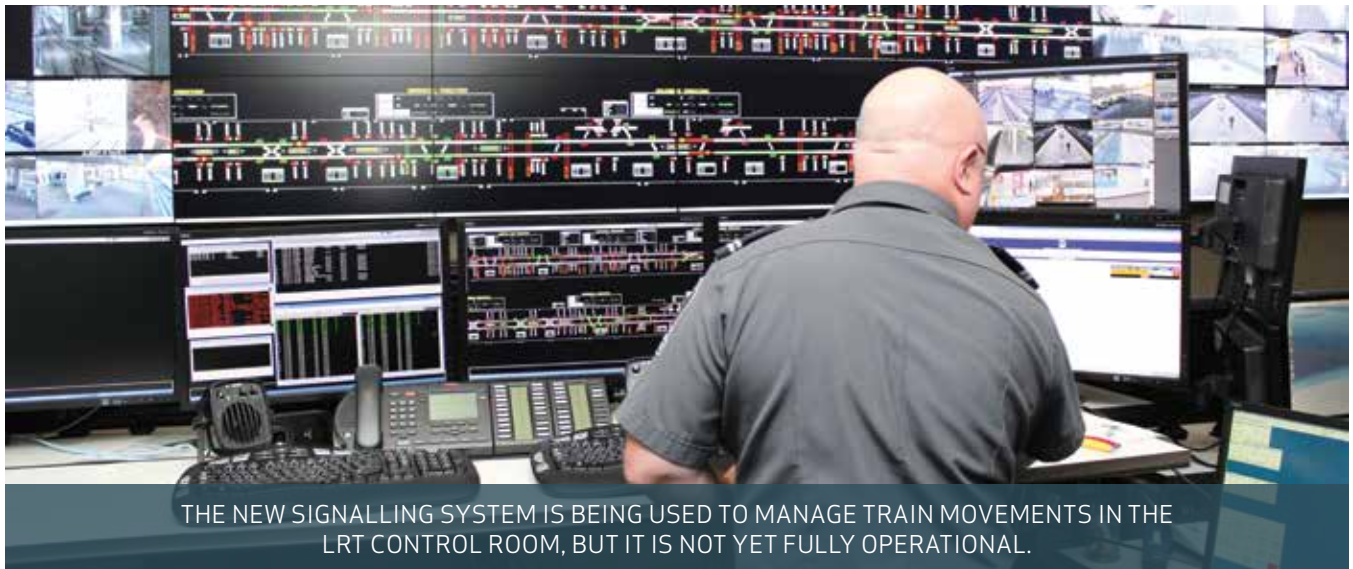
# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE METRO LINE AUDIT?

There have been two audits related to the Metro Line. The City Auditor conducted an audit of the project at the request of City Council this summer. The report and City Administration's response to the report are available at [edmonton.ca/metroline](http://edmonton.ca/metroline).

The City has also hired an internationally-recognized expert in rail safety auditing to audit the safety

documentation provided by Thales, the contractor for the new signalling system. This audit will identify gaps in the documentation and obtain the information the City needs in order to accept the safety certification for the signalling system, lift the speed restriction and ultimately bring it into full operation. This audit is ongoing.



THE NEW SIGNALLING SYSTEM IS BEING USED TO MANAGE TRAIN MOVEMENTS IN THE LRT CONTROL ROOM, BUT IT IS NOT YET FULLY OPERATIONAL.

## FIND OUT MORE ABOUT LRT PROJECTS

This newsletter is available online. In addition to quarterly newsletters about the Metro Line, LRT Projects posts project updates online, and sends digital copies to an email distribution list. If you wish to be added to the distribution list please send an email to [lrtprojects@edmonton.ca](mailto:lrtprojects@edmonton.ca) with "Subscribe to the Metro Line" in the subject line.

We welcome your comments and questions about Edmonton's LRT Projects. Please check the LRT Projects web pages for updates.

For further information or to comment, please contact:

LRT Projects Information Line:

**780.496.4874 (voicemail)**

LRT Projects Email:

**[lrtprojects@edmonton.ca](mailto:lrtprojects@edmonton.ca)**

LRT Projects Website:

**[www.edmonton.ca/lrtprojects](http://www.edmonton.ca/lrtprojects)**