

North LRT to NAIT Fact Sheet

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North LRT to NAIT

The North LRT (NLRT) to NAIT is a 3.1 km extension from Churchill LRT Station in downtown Edmonton northwest to the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT). It's the first segment of a planned LRT expansion to Edmonton city limits near St. Albert.

NLRT right-of-way details are as follows, listed south to north:

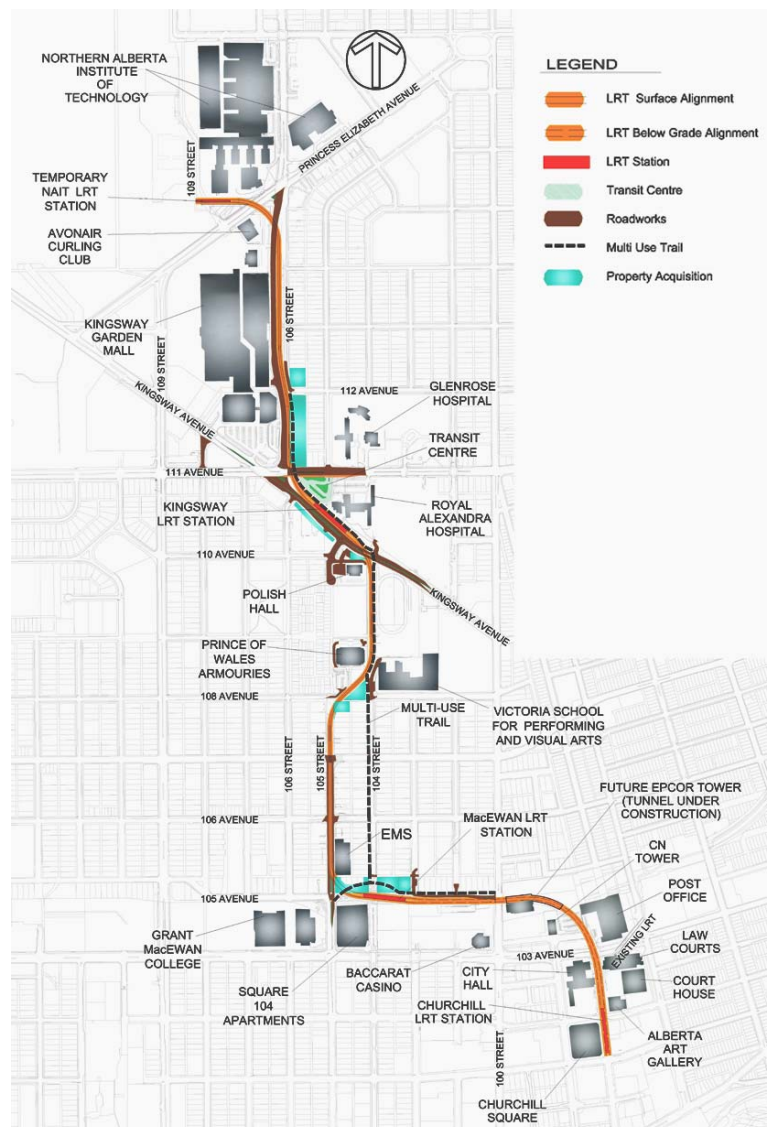
Underground

- Connects underground to Edmonton's LRT network at Churchill Station.
- Follows tunnel beneath 104 Avenue, the new Epcor Tower and 101 Street.
- Tunnel portal at 105 Avenue/103 Street.

Street Level

- Continues west to MacEwan LRT Station at 105 Avenue/104 Street.
- Curves north to follow middle of 105 Street to 108 Avenue.
- Curves east to follow 104 Street to Kingsway Avenue.
- Curves northwest across Kingsway Avenue to Kingsway LRT Station at Kingsway Avenue/105 Street.
- Curves north to follow east side of 106 Street to Princess Elizabeth Avenue.
- Curves west across Princess Elizabeth Avenue to Temporary NAIT Station at southwest corner of NAIT campus.

The NLRT to NAIT is targeted to open in 2014. Schedules depend on funding.



Connecting to LRT Network

Travel time from NAIT to downtown is approximately nine minutes. Passengers boarding the NLRT can change trains at Churchill Station to travel northeast, or ride as far south as Health Sciences Station, where they must change trains to continue farther south on Edmonton's LRT network.

Features

Built at street level (except for tunnel connection to Churchill Station), the NLRT is designed to blend with automobile and pedestrian traffic. No parking lots or bridges are included. Trains cross most intersections at street level. Sections of 105 Avenue, 105 Street and 104 Street will close permanently to automobile traffic. Design includes a multi-use trail running parallel to the LRT and three new LRT stations.

MacEwan Station is surrounded by an outdoor plaza, landscaped green space and intersecting pedestrian walkways. This two-storey station provides a new downtown connection to Edmonton's LRT network and access to Grant MacEwan University.

Kingsway Station provides easy access to health care services such as Royal Alexandra Hospital. Residents and businesses of Central McDougall and other surrounding communities have a convenient connection to Edmonton's LRT network and a new Kingsway Transit Centre.

Temporary NAIT Station serves NAIT, Kingsway Mall and nearby communities such as Spruce Avenue. Built from modular transit-shelter style units located on the south side of NAIT campus, the Temporary NAIT Station may become permanent, once land-use planning for the City Centre Airport lands determines a permanent location for NAIT Station.

Funding & Timeline

Design and construction of the NLRT to NAIT is anticipated to cost \$725 million, including purchase of 10 new trains. Schedules depend on funding from federal, provincial and municipal governments. At present \$161 million has been approved for work to continue through 2010. Several milestones have been achieved, with many more to come:

- **2005** – North Edmonton high-speed transit study identifies NLRT corridor.
- **2007** – Concept planning initiated, including extensive public involvement.
- **September 2008** – City Council approves NLRT concept plan.
- **August 2009** – Construction of LRT tunnel begins at Epcor Tower site.
- **June 2010** – Right-of-way preparation begins (roadwork, building removal, utilities, etc.).
- **2011** – Tunnel construction and preparation work continues.
- **2012** – New LRT stations under construction.
- **2013** – Track and catenary installation.
- **2014** – Target opening of NLRT to NAIT.

For more information:

- Visit www.edmonton.ca/LRTprojects
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