

ETS Branch Highlights Report

Date: September 25, 2017

1. RIDERSHIP

Bus and LRT Ridership - July

	Month	Year to Date
2016 Actual	5,277,087	49,837,119
2017 Budget	5,547,620	49,175,368
2017 Actual	5,228,122	49,485,593

2017 Bus and LRT Monthly Ridership



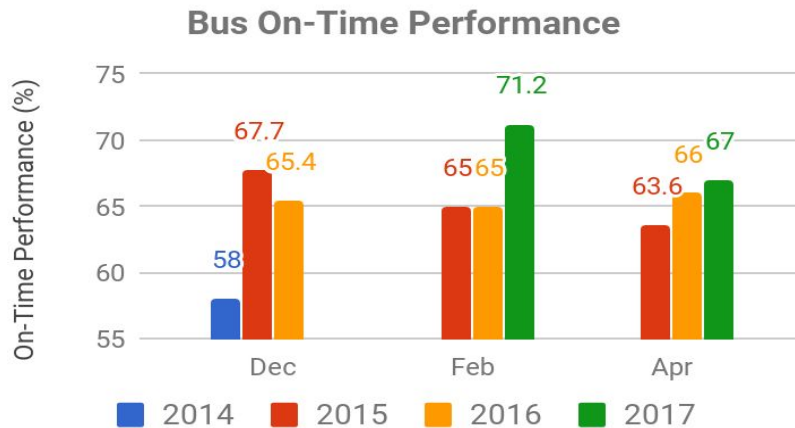
2. ETS UPDATES

Transit Centre Updates

Three of our oldest bus transit centre buildings are being completely replaced at Belvedere, Castle Downs, and Jasper Place, thanks to PTIF funding. The buildings will be closed for construction from this October until next summer. The transit centres will feature more customer amenities and will be designed with an eye towards safety, aligning with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

Fall Service Reallocation

Fall service changes and service hours reallocation were both implemented on September 5th to accommodate the increased number of our customers returning to work and to school. Service changes happen five times every year to accommodate shifting ridership demand, e.g., there are fewer riders in the summer and more in the fall. The 50,000 service hours reallocated in 2016 and 2017 are specifically aimed at improving overall transit system efficiency and address the recommendations from the City Auditor's report related to schedule reliability and overcrowding issues.



LRT Right of Way Maintenance and Renewal

The northeast and downtown Edmonton LRT tracks are now 35 to 40 years old. The northeast crossings have been replaced over the previous two capital project cycles (2012-14/2015-18). In addition to annual planned maintenance, 2017 work will focus on track switch components and rail renewal, and PTIF funded projects to renew the Bay and Corona station platforms. Work will impact service (service outages and delays) but will improve ongoing maintenance and customer experience in the future.

Electric Bus - Facility Assessment

WSP Canada Inc. was contracted to assess four ETS garages to identify requirements and costs for accommodating electric bus charging stations, allowing for simultaneous charging of up to 100 buses. The result was a report outlining the charging station options and recommendations for the upgrades required at each garage. Upgrade costs were estimated to be between \$31 million and \$43 million (significantly higher if redundant power feed is included). Findings will be used in the development of a long-term electric bus strategy.

Other Notes:

- The Regional Transit MOU was passed unanimously by Edmonton City Council on September 12th. St. Albert Council also approved the MOU on September 11th.

- The EIA report is going back to council - press importance of working together and value of public transit to regional vibrancy (this is an opportunity to plug some of our key messages).
- Greyhound Canada is now providing shuttle service for their customers between the Greyhound station and the ETS Kingsway Transit Centre five to six times per day. Greyhound is using an empty bus bay so regular ETS bus operations are not impacted by this sharing arrangement.

3. ETSAB INFORMATION REQUESTS

Gondola/Cable Car Sub-Committee

Relevant past research notes from the Board’s archived files were requested to be provided from ETS Administration to the sub-committee for reference. The link to the search results from the Google Drive files were provided to the Chair and Vice Chair (Sub-Committee Lead) September 6th by email.

ETS Operations impact of the Experience Jasper Avenue Pilot Project

Data related to the service impacts is still being reviewed; it is difficult to isolate the impact as timing points for the buses extend beyond the range of the pilot project. Administration has experienced slower travel through the Experience Jasper Avenue project, and the bus bays on street make reentering traffic lanes difficult. ETS will continue to monitor the impacts on service through the duration of the pilot and participate in the project review.

4. ETS REPORT TRACKING

SIRE	Report Title	Meeting Date	Committee
4503	ETS Administration’s Response to ETSAB (User Experience) Recommendations	Deferred to Feb. 1, 2018	UPC