

## SOUTHEAST TO WEST LRT: PROPERTY ACQUISITION

MARCH 2012

**PROPERTY ACQUISITION**

When approving the route for the Southeast to West LRT, City Council considered the impact on property owners and ultimately selected an alignment that minimized the need for private property acquisition. However, in some cases, privately-held property will need to be acquired in order for the project to proceed.

The City prefers to acquire properties needed for the project that have been listed or otherwise offered for sale. For properties not offered for sale, property owners will be contacted by a City of Edmonton property agent once the City begins to actively acquire properties for the project. City property agents will negotiate in good faith in an effort to reach agreement with the owners to buy the properties for fair compensation.

If a property owner and the City property agent cannot reach an agreement to purchase the property, as a last resort, the City may proceed with expropriation of the property.

**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](http://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.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Call the LRT Projects Information Centre: 780.496.4874

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

Visit: [www.edmonton.ca/LRTprojects](http://www.edmonton.ca/LRTprojects)