

ETS Branch Highlights Report

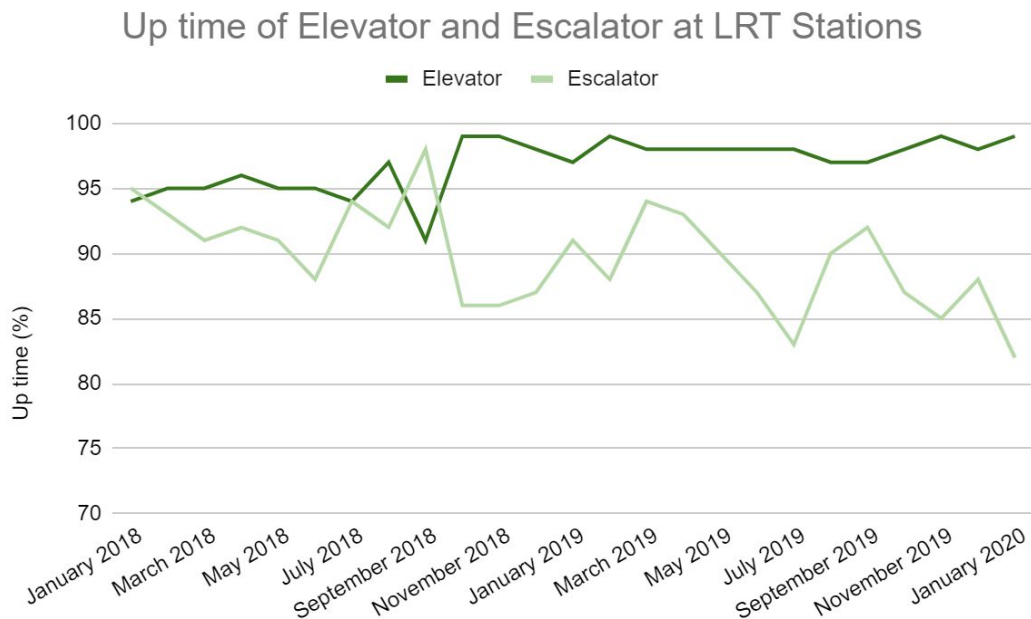
Date: February 24, 2020

1. RIDERSHIP

Bus and LRT Ridership – December 2019

	Month	Year to Date
2018 Actual	8,312,306	87,121,534
2019 Budget	TBC	TBC
2019 Actual	TBC	TBC

Final ridership data for 2019 is still to be confirmed.



Each month, ETS tracks the time escalators and elevators are in use and in working order. We know many transit customers rely on functioning escalators and elevators to access and exit transit platforms.

2. ETS UPDATES

Regional Transit Services Commission Given Green Light By Edmonton City Council

On February 19, Council voted to join the Regional Transit Services Commission, marking an exciting milestone as our city and the Edmonton Metropolitan Region continue to grow.

In September 2017, the City of Edmonton and City of St. Albert Councils signed a Memorandum of Understanding to begin taking steps to develop a Regional Transit Services Commission. The other 11 metropolitan communities joined in October 2018. Throughout February and March 2020, the councils of all 13 Edmonton Metropolitan Region municipalities will vote on whether to participate in a formal request to create a new Regional Transit Services Commission. Municipalities that choose to join will sponsor a proposal to the Government of Alberta to establish the Commission in Provincial Regulation. There is still lots of work to do on this file. Details such as the operating model and how service will be delivered will begin to be determined after the Commission is formally established. Public engagement activities will be undertaken at that time.

A regional service commission is a governance arrangement outlined in Alberta's Municipal Government Act that allows multiple municipalities to coordinate a service. The Commission is a separate legal entity of the municipalities involved. It's governed through a Board of Directors which are often the elected officials from the municipalities involved.

Kathleen Andrews Transit Garage Becomes Operational

On Sunday, February 9, the first buses departed from the new Kathleen Andrews Transit Garage in northeast Edmonton. The new garage is home to approximately 300 ETS buses, over 400 City staff, and required infrastructure and technology to maintain and deliver bus service for Edmontonians.

The new garage is named after Edmonton's first woman Transit Operator, Kathleen Andrews, who joined ETS in 1975. The new garage replaces the aging Westwood Transit Garage and utilizes land that sat vacant for decades. Construction began in summer 2016 and was completed on time and on budget in late 2019. This was possible through coordinated work from many different branches and departments within the City.

A formal "ribbon cutting" grand opening will take place at the new garage in late spring, once electric bus infrastructure has been installed and tested.

Further Analysis of Alternative Transit Solutions Report CR_7812

On February 25, ETS will present a follow-up report on alternative transit options to the Urban Planning Committee with further details to refine first kilometre/last kilometre options. This report includes a detailed analysis of accessible on-demand alternative transit options, provided through a public or contracted service model, for neighbourhoods that will no longer have regular fixed bus service or don't have transit service now. This additional information will help Council make an informed decision on how alternative transit could be operated and funded.

The [report](#) is posted online. Alternative transit could add another layer of service to our integrated transit network that includes a robust new bus network and expanding LRT service. After this report goes to the Urban Planning Committee on February 25, Council members may recommend that ETS move ahead with alternative transit service for specific neighbourhoods. One possible option includes a two-year, on-demand service pilot starting at the same time as the new bus network on August 30, 2020. The Council report also identifies opportunities to adjust some regular bus routes to address walking distance in the new bus network, as well as transportation options for people with limited mobility.

Increasing Transit Safety and Security for Women and Girls

Throughout January and February, ETS met with stakeholder groups to further plan the next phase of work related to enhancing transit safety and security. This work will focus on the perspectives of women and girls, and include an extensive community engagement process to explore root causes and develop action plans. The upcoming Council report CR_7026 will discuss these next steps in more detail, and will be presented on March 18.

Tentatively planned for March 12, Administration is looking at hosting a media event at the Kathleen Andrews transit garage to discuss several reports related to making Edmonton a safe city. ETSAB members will be invited to attend.

Century Park - Final Transition of Parking Stalls back to the Land Developer

Effective March 31, approximately 390 free City-operated parking stalls near the Century Park LRT Station will be returned to the land developer, in accordance with the lease agreement. Once this transition occurs on March 31, there will no longer be any free parking at Century Park, and all parking stalls will be controlled by the land developer who will be charging market rates for parking stalls. The long-term vision for Century Park ([approved by City Council in 2017](#)) has always been a transit-oriented urban village. Since 2018, the City has gradually returned parking stalls to the land developer, and the final transition takes place on March 31. The land does not belong to the City.

ETS launched public communication on February 20, ensuring those affected have adequate time to make alternative arrangements. Administration also provided transit customers with alternative options to get to Century Park. Options include:

1. Taking ETS bus service to Century Park. Please visit: [takeETS.com/ParkandRide](https://takeets.com/ParkandRide) for bus routes to Century Park.
2. Regional customers may be able to use Park & Ride offered by Leduc Transit and Beaumont Transit, and take bus service to Century Park.
3. A variety of paid parking options are available at Century Park through [Park Procura](#) (780-784-1636)

3. ETSAB INFORMATION REQUESTS

N/A

4. ETS REPORT TRACKING - 2019/2020

SIRE	Report Title	Meeting Date	Committee
7812	Further Analysis of Alternative Transit Solutions	Feb 25	UPC
6778	Update on Bus Network Redesign	March 17	UPC
7850	Temporary Park & Ride Locations on City Lands	March 17	UPC
7026	Increased Safety Measures - Transportation Services	March 18	CPSC
7353	DATS Program Service Enhancements - Update and Next Steps	May 19	EC
7813	Transit Fare Fines	May 6	CPSC
7810	*Transit Mode Share (follow-up re: ridership targets; led by City Planning branch)	March 17	UPC

*Not an ETS lead report

AC = Audit Committee

CC = City Council

CPSC = Community and Public Services Committee

Exec = Executive Committee

IRCD = Inter-municipal and Regional Development Committee

UPC = Urban Planning Committee