

# All Edmonton Transit Service bus routes are changing mid-2021

Based on the feedback from one of the largest public engagement initiatives ever undertaken by the City of Edmonton, Edmonton Transit Service (ETS) is modernizing how public transit is delivered. This means almost every bus route in the city will be brand new to provide a better experience for riders. It will result in existing routes and services evolving to provide a more efficient service. The new routes will better match customers' differing needs in the inner and outer areas of the city.

## Why we're moving the launch

The new network was scheduled to launch in August 2020. However, due to the City's focus on the COVID-19 pandemic, the rollout of the new network is being postponed until mid-2021. This is a significant change so we want to make sure customers are properly prepared and our staff are ready to help them navigate the new routes. The current network remains in place until then.

## Features of the new network

## Frequent network

Central areas of the city (75 Street to 170 Street and Whitemud Drive to 132 Avenue) will have more frequent service with buses coming every 15 minutes or better at most times of the day.

## **Rapid routes (express)**

Suburban areas of the city will have express service to downtown destinations during rush hour, and these routes will have a fewer number of stops.

#### Local routes

There will be many local routes that connect neighbourhoods to local destinations and other routes. In many neighbourhoods, service will be extended later into the evening and on weekends.

#### **Crosstown routes**

These routes will connect key destinations in suburban areas in the four corners of the city without going through downtown.

## **Community routes**

ETS will continue to provide some community routes. These routes typically run in the midday and connect people to local services such as shopping malls, medical centres and seniors' residences. They have shorter walking distances to a transit stop than other bus routes.

#### On Demand Transit for Selected Neighbourhoods

Customers will be able to book a ride on an accessible vehicle by using an app on a smart device, telephone or website. A small bus with a professionally-trained driver will carry customers between set pick-up points in their neighbourhood and the designated transit hub.

#### **Proposed Timeline for New Network**

#### Spring 2019

What We Heard report contains a summary of all public and community stakeholder feedback about the proposed new network.

#### November 2019

Proposed bus network and new transit service standards approved by City Council. On Demand Transit approval followed in March 2020.

#### Winter 2020

Installation of new bus stop signs begins.

#### Winter 2021

Help customers prepare for the proposed network roll out. This includes trip planning tools and new route maps.

## **Mid-2021 - Launch Day** *City staff on site to help transit customers use the proposed network.*

#### September 2021

City staff on site to assist transit customers returning to school.

### Information

For more information, visit **edmonton.ca/newbusroutes**. Online trip planning tools will be available at **takeETS.com** before the new bus routes rollout in mid-2021.