

LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT IN EDMONTON



1951

The vision for a more efficient, environmentally-friendly public transit, including Light Rail Transit (LRT), begins.

1961

Superintendent D.L. (Don) MacDonald submits the first report to city council on the benefits of LRT.

1960s

Edmonton's oil prosperity brings growth

The city grows to just under 270,000 people.

1981

A 2.2 kilometre LRT extension to Clareview station opens.

1983

All riders' needs considered

The Bay and Corona LRT stations open up. For the first time, accessibility features are added, such as elevators.

1989

Grandin Station opens at the Government Centre, near Alberta's Legislature.

2001

Customer service further improves

The City partners with Telus and installs public TTY payphones in all LRT stations.

2001

LRT gets a fresh, new look

The new updated Clareview LRT Station opens.

2003

LRT is 25 years old

Edmonton's LRT system celebrates 25 years of service. Monthly pass for seniors introduced.

2004

The ETS Trip Planner becomes available.

2005

More inclusive and customer focused

The Mobility Card for persons with disabilities is improved. A subsidized monthly transit pass for Edmonton AISH recipients becomes a regular, ongoing program.

2006

LRT continues to grow

The Health Sciences LRT Station opens making the track 12.9 kilometres long.

2008

Innovative customer service starts up

The City of Edmonton starts 311, a service that lets residents access information on city programs and services, including transit information.

2009

The Bay LRT station is re-named Bay/Enterprise Square and the Health Sciences LRT station is re-named Health Sciences/Jubilee. New LRT stations open at South Campus and McKernan/Belgravia. Council accepts LRT Network Plan.

2010

LRT reaches more Edmontonians

LRT service to Southgate and Century Park begins.



1951

1961

1971

1981

1991

2001

2011

2018



1970s

More people call Edmonton home

More than 400,000 people live in Edmonton.

Edmonton becomes the first city in North America with fewer than one million people to start the construction of a Light Rail Transit (LRT) line. The line is 7.2 kilometres and costs \$65 million.

1978

The LRT begins in Edmonton

Edmonton's first LRT system starts operation... from Belvedere to the Coliseum and Stadium Stations, then to the Churchill and Central Stations.

1992

LRT moves south and across the river

Despite some debate and controversy of whether the LRT needed to cross the river, construction and extension to the University LRT station proceeds and the LRT grows from 9.9 to 12.3 kilometres.

1995

Accessibility becomes a key service

Accessibility becomes a big focus of Edmonton's public transportation system. Mobility Choices give customers different travel options. A pilot project to test accessible ramps on LRT cars begins.

1996

Internet and culture meet the LRT

Edmontonians can now find transit information via the Internet. The Churchill LRT station has a sculpture, 'Ridden Down' by Alberta artist Clay Ellis, installed.

1998

Celebration and renewal

LRT's 20th anniversary. The following year, Central LRT Station receives a mural commemorating 20 years of LRT service in Edmonton.

The newly updated Belvedere LRT Station starts operation.

2011

Accessibility increases

The City launches its text messaging service. Riders receive schedule information through texts. The Paid Park & Ride project starts at Clareview, Belvedere, Stadium and Century Park LRT parking lots.

2012

Aboriginal art panels are added along the South LRT line.

2013

LRT lines receive official name status

The existing and future LRT lines are named - Capital Line, Metro Line, Energy Line, Valley Line and Festival Line. LRT celebrates its 35th

anniversary providing service from Clareview to Century Park and 13 other LRT stations. A digital television network is added to LRT stations, giving announcements about working escalators and elevators, weather and news.

South Campus Station is renamed South Campus/Fort Edmonton Park Station.

2014

On the Capital Line, between Stadium and Churchill stations, the LRT carries more than 15,000 passengers on weekdays. For the Capital Line, between McKernan/Belgravia and Health Sciences stations, the most heavily travelled section, the LRT carries more than 22,000 passengers.

2015

The Metro Line LRT from Churchill downtown station to Grant MacEwan and to NAIT starts up. Expected ridership is 13,200.

2016

Valley Line begins

Construction on the first phase of the Valley Line LRT, from downtown to Mill Woods, began in the spring.

2017

Edmonton Transit System (ETS) publicly announces its new name, Edmonton Transit Service.

