



FactSheet

SouthLRT

April 2009

South LRT Extension

Making public transit more accessible and efficient

In January 2006, the City of Edmonton opened the Health Sciences Station – the first new LRT station in 14 years and the first completed phase of the South LRT Extension. By the end of construction 2009 another 7.8 kilometers was added.

Current weekday ridership of 50,000 is expected to double by the time it reaches Century Park (Heritage Mall) in 2010. Passengers will be able to travel from Clareview to South Campus in 24 minutes one way and from Clareview to Century Park in 34 minutes one way.

The South LRT extension includes four new stations:

- McKernan/Belgravia and South Campus officially opened April 25, 2009; and
- Southgate and Century Park opening April 2010.

LRT Route

The LRT travels south from the Health Sciences Station at U of A, along the west side of 114 Street. After stopping at McKernan/Belgravia Station (76 Avenue/114 Street), it continues south to Belgravia Road. The LRT travels underneath Belgravia Road and emerge west of the Neil Crawford Centre. It stops at the South Campus LRT Station and Transit Centre (Foote Field). This section was officially opened April 25, 2009.

When the South LRT extension is completed and opened in 2010, it will continue south and curve east near the Alberta School for the Deaf. South of 61 Avenue it will curve south and travel underneath the southbound lanes of 111 Street to emerge in the median (opposite the Lendrum Shopping Centre). It will continue south in the median of 111 Street to the Southgate LRT Station, then move south across the Whitemud Drive on a special LRT bridge, to the Century Park LRT Station.



Construction Features

- A pedestrian underpass under 114 Street at 76 Avenue.
- Two LRT underpasses – a 114-metre tunnel under Belgravia Road, and a 90-metre underpass beneath the southbound lanes of 111 Street to bring the LRT into the median, south of 61 Avenue.
- A one-way bridge connecting buses and pedestrians from the South Campus Transit Centre to Fox Drive.
- Two bridges – one over Belgravia Road for the busway and one over Whitemud Drive for the LRT.
- 26 new LRVs (Light Rail Vehicles) have been ordered. The first train arrived in May 2008.
- A fully landscaped multi-use recreation trail follows the entire length of track.

Planning – a public process

The City has worked with community members, stakeholder groups and neighbouring institutions to develop South LRT Extension Concept Plans. These plans include decisions around key issues such as track alignment, station location, pedestrian access and crossings, noise barriers, landscaping decisions, plans to manage impact on traffic, and community safety issues. The plans are approved by City Council.

South LRT Extension Concept Plans

University Station to the Health Sciences Station

- Approved November 21, 2000

Health Sciences Station to Belgravia Road

- Approved June 26, 2001

Belgravia Road to 54 Avenue

- Approved September 17, 2003

54 Avenue to Century Park

- Approved February 13, 2007

Governments working together

With a total budget of \$675 million, the South LRT Extension from the Health Sciences Station to Century Park is jointly funded by the City of Edmonton, the Government of Canada, and the Government of Alberta.