



# Public Involvement Downtown LRT Connector

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

April 2011

## Background

Following City Council's approval of the Downtown LRT Connector Corridor study on June 21, 2010, a Concept Planning study was initiated to define where the LRT would fit within the approved corridor, where LRT stops would be located, and what type of access changes would be required for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists.

A public involvement process was initiated to support the planning study, and to identify local issues and impacts that needed to be addressed through the planning process.

### ***September to October 2010 – Review options***

A number of options for the LRT alignment, LRT stop locations, pedestrian and cyclist connections, and vehicle access changes were reviewed with a broad range of community, commercial/business, active transportation, transit user and institutional stakeholders. Over 120 people participated by attending presentations, interviews, and by completing online questionnaires.

### ***November 2010 – Collect feedback on draft Concept Plan***

With consideration of technical study and stakeholder input, a draft Concept Plan was developed and presented to the public at an open house on November 2, 2010. A total of 148 people attended that open house.

### ***December 8 2010 – Non-Statutory Public Hearing***

An information report was presented to the Transportation and Public Works Committee. Feedback from the November open house was presented to Council. Presentations were made by Edmontonians to share their views on the draft Concept Plan.

### ***January to April 2011 – Refinement of Concept Plan***

The City met with stakeholders to further identify potential issues and concerns. Both parties worked together to find solutions where possible.

## Key Themes

There is overarching support for additional LRT service in the Downtown, which is a benefit to the businesses, institutions and communities in the area, and as a focal point for continued growth and expansion of the City.

LRT is seen by many as a way to improve access to and from downtown Edmonton and to therefore increase business and facility use. There is a desire for enhanced pedestrian and cyclist facilities and connections to major destination points.

The removal of vehicle capacity and decreased access to adjacent parkades along the corridor is of concern to a segment of the population. The balance between maintaining vehicle access and enhancing pedestrian and cyclist facilities with LRT is a competing theme.

There were also competing interests suggesting that recommended station locations need to be closer to individual locations to be of optimal benefit. Others noted concerns about safety, security and access impacts with stations located too close to their buildings.

Another segment of the population raised concerns about pedestrian and cycling circulation along the corridor. While many indicated support for a balanced approach that saw enhancements for cyclists and the addition of bike lanes in places along the corridor, another segment of the population has noted concerns that the cycling lanes are not continuous along the corridor, and many have indicated a preference that 102 Avenue be closed to vehicle traffic to allow for continuous bike lanes.

Communities in the eastern portion of downtown expressed concerns about the proposed station, tunnel and portal location, as well as the corridor itself.

## Where We Are

A recommended Concept Plan will be presented to the Transportation and Public Works Committee. Edmontonians will have the opportunity to present their views about the plan.

**Wednesday, May 25, 2011**

**9:30 am - 5:30 pm**

**River Valley Room**

**Main Floor, City Hall**

**1 Sir Winston Churchill Square**

### To register to speak:

- Visit [www.edmonton.ca/meetings](http://www.edmonton.ca/meetings) and register online
- Call the Office of the City Clerk: 780-496-8178
- Fax your contact information: 780-496-8175

For a copy of the LRT Concept Plan report that will be presented to the Transportation and Public Works Committee, or to submit written comments, please contact the Office of the City Clerk.

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Please note that all written submissions will be available for public review at the meeting and at the Office of the City Clerk.

If you have questions about the content of the LRT Concept Plan proposal, please call Erum Afsar at 780-423-4732.