



Glenwood

My name is Andrew Knack and I am fortunate to be serving as the City Councillor for Ward 1 which includes the community of Glenwood. Although I have the opportunity to meet with residents while attending community events and meetings, I also like to go door-knocking to chat with people one-on-one. That gives me the opportunity to connect with those who are not able to attend the public meetings and gather a wide range of feedback. As you may have additional questions or comments not covered here, please feel free to contact me using the information in the page header.

Valley Line West LRT - Update from Transforming Edmonton *(provided by the City of Edmonton LRT Project Team)*

2019 was a busy year for the Valley Line West LRT project and 2020 is shaping up to be even busier. From utility construction to building surveys to land acquisition, and more, work is continuing all along the alignment to prepare for future LRT construction. If you live or commute along the route, you've likely already seen these signs of progress for Edmonton's largest infrastructure project to date.



Misericordia Station Rendering

Procurement

We're relaunching our competitive process to find a contractor to build the Valley Line West LRT. The project will be delivered using a design-build-finance (DBF) model, which requires the successful bidder to design and build the Valley Line West project, and provide partial financing. Including a financial requirement helps to protect the public by holding back payments. These holdbacks create a strong incentive for the contractor to fulfil its obligations.

Procurement kicked off January 7 with a Request for Qualifications, which invites potential contractors to demonstrate their experience and ability to deliver a project of this scope. The successful bidder will be selected by December 2020 and construction on the project is expected to be completed by 2027.

The new strategy comes after two of the three shortlisted teams withdrew from the previous process in July 2019 due to changes within the construction industry. The City temporarily paused procurement to fully understand how the construction industry had changed and to consider our options.

Valley Line West is fully funded. Both the provincial and federal governments have committed to the project, and on April 30, 2019, City Council applied the municipal funding contribution.

The provincial and federal governments are contributing approximately 80 per cent of the project's total costs — about \$1.04 billion from the Alberta government and \$948 million from the Canadian government. The City is providing the remaining 20 per cent, which is about \$444 million. During December 2019 budget discussions, Council confirmed its commitment to moving forward with the project.

"As we build a city for 2 million people, we need to grow sustainably and ensure our neighbourhoods are vibrant, walkable and integrated," says Bruce Ferguson, Branch Manager for City of Edmonton LRT Expansion and Renewal. "LRT is a critical part of that vision and the backbone of our city's integrated transit and transportation network. The Valley Line West will help us transform Edmonton by providing an easy and efficient way to move around while encouraging transit oriented development along the route."

Utility Relocations

A major part of preparing for LRT construction happens underground. We might not realize it every day, but a complex grid of water, gas, electric and telecommunications utilities are beneath our roads and sidewalks. It's a big job to relocate things like electricity vaults, sewer lines and water mains so we can make way for incoming LRT infrastructure.



We appreciate the patience of commuters in the city, and particularly west Edmonton, as utility companies such as Epcor, ATCO and many more work to complete these important preparations.

We've made a lot of progress so far on 87th Avenue, 104th Avenue, Stony Plain Road and 156th Street. In fact, thanks to our utility partners, we've completed 140 utility relocations so far. Here's a breakdown of some of the major work:

- Large storm and sanitary sewer trunk relocations along 87 Avenue.
- Moving power lines underground at 87 Avenue and 170 Street.
- Gas line relocations on 104 Avenue and Meadowlark Road
- Water main relocations on Stony Plain Road, 104 Avenue and 156 Street.
- Fire hydrant relocations on 87 Avenue, Stony Plain Road and 104 Avenue.
- Manhole removals and construction of new shafts and manholes along 87 Avenue.
- Median removals on 104 Avenue.
- Electricity vault relocation and watermain relocations downtown at 102 Avenue.
- And more!

In 2020, we're on track to complete another 130 utility relocation projects, including major work continuing on 102nd Avenue downtown, 104 Avenue, Stony Plain Road and 87 Avenue.

Building Condition Surveys

In 2019, our teams of engineers completed building condition surveys on more than 430 properties next to the Valley Line West LRT alignment. These surveys help to protect property owners in the unlikely event that future LRT construction causes any damage to properties next to the route, by ensuring existing building conditions are documented before major construction work on the LRT begins in 2021. In 2020, our engineers expect to visit more than 250 properties and are on track to finish this work by summer 2020.

Stay Connected

If you would like to keep in touch to learn about upcoming meetings, important items coming to council, and ways to provide feedback, you can sign up for my newsletter by following the link on my website AndrewKnack.com. I host quarterly community meetings, visit seniors residences and facilities throughout the year, attend numerous events, and write blog posts regularly on my website. I always enjoy hearing from residents so feel free to contact me anytime.

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Community Conversation

Tuesday, March 24th, 2020, 5:30-7:30pm at the Belmead Community League

Approximately every three months I hold a community conversation to provide updates on current issues throughout Edmonton and to get input on the topics that matter most to you.

My next Ward 1 Community Conversation is on **March 24th from 5:30-7:30pm at the Belmead Community League Hall, 9109 182 Street.**

Please call 311—7am to 7pm, seven days a week, or email 311@edmonton.ca for access to City of Edmonton information, programs and services.