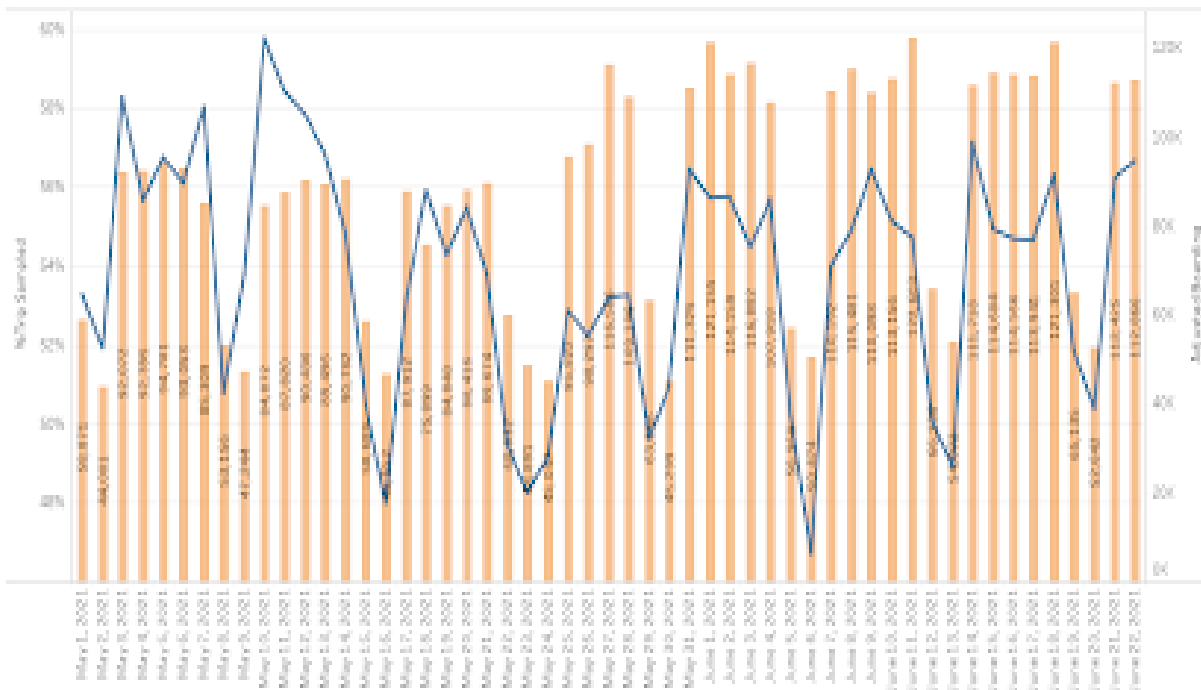


ETS Branch Highlights Report

Date: June 28, 2021

1. RIDERSHIP



The chart above shows daily boardings from May 1, 2021 to June 22, 2021.

Near the end of May, and throughout most of June, ridership levels recovered to 43-46% of pre-COVID ridership (when compared with this timeframe in 2019). This is up from 33-36% of pre-COVID ridership in early May.

While overall ridership usually trends down in the summer, we will monitor ridership closely to project September ridership when schools return and traditional vacation season ends.

2. ETS UPDATES

CUTRIC Membership Update

Edmonton Transit Service is now a member of Canadian Urban Transit Research & Innovation Consortium (CUTRIC) to share knowledge, data and experience about our electric bus fleet and learn more about alternative fuel options for bus fleets, like hydrogen and electrification. ETS is excited to support CUTRIC's objective to grow the low-carbon transportation network across Canada and North America, leading to job growth and economic development over the long-term.

Face Coverings on Public Transit

On June 25, City Council voted to end the mandatory indoor public places mask mandate on July 1. However, a Provincial order to use face coverings on public transportation and vehicles for hire will continue past July 1. Stage 3 of the Province's reopening takes place on July 1 and the general indoor provincial mask mandate will be lifted, but masking will still be required on public transit and vehicles for hire. Administration will follow up with more communication to the public as information becomes available.

City Council June 30th

On June 30th, City Council will discuss the [Safer for All Interim report](#) in response to the [Community Safety and Well-Being Task Force report](#) that made recommendations for services users and service providers to address systemic barriers and inequities and create policy changes to achieve better safety outcomes for Edmontonians.

The Safer for All Interim report includes acknowledgment of work done to improve safety and security on public transit Edmonton. The work plan confirms the partner organizations share a commitment to a more compassionate and inclusive city and have confirmed that significant work is underway. The work to create a safe, inclusive community remains and is urgent anti-racism must guide our actions, and the work plan outlines how the organizations will continue to move forward.

Also on the agenda on June 30th is the Amendment to the Conduct of Transit Passengers Bylaw 8353, to reduce the current fine amount for fare evasion from \$250 to \$150. The updated Bylaw also replaces the term loitering with inappropriate behavior that can reasonably be expected to interfere with the safety or comfort of others, including passengers and Edmonton Transit Service employees, to better promote safety on transit property. Prior to discussions around changing the fine amount for loitering, Transit Peace Officers moved to an assistance model for fare evasion offenders and non-destination riders. Providing assistance includes sharing connections to social services and supports, transportation connections to shelters, providing support for extreme weather conditions in winter and summer.

ETS is continuing work on improving transit and security through the summer with targeted consultation with key community stakeholders to further enhance the transit safety and security

framework, identify root causes and action planning to address safety concerns experienced by our diverse communities.

Government Station Update

Caution: this update references colonial and residential school violence. Please visit fnha.ca/residentialschools for more services and support

June marks National Indigenous History Month. We also continue to collectively feel the pain and grief about uncovering the remains of now 1,323 children in unmarked graves in residential schools across Canada. We acknowledge the genocide, remember the missing children, the families left behind, and the survivors of Canada's residential school system

For the past year, Administration has been a part of an Indigenous Working Circle process, engaging Indigenous Elders and residential schools survivors, as well as members of the francophone and Arts communities, to provide guidance on the original murals at the LRT station, renaming, interpretation and reconciliation efforts. These discussions continue to take place. It is important we take the proper time and care to truly listen and build meaningful relationships. Administration will take steps to rename the station in coordination with the Naming Committee and recommendations from the Working Circle.

On June 7, City Council directed Administration to remove the reference to Grandin from the Grandin LRT Station, work towards recommendation for a new name for the station, and remove the original mural of Bishop Grandin, a proponent of the residential school system. In the meantime, the station is now being referred to as the Government Centre LRT Station.

To date, Administration has worked quickly to cover the original murals in the LRT station, and the name on the LRT Station facade, wayfinding signage and system maps. Electronic destination signage and audio announcements on trains have also been changed to Government Centre. Administration continues to work to remove the name from digital maps, tools and various websites.

LRT Network Plan Update

City Council has approved \$333 million of municipal funding for the Capital Line South LRT Extension from Century Park to the Heritage Valley Park & Ride. Expanding the existing line will improve mobility and access to neighbourhoods in southwest Edmonton, increasing connection for all Edmontonians. Anticipated completion is scheduled for 2027. As part of extending the LRT further south, ETS will also add another LRT Operations & Maintenance facility in the area.

Earlier this year, work began on another major part of our LRT network: Valley Line West. The City's partner, Marigold Infrastructure Partners, is in the process of preparing project plans and designs and procuring major construction contracts. Geotechnical work is underway along the line, with construction set to begin later this summer. Construction will be in full swing in 2022. Construction also continues on the Metro Line extension from NAIT into Blatchford. The station is

being built and track is being installed, along with landscaping to accommodate the line. It's expected to be operational in 2025.

Expanding our transit network is critical to building a city for one million more people and to our economic recovery and connecting Edmontonians to the places that matter to them.

3. ETSAB INFORMATION REQUESTS

None.

4. ETS COUNCIL REPORT TRACKING - 2020-21

SIRE	Report Title	Meeting Date	Committee
CO00575	Amendment to the Conduct of Transit Passengers Bylaw 8353, to reduce the current fine amount for fare evasion	June 30	CPSC
COXXXX	Administration Response: Vulnerable Populations	August 10	UPC
COXXXX	Annual Safety & Security Update	October	TBD
COxxxx	DATS Program Service Enhancements Update	2022	TBD
COxxxx	Transit Safety and Security Annual Update	2022	TBD
CR 8198	Bus Network and On Demand Service Implementation Update	2022	TBD

*Not an ETS lead report

AC = Audit Committee

CC = City Council

CPSC = Community and Public Services Committee

Exec = Executive Committee

IRCD = Inter-municipal and Regional Development Committee

UPC = Urban Planning Committee