

# Transit Oriented Development GUIDELINES



Prepared by the City of Edmonton Sustainable Development and Transportation Services Departments

Approved by Edmonton City Council on February 15, 2012 in tandem with City Policy C565

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# INTRODUCTION

The Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Guidelines identify appropriate transit oriented development around LRT stations and transit centres. They assist the City, businesses and citizens to plan ahead for the integration of transit and land use in station areas.

The Guidelines align with *The Way Ahead*, Edmonton's Strategic Plan; *The Way We Grow*, Edmonton's Municipal Development Plan; *The Way We Move*, Edmonton's Transportation Plan; *The Way We Green*, Edmonton's Environmental Plan; and, *The Way We Live*, Edmonton's People Plan, aiding Edmonton's 30 year agenda to:

- Improve livability
- Shift transportation modes
- Sustain the environment
- Transform urban form
- Diversify Edmonton's economy

The Guidelines will be used to communicate the City's expectations and to assess rezoning or planning proposals by property owners, developers and their designers.

Additional context for the Guidelines can be found in the *Technical Report: Transit Oriented Development Guidelines*, prepared by the City of Edmonton Sustainable Development and Transportation Services Departments, November 2011.

### **GUIDELINE ORGANIZATION**

Figure 1: Organization of TOD Guidelines

LAND USE AND INTENSITY
GUIDELINES AND DESCRIPTIONS

BUILDING AND SITE DESIGN
GUIDELINES AND DESCRIPTIONS

#### **PUBLIC REALM GUIDELINES**

#### **BLOCK**

**GUIDELINES AND DESCRIPTIONS** 

#### PUBLIC BOULEVARD

**GUIDELINES AND DESCRIPTIONS** 

URBAN PARK AND PLAZA GUIDELINES AND DESCRIPTIONS

#### BICYCLE FACILITIES

**GUIDELINES AND DESCRIPTIONS** 

#### **ROADWAY**

**GUIDELINES AND DESCRIPTIONS** 

# URBAN DESIGN AND CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED) PRINCIPLES

The TOD Guideline tables (pages 15 to 54) are organized under the following four categories:

- Land Use and Intensity Guidelines
- Building and Site Design Guideines
- Public Realm Guidelines
- Urban Design and CPTED Principles

Land Use and Intensity Guidelines are unique for each station area type. Building and Site Design Guidelines, Public Realm Guidelines and Urban Design and CPTED Principles are universal for all station area types.

For each category of guidelines and principles, descriptions are also provided for explanatory and educational purposes.

#### LAND USE & INTENSITY GUIDELINES

 Land Use and Intensity Guidelines—identify minimum and maximum land use expectations for new allowable uses and Station Area Plans; all residential densities and employment intensities are net area calculations.

# BUILDING & SITE DESIGN GUIDELINES

 Building and Site Design Guidelines—describe qualities that foster the desired relationship between buildings and the street and provide appropriate transitions between shorter and taller buildings.

#### PUBLIC REALM GUIDELINES

The public realm is fundamental to the success of TOD. A quality public realm attracts and stabilizes private investment and ensures consistency throughout the station area. Public Realm Guidelines may be initiated by the City of Edmonton or by private developers. They include:

- Block Guidelines—identify maximum block dimensions and configuration expectations.
- Public Boulevard Guidelines—identify minimum dimensions, restrictions and pedestrian components required for new and improved public streets.
- Urban Park and Plaza Guidelines—identify sizes
   of public urban parks and plazas, and the types of
   amenities.
- Bicycle Facilities Guidelines—identify bicycle parking and travel route types required for new and improved public streets.
- Roadway Guidelines—identify roadway elements required for new and improved public streets.

#### **URBAN DESIGN AND CPTED PRINCIPLES**

 Urban Design and CPTED Principles—describe qualities that encourage appropriate design quality and reduce the potential for crime in station areas.

# **APPLYING THE GUIDELINES**

#### **HOW TO APPLY GUIDELINES**

The TOD Guidelines will be used in four ways.

#### Land Use and Intensity Guidelines

The TOD Guidelines will be used to evaluate rezoning applications on sites within 400 metres of existing or planned LRT stations or transit centres. In these situations, the Land Use Type and Intensity Guidelines will be used to evaluate whether the proposed location and intensity of the development are appropriate, based on the Station Type. The Land Use Type and Intensity Guidelines also provide land use expectations. These will be used in preparing and amending Statutory Plans for Station Areas both in infill and greenfield situations within 800 metres of the existing or planned stations.

When applying the Land Use and Intensity Guidelines, the size of the site takes precedence over the location of the site when determining residential density.

#### **Building and Site Design Guidelines**

The TOD Guidelines will be applied to the creation of new zones and overlays, or the modification of existing zones and overlays within the zoning bylaw. They reflect site and building design criteria appropriate for development around station areas. The Building and Site Design Guidelines will provide direction on what additional or new regulations should be included in:

- Standard zones
- Direct control zones
- Special area zones.

These can be applied to sites around LRT stations or transit centres.

#### **Public Realm Guidelines**

The TOD Guidelines will be used as a basis for rezoning large sites greater than or equal to one hectare, or creating new or amending statutory plans within 800 metres of an LRT station or 400 metres of a transit centre. The exact boundaries of the station area plan will vary from the 800-metre radius—especially for infill stations—depending on existing uses, development potential and other factors. The TOD Guidelines will be used in these situations to direct the location and design of elements in the Public Realm. This includes:

- Streets
- Block size
- Pedestrian and bicycle connections
- Urban parks
- Plazas

#### **Urban Design and CPTED Principles**

The TOD Urban Design and CPTED Principles will be universally applied for all projects within the Station Areas of existing or planned LRT stations or transit centres.

# Relationship Between the TOD Guidelines and the Residential Infill Guidelines

The TOD Guidelines determine the appropriate location and density of development within 400 metres of an LRT station or transit centre and provide guidance to Station Area Plans. The Residential Infill Guidelines guide the type and location of residential infill development beyond 400 metres of an LRT station or transit centre in mature neighbourhoods (Appendix 4).

In addition, the Residential Infill Guidelines contain a section relating to the development of large infill sites (one or more hectares in size). These Large Site Guidelines—which address items like amenity areas, heights, transitions, and street patterns—should be applied in conjunction with the TOD Guidelines in developing all large sites that are located within a station area in a mature neighbourhood (Appendix 4).

### Relationship Between the TOD Guidelines, Station Area Plans and Existing Plans

An approved Station Area Plan will supersede the TOD Guidelines. Where a Station Area Plan has been approved, the TOD Guidelines would no longer apply to the area outside the plan boundary but within 400 metres of the station. In mature neighbourhoods, the Residential Infill Guidelines will apply. A Station Area Plan may be undertaken within an area governed by an existing approved Area Redevelopment Plan, Neighbourhood Structure Plan, or Neighbourhood Area Structure Plan. Those plans would be expected to be amended to incorporate the TOD principles and applicable guidelines.

Figure 2: Residential Infill



#### Who Will Use the Guidelines

The TOD Guidelines will be used by public stakeholders, developers, City Administration and City Council to:

- Prepare, review, and approve rezoning applications for sites within 400 metres of existing or planned LRT stations or transit centres.
- Prepare, amend, review, and approve new or existing zones for development around LRT stations or transit centres.
- Prepare, review, and approve new statutory plans or amend existing statutory plans that include an existing or planned LRT station or Transit Centre

#### **Heritage Sites**

Heritage Sites designated and protected as a Municipal Historic Resource on the Register of Historic Resources in Edmonton are exempt from the Guidelines. Priority will be given to incorporating or repurposing those heritage resources on the Inventory of Historic Resources in Edmonton.

Figure 3: Designated Municipal Historic Resource



#### WHERE AND WHEN TO APPLY GUIDELINES

The Station Area is the area of influence for either an LRT Station or a transit centre. The different areas of influence are described in the following pages.

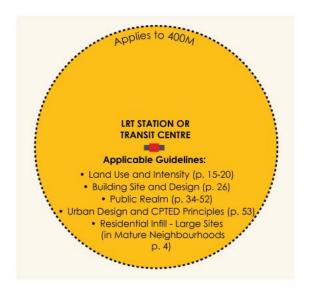
#### For Rezoning Applications

The TOD Guidelines will be used when reviewing rezoning proposals for sites within 400 metres of an existing or planned LRT station or transit centre. The Residential Infill Guidelines will be used when reviewing rezoning proposals for sites outside 400 metres of an existing or planned LRT station or transit centre and in a mature neighbourhood (Appendix 4).

Figure 4: Where to Apply Guidelines for Rezoning Applications around an LRT Station or transit centre for Sites < 1 hectare



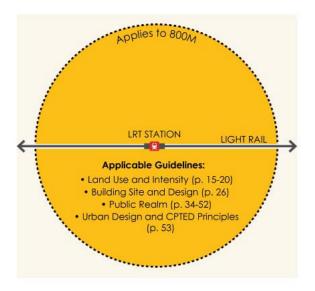
Figure 5: Where to Apply Guidelines for Rezoning Applications around an LRT Station or Transit Centre for Sites ≥ 1 hectare



#### For Statutory Plans (LRT)

Station Area Plans may be implemented through statutory plans. Statutory plans include Area Redevelopment Plans, Neighbourhood Structure Plans, Neighbourhood Area Structure Plans and Area Structure Plans. The TOD Guidelines will be used in preparing, reviewing or amending statutory plans within 800 metres of an existing or planned LRT station. The Residential Infill Guidelines will be used in preparing, reviewing or amending statutory plans for sites outside 800 metres of an existing or planned LRT station and in a mature neighbourhood (Appendix 4).

Figure 6: Where and When to Apply Guidelines for Statutory Plans around an LRT Station



#### For Statutory Plans (Transit Centre)

The TOD Guidelines will be used in preparing, reviewing or amending statutory plans within 400 metres of a transit centre. The Residential Infill Guidelines will be used in preparing, reviewing or amending statutory plans for sites outside 400 metres of a transit centre and in a mature neighbourhood (Appendix 4).

Figure 7: Where and When to Apply Guidelines for Statutory Plans around a Transit Centre



#### SPECIFIC APPLICATION OF THE TOD GUIDELINES

# Rezoning Applications within 400 metres of an Existing or Planned LRT Station or Transit Centre

The following process should be used to evaluate rezoning applications on sites located within 400m of an existing or planned station or transit centre. This will determine whether the rezoning application should be supported or not supported in situations where there is no Station Area Plan to guide zoning approval. Developers should also use the process to determine what type of densities to apply for around the Station Areas of LRT Stations and transit centres.

Where applicable, statutory plans will be amended to align with the TOD Guidelines.

Standard public notice and involvement processes will be followed for all rezoning applications.

Figure 8: Evaluating Rezoning Applications

DETERMINE STATION AREA TYPE USING STATION AREA TYPE MAP PROVIDED IN TOD GUIDELINES

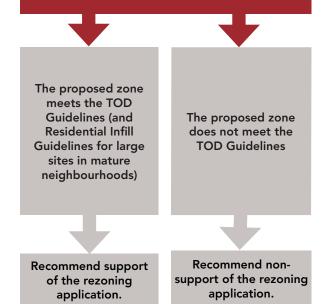


### Consider whether the proposed zone:

- Meets the TOD Guidelines for Land Use and Intensity.
- Meets the TOD Guidelines for Building and Site Design.
- Meets the TOD Urban Design and CPTED Principles.

When the proposed zone is a DC2 zone on a site of 1 or more hectares, also consider if the proposed zone:

- Meets the TOD Guidelines for Public Realm
- Meets the Residential Infill Guidelines for development of large sites (in mature neighbourhoods -Appendix 4).



#### Preparation of or Amendments to Statutory Plans that include an LRT Station or Transit Centre

The following process guides the preparation of Station Area Plans or preparation of or amendments to statutory plans that include areas within 800 metres of an existing or planned LRT station or 400

Figure 9: Preparing and Evaluating Station Area Plans

DETERMINE STATION AREA TYPE USING STATION AREA TYPE MAP PROVIDED IN TOD GUIDELINES

meters of an existing or planned Transit Centre. The process should also be used by City Administration to evaluate Station Area Plans and determine whether to recommend support of the plan or plan amendment and by City Council to determine approval.

Standard public notice and involvement processes will be followed for the preparation or amendment of all statutory plans.

### Prepare a Plan or Plan Amendment that:

- Applies the Urban Design Principles to set goals and objectives of the plan.
- Applies the CPTED Principles.
- Applies the TOD Land Use and Intensity Guidelines to designate appropriate densities and land use around the station.
- Uses the TOD Building and Site Guidelines to create goals for how sites and buildings should be designed to create appropriate relationships between buildings and streets.
- Applies the TOD Public Realm Guidelines to define appropriate design and location of streets, blocks and urban parks within the plan area.

# APPLY FOR APPROVAL OF STATUTORY PLAN OR PLAN AMENDMENT

City Administration evaluate the proposed plan and determine whether it is consistent with:

- TOD Land Use and Intensity Guidelines
- TOD Building and Site Guidelines
- TOD Public Realm Guidelines
- TOD Urban Design and CPTED Principles

Plan meets or exceeds TOD Guidelines and support of the Plan is recommended.

Plan does not meet TOD Guidelines and non-support of the Plan is recommended.

Public Realm Guidelines are implemented through subdivision requirements and Engineering Standards. Land Use and Intensity Guidelines and Building and Site Guidelines are implemented through Zoning.

### STATION AREA TYPES

The assignment of a Station Area Type to each station area takes into account:

- Existing uses and their long-term viability
- The amount and location of potential development or redevelopment sites
- Existing amenities such as parks or open spaces
- Existing roadway traffic conditions, street grid and infrastructure
- Pedestrian and bicycle connectivity
- Physical barriers that might limit access to stations

The initial step in assigning Station Area Types included:

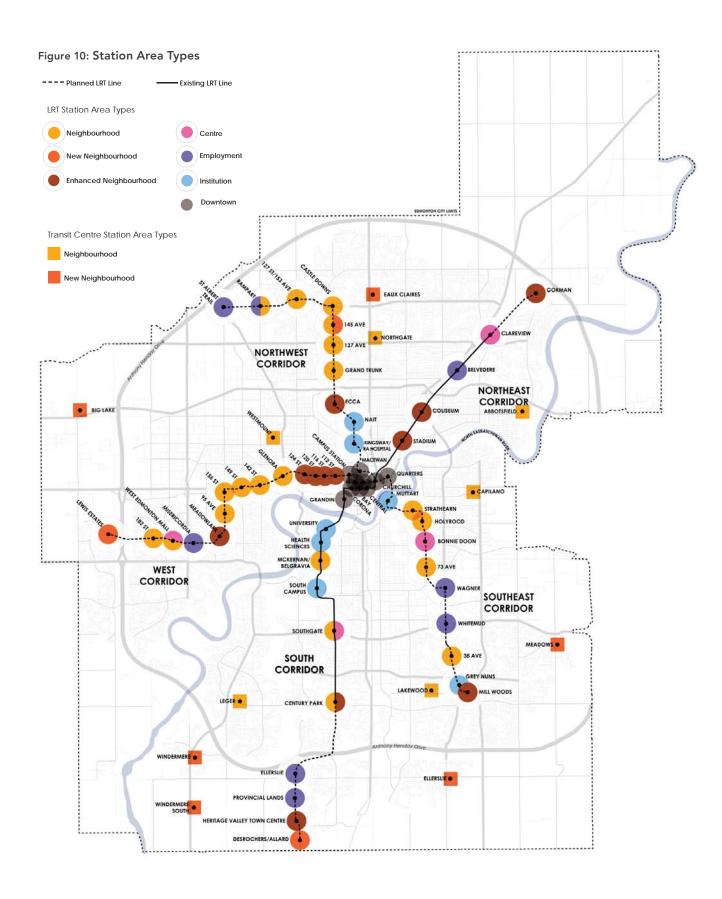
- Review of existing policy documents, population distribution models, and ridership analysis to establish overall anticipated job and residential populations for each LRT corridor.
- Assessment and evaluation of existing and planned LRT stations and line engineering based on their ability to support or discourage pedestrian- and street-oriented transitsupportive development.
- Assessment of each Station Area, in the context of its respective corridor, for its long-term development or redevelopment potential.

Based on these assessments, the following seven Station Area Types were identified and applied to each existing and planned station area:

- Neighbourhood
- New Neighbourhood
- Enhanced Neighbourhood
- Centre
- Employment
- Institution/Recreation
- Downtown

Half station types were assigned in five stations due to two distinct neighbourhood characteristics existing within one station area.

- 145 Ave
- Century Park
- Rampart
- Southgate
- West Edmonton Mall



# STATION AREA TYPE CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 11: Neighbourhood



Figure 12: New Neighbourhood



#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD**

#### Location

Infill development settings.

#### **Current Characteristics**

- Predominantly single-family homes.
- Condition and value of homes vary widely.
- A mix of multi-family, employment and retail uses may occur, especially at stations close to downtown and along arterial roadways.
- Street grids are typically present within more urbanized areas; fewer are present within suburban areas and often include cul-de-sacs.

#### **Appropriate TOD Characteristics**

• Infill-2 storey townhomes and duplex housing, except on arterials, collector roads and large sites where 4 storey apartment housing is appropriate. Neighbourhood serving retail uses, eating and drinking establishments and professional offices close to station. Improved pedestrian and bike access.

Land Use and Intensity Guidelines on page 15.

#### **NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD**

#### Location

 Predominately greenfield development settings.

#### **Current Characteristics**

- Predominantly undeveloped land and large redevelopable sites; in some cases, portions of the area may already be developed for predominately single-family housing.
- Large development or redevelopment sites.

#### **Appropriate TOD Characteristics**

- Infill-2 storey townhomes and duplex housing, except on arterials, collector roads and large sites where 4 storey apartment housing is appropriate. Neighbourhood serving retail uses, eating and drinking establishments and professional offices close to station. Improved pedestrian and bike access.
- Greenfield-2 to 3 storey townhomes and 4 storey apartments. Neighbourhood serving retail uses, eating and drinking establishments and professional offices close to station.
   Interconnected street grid interspersed with neighbourhood parks.

Land Use and Intensity Guidelines on page 16.

Figure 13: Enhanced Neighbourhood



Figure 14: Centre



#### **ENHANCED NEIGHBOURHOOD**

#### Location

• Infill and Greenfield development settings.

#### **Current Characteristics**

- No predominant use; existing uses vary from large redevelopment sites, such as the Edmonton City Centre Redevelopment, to existing shopping centres.
- Typically in close proximity to regional.
   employment, shopping or recreational uses
- Large development or redevelopment sites.
- Street grids may be present; however, large redevelopment sites may lack auto, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

#### **Appropriate TOD Characteristics**

- Higher density residential.
- Neighbourhood-serving street-oriented retail shops—grocery and drug stores and other anchor retail.
- Neighbourhood employment—professional offices and services.
- Neighbourhood urban parks.
- Street grid throughout.
- Improved pedestrian and bicycle connectivity through existing and surrounding neighbourhoods.

Land Use and Intensity Guidelines on page 17.

#### **CENTRE**

#### Location

• Infill settings only.

#### **Current Characteristics**

- Predominantly retail; existing uses may include shopping destinations such as West Edmonton Mall.
- Potential development sites consist mostly of parking lots or other low-intensity uses.
- Street grids typically absent; lacking pedestrian and bicycle access to residential areas.
- Regional auto access; adjacent to major roadways.

#### **Appropriate TOD Characteristics**

- Primary shopping destination.
- Higher density residential housing coupled with park amenities.
- Neighbourhood employment—professional offices and services.
- Street grid within development site.
- Significant street-oriented retail uses.
- Maintain and strengthen existing retail.
- Improved pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to surrounding neighbourhoods.

Land Use and Intensity Guidelines on page 18.

Figure 15: Employment



Figure 16: Institution/Recreation



#### **EMPLOYMENT**

#### Location

• Infill and greenfield settings.

#### **Current Characteristics**

- Predominantly undeveloped land or lowintensity employment.
- Regional auto access; adjacent to major roadways.
- Street grid absent within development sites.
- Poor bicycle and pedestrian connectivity to existing residential areas.

#### **Appropriate TOD Characteristics**

- Low-rise professional offices and services, such as corporate headquarters or research and development uses.
- Medical campus/hospital use.
- Major transit park & ride facility at select stations adjacent to major roadways.
- Street-oriented employment and neighbourhood serving retail.
- Higher density residential uses.
- Street grid throughout development sites.
- Improved pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to surrounding neighbourhoods.

Land Use and Intensity Guidelines on page 19.

#### INSTITUTION/RECREATION

#### Location

• Infill and greenfield settings.

#### **Current Characteristics**

- Predominantly educational or medical campuses or regional-serving recreation facilities.
- Land use and circulation frameworks are dictated by campus master plans.
- Medical and educational campuses have high transit ridership throughout the day.
- Recreational uses have high peak ridership during events.
- Street grid may be absent throughout campus sites.
- Pedestrian and bicycle access within campus boundaries.

### **Appropriate TOD Characteristics**

- Maintain/strengthen existing campus and/or recreation functions.
- Neighbourhood serving retail at stations eating and drinking establishments, convenience retail, small grocery and drug stores.
- Improved pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to surrounding neighbourhoods.

Land Use and Intensity Guidelines on page 20.

Figure 17: Downtown



#### **DOWNTOWN**

#### Location

Downtown area.

#### **Current Characteristics**

- A mix of uses is typical throughout.
- Most station land use and circulation frameworks are dictated by existing adopted bylaws and plans.
- Development sites vary in size and location.
- Interconnected street grid.
- Pedestrian and bicycle improvements vary.

# **Appropriate TOD Characteristics**

- Maintain/strengthen existing transitsupportive uses.
- Updated/supplemental bylaws and plans as needed.

Land Use and Intensity Guidelines on page 20.

# LAND USE AND INTENSITY GUIDELINES

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD STATION AREAS**

The Neighbourhood Station Area Guidelines for LRT stations and transit centres ensure that incremental small-site development is of an appropriate scale and fit. These areas are typically comprised of single-family residential neighbourhoods. Arterial and collector roads and larger sites provide an opportunity for more transit supportive densities, and the guidelines allow for intensification with

the provision that development is sympathetic to surrounding existing uses. The guidelines promote a mix of uses. Where opportunity sites meet fundamental real estate siting requirements for access and visibility, neighbourhood-serving retail uses are encouraged. These guidelines should be used in conjunction with the Land Use and Intensity Descriptions (page 21).

Figure 18: Neig	Figure 18: Neighbourhood–Land Use and Intensity Guidelines				
NEIGHBOURHOOD LAND USE AND INTENSITY GUIDELINES					
E	EXPECTATIONS FOR LRT AND TRANSIT CENTRE STATION AREAS WITHOUT STATION AREA PLANS				
	RESIDENTIAL (NET)	EMPLOYMENT	GROUND FLOOR RETAIL		
Sites within 400 metres of the LRT platform or Transit Centre	For sites 1.0 ha or larger:  125 du/ha min; or  For sites fronting or flanking a collector road:  42 du/ha min to 125 du/ha max; or  For sites fronting or flanking an arterial road:  63 du/ha min to 125 du/ha max; or  For all other sites:  42 du/ha max  Secondary or Garage or Garden suites are appropriate on selected sites.	Appropriate on arterial or collector roads, located above ground floor retail.	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking; or Appropriate on existing shopping centre sites of 2 or more ha. Auto oriented site design is not appropriate. Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.		
		OR ALL PLANS THAT INC ANSIT CENTRE STATION A			
	RESIDENTIAL	EMPLOYMENT	GROUND FLOOR RETAIL		
Area of application varies depending on the neighbourhood context and can extend up to 800 metres from the LRT platform or Transit Centre	Densities are the same as expectations for stations without a Station Area Plan, but these may be increased to accommodate the unique context of the specific neighbourhood.	Appropriate on arterial or collector roads, located above ground floor retail.  Should occupy no more than 20% of all net developable area within 400 metres of the LRT platform or transit centre.	Recommended 500 to 2000 m2 cumulative building area within 200 metres of the LRT platform or transit centre.  Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking, or on existing shopping centre sites of 2 or more ha.  Auto oriented site design is not appropriate.  Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.		

#### **NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD STATION AREAS**

The New Neighbourhood Station Area Guidelines for LRT stations and transit centres ensure that new development is of a greater density/intensity. This will maximize development opportunities on large-scale sites. The guidelines promote a mix of station- and residential-supportive uses, and ensure development in these areas is of an appropriate scale and form for greenfield opportunities, and

infill opportunities when applicable.

Planning and zoning will ensure that the proposed developments are of high architectural quality with a mix that establishes housing as the predominant use with market supportable mixes of retail, commercial and employment.

Figure 19: New Neighbourhood-Land Use and Intensity Guidelines

rigure 17. Item	Neighbourhood-Land Ose and	d intensity Guidennes				
	NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD LAND USE AND INTENSITY GUIDELINES					
E	EXPECTATIONS FOR LRT AND TRANSIT CENTRE STATION AREAS WITHOUT STATION AREA PLANS					
	RESIDENTIAL (NET) EMPLOYMENT GROUND FLOOR RETAIL					
Sites within 200 metres of the LRT platform or transit centre	For sites 0.25 ha or larger:  125 du/ha min; or  For all other sites: 63 du/ha min  Secondary or Garage or Garden suites are appropriate on selected sites.	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road.  1.0 FAR min	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking.  Auto oriented site design is not appropriate.  Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.			
Sites within 200-400 metres of the LRT platform or transit centre	For sites 0.25 ha or larger:  63 du/ha min; or  For all other sites:  42 du/ha min  Secondary or Garage or Garden suites are appropriate on selected sites.	Guidelines are the same as for sites within 200 metres of the LRT platform or transit centre.	Guidelines are the same as for sites within 200 metres of the LRT platform or transit centre.			
		OR ALL PLANS THAT COINSIT CENTRE STATION A				
	RESIDENTIAL	EMPLOYMENT	GROUND FLOOR RETAIL			
Area of application varies depending on the neighbourhood context and can extend up to 800 metres from the LRT platform or transit centre	Densities are the same as expectations for stations without a Station Area Plan, but these may be increased to accommodate the unique context of the specific neighbourhood.	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road.  Should occupy no more than 20% of all net developable land area within 400 metres of the LRT platform or transit centre  2.0 FAR min	Recommended 2000 to 14000 m <sup>2</sup> cumulative building area within 400 metres of the LRT platform or transit centre.  Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking.  Auto oriented site design is not appropriate.  Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.			

#### **ENHANCED NEIGHBOURHOOD STATION AREAS**

The Enhanced Neighbourhood Station Areas Guidelines allow a blend of appropriate station and residential supportive uses. They ensure development in these areas is of an appropriate scale and form for both large and smaller infill and greenfield opportunities.

Planning and zoning will ensure that the proposed developments are of high architectural quality with a mix that establishes housing as the predominant use with market supportable mixes of retail, commercial and employment.

Figure 20: Enhanced Neighbourhood-Land Use and Intensity Guidelines

ENHANCED NEIGHBOURHOOD  LAND USE AND INTENSITY GUIDELINES				
EXPE	CTATIONS FOR LRT STATI	ON AREAS WITHOUT STA	ATION AREA PLANS	
	RESIDENTIAL (NET)	EMPLOYMENT	GROUND FLOOR RETAIL	
Sites within 200 metres of the platform	For sites fronting or flanking an arterial or collector road, or on sites 0.25 ha or larger:  225 du/ha min; or  For all other sites:  125 du/ha min  Secondary or Garage or Garden suites are appropriate on selected sites.	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road.  1.0 FAR min	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking.  Auto oriented site design is not appropriate.  Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.	
Sites within 200-400 metres of the platform	For sites 0.25 ha or larger:  225 du/ha min; or  For sites fronting or flanking an arterial or collector road:  63 du/ha min to 125 du/ha max; or  For all other sites:  63 du/ha max  Secondary or Garage or Garden suites are appropriate on selected sites.	Guidelines are the same as for sites within 200 metres of the LRT platform.	Guidelines are the same as for sites within 200 metres of the LRT platform.	
EXP	ECTATIONS FOR ALL PLA	NS THAT CONTAIN AN L	RT STATION AREA	
	RESIDENTIAL	EMPLOYMENT	GROUND FLOOR RETAIL	
Area of application varies depending on the neighbourhood context and can extend up to 800 metres from the LRT platform	Densities are the same as expectations for stations without a Station Area Plan, but these may be increased to accommodate the unique context of the specific neighbourhood.	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road.  Should occupy no more than 20% of all net developable area within 400 metres of the LRT platform.  2.0 FAR min	Recommended 5000 to 20000 m² cumulative building area within 400 metres of the LRT platform. Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking or on existing shopping centre sites of 2 or more ha. Auto oriented site design is not appropriate. Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.	

#### **CENTRE STATION AREAS**

The Centre Station Area Guidelines allow a blend of appropriate station and residential supportive uses. They ensure development in these areas is of an appropriate density, scale, and form for all development opportunity sites. The uses allowed in the Centre Station Areas will include retail, office, commercial and higher density residential. Retail uses are expected to be the predominant use, with

a minor proportion of commercial and office uses. New development will focus around a corridor serving street-oriented retail centre. Residential use is desirable around these new centre areas particularly as transitional elements when adjacent or in proximity to mature neighbourhoods.

Figure 21: Cen	Figure 21: Centre–Land Use and Intensity Guidelines				
CENTRE LAND USE AND INTENSITY GUIDELINES					
EXPECTATIONS FOR LRT STATION AREAS WITHOUT STATION AREA PLANS					
	RESIDENTIAL (NET)	EMPLOYMENT	GROUND FLOOR RETAIL		
Sites within 200 metres of the platform	For sites fronting or flanking an arterial or collector road, or on sites 0.25 ha or larger:  225 du/ha min; or  For all other sites:  125 du/ha min  Secondary or Garage or Garden suites are appropriate on selected sites.	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road.  1.0 FAR min	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking.  Auto oriented site design is not appropriate.  Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.		
Sites within 200 - 400 metres of the platform	For sites 0.25 ha or larger:  225 du/ha min; or  For sites fronting or flanking an arterial or collector road:  63 du/ha min to 125 du/ha max; or  For all other sites:  63 du/ha max  Secondary or Garage or Garden suites are appropriate on selected sites.	Guidelines are the same as for sites within 200 metres of the LRT platform.	Guidelines are the same as for sites within 200 metres of the LRT platform.		
EXP	ECTATIONS FOR ALL PLA	NS THAT CONTAIN AN L	RT STATION AREA		
	RESIDENTIAL	EMPLOYMENT	GROUND FLOOR RETAIL		
Area of application varies depending on the neighbourhood context and can extend up to 800 metres from the LRT platform	Densities are the same as expectations for stations without a Station Area Plan, but these may be increased to accommodate the unique context of the specific neighbourhood.	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road.  Should occupy no more than 20% of all net developable area within 400 metres of the LRT platform.  2.0 FAR min	Recommended 14000 to 46000 m² cumulative building area within 200 metres of the LRT platform.  Auto oriented site design is not appropriate.  Appropriate on existing shopping centre sites of 2 or more ha; or  Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking.  Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.		

#### **EMPLOYMENT STATION AREAS**

The Employment Station Areas Guidelines encourage appropriate TOD supportive densities for employment uses in suburban settings. They ensure urban setting characteristics while located in suburban areas, and ensure development is of an appropriate density, scale, and form. Employment Station Areas have been located approximately 20 minutes by LRT from downtown to be complementary rather than competitive with downtown employment uses. Allowable uses include office, commercial, retail, higher density residential and park & ride facilities. However the predominant use is expected to be job based with

a high jobs per square metre ratio. Essential park & ride facilities may be provided in a manner that does not compromise either pedestrian access to the station or development opportunities. Residential uses would be highly desirable in the vicinity of these new job centres, particularly as transitional uses when in proximity to other neighbourhoods, but employment should still be the dominant use at these stations. Station Plans can prescribe an appropriate mix of uses. However where there is no station plan, residential uses should not be developed immediately adjacent to the platform prior to employment development to protect these areas for employment use.

Figure 22: Employment-Land Use and Intensity Guidelines

Figure 22: Emp	Figure 22: Employment–Land Use and Intensity Guidelines				
EMPLOYMENT LAND USE AND INTENSITY GUIDELINES					
EXPE	CTATIONS FOR LRT STATI	ON AREAS WITHOUT STA	ATION AREA PLANS		
	RESIDENTIAL (NET)	EMPLOYMENT	GROUND FLOOR RETAIL		
Sites within 200 metres of the platform	For all sites:  • 225 du/ha min  Secondary/Garage/Garden suites are appropriate on selected sites.	Appropriate. 1.0 FAR min	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking.  Auto oriented site design is not appropriate.  Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.		
Sites within 200 - 400 metres of the platform	For sites 0.25 ha or larger:  225 du/ha min or  For sites fronting or flanking an arterial or collector road:  63 du/ha min to 125 du/ha max; or  For all other sites:  63 du/ha max  Secondary or Garage or Garden suites are appropriate on selected sites.	Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road.  1.0 FAR min	Guidelines are the same as for sites within 200 metres of the LRT platform.		
EXP	ECTATIONS FOR ALL PLA	NS THAT CONTAIN AN L	RT STATION AREA		
	RESIDENTIAL	EMPLOYMENT	GROUND FLOOR RETAIL		
Area of application varies depending on the neighbourhood context and can extend up to 800 metres from the LRT platform	Densities are the same as expectations for stations without a Station Area Plan, but these may be increased to accommodate the unique context of the specific neighbourhood.  Should occupy no more than 30% of all net developable area within 400 metres of the Station Area.	Appropriate.  2.0 FAR min	Recommended 2000 to 8000 m² cumulative building area within 200 metres of the LRT platform.  Appropriate on sites with direct access to an arterial or collector road, supported by curbside parking.  Auto oriented site design is not appropriate.  Residential, retail or office uses can be accommodated on upper floors.		

#### INSTITUTION/RECREATION AND DOWNTOWN STATION AREAS

Each Institution/Recreation Station Area typically has its own unique needs. They often have specific existing applicable zoning regulations and uses and are usually defined by institutional master planning in anticipation of long-term institutional expansion. As such, detailed guidelines specific to Institutional Areas have not been proposed. Where no Institution/Recreation master plan exists, guidelines for the Neighbourhood Station Area Type will apply within 400 metres of the LRT station or transit station.

As Downtown Station Areas have highly specific and evolved existing applicable zoning regulations and plans, detailed guidelines specific to downtown have not been proposed.

Figure 23 Institution/Recreation-General Guidelines

# INSTITUTION/RECREATION GENERAL GUIDELINES

As individual projects, Station Area Plans, master plans or other major re-zoning or planning efforts are undertaken for Institution/Recreation Areas, particular attention should be paid to the Urban Design Principles to ensure the highest quality and best urban form achievable is demanded of these intensely developed and transit-supportive areas.

All proposed development, including new infill development, should be compatible with the existing context. Should the new development be adjacent or proximate to mature neighbourhoods, this must be achieved through the following:

- Use of quality and contextually-appropriate materials
- Compatible roof forms and façade composition.
- Articulation of building masses and façades to define scale.
- Screening and/or landscaping of parking, mechanical, and other elements incompatible with the surrounding context.
- Locating windows and entries to maximize privacy and minimize impacts for adjacent properties.
- Providing on-site amenities (landscaped areas, open space) appropriate to the scale of the development to buffer older, adjacent residential areas.

Figure 24: Downtown-General Guidelines

# DOWNTOWN GENERAL GUIDELINES

As individual projects, Station Area Plans, or other major rezoning or planning efforts are undertaken for Downtown areas, particular attention should be paid to the Urban Design Principles to ensure the highest quality and best urban form achievable is demanded of these intensely developed and transit-supportive areas.

All proposed development, including new infill development, should be compatible with the existing context. Should the new development be adjacent or proximate to mature neighbourhoods, this must be achieved through the following:

- Use of quality and contextually-appropriate materials
- Compatible roof forms and façade composition.
- Articulation of building masses and façades to define scale.
- Screening and/or landscaping of parking, mechanical, and other elements incompatible with the surrounding context.
- Locating windows and entries to maximize privacy and minimize impacts for adjacent properties.
- Providing on-site amenities (landscaped areas, open space) appropriate to the scale of the development to buffer older, adjacent residential areas.

# LAND USE AND INTENSITY DESCRIPTIONS

The graphics on the following pages illustrate land use and intensity expectations identified on the Land Use and Intensity Guideline tables. These descriptions should be used in conjunction with the guideline table.

Figure 25: 42 DU/HA (Dwelling Units per Hectare)



# 42 DU/HA RESIDENTIAL ROW HOUSE

The above image illustrates typical building form, scale and massing only. Building character can vary and will be determined by site context.

Figure 26: 63 DU/HA (Dwelling Units per Hectare)



# 63 DU/HA RESIDENTIAL STACKED ROW HOUSE

Figure 27: 125 DU/HA (Dwelling Units per Hectare)



# 125 DU/HA RESIDENTIAL LOW-RISE APARTMENT

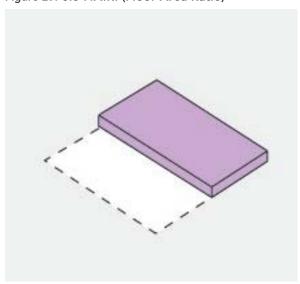
The above image illustrates typical building form, scale and massing only. Building character can vary and will be determined by site context.

Figure 28: 225 DU/HA (Dwelling Units per Hectare)



# 225 DU/HA RESIDENTIAL MID-RISE APARTMENT

Figure 29: 0.5 F.A.R. (Floor Area Ratio)

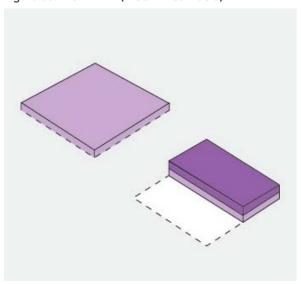




# 0.5 F.A.R. EMPLOYMENT

The above graphic illustrates an example of 0.5 F.A.R.

Figure 30: 1.0 F.A.R. (Floor Area Ratio)

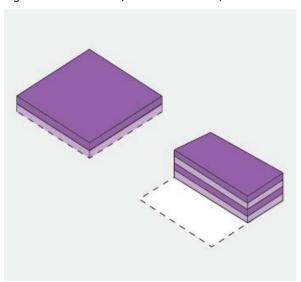




# 1.0 F.A.R. EMPLOYMENT

The above graphic illustrates examples of 1.0 F.A.R.

Figure 31: 2.0 F.A.R. (Floor Area Ratio)





# 2.0 F.A.R. EMPLOYMENT

The above graphic illustrates examples of 2.0 F.A.R.

# **BUILDING AND SITE DESIGN GUIDELINES**

The guidelines ensure that buildings activate and engage the public realm to contribute to a safe and active street environment. The character of new development should be compatible with surrounding existing uses. Opportunity exists to build upon the area's character or develop unique localities.

For residential uses, private and common amenity areas should be provided that are appropriate to the scale of development. Generally, all units should have some private amenity area. Apartment developments should include an indoor or outdoor common amenity space for use by the residents of the development. In the case of larger developments, a combination of indoor and outdoor common amenity should be provided.

Apartment developments should incorporate family suitable housing, particularly at the ground level where there is a private exterior unit entry and opportunity for a private at-grade amenity area. Apartment development, retail and employment uses should accommodate bicycle parking on site.

Parking requirements in LRT station areas and transit centres should be lower than outside of these areas. The separation of parking for residential land use and shared parking for non-residential land uses should be considered also in these areas.

The tables and diagrams on the following pages describe building and site design elements. These guidelines may be initiated by the City of Edmonton.

Figure 32: Building and Site Design Guidelines

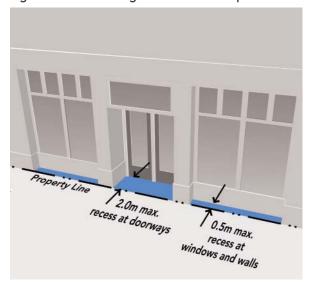
ALL STATION AREA TYPES BUILDING AND SITE DESIGN GUIDELINES				
		ALL USES		
Site Design	All buidings should front onto a street.  Parking for low, mid and high rise apartments, and commerical office buildings should be located primarily underground.  Surface parking should be located away from the street and designed in smaller clusters, separated by landscaped areas.  Retail and commercial buildings should be designed to create the appearance of small (10 m) regularly spaced frontages along the street.			
Building Design	Use of sympathetic, quality, contextually appropriate material.  Use of compatible roof forms and façade composition.  Articulation of building masses and façade to define scale.  Use of landscaping to screen parking, mechanical, and garbage areas.  Location of windows and entries to maximize privacy for adjacent properties.			
Transition	Development of 4 storeys in height: On sites abutting a single detached, semi detached, or row housing zone, the height of the abutting facade should be stepped down to the maximum height permitted in the adjacent zone so that there is a transitioning of height between the two developments to be more compatible in mass and scale.  Development of 5 to 6 storeys in height: On sites abutting a single detached, semi detached, or row housing zone, the height of the abutting facade should be stepped down to the maximum height permitted in the adjacent zone, and additional step backs should be incorporated into the building so that the bulk of the building is located away from the shared property line.			
	Development over 6 storeys in height should only be located where a Station Area Plan has been prepared to accommodate transitions or on a large site of 1 or more hectares so that appropriate transitions can be accommodated on site.			
	RESIDENTIAL USES	CIVIC/CULTURAL/EMPLOYMENT USES	RETAIL USES	
Building Setback from Street	3 metres max. for ground-floor uses.	3 metres max. for ground-floor uses.	0 metres max. for ground-floor uses.	
Entries	Ground level units fronting a street to provide a primary street-facing entry.  Ground level units fronting accessway or courtyard to provide a primary exterior entry.	Ground level uses fronting a street to provide a primary street-facing lobby entry.	Ground level to provide a primary street-facing entry.	
Transparency	50% transparency at street level.	70% transparency at street level.	70% transparency at street level.	

Building and Site Design Descriptions are on pages 28 to 33.

# **BUILDING AND SITE DESIGN DESCRIPTIONS**

The graphics on the following pages illustrate the expectations identified on the Building and Site Design Guidelines table. These descriptions should be used in conjunction with the guideline table.

Figure 33: 0 m Building Setback and Exceptions



#### **0 M BUILDING SETBACK**

Bringing buildings to the street-fronting property line results in an efficient use of land. Orienting ground-floor uses toward the pedestrian boulevard frames and encloses the public street.

For retail uses, buildings built to the public boulevard provide easy access for pedestrians and essential visibility for those traveling along adjacent roadways.

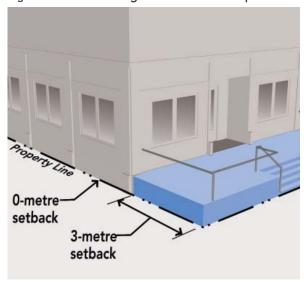
Setbacks apply to ground floors only. Buildings may be set back on any floor above the ground floor.

#### **Exceptions**

Within the setback, some door, window and wall recesses are permitted.

Additional setback may be required in the form of an easement to provide space for sidewalks or landscaping to enhance the public boulevard, where the public boulevard is less than 4 metres.

Figure 34: 3 m Building Setback and Exceptions



#### **3 M BUILDING SETBACK**

The 3-metre maximum setback encourages buildings to be placed near the street. This results in an efficient use of land. It orients the ground-floor uses toward the pedestrian boulevard, which adds to the vitality and safety of the street. It also provides a semi-private transition and separation between those traveling along public boulevards and those residing in adjacent buildings.

Setbacks apply to ground floors only. Buildings may be setback on any floor above the ground floor.

#### **Exceptions**

Within the setback, private or publicly accessible walks, patios, porches, steps, stoops, or terraces are permitted.

Figure 35: Residential Street Entries

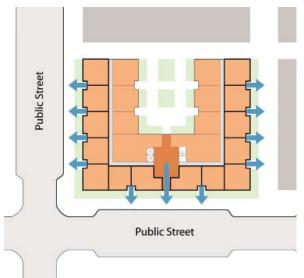
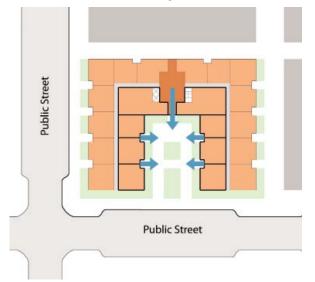


Figure 36: Residential Courtyard Entries

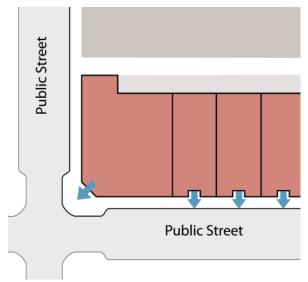


### **RESIDENTIAL ENTRIES**

Ground-floor individual dwelling units and main lobby entries should be oriented to the street or to a street-facing courtyard to contribute to the vitality and safety of station areas through 'eyes on the street' surveillance.

By locating entries facing the street, residents and visitors will enter and exit the building from the public boulevard, thereby activating and animating the public realm.

Figure 37: Retail Entries

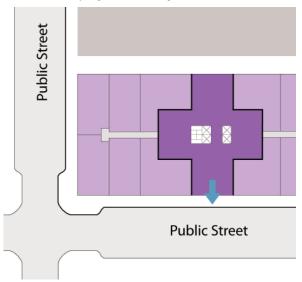


#### **RETAIL ENTRIES**

Individual retail shop entries should be oriented to the street to contribute to the vitality and safety of station areas through 'eyes on the street' surveillance and the use of pedestrian boulevards to access these uses.

- Primary business entries should face the street;
   Secondary entries are permitted along all other frontages.
- Retail entries should have at-grade entries fronting public boulevards; ramps or steps are prohibited.
- All doorway glazing should be transparent; tinted, reflective or other opaque materials or treatments shall be prohibited.

Figure 38: Employment Lobby Entries



#### **EMPLOYMENT ENTRIES**

Entries to main lobbies of ground-floor employment uses should be oriented to the street to allow direct access from the public boulevard, promoting activity on public streets.

Public Boulevard

Figure 39: 50% Transparency - Residential

### **50% LINEAR TRANSPARENCY**

A moderate degree of visibility through windows and/or doors is appropriate for all residential uses located at the ground floor.

- The percent of transparency is measured at 1.5 metres above the building's first finished-floor height to account for raised stoops or terraces, which provide privacy, and a transition and separation from the public boulevard.
- Linear transparency measurement encompasses the entire building frontage.

Public Boulevard

Building Edge

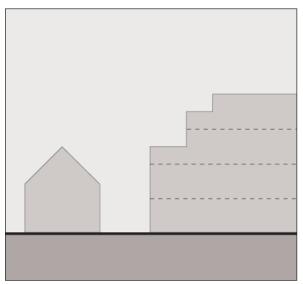
Figure 40: 70% Transparency - Retail and Employment

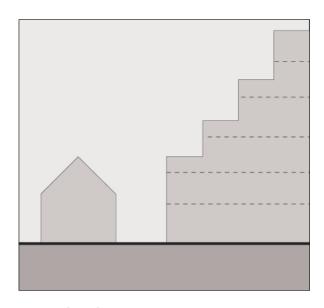
#### **70% LINEAR TRANSPARENCY**

A high degree of visibility through building windows and/or doors can support safe and active streets by creating a visual connection between pedestrians and building users. This level of transparency is appropriate for all retail and employment uses located at the ground floor. The opening:

- Is measured as linear metres of total building frontage.
- Should be measured 1.5 metres above the finished grade of the adjacent public boulevard to promote optimum visibility for passers-by.
- Should be entirely transparent with the exception of applied window signs that shall be no larger than 10% of any single opening.
- Should not include tinted, reflective or other opaque materials or treatments.

Figure 41: Transitions





#### **TRANSITION**

Single-Family / 4 Storey Row Housing / Buildings

#### **TRANSITION**

Single-Family / 5-6 Storey Row Housing / Buildings

As redevelopment occurs around station areas, there will be some instances where low- and mid-rise apartments develop adjacent to existing smaller scale row housing, duplex and single-family homes. New apartment developments should be designed to create a gradual transition in height, to address both the visual appearance from the street and the potential impacts of shadow and loss of privacy for the smaller scale existing development.

#### PUBLIC REALM GUIDELINES—BLOCK

Public Realm Guidelines will be applied in the following circumstances:

- Where the site is 1.0 hectare or greater.
- Where a statutory plan that includes an LRT station area or transit centre is created.
- Where a statutory plan within 800 metres from an LRT station or 400 metres from a transit centre is being amended.

The introduction of new blocks into the existing street fabric should be done in a way that affords appropriate connections and respects existing patterns. However, new block patterns must also appropriately address current needs for development types, multi-modal transportation goals, and pedestrian and bicycle access.

Figure 42: All Station Areas-Block Guidelines

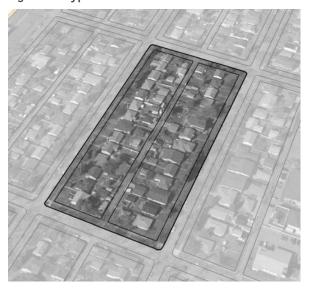
#### **ALL STATION AREAS BLOCK GUIDELINES EXPECTATIONS FOR LARGE SITES OR PLANS THAT CONTAIN** AN LRT OR TRANSIT CENTRE STATION AREA Thresholds All new development blocks are encouraged to have: • One mid-block accessway for block lengths greater than 130 metres or two mid-block accessways for block lengths greater than 200 metres (block lengths of greater than 200 metres should only exist in infill development settings). Element BLOCK MID-BLOCK **STORMWATER ALLEYS DIMENSIONS** ACCESSWAYS DETENTION Within 400 ■ 100 m width x 200 m ■ 10 m width (min). May be appropriate for Located in vaults or in Metres of blocks 85 m wide or length block size (max) bio-swales within curb Station Rectangular blocks greater. extensions Platform are to be oriented Prohibit stormwater For the Neighbourhood with the width facing detention (bio-swales) Station Area: the LRT alignment/ adjacent to the station ■ Provide a 6 m (min) corridors and the platform alley width, including length perpendicular a 4 m vehicle to the LRT alignment/ throughway. corridor. For all other Station Areas: ■ Provide a 6 m (min) alley width, including a 6 m vehicle throughway. Provide lighting at 50 m max. spacing.

Block Descriptions are on pages 35 to 37.

#### **BLOCK DESCRIPTIONS**

The graphics on the following pages illustrate the expectations identified on the Block Guidelines table. These descriptions should be used in conjunction with the guideline table.

Figure 43: Typical Edmonton Block

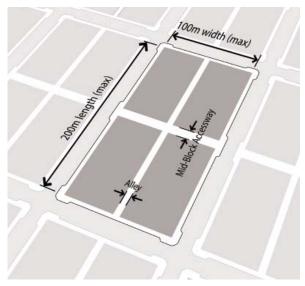


#### **EDMONTON'S BLOCKS**

Edmonton's street grid consists of numerous block sizes and patterns, reflective of the time period and topography in which they were built. Like many other cities, a block size was defined for downtown and residential patterns at the City's inception. As the City developed, the initial pattern was typically duplicated, though different eras and conditions led to some variety in block sizes.

Most blocks are rectangular—the shorter side representing the width and the longer side representing the length—and the blocks are roughly twice as long as they are wide. Block sizes vary from 75 to 100 metres in width and up to 250 metres in length. Most residential blocks have a mid-block service alley running the block length.

Figure 44: Maximum Block Size



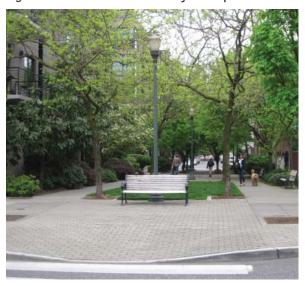
#### **BLOCK SIZE AND CONFIGURATION**

Block guidelines have been developed that:

- Establish appropriate maximum block dimensions.
- Permit the typical alley pattern.
- Introduce mid-block pedestrian/bicycle access ways.

Block dimensions, and the street grid they form, are among the most critical elements in ensuring a walkable and bikeable community. The connectivity established by smaller block dimensions and a greater number of multi-modal linkages will support transit ridership by providing more access routes to the station and disperse vehicle traffic to create livable communities.

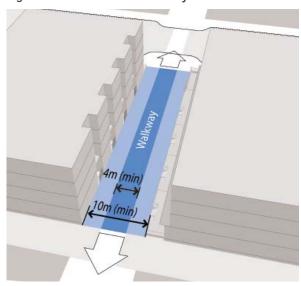
Figure 45: Mid-Block Accessway Example



#### **MID-BLOCK ACCESS WAYS**

Mid-block access ways should be publicly accessible 24-hours a day. This can be accomplished through public ownership or public easement.

Figure 46: Mid-Block Accessway



#### **MID-BLOCK ACCESSWAYS**

For redevelopment and new development, midblock accessways are encouraged to break up blocks of 130 metres or more in length and:

- Result in development sites with more pedestrian and bicycle connections, visual permeability, and pedestrian-scaled building footprints.
- Provide attractive linear amenities that serve as passive recreation spaces for adjacent housing, retail and employment uses.
- May include limited vehicle access for vehicle loading, drop-off and deliveries, and on-site private parking facilities.

Figure 47: Alley

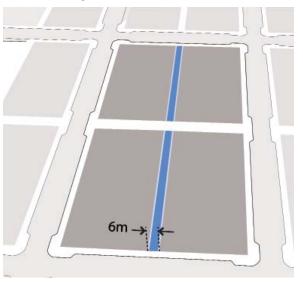


Figure 48: Alley in an Enhanced Neighbourhood



#### **ALLEYS**

Typical alleys in Edmonton provide a location for utilities and services that would otherwise be provided at the street. This pattern should continue.

Where appropriate, use of alleys is encouraged to break up development blocks of 85 metres or more in width in order to:

- Reduce the width of development sites to provide more pedestrian-scaled building footprints.
- Allow fewer vehicle access points on local streets and more on-street parking.
- Provide space for unsightly overhead utilities and trash storage and collection.

The 6m width allows two vehicles to pass, while providing a dimension and spatial proportion suitable for pedestrian and bicycle passage. Shallow utilities (i.e. cable and communications utilities) are recommended to be located within alleys to reduce visual clutter on the streets.

Alleys may not be appropriate for all development blocks because land use types and/or intensities may require larger floorplates.

#### PUBLIC REALM GUIDELINES—PUBLIC BOULEVARD

Properly designed public boulevards contribute to the quality and safety of the pedestrian environment. The Public Boulevards Guidelines define essential elements to best serve these objectives. Adequate dimensioning offers an appropriate space for passage and shopping. Well-scaled furnishing zones separate pedestrians and cars, and allow

for the placement of trees, streetlights, benches, landscaping, and other street serving elements. Undergrounding utilities where possible minimizes visual clutter and maintenance. Overhead weather protection creates gathering and viewing places while providing year-round protection from the elements.

For streets adjacent

 Provide canopyforming street tree varieties.

to the station:

#### Figure 49: All Station Areas-Public Boulevard Guidelines **ALL STATION AREAS** PUBLIC BOULEVARD GUIDELINES **EXPECTATIONS FOR LARGE SITES OR PLANS THAT CONTAIN** AN LRT OR TRANSIT CENTRE STATION AREA Public boulevard improvements are encouraged for development sites that extend from: Thresholds ■ Block corner to block corner. Alley to block corner. Mid-block accessway to block corner. Mid-block accessway to mid-block accessway. Uniform All new public streets should have public boulevards on both sides of the street that: • Are not less than 4 metres wide (minimum). **Expectations** Are universally accessible. Include the boulevard elements described below. All new development with a 0-metre setback should include overhead weather protection (i.e. awnings) that extends over the public boulevard and meets the following: Projection–1.5 m minimum on front building façade. Internal illumination of the awning should be discouraged. • Fascia signs-25 cm maximum. PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING UTILITIES **FURNITURE** STREET Elements **THROUGHWAY** ZONE TREES ■ 1.5 m width (min). Pedestrian-scaled For all block faces: Locate below ■ 2 m (min) width. lighting should Space trees 8 m grade with the Limit vehicle Paved or be provided apart (max) along exception of accesses to 2 per landscaped within the station block face. overhead LRTblock face. Locate trees in related utilities. area For streets adjacent Locate light furniture zone to ground-floor standard in within tree retail: furniture zone wells, grates or ■ Prohibit planters. driveways or

Public Boulevard Descriptions are on pages 39 to 41.

vehicle access

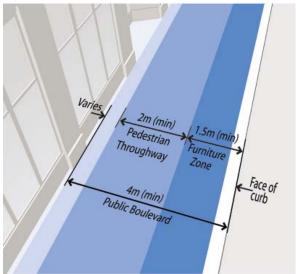
to alleys).

(except for access

#### PUBLIC BOULEVARD DESCRIPTIONS

The graphics on the following pages illustrate the expectations identified on the Public Boulevard Guidelines table. These descriptions should be used in conjunction with the guideline table.

Figure 50: Public Boulevard



#### **PUBLIC BOULEVARD**

To enhance pedestrian safety and comfort and encourage walking as a viable means of transportation in station areas, all new and renovated public boulevards should:

- Consist of unobstructed pedestrian throughway, furniture and curb zones.
- Meet the minimum dimensions for each zone.
- Be universally accessible.
- Consist of well-defined and quality-finished materials.

Adjacent to the station platform, non-LRT serving utilities should be located underground. Whenever possible, utilities should be located underground throughout the station area to prevent visual and physical clutter.

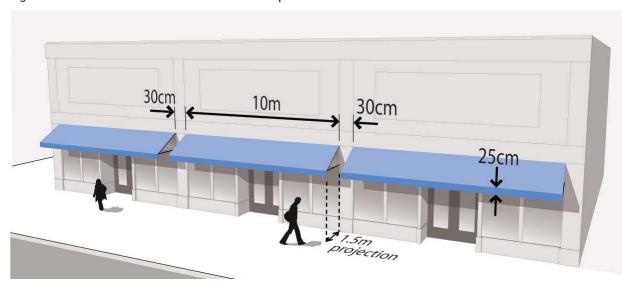
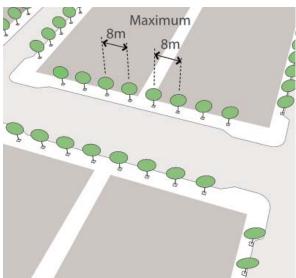


Figure 51: Overhead Weather Protection Example

#### **OVERHEAD WEATHER PROTECTION**

Sloped awnings and horizontal canopies provide rain and snow protection along building frontages. They support the attractiveness and success of retail when placed in those active storefront locations.

Figure 52: Street Trees



#### **STREET TREES**

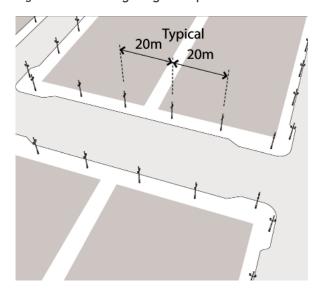
Appropriate tree species, spaced at 8 metres, enhance the quality of a station area's public boulevards. Street trees can:

- Provide a visual softening to the built environment.
- Buffer pedestrians from the auto environment.
- Minimize summer heat gain.

Street trees should be located within the furniture zone on public boulevards.

Street trees should be planted and maintained in accordance with existing City of Edmonton requirements. Street tree selection should conform to the City's approved street tree list.

Figure 53: Street Lighting Example



#### **STREET LIGHTING**

To contribute to the safety, quality, and vitality of a station area, the spacing, height and lumens of street lights should be considered. This is intended to:

- Ensure pedestrian-scaled lighting of sidewalks and crosswalks.
- Illuminate the public boulevard.
- Prevent auto-oriented street lighting.

Light standards should be located within the furniture zone on public boulevards.

'Dark sky' lighting should be considered. However, lighting can provide a sparkle, festive and even magical street ambiance, especially within retail districts. In no instance should this potential be compromised.

#### PUBLIC REALM GUIDELINES—URBAN PARK AND PLAZA

Major development projects provide an opportunity and responsibility to incorporate urban parks and urban plazas. Parks and plazas serve as amenities for people of all ages, during all seasons and during all hours of the day. The Urban Park and

Plaza Guidelines ensure that such spaces are properly scaled and incorporate the necessary amenities to best contribute to the safety, health, recreation, and economic vitality of the surrounding neighbourhoods.

Figure 54: All Station Areas-Urban Park and Plaza Guidelines

# ALL STATION AREAS URBAN PARK AND PLAZA GUIDELINES EXPECTATIONS FOR LARGE SITES OR PLANS THAT CONTAIN AN LRT OR TRANSIT CENTRE STATION AREA

#### Thresholds in One of the Following Situations

#### Urban parks are encouraged on sites within 400 metres of the station platform:

- In stations plans where there are no existing parks within 400 m of the station; or
- On large redevelopment sites with area greater than 6 net hectares (excluding streets) or greater than 9 gross hectares (including streets) where multi-family housing is proposed and where 20% or more of the site area is within 400 metres of the station platform.

#### Urban plazas are encouraged on sites within 200 metres of the station platform:

- In station plans for Enhanced Neighbourhood, Centre, and Downtown station types where there are no existing plazas within 200 m of the station; or
- On large redevelopment sites with area greater than 6 net hectares (excluding streets) or greater than 9 gross hectares (including streets) and where 20% or more of the site area is within 200 metres of the station platform.

#### Urban Parks

0.5 ha area (min)

1.0 ha area (max)

When provided may include:

- Public art.
- 50% turf (min).
- 1 public restroom (min).
- 10 benches or equivalent wall seating (min).
- 90 m<sup>2</sup> covered area/pavilion (min).
- Public streets, alley or midblock access way, on 3 sides.

#### Urban Plazas

0.25 ha (min) area

0.5 ha (max) area

When provided may include:

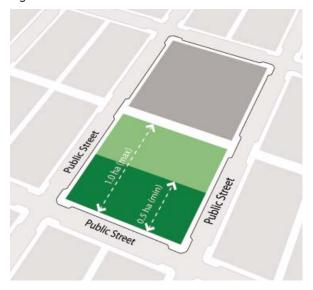
- Public art.
- 75% paved (min).
- 1 public restroom (min).
- 40 benches (min) or equivalent fixed/movable seating.
- 90 m² (min)/ 230 m² (max) retail pavilion if no other active edges are present.
- Public streets, alley or midblock access way, on 3 sides.

Urban Park and Plaza Descriptions are on page 43.

#### URBAN PARK AND PLAZA DESCRIPTIONS

The graphics on the following pages illustrate the expectations identified on the Urban Park and Plaza Guidelines table. These descriptions should be used in conjunction with the guideline table.

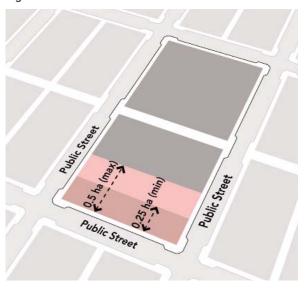
Figure 55: Urban Park



#### **URBAN PARK**

- Urban parks are intended to be primarily neighbourhood serving.
- Urban parks are intended to be the focus of adjacent surrounding development; adjacent buildings should be oriented toward the park.
- Parks may be either active or passive.
- View lines from adjacent public streets into and through the park should be maintained to ensure park safety.
- Parks may front or adjoin natural areas or open space.
- Multiple park blocks may be aligned to create promenades or other green corridors.

Figure 56: Urban Plaza



#### **URBAN PLAZA**

- Urban plazas are intended to be transit corridor serving.
- Urban plazas shall be allowed only when adjacent parcels have active ground-floor retail or public/civic uses.
- View lines from adjacent public streets into and through the plaza should be maintained to ensure park safety.
- Urban plazas should be designed for multiple use. Permanent and raised stages, amphitheatres, seating or other uses that limit flexibility are not recommended.

#### PUBLIC REALM GUIDELINES—BICYCLE FACILITIES

#### **BICYCLE FACILITIES GUIDELINES**

A complete system of appropriately sized and placed bicycle elements is key to increasing the number and safety of bike riders. Bike routes should be developed in a manner that is sensitive to the area type and roadway type. They should be consistent with connecting bikeway types, and in consideration of the broader bicycle transportation network. Specific bikeway types that will be typical of TOD areas are shared-use paths, separated bicycle lanes, bicycle lanes and shared lanes.

The development of any bicycle facility should be in accordance with the Bicycle Transportation Plan, and appropriate Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) guidelines. Bicycle Parking requirements should be in accordance with the Zoning Bylaw.

Figure 57: All Station Areas -Bicycle Facilities Guidelines

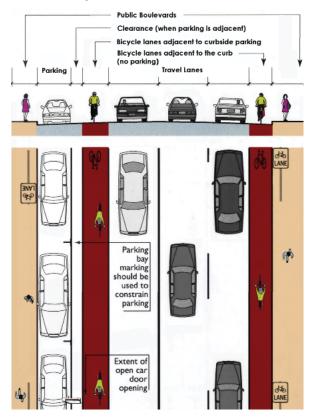
#### **ALL STATION AREAS BICYCLE FACILITY GUIDELINES EXPECTATIONS FOR LARGE SITES OR PLANS THAT CONTAIN** AN LRT OR TRANSIT CENTRE STATION AREA Thresholds Bicycle facilities are encouraged on roadways that connect directly to the station area. Bicycle facilities should be continuous within the broader bicycle transportation network. Bicycle facilities should be suited to the context of the roadway. Specific attention should be paid to the continuity of facility type within a broader context. · All new construction or major renovation of public streets must include bicycle parking (consistent with the Zoning Bylaw and Bicycle Transportation Plan). All major streets leading directly into the station should have a type of bicycle accommodation, and should Uniform connect into surrounding bike routes and major destinations. **Expectations** Routes and wayfinding signage should also lead to secure end-of-trip facilities. **SELECTED** Elements SHARED-USE SEPARATED BICYCLE **BICYCLE LANES SHARED LANES** INTERSECTION PATHWAY IANES **IMPROVEMENTS** ■ Both sides of the Both directions • One side of the Physically ■ Bicycle boxes, roadway separated bicycle roadway on roadway bike signals, Require minimal lanes (either Application Single file or pavement along one side of markings, etc. intersection and associated side-by-side the roadway, or May be crossings and applications signage in on both sides of conflicts with accordance with Application considered the roadway) TAC guidelines where volumes accesses and associated Application in and intersection Application signage in accordance with characteristics and associated accordance with best practices. TAC guidelines warrant. Used signage in in conjunction accordance with Consideration with major TAC guidelines must be given bicycle routes to minimizing and applied in intersection accordance with conflicts, and TAC guidelines continuity of facility type within a broader context

Bicycle Facility Descriptions are on pages 45 to 48.

#### **BICYCLE FACILITY (ON-STREET) DESCRIPTIONS**

The graphics on the following pages illustrate the expectations identified on the Bicycle Facility Guidelines table. These descriptions should be used in conjunction with the guideline table.

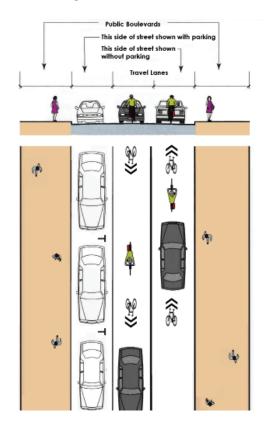
Figure 58: Bicycle Lanes



#### **BICYCLE LANES**

Bicycle lanes act as a guide to delineate areas on roadways appropriate for motorists and for cyclists. Bicycle lanes should be between 1.5 m and 2.0 m wide, marked on both sides of the roadway and located adjacent to the curb or parallel to street parking.

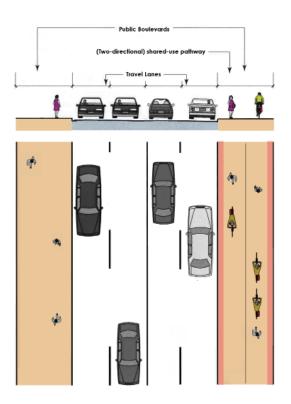
Figure 59: Single-File Shared Lane



#### **SHARED LANES**

Shared lanes are shared by motorists and cyclists, marked with sharrows, within the same travel lane either in a single file or side-by-side. Single file shared lanes are appropriate on roadways with a speed limit of 50 km/h or less. Side-by-side shared lanes are appropriate for a greater range of speed limits but are only appropriate for travel lanes between 4.1 m and 4.9 m wide.

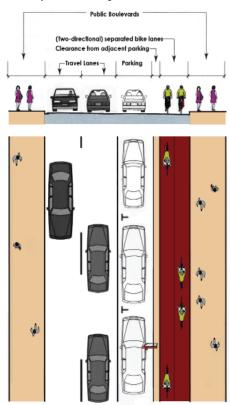
Figure 60: Shared Use Pathway



SHARED-USE PATHWAY

Shared-use pathways are generally open to all types of active mode users. This facility type offers a cycling experience separated from traffic. Cyclists must yield to traffic at roadway and access crossings, unless they dismount and cross the roadway as a pedestrian. Shared-use pathways are typically two-way facilities and at least 3m wide. When placed along roadways, shared-use pathways are typically only constructed along one side of the roadway

Figure 61: Separated Bicycle Lanes



#### **SEPARATED BICYCLE LANES**

Separated bicycle lanes restrict the use of the facility to bicycles and exclude use by other modes. The context in which separated bicycle lanes are implemented should be carefully considered. Infrequent crossings or interactions with other modes should be prioritized and parallel facilities for other active modes should be provided and clearly marked. Both experienced and inexperienced cyclists should experience a minimum delay and a high level of service on this type of facility.

#### **BICYCLE FACILITY (PARKING) DESCRIPTIONS**

Figure 62: Bicycle Parking Curbside Parking Lane



#### **BICYCLE PARKING**

Bicycle parking at the station should be provided at access points to or on the LRT Station or transit platform based on the Guidelines for Urban Style LRT.

When developing Station Area Plans, the amount of bicycle parking within the station area should be based on:

- The land uses contained within the plan
- The Zoning Bylaw
- The Bicycle Transportation Plan.

In the absence of a station area plan, bicycle parking should be addressed in a manner that is consistent with the Bicycle Transportation Plan and Zoning Bylaw. All new construction or major renovation of public streets must include bicycle parking.

Figure 63: Covered Bicycle Parking



#### **COVERED BICYCLE PARKING**

A proportion of bicycle parking must be covered, and should be provided at each station to accommodate long-term parking in a variety of weather conditions. Covered parking typically consists of standard bicycle parking racks with overhead and occasionally side coverage. Protection along at least one side of the enclosure may help to shelter the bicycle racks from snow and rain, and minimize the need for winter snow-clearing.

Figure 64: Bike Centre



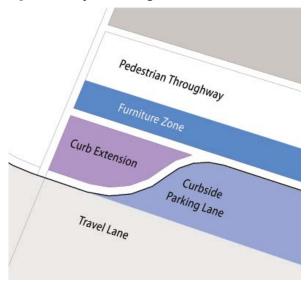
**BIKE CENTRE** 

A bike centre offers users/members secure bicycle parking and related amenities and services. Membership to most bike centres includes:

- 24-hour access to secure bicycle parking
- Bicycle repair equipment
- Snack bars and cafes
- Showers
- Lockers
- Change rooms
- Car-sharing services
- Discounts on retail sales
- Bike-sharing, and other perks.

A feasibility study could be undertaken to explore different opportunities to implement a bike centre (within the vicinity of the station) for areas where Station Area Plans are being developed.

Figure 65: Bicycle Parking Zones



#### **BICYCLE PARKING ZONES**

Bicycle parking can occur in one of the following three areas:

- Curb extensions—attention must be paid to the precise placement of the bicycle racks to keep the corner clear for pedestrian movements and auto sight lines.
- Parking lane-bicycle racks may be provided in lieu of vehicular parking, but should be protected by bollards and well-signed.
- Furniture zone—bicycle racks should be placed to ensure that bicyclists do not impede pedestrian passage, and be placed with consideration of adjacent furniture and vehicle access where curbside parking is provided.

#### PUBLIC REALM GUIDELINES—ROADWAY

Major development will result in the opportunity to establish high quality and TOD supportive streets. The Roadway Guidelines ensure that such streets will contribute to pedestrians' safety and comfort with weather and traffic protections. Curbside parking

contributes to safety by buffering pedestrians from traffic while enhancing the vitality of adjacent retail and commercial activities.

Figure 66: All Station Areas-Roadway Guidelines

#### ALL STATION AREAS **ROADWAY GUIDELINES EXPECTATIONS FOR LARGE SITES OR PLANS THAT CONTAIN** AN LRT OR TRANSIT CENTRE STATION AREA Thresh-All public streets, where a minimum of one block of street length is under construction or olds major renovation, should include: Curbside vehicle parking Curb Extensions Crosswalks Road Elements CURB-**LRT** CURBSIDE CURB-**CROSSWALKS CROSSWALKS** KISS **TRANSIT EXTENSIONS TRACKWAY PARKING** AND RIDE **EXTENSIONS** (MID-BLOCK) INTERCHANGE (BUS STOPS) TREATMENT Within Locate at all Locate at all Provide Provide Prohibit Locate Drop-off of Transfer of 400 Meon both intersections: bus stops: at each between all tiepassengers passengers tres of ■ 2.5 m x 15 ballast sides ■ 2.5 m x 6 m intersection: mid-block from between Station of the ■ 4 m width accessways trackway personal buses (min) m (min) vehicles **Platform** street: ■ 50% (min) (min) to • 4 m wide and LRT **100%** Provide ■ 2.5 m should be match marked or taxis landscaped paved highadjoining walkway should be designed (min) surface surface quality sidewalk accommparking (min) paved/ to be area area lane width Provide odated convenient embed-■ Prohibit ■ Provide width without and direct Stormwater weatherfrom both ded detracting without Where ends trackway Detention protected from detracting retail is of the (Bio-swales) bus pedestrianfrom adjacent: station on streets shelters Limit platform oriented, pedestrianwith and developoriented. hours benches retail ment developfor frontages loading adjacent ment and to the LRT adjacent zones adjacent to station to the LRT from the station or transit station 8pmplatform centre or transit 7am centre Refer to the Guidelines Refer to the for Urban Guidelines for Urban Style LRT. Style LRT.

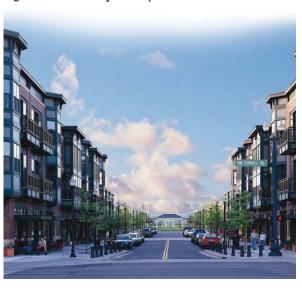
Roadway Descriptions are on pages 51 to 52.

#### **ROADWAY PHILOSOPHY**

Major private development/redevelopment projects provide opportunities to bring streets up to a higher level of quality, sustainability, safety and functionality. Such improvements contribute to the success of both public and private elements. The guidelines do so by:

- Providing parking necessary to support commercial activity and separate moving vehicles and pedestrians.
- Including curb extensions and intersection and mid-block crossings which reduce pedestrian road-crossing distances and times.
- Encouraging a more visually integrated trackway.
- Appropriately balancing hardscape and landscape treatments.

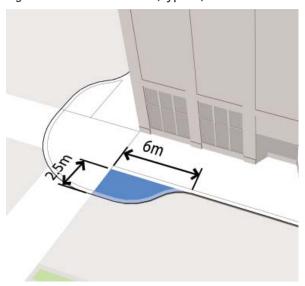
Figure 67: Roadway Example



#### **ROADWAY DESCRIPTIONS**

The graphics on the following pages illustrate the expectations identified on the Roadway Guidelines table. These descriptions should be used in conjunction with the guideline table.

Figure 68: Curb Extension (Typical)

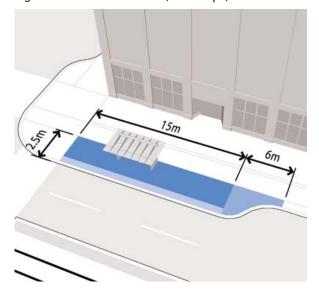


#### **CURB EXTENSIONS (TYPICAL)**

Curb extensions protect pedestrians by minimizing roadway crossing distances and serving as a refuge for those waiting to cross streets. They also serve to slow traffic and provide opportunities for streetscape enhancements such as landscaping, bike parking, seating and other street elements.

Corner radii should be minimized to reduce speeds of turning vehicles.

Figure 69: Curb Extension (Bus Stops)

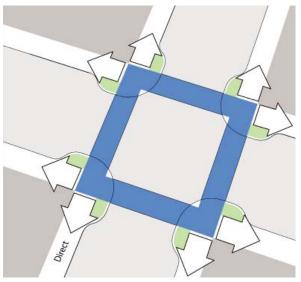


#### **CURB EXTENSIONS (BUS STOPS)**

Curb extensions provide in-traffic bus stop locations that will accommodate all ETS bus vehicles. Curb extensions also protect bus riders by providing adequate queuing and exiting areas and affording sufficient space for shelters. Where possible, bus stops should be located to accommodate curbside parking that supports retail uses adjacent to the station.

For more information about bus-to-LRT interchanges, refer to the *Guidelines for Urban Style LRT*.

Figure 70: Intersection Crosswalk

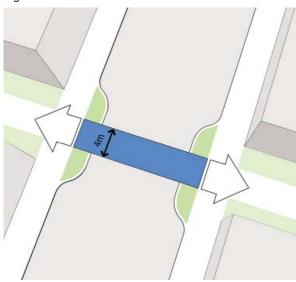


#### **CROSSWALKS**

Crosswalks provide for safe and accessible pedestrian passages at intersections through clear markings and a width that matches or is compatible with that of adjoining public boulevards.

Intersections should have a strong pedestrian bias. Crosswalks should be designed as walkways that continue through intersecting roadways. Crosswalks should be directly in-line with adjoining walkways. Offset crosswalks should not be permitted.

Figure 71: Mid-Block Crosswalk



#### **CROSSWALKS (MID-BLOCK)**

Mid-block crosswalks provide for safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle passage at mid-block accessways and at station platforms through clear markings and traffic-slowing ramping.

- Curb extensions that minimize pedestrian crossing distances should be provided wherever curbside parking lanes exist.
- Traffic control stop/yield signs, signals or other vehicle warning techniques should be used where warranted.

#### URBAN DESIGN AND CPTED PRINCIPLES

Figure 72: All Station Areas-Urban Design and CPTED Principles

# ALL STATION AREA AND TRANSIT CENTRE TYPES URBAN DESIGN PRINCIPLES

#### ALL USES

Edmonton's Design Committee has established the following principles of urban design that should be applied as guidelines to all LRT and Transit Centre Station Area Types.

#### Principle A—Urbanism

Strive to create and restore the existing urban fabric within the metropolitan region, create real communities and diverse districts, conserve the natural environment and respect Edmonton's built legacy.

- A1 Creating and enhancing the city.
- A2 Creating and enhancing the neighbourhood, district and corridor.
- A3 Creating and enhancing the block, street and building.

#### Principle B—Design Excellence

Exemplify design excellence by incorporating, translating and interpreting all three design principles to the greatest extent possible, consistent with best contemporary practices.

- B1 Sustainability is an integral component of the design.
- B2 Integration and encouragement of public arts and culture.
- B3 Celebrate the winter city and Edmonton's climate.
- B4 Durable, permanent and timeless materials.
- B5 Appropriate use of innovation.

#### Principle C—Scale, Connections + Context

Demonstrate appropriate scale, integration of design elements and fit within the context of the precinct.

- C1 Exemplify neighbourliness: celebrate, engage and enhance the unique context of location.
- C2 Celebrate and respect heritage.
- C3 Enhance and preserve connections.

# CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED) PRINCIPLES

#### **ALL USES**

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is defined as a multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behavior through environmental design. Designing the built environment with CPTED strategies in mind can increase safety and reduce the potential for crime. CPTED strategies to be applied as guidelines to all LRT and Transit Centre Station Area Types include:

- Surveillance–Create the perception that people can be seen (eyes on the station).
- Access-Create multiple well-defined and highly visible egress options (escape routes).
- Activity—Create and support an active environment that attracts people (year-long and day-round use).

Urban Design and CPTED Descriptions are on page 54.

#### **URBAN DESIGN AND CPTED PRINCIPLES - DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **URBAN DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

Guidelines such as The Edmonton Design Committee's Principles of Urban Design achieve a number of purposes. They:

- Encourage appropriate design quality.
- Ensure compatibility with surrounding areas.
- Stabilize investment by maintaining consistent quality for all projects.

The Principles are well-conceived and time-tested. Comparable principles have been employed in other cities as the underpinnings of design expectations to establish and maintain a level of design quality consistent with public expectations.

For application to the station areas, the Principles have been tailored to embody Edmonton's values. Their application will help successfully leverage LRT investment.

The Principles are to be applied as additional guidelines for all projects within LRT and Transit Centre Station Area Types. This will ensure that the development of these Station Areas is exemplary.

# CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED) PRINCIPLES

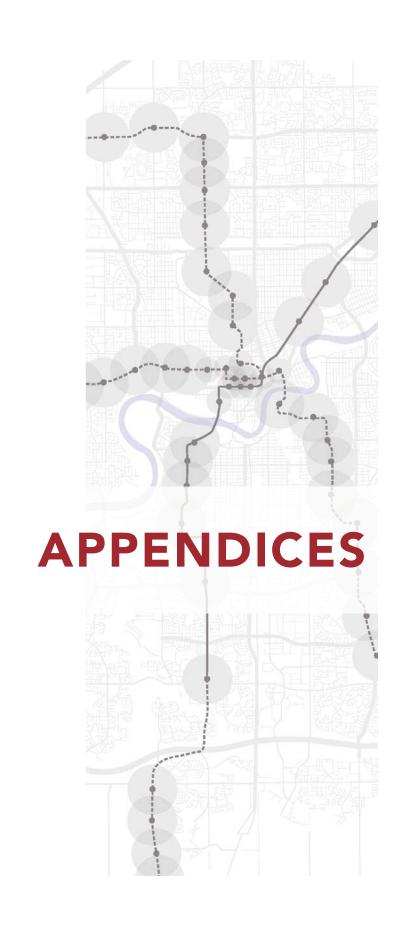
Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is defined as a multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behaviour through environmental design. Designing the built environment with CPTED strategies in mind can increase safety and reduce the potential for crime.

The Principles are to be applied as additional guidelines for all major projects within LRT and Transit Centre Station Area Types. This will ensure that the development of these Station Areas has reduced potential for crime.



Figure 74: Pedestrian Scaled Streetscape Design





#### APPENDIX 1—PROJECT PHILOSOPHY

#### INTEGRATE TRANSIT AND LAND USE

The Way Ahead, Edmonton's Strategic Plan, sets Edmonton on the course for a vibrant and sustainable future. Over time, The Way Ahead directs that Edmonton will transform its urban form and shift its transportation modes.

Edmonton is aligning its strategic planning processes to ensure an integrated and holistic approach toward city building over the next three decades. Six corporate policy documents have been developed or are in development to aid in leading the City toward these goals.

The Way We Grow, Edmonton's Municipal Development Plan provides policies and guidance for Edmonton's evolution into a more compact, transit-oriented and sustainable city. The plan contains policy direction to prepare TOD (Station Area Plans) around existing and proposed LRT stations.

The Way We Move, Edmonton's Transportation Plan supports public transit as a means to decrease other public infrastructure investment. It provides viable alternative transportation modes to reduce Edmonton's carbon and ecological footprint. The plan states that effective transit services and transit oriented development along an expanded LRT are essential to successfully achieving the City Vision.

The TOD Guidelines align with these plans, aiding Edmonton's 30-year agenda to:

- Improve livability
- Shift transportation modes
- Sustain the environment
- Transform urban form
- Diversify Edmonton's economy

Transit's role as a shaper of urban form can be as important as its transportation function. The type and nature of development around transit greatly influences transit's effectiveness. The mobility benefits offered by a good transit system are undermined if riders exit the system and are

confronted with an environment in which they cannot walk safely and comfortably to their destination.

The success of Edmonton's expanded transit system is dependent on the development of supportive land use and circulation around the City's transit investments. Recognizing that transit is most successful when supported by land use policies that generate transit ridership, the City of Edmonton has developed these TOD Guidelines.

The TOD Guidelines are the framework for planning ahead for the integration of transit and land use in station areas. They will support transit oriented development and promote private development, public policies, regulations, and infrastructure investments by:

- Locating higher density development close to LRT stations and transit centres.
- Locating major trip generators (office buildings, shopping streets, schools, and entertainment facilities) close to transit.
- Encouraging station-specific mix of land uses to let people live and shop near their jobs.
- Encouraging high-quality projects.
- Providing facilities that ensure the efficient, safe and convenient transfer of passengers between transit modes.
- Planning for the creation of an attractive, green city.

The creation of a sustainable community requires a coordinated transportation and land use system. Motorists, transit customers, pedestrians and cyclists are all partners who contribute to, rather than burden, Edmontonians' quality of life.

Figure 75: Higher Density Growth Around LRT



Figure 76: Bicycle Pathway Access to LRT



#### TRANSIT AND LAND USE PRINCIPLES

The principles for integrating transit and land use in the areas around LRT stations and transit centres support the City of Edmonton's strategic plans.

#### **Guiding Principles**

- Establish land uses around LRT stations and transit centres to reflect the characteristics of surrounding areas and each station's role in the LRT network.
- Focus higher density residential, retail and employment growth around LRT stations and transit centres to support City investment in transportation infrastructure.
- Create a safe, direct and convenient circulation system for all modes of transportation, with an emphasis on pedestrians and bicycles, that connects destinations.

#### **Supporting Principles**

- Create a variety of public open spaces that will animate the station platform and support increased densities within LRT station areas.
- Incorporate universally accessible design in buildings and public spaces within the station neighbourhood.
- Accommodate regional growth in a more sustainable pattern.
- Create compact neighbourhoods with housing, jobs, shopping and services within convenient walking distance of transit stations.
- Plan for well-designed, environmentally sustainable and livable communities that reduce car use.

#### **APPENDIX 2 - UNDERSTANDING TOD**

The City of Edmonton defines transit oriented development (TOD) as urban development that is planned and integrated with a transit station at its core. In a TOD, housing, shopping and employment are concentrated along a network of walkable and bikeable streets within 400 metres of the transit station.

Creating TOD requires the creation of a complete neighbourhood in which land uses are located according to market fundamentals. These areas are well integrated with pedestrian, bicycle, auto and transit networks.

#### **Station Hub**

The area within 200 metres of the transit station includes the highest intensity of trip-generating retail, employment and commercial uses.

#### Station Neighbourhood

The area within 400 metres of the transit station is critical in the development of successful TOD. The 400 metre area represents a five-minute walk to the station. This area generates 70% to 80% of the station's walk-up ridership.

#### **Area of Influence**

The area within 800 metres of the LRT platform influences the character of the station neighbourhood and provides additional transit ridership.

#### The TOD-LRT Connection

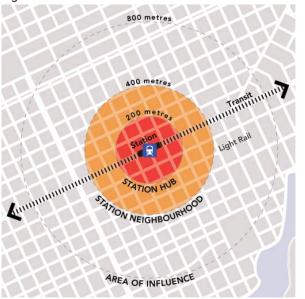
The potential for developing TOD is highest around stations served by light rail transit because this mode has:

- Long-term infrastructure permanence
- Frequent service

#### TOD is **not**:

- A new or untested development scheme— TOD responds to fundamental real estate market principles and best practices for urban development.
- Instantaneous-TOD occurs incrementally over time as property owners choose to develop or redevelop their land.
- A monoculture of a single or a few uses developed at high densities—TOD includes the full mix of essential land uses.
- An isolated pocket of development near a transit station—TOD includes a web of interconnected streets linked to outlying neighbourhoods.
- A single development project near the transit station—TOD is the entire 360-degree area of land uses and street network surrounding the station.

Figure 77: Ideal TOD Area



## There are four essential building blocks common to all TOD.

Two facilitate getting to the station:

- Grid of streets
- Complete streets

Two describe station area development:

- Station hub
- Station neighbourhood

In the ideal TOD, the essential components are integrated to create a 'one-stop destination'. The ideal TOD can be easily accessed on foot, by bicycle or from transit, by commuters, residents and people working in the area.

The ideal TOD described on the following pages may not be achievable in all instances. However, a true TOD development cannot be achieved unless these components are largely provided. Appendix 1 provides an overview of TOD supportive components.

Figure 78: Downtown TOD



#### **GETTING TO THE STATION**

TOD, unlike auto-oriented development, effectively accommodates all travelers—those in autos, trucks, trains, buses, on bicycles, and on foot. A TOD ensures adequate access for motorized vehicles. Successful TODs prioritize safe, convenient and direct access for pedestrians and bicyclists within a five-minute (400-metre) walk to or from the transit station.

- Grid of Streets—the traditional North American urban development pattern of a connected network of streets fosters TOD more effectively than contemporary suburban development patterns of meandering, discontinuous streets and cul-de-sacs. The grid of streets should extend uninterrupted 800 metres from the transit station.
- Complete Streets-in auto-oriented development, streets function primarily as conduits for vehicle movement. In TODs, streets are designed to accommodate all modes of transportation and provide access to the station. Complete streets are safe, enjoyable and beautiful places where people can linger at a cafe, bench or on a terrace.
- Transit Interchange—The quality of the interface between bus transit and rail transit is critical to ridership. The design of these interchanges can either promote development adjacent to transit or discourage it. The placement and design of transit interchanges at LRT stations should be guided by the surrounding context. Flexibility should be enabled by the City's design criteria. This allows inventive solutions that encourage private development adjacent to the LRT stations.

Figure 79: Walking to the Transit Station



#### **GRID OF STREETS**

The street grid is the most critical element in establishing successful TOD. An interconnected network of streets ensures that all trips to or from a transit station are as short as possible.

#### **Uninterrupted Grid**

The ideal TOD street grid extends continuously in all directions from the station. Partial or disconnected networks are not ideal. The uninterrupted grid will provide:

- Multiple access routes to the station and to adjacent development—by providing numerous routes, street traffic can be dispersed rather than concentrated on a few routes. Streets can be designed to be more intimate and pedestrianfriendly.
- Direct sight lines to the station—unless limited by topography, street grids should not meander or jog.

#### Fine-Grained Grid

The ideal TOD street grid is fine-grained with small block sizes that support convenient and direct pedestrian access to the station. The fine-grained grid:

- Fosters development that engages and activates public streets—precluding development that is inwardly oriented or set back from the street.
- Creates more development sites—promoting architectural variety and precluding monolithic architecture associated with large development sites.

Figure 80: Fine-Grained Street Grid

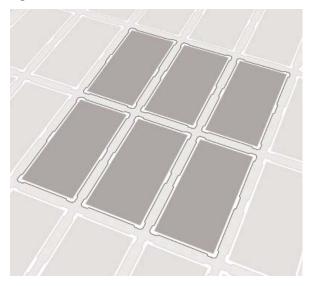


Figure 81: NOT Fine-Grained Street Grid

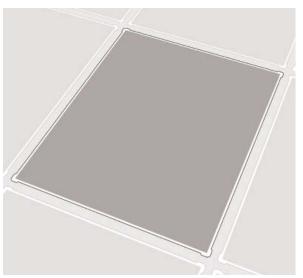


Figure 82: Pedestrian Friendly



Figure 83: Bicycle Friendly



Figure 84: Active Edges on Buildings



#### **COMPLETE STREETS**

In addition to providing direct access to the transit station, great TOD streets are interesting, livable and safe places.

In successful TODs, the street grid is designed as a series of 'outdoor rooms.' The public realm elements of sidewalks, streets and intersections and the private realm elements of the adjacent building walls, windows, and doorways must be people friendly. Along important transit lines, development bylaws, zoning regulations, and guidelines must be enacted to ensure that the public realm and the private realm encourage pedestrian and bicycle activity.

#### **Public Realm**

Essential requirements for the public realm elements include:

- Continuous wide sidewalks—lined with canopyforming trees, pedestrian-scaled lighting and places to sit and mingle.
- Narrow streets—with slow moving auto traffic.
- Safe intersections—that are easy to cross by people of all ages and physical abilities during all weather conditions.
- Safe bike facilities—that are appropriately and contextually defined based on the surronding area and representing the best practice in bicycle facility planning.

#### **Private Realm**

Streets that are safe day and night are fundamental to the success of a TOD. Essential building-edge requirements include:

- Active edges—doorways and ground-floor windows that are oriented to the street provide visual and physical interaction between the inside of buildings and the street, creating 'eyes on the street'.
- Zero-metre setbacks—buildings that are built up to the sidewalk establish a continuous 'street edge' that provides pedestrians and bicyclists with a comfortable sense of enclosure.

Figure 85: Station Hub Retail-Grocery Store



Figure 86: Station Hub Retail-Hardware Store



#### STATION AREA DEVELOPMENT

Land use patterns and intensities should support the day-to-day needs of TOD residents. Intensities and diversity of uses are highest near the station and decrease gradually away from the station.

- Station Hub
   –the highest intensity of tripgenerating retail, employment, and commercial uses occurs within 200 metres of the transit station.
- Station Neighbourhood—medium- to highdensity housing is concentrated within 400 metres of the transit station.

The area of influence—between 400 and 800 metres from the transit station—may contain unique amenities, medium-intensity uses and other transit-related features that facilitate bicycle and pedestrian station access.

#### **STATION HUB**

The highest intensity of development in a TOD occurs within the station hub, the area within 200 metres of the transit station.

The station hub is home to neighbourhood-serving retail and employment uses necessary to support the residents of the TOD. High-density housing may also be provided.

#### **Concentrated Uses Benefit Communities**

Concentrating trip-generating uses (business, retail or work destination) around the station and within a short walk for most TOD residents can reduce both the length and quantity of driving trips made by TOD residents and employees.

#### **Retail Street**

Retail is the most important use to get right in a TOD. Retail uses provide the daily goods and services for area residents and employees and must be accessible for those who arrive via transit, walking, or auto.

Retail anchors, such as grocery stores, along with neighbourhood-serving shops and services should be located on the ground floors of buildings along one or two streets originating at the station and connecting to the station neighbourhood.

Retail uses are most successful when:

- Located on a street with enough, but not too much, drive-by traffic; 8,000 to 15,000 average daily trips (ADT) is ideal.
- Located on a street with continuous curb-side parking.
- Retail uses occur on both sides of the street and are uninterrupted by vacancies or other types of uses.
- The quantity of retail uses is sufficient to draw shoppers from outside of the TOD area.

Ideally on a retail street both curbside parking and bike lanes would be accommodated. However where the ROW is constrained, priority should be given to the provision of curbside parking to support commercial activity.

Figure 87: Station Hub



Figure 88: Retail and Commercial Uses



#### **Retail Parking**

Only a portion of the parking needed for a retail street can be accommodated on-street. The majority of the parking should be accommodated with a reserve of parking that may be located below ground, in a separate structure, or integrated into a building and that can be accessed directly from the street.

Figure 89: Station Hub Employment District

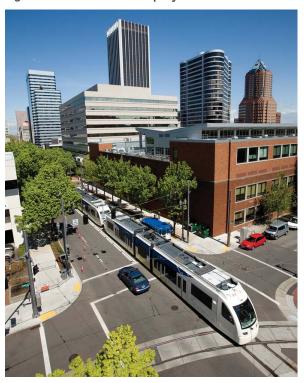


Figure 90: Station Plaza



#### **Urban Plaza**

In downtown or shopping destination TOD locations, where there is typically little existing open space, an urban plaza should be located adjacent to the station. It can serve as a gathering space, a venue for markets or festivals, and as an overflow area for transit patrons during peak travel periods or event surges.

#### **Employment**

Employment uses provide job opportunities for TOD residents and for commuters from outside of the TOD area.

Businesses with a high number of jobs per hectare (medical, financial, technology and engineering offices, corporate headquarters, and public agencies) are ideally located in the station hub.

Employment uses are most successful when located on prominent high-traffic streets, adjacent to other employment uses, and on medium to large parcels. These types of businesses require high visibility and brand exposure to succeed. They may be either single-use buildings or occupy upper floors above ground-floor retail or commercial uses.

Low-intensity uses such as manufacturing, warehousing or other similar industrial uses are not appropriate within the Station Hub.

#### Housing

High-density housing development is appropriate within the station hub. Housing within the hub should have active ground-floor design.

#### Park & Ride

Park & ride facilities located adjacent to the station severely degrade the station environment. Whenever possible, park & ride facilities should be prohibited. Where required, park & ride facilities should be sited within a reasonable walking distance from a station, but not immediately adjacent to the station. Where financially feasible, transit parking can be stacked within a parkade. Parking may be adjacent to a station only if the first floor of the parkade contributes to activating the station with retail and commercial uses. Park & ride is appropriate at terminus stations to intercept long distance auto trips. It should be designed to allow for TOD and pedestrian access to the station.

#### STATION NEIGHBOURHOOD

The station neighbourhood is the area outside of the station hub and within 400 metres of the station. This area includes the largest concentration of housing within the TOD.

#### **Complete Communities**

A community comprised of a mix of retail, residential and employment land uses with a diversity of housing types, accessible amenities and mobility choices will foster neighbourhoods people can remain in throughout a lifetime.

#### Housing

Transit ridership is most effectively increased by providing opportunities for living in close proximity—within a five-minute walk—of the station. By concentrating medium- and high-density housing in the station neighbourhood, greater transit ridership will be realized and the number of vehicle trips within the TOD will be reduced.

A mix of rental and ownership properties should be provided within the neighbourhood to support a mix of income levels.

Station neighbourhood housing should also be sensitive to the existing context and provide height transitions to lower density and single-family housing in the surrounding areas.

#### **Housing-Supportive Amenities**

Ideally, all medium- and high-density housing will be within three blocks of a park or plaza. The success of a TOD is largely measured by whether it is a *livable* community that citizens will find desirable. Simply loading density into a neighbourhood may result in a 'transit ghetto' where housing is provided but the ambiance and safety of the neighbourhood is poor. To attract a stable and diverse residential population, parks, open spaces, schools and civic and cultural uses must be woven into the fabric of the neighbourhood.

Schools and outdoor play areas that can be integrated into the urban form, such as the ground floor of a mixed use building, are encouraged in a Station Neighbourhood to accommodate families.

Figure 91: Station Neighbourhood



Figure 92: Housing Height Transition



Small neighbourhood-serving urban parks, rather than expansive regional parks, are more suitable in a station neighbourhood. The parks provided should be large enough to accommodate child-friendly play structures, courts, and informal grassy areas, but not so large as to consume too much area within the neighbourhood. As with the station plaza, parks should be the focal point for adjacent development.

Where outstanding natural landscapes—such as rivers or wooded areas—exist, they should be protected and featured.

#### **APPENDIX 3—TOD SUPPORTIVE COMPONENTS**

#### LAND USE

Land use and community character policies and regulations clearly influence the City's potential to create a sustainable community. Several important elements needed to create a transit supportive environment include land use mix and development intensity. The most important land use elements promote the creation of walkable communities. This will allow the community to efficiently change into transit supportive communities over time and preserve established residential neighbourhoods.

#### **Preferred Uses**

Land uses influence the number of trips, the time of each trip, and the mode(s) of travel used differently. Office, medical, institutional, educational (high school and post secondary), seniors housing and high density residential uses provide the highest potential for transit ridership. Large format retail, industrial, and low density residential land uses generate higher dependency on vehicle trips. Automobile dependant land uses such as autoriented and drive-thru commercial should be discouraged within 800 metres of LRT Stations.

Seniors' housing should be encouraged within the area of influence. LRT and transit provides a cost effective, convenient and efficient means of transporting persons with reduced ability or desire to drive.

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER**

#### **Block Dimensions**

Block dimensions, and the street grid they form, are the most critical elements in ensuring a walkable and bikeable community. Guidelines and standards must require a fine-grain street grid around LRT stations and other transit facilities.

# Transitions between New and Existing Neighbourhoods

In North America, many communities are focused on high density around transit, the transit initiative itself is jeopardized by adjacent neighbourhoods' rejection of proposed land use intensifications. Every effort should be made to intensify development while respecting the existing residential communities.

#### **Building Heights**

The tallest buildings do not always facilitate the most walkable environments. The most recognized walkable communities in the world, such as Paris, Rome, and Washington D.C., limit densities through building height restrictions yet still have very successful transit systems.

#### **Street-Based Application of Design Guidelines**

As design guidelines are being applied, they should encourage development to specifically address street hierarchy or street types. The resulting development will reflect the desired pedestrian environment that will best serve the development and the community. The street types should reflect the expected quality and quantity of pedestrian activity on various streets.

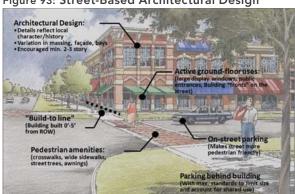


Figure 93: Street-Based Architectural Design

#### **Building Mass / Scale**

Public and private realms are distinguished by architectural details. Pedestrian activity can be encouraged and discouraged by the quality of architecture. Building design requirements should not dictate architectural style; rather, they should inform fundamental architectural form based on the quality of the pedestrian experience at the street level.

#### **Off-Street Parking**

Parking is an important development issue influencing transit ridership. Therefore it may be appropriate to establish parking minimums and maximums in LRT Station, transit centre, and Transit Avenue areas.

### Environmental and Sustainability Standards

In an age of limited energy options and known increasing human impacts on the natural environment, it is important to build environmentally appropriate buildings and neighbourhoods. One example is Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) criteria. This measurement system designed for rating commercial, institutional, and residential buildings, may be applied to the design of neighbourhoods. LEED criteria, based on accepted energy and environmental principles, strike a balance between known and established practices and emerging concepts. It evaluates environmental performance from a life cycle perspective, providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a "Green Building" or "Green Neighbourhood".

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation infrastructure dictates land use by the access it provides and the context appropriateness of its design. The design quality of roadways and transit infrastructure influences the development possibilities of adjacent land use. High speed roadways designed without on-street parking, minimum sidewalk dimensions, and wide building setbacks will not attract a "Main Street" retailer. Similarly, if rail transit requires separate right-ofway and is isolated from streets, the development opportunities around LRT stations will be limited by the lack of interconnectivity and proximity to adjacent development.

#### **Street Design Guidelines**

Street design guidelines should provide guidance for low speed urban environments conducive to the high-volume pedestrian-friendly environment anticipated within transit station areas. Flexible level of service (LOS) standards allow for greater congestion in areas served by LRT because residents have better travel options. In addition, they can improve the pedestrian network and accessibility of transit.

#### **Public Boulevards (including sidewalks)**

Public boulevards are the backbone of a balanced transportation system. Better pedestrian network design improves the convenience of transit service and encourages alternative modes of transportation.

#### Transit Interchange

The quality of the interface between bus transit and rail transit is critical to ridership. The design of these interchanges can either promote development adjacent to transit or discourage it. The placement and design of transit interchanges at LRT stations should be guided by the surrounding context. Flexibility should be enabled by the City's design criteria. This allows inventive solutions that encourage private development adjacent to the LRT stations.

#### **Station Amenities**

Station amenities include shelter, heating, benches, and ticketing. For system identification and customer comfort, station amenities should remain constant between the transit area-types within Edmonton.

### **Grade Crossings**

In an ideal transit operator's world, there would be no grade crossings with surface streets. In an idealized urban design world, transit would cross surface streets at grade with post mounted signals. Clearly neither side would create a transit supportive environment. Edmonton transit should reevaluate its design criteria to allow additional at-grade street crossings in appropriate high density pedestrian environments. This would allow the flexibility for both gated and signalized crossings within existing LRT station areas.

#### **On-street Parking**

On-street parking provides a buffer between vehicles and sidewalks, creating a safer place for pedestrians. More importantly, on-street parking activates the ground floor of buildings and creates an active street front environment for pedestrian use.

#### **Bicycle Facilities**

Bicycle facilities are an important component of a balanced transportation system.

Bicycles provide an alternative form of transportation which has four times the speed and sixteen times the coverage area of other non-motorized travel. Early consideration in the community planning process coupled with effective facility design will establish the bicycle as a viable transportation mode in a balanced transportation system.

Bicycle infrastructure to and from LRT stations and transit centres is essential and should include shared-use paths, off-street bicycle paths, and bicycle lanes. Bicycle amenities, such as secure bicycle parking, should be provided at LRT stations.

#### **Transit Passenger Drop-off**

One way for transit passengers to get to transit is to be dropped off by a friend, partner or taxi. Drop-offs can happen infrequently due to weather or convenience or more regularly due to the coordinated schedules for members of a household. This transfer of people from personal vehicles or taxis to transit should be accommodated through the design of the LRT station or transit centre and the adjacent roadways. This should be done in a way that enhances TOD rather than detracts from it and respects the people living, working, and shopping near the LRT station or transit centre.

# PARKS, PUBLIC SPACES, CIVIC INFRASTRUCTURE, COMMUNITY CHARACTER

The community investments of parks, amenities and civic infrastructure have a profound impact on the adjoining land uses. Access to quality parks and public space is a critical element in urban living, particularly in higher density cities. To provide appropriate facilities in urban areas, all higher density residences should be within 3 blocks of a public park, square, or plaza.

#### **Urban Plazas**

Plazas serve as an amenity for people of all ages, during all seasons and during all hours of the day. To keep plazas animated and safe, they must be surrounded by buildings with active ground floor uses.

In a station area, urban plazas should be located adjacent the station platform and have large paved areas for public events, and public assembly. Plazas may also serve as surge space for transit platforms. Urban plazas are an essential component of regionally significant station areas, such as those with stadiums or arenas.

#### Schools

Existing schools and outdoor play areas can be integrated within station areas. Whenever possible, schools should be placed within areas served by transit. Schools and outdoor play areas that can be integrated into the urban form, such as the ground floor of a mixed use building, are encouraged within 400 metres of an LRT station to accommodate families. Land-consumptive designed schools, such as schools with associated field uses, are more appropriate within 400 to 800 metres of an LRT station.

#### Affordable Housing

Affordable housing is perhaps the most difficult issue facing the urban planning, design, and development community. Because improving a neighbourhood leads to higher housing values and potential displacement of long-time residents, affordable housing should be considered. The Municipal Development Plan defines affordable housing as housing that requires no on-going operating subsidies. It is targeted for occupancy by households who are income challenged (earn less than the median income for their household size and pay more than 30% of that income for housing) and require no in-situ support services.

#### **Family-Oriented Housing**

Any neighbourhood, particularly one that is transit oriented, benefits from demographic diversity. A variety of residents with different household types, incomes, and ages contributes to the stability, safety, and character of an area. A wide range of housing options is encouraged in station areas to support this diversity and accommodate people through all stages of their lives.

Family-oriented housing is an important component of such a mix. This type of housing is characterized by units with multiple bedrooms and private outdoor spaces (porches or yards), as well as common open areas that are visible from family dwellings. It is best located close to schools and open spaces to capitalize on and support existing child-friendly amenities

#### **Public Art**

Public art integrated into a station environment offers a number of opportunities and benefits. It contributes to the sense of public invitation. It serves as a gateway element. It enhances the visual qualities of the area. It adds to the uniqueness of each respective station's neighbourhood. And it serves as to denote the quality and character of the time in which it was crafted, chosen and placed.

Ideally public art will be selected through an appropriate public process, and selected based on its appropriateness for the specific site. The least successful rail-oriented art is "plop art", chosen and placed after the fact in remainder locations. A more successful approach is to fund and begin early the process of identifying artists and art locations, and allowing the artist, the system designers, and the neighbourhood to identify neighbourhood themes in order to integrate the themes and the art into the station design. Refer to the City Policy C458B, Percent for Art to Provide and Encourage Art in Public Areas.

#### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

#### **Development Incentives**

Development incentives can have tremendous value in ripe development markets with land scarcity. They can help direct augmented densities to particular locations through density transfers. They can reward projects through additional development capacity and other flexibilities in exchange for public and other amenities provided by a project.

Another arena of incentives that might have value would be procedure-based incentives. For example, streamlined review tracks that simplify and expedite the approval of projects in exchange for the forwarding of particular policy-supportive elements.

Development incentives can be site-specific. For example, as higher density development in Edmonton is most likely to occur incrementally, development incentives should be concentrated in a few key station areas. Those station areas would presumably be identified as those that have stronger markets, significant opportunity sites for development, with the potential to leverage public incentive into private investment.

#### **Parking Standards**

Generally, the intention of LRT and appropriate TOD is to achieve densities and locate transit-accessible services and housing that will maximize ridership and most effectively leverage public investment. Maximizing ridership equates to a lesser reliance on the automobile, and a need for fewer vehicles per capita. The wisdom and success of this intention has been demonstrated in comparable systems elsewhere. Additional benefits of this decrease in cars include: development savings due to more efficient land utilization, construction savings as a result of minimized structured parking, a lowering of infrastructure maintenance costs, and greater per capita disposable income due to lower real estate costs and fuel savings.

One way in which to allow the market to naturally

recalibrate is to lower or eliminate or further lower parking minimums. This is equally true for both residential and commercial development. By allowing development to consider lower minimums, it encourages development to otherwise innovate in order to allow yet lower development costs while ensuring marketability and project success. A simple example would be looking to developments elsewhere that directly subsidize or incent transit usage, as well as incorporating other transportation alternatives (shared vehicles, bicycle facilities) in order to accommodate a lower parking count.

#### **Public/Private Partnering**

One way to best foster the meeting of public goals and the needs of private development is through public/private partnerships. Such partnerships can work creatively together to best-develop appropriate and visionary catalytic projects around transit. This is particularly so when working to manifest projects that are atypical and/or addressing unusual challenges.

For example, the City of Edmonton could consider partnering with local developers to build example projects, such as mixed-income housing or mixed-use buildings, which fit this development type. In addition to familiarizing the development community with this approach, these projects could act as catalysts to the creation of mixed-income, mixed-use, transit-oriented communities.

#### Strategic Public Investment

Public investment offers the opportunity for the City to catalyze development and lead the direction and quality of private development. Well-targeted investment in infrastructure and placemaking initiatives can support the transformation of key station areas. For example, investments in neighbourhood amenities such as parks and streetscape improvements have a direct impact on property values, and therefore, development feasibility. Investing in infrastructure and placemaking in key station areas, such as bike lanes, streetscaping and open space will allow the City of Edmonton to advance the creation of livable communities around transit. This will leverage public funds to encourage private investment.

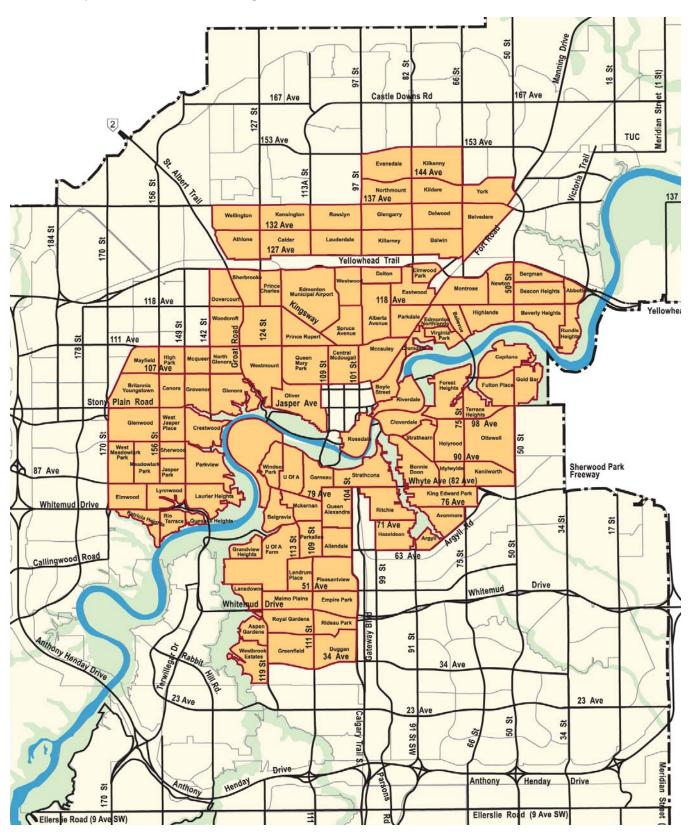
# Investigate Innovative Job Attraction Approaches

Many jobs will naturally come to Edmonton. There may be others that are desirable that need to be specifically encouraged to locate here rather than going elsewhere. Strategies can be developed to attract specific jobs and/or industries to specific locations. Policies and programs may be developed which can attract and direct future employment growth to the Downtown and high-density job centres. The City could consider developing programs to attract, retain and develop higher-density industries that support transit. Approaches might include:

- tax rebates
- grants to fund commercial improvement and redevelopment
- and concerted recruitment efforts to bring new businesses to the city.

# **APPENDIX 4—EDMONTON'S MATURE NEIGHBOURHOODS**

Figure 94: Map of Edmonton's Mature Neighbourhoods



## **GLOSSARY**

The following definitions clarify terms used in this document.

**Accessway**—a path or a route that provides access to a specific destination or property

**Adjacent**—immediately preceding or following, in close proximity, without anything of the same kind in between

Amenities (On-site)—aesthetic or other features of a development that increase its marketability or usability to the public

Area of Influence—area between 400 and 800 metres from the transit station (may contain unique amenities, medium-intensity uses and other transit-related features)

**Arterial Roads**—Intended to carry large volumes of traffic between areas ("through" traffic) with fewer access opportunities to adjacent properties and are defined by the Transportation System Bylaw

**Articulation**—creating variations in the exterior walls of a building, such as placing windows and doors, changing the plane of the façade, or adding bays, to add to visual interest

**Auto Oriented Site Design**—an area where the location and arrangement of buildings, parking and loading facilities are designed to maximize access, egress and visibility toward the motorized vehicle rather than the pedestrian

**Auto Oriented Uses**—includes uses such as car sales, car wash/service stations and drive through businesses

**Bike Box**—delineated areas where cyclists, at a red light, can advance ahead of stopped vehicles while waiting for the light to turn green. Cyclists are therefore more visible to vehicles and are prioritized higher as road users

**Bike Station**—a covered or enclosed facility where bike lockers, bike storage, changing rooms and/or repair facilities are located

**Bikeability**—The extent to which the built environment allows people to bike to get to everyday destinations for work, shopping, education and recreation

**Bio-Swales**—landscape elements designed to remove silt and pollution from surface runoff water

**Block**—the land area bounded by public rights-of-way

**Build-Out Concept**—the illustration and/or description of a vision for a station area should all TOD sites and associated infrastructure be constructed per plan requirements

**Building Area**—total square metres of floor area in a building

**Circulation Framework**—a plan and approach for a network of complete streets within the study area that allows pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and public transit patrons to move directly, conveniently, and safely throughout the district and between the station, surrounding neighbourhoods and adjacent uses

**Collector Roads**—Provide neighbourhood travel between local and arterial roads and direct access to adjacent lands. Buses generally operate on collector roads within neighbourhoods

**Compatible**—design or approach that is comfortably related to other surrounding elements or areas

**Connectivity**—the directness of routes between origins and destinations and the density of connections in a pedestrian or road network. A connected transportation system allows for more direct travel between destinations, offers more route options, and makes active transportation more attractive

**Curb-Extension**—widened sidewalk areas at intersections or mid-block, often in place of parking, thereby narrowing the pedestrian crossing distance when crossing a right-of-way

**Development**—the transformation of an area from being undeveloped or underdeveloped. Development includes all improvements on a site, including buildings, other structures, parking areas, landscaping, hardscaping, and areas modified from their existing condition to support any kind of activity

**Development Capacity**—the total amount of development that may be built in an area

**Employment Uses**—land uses that are designated for office or commercial use

**Façade**—the outside of any exterior wall of a building

**Finished Floor**—the elevation of the final floor covering inside a building

Flanking—to be situated at the side of

**Floor Area Ratio (FAR)**—the total floor area of all buildings or structures on a given site divided by the total area in square metres (m<sup>2</sup>)

**Fronting**—the part or side of a building that faces forward, typically referring to the face along a right-of-way

**Furniture Zone**—an area, typically between the public boulevard and the street, for furniture such as seating, lighting poles, and trash receptacles

**GHGs (Greenhouse Gas)**— gases in the atmosphere that absorb and emit thermal infrared radiation. Greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere include water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorinated carbons, and halogenated fluorocarbons

**Greenfield**—land that is undeveloped except for agricultural use, especially one considered as a site for expanding urban development

**Greenfield Station Area**—a station area that is comprised of predominantly Greenfield sites

**Ground-Floor**—the level of a building that is accessible from the public boulevard

Implementation Strategy—a prescriptive guide that identifies the key steps that should be taken to stimulate development momentum and describes both public and private actions and projects, responsibilities and schedules

**Infill**—development in the existing areas of a city, occurring on vacant or underutilized lands, or behind or between existing development and which is compatible with the characteristics of the existing area

Intensification—the development of a site at a higher density than currently exists. Intensification can be achieved through: redevelopment (including brownfield and greyfield sites), development of vacant/underutilized lots, the conversion of existing buildings or through infill development in previously developed areas

**Intensity**—determined by dividing the square metres (m²) of building floor area dedicated for commercial or employment use by the net area in square metres (m²) of the site

**Land use framework**—a descriptive plan identifying a mix of transit-supportive employment, residential, retail and other trip-generating uses and densities within the station area, focusing higher-density uses within 400 metres from the station

Large Format Retail—Development for the purpose of retail sales that is intended to attract business and satisfy consumer retail demand for a wide area encompassing several residential neighbourhoods, and provides higher order goods and services that are not required on a day to day basis to a large geographic area

**LRT (Light Rail Transit)**—electrically powered rail transit running on light gauge rail and operating in exclusive rights-of-way or dedicated running ways below, above, or at grade in trains of multiple articulated cars.

**Major Project**—projects with a site area 1 hectare or larger. New neighbourhoods, enhanced neighbourhoods, or centre of employment projects with a site area 0.25 ha or larger.

Massing—the combined effect of the height, bulk, and silhouette of a building or group of buildings

**Mid-Block Accessways**—linkages that are provided in the middle of a development block to break up larger block sizes and provide pedestrian/bike circulation between two streets

**Mixed-Use**—a mix of land uses within a building, site, or area (for example a residential use with ground-floor retail)

**Mode Split**—the number of trips or (more common) percentage of travelers using a particular type of transportation

Multi-Family Residential—attached units, such as semi-detached dwellings and duplexes, as well as low and high-rise apartments/condominiums

**Multi-Modal Transportation**—use of different means of transport, such as train, bus, car, walking and cycling to arrive at a destination

MUT (Multi-Use Trail)—a multi-use trail, also known as a Shared Use Path, serves as part of a transportation circulation system and supports multiple non-motorized transportation and recreation opportunities, such as walking, bicycling, and inline skating

**Neighbourhood-Serving**—commercial uses, scaled and programmed to meet the basic needs and services of an immediate neighbourhood area

One-Stop Destinations—a compact urban centre providing a comprehensive selection of goods or services at close proximity in order that an individual may arrive once and walk to respective destinations

Park & Ride—parking facilities that are built to formalize and make readily available the option of multimodal travel (particularly automobile and transit) and allows the transfer to a high-occupancy mode; Park & Ride facilities are typically located at transit centres or rail transit stations and can range from surface lots to multi-storey parking structures

**Parking, Curbside**—on-street parking spaces that are located parallel and adjacent to the street's curb

**Parking, Surface**—parking which is provided at ground level

**Pedestrian Boulevard**—an area dedicated to pedestrian movement, typically between buildings/lots and a street

Pedestrian-Oriented (Walkable)—an environment designed to make travel on foot convenient, attractive, and comfortable for people of various ages and abilities. Considerations include the directness of the route, safety, amount of street activity, separation of pedestrian and auto circulation, street furniture, surface material, sidewalk width, prevailing wind direction, intersection treatment, curb cuts, ramps and landscaping

**Pedestrian Throughway**—continuous path for pedestrians clear of furniture or other objects

**Planned LRT Station**—an LRT station that has been identified in a Council approved Concept Plan or in a Council approved corridor in the Transportation System Bylaw

**Primary Entrances**—entries into buildings that will most typically be used by residents, users, and visitors

**Promenades**—progression of open walk areas, typically including landscaping and viewing opportunities

**Protected Bikeway**—a path of travel dedicated to bicycles which has a barrier between the path and adjacent motor vehicle lanes

**Public Realm**—all lands such as streets, parks and plazas that are owned by or accessible to the public

**Redevelopable**—undeveloped or underutilized land

**Redevelopment Capacity**—amount of redevelopment

**Redevelopment (reuse) Sites**—sites that have previously been developed and are slated to be developed again

**Retail**—businesses that engage in the sale of merchandise or that are restaurants

**Retail Anchor**—can be a single retail use or a cluster of similar use, high traffic generating uses tha foster and lead to the combination ('chaining') of additional shopping activities along a retail street or within a shopping centre during a single shopping trip. A retail anchor may range from 930 m² to 13,900 m². Typically retail anchors in a TOD setting range from 2,790 m² to 5,575 m².

**Rezoning**—the process of establishing a new zoning designation for a site or area

**Right-of-Way (ROW)**—a strip of land, including the space above and below the surface that is platted, dedicated, condemned, established by prescription or otherwise legally established for the use of pedestrians, vehicles, or utilities

Roadways, Arterial—Intended to carry large volumes of traffic between areas ("through" traffic) with fewer access opportunities to adjacent developments and are defined by the Transportation System Bylaw.

**Roadways, Collector**—Provide neighbourhood travel between local and arteial roads and direct access to adjacent lands. Buses generally operate on collector raodas within neighbourhoods.

**Screening**—to block from view or limit visibility

**Setback**—the minimum distance from the property line at which a building must be built

**Site**—an area considered for the purpose of zoning, rezoning, development, or planning. A site can consist of a parcel or multiple parcels, or one ownership or multiple ownerships Station Area—the area defined by a circle with an 800 metre radius (1,600 metre diameter) that is centered on a fixed-alignment station platform

**Station Area Plan**—a framework for private sector redevelopment and public sector improvements within 800 metres of an LRT station

**Station Area Type**—a set of categories for LRT station areas, each category describing different land use and intensity expectations, and establishing unique characteristics that will guide development and redevelopment within a station area; one category or "type" is assigned to each station area

**Statutory Plan**—a plan adopted by municipal bylaw under the authority of the Municipal Government Act. Examples of a statutory plan are: a Municipal Development Plan, Area Structure Plans and Area Redevelopment Plans

**Suburban Fringe**—areas that exist on outer edge of existing suburban development

**Sustainable (Design/Planning)**—practices that protect and enhance the human and natural resources that will be needed by future generations to enjoy a quality of life equal to or greater than our own; able to be sustained for long periods of time with minimal harm to the environment

**Thresholds**—the conditions under which certain requirements apply

**TOD Guidelines**—a set of guidelines that identify design expectations for the area within 400 metres of each existing or planned LRT station area. They define expectations, determine uses, establish the area character, and identify minimum and maximum expectations for many area aspects

Transit Avenue—Linear corridors served by one or more bus routes that provide all day service and connect major trip generators, LRT stations and transit centres. The bus routes serving these areas operate with at least 15 minute frequency during peak, weekday miday periods, Saturday midday periods and Sunday midday periods, seven days a week. Land uses along these corridors (residential, commercial, and/or employment) are oriented toward the street, have existing or planned higher density, pedestrian orientation and design and may have existing pedestrain traffic.

**Transit Centre**—a major focal point or activity centre specifically designed and developed for ETS services. Transit Centre locations often coincide with other major activity nodes such as shopping centres and spectator sports venues to promote multi-purpose trips and provide convenient route interchange facilities. Transit Centres are the interfaces between "main line" and express service routes and local feeder and community bus services.

Transit Oriented Development (TOD)—urban development that is planned and integrated with an LRT station at its core. In a TOD, housing, shopping and employment are concentrated along a network of walkable and bikeable streets within 400 metres of the transit station

**Transit Ridership**—the number of riders who ride a public transportation system such as a bus and/ or LRT system

**Transition (Heights)**—the tapering of building heights as a way of achieving compatibility of built forms and mitigating impacts (views, sunlight, etc.) of shifts from areas of one character (i.e. low-rise) to another (i.e. high rise)

**Transparency**—the degree of visibility through a building façade

**Trip Generator**—an activity or use that requires vehicular travel, regardless of the form of travel (LRT, bus, bicycle, car)

**Underutilized Parcels**—land that is currently developed or was at one time developed and that is insufficiently utilized or is serving below its full potential, e.g. old strip mall, surface parking lot

**Undeveloped Land**—land (vacant) that has not previously been developed

**Universally Accessible**—design of the built environment in a way that increases the accessibility, safety, mobility, and independence for people of all ages and abilities

**Urban Parks**—predominantly landscaped parks within an urban setting that primarily serve the local community

**Urban Plaza**—predominantly hardscaped plazas within an urban setting that primarily serve the local community

**Vehicle Throughway**—a path of dedicated travel intended primarily for cars and trucks

**View Lines**—an area that is visually unobstructed to allow pedestrians and vehicles clear views in order to maximize safety

**Walk-Up Ridership**—riders of transit who have arrived by foot to enter the transit system

**Walkability**—The extent to which the built environment allows people to walk to get to everyday destinations for work, shopping, education, and recreation, and can be affected by street connectivity, mix of land uses, destinations, and pedestrian infrastructure.

