

# METRO LINE FACT SHEET - OPERATIONS

For the first time in Edmonton, two different LRT lines are operating on the same set of tracks. The Capital Line continues to operate between Century Park Station and Clareview Station, while the Metro Line is designed to operate between Health Sciences Station and the new NAIT Station. LRT passengers will be able to change between the Capital Line and the Metro Line anywhere between Health Sciences Station and NAIT Station.

## SIGNALLING SYSTEM

Light rail systems operate according to a few basic principles, including ensuring enough space between trains for the system to operate safely.

Edmonton's original LRT system, the Capital Line, has used a fixed-block signalling system, which divides the track into defined blocks and ensures there is always at least one empty block between trains.

A new signalling system is being installed to manage train movements on both the Metro and Capital Lines. The communication-based train control signalling system that the Metro Line uses is a type of moving-block system, which maintains a block of space **around** each train rather than a block of space **between** each train. This allows ETS to safely tighten up the spacing between trains so they can run more frequently.

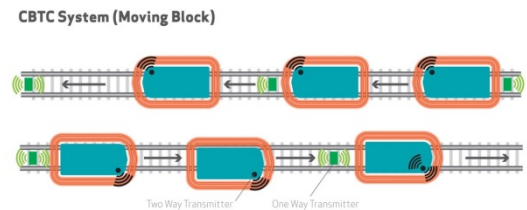
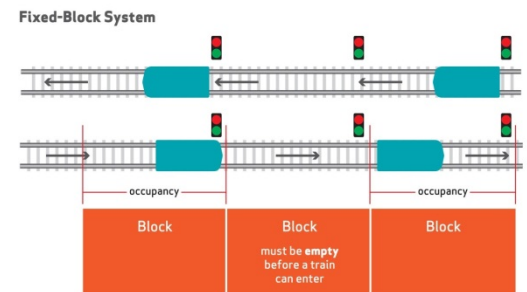
It has taken the contractor much longer than anticipated to deliver the new signalling system, which has delayed the opening of the Metro Line.

## STAGED IMPLEMENTATION

The City has developed an interim solution in order to open the Metro Line to public service as soon as possible:

- In the short term, Metro Line trains will run every 15 minutes between Century Park and NAIT. Metro Line trains will occasionally run between Health Sciences/Jubilee Station and NAIT Station (weekdays after 10 p.m., Saturdays after 7 p.m., and all day Sundays).
- In the longer term—once the new signalling system is fully operational—Metro Line trains will run every 10 minutes between Health Sciences/Jubilee Station and NAIT, as originally designed. This plan offers the best approach to serving an increasing number of LRT passengers and accommodates the City's long-term plan to extend the Metro Line to St. Albert. Trains will run every two-and-a-half minutes between Health Sciences/Jubilee and Churchill Station.

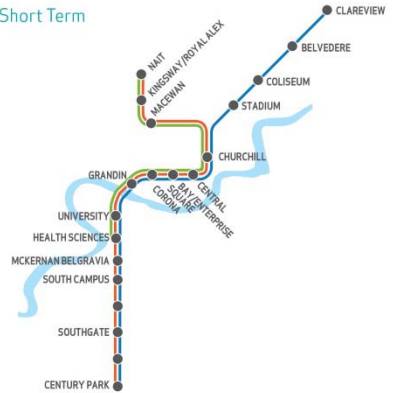
In order to implement the first stage of Metro Line operations the City is taking a 'line of sight' approach. 'Line of sight' is a railway industry mode of operation that requires a speed restriction so that train operators can come to a stop within half the range of their vision. The 'line of sight' operation for the Metro Line requires that trains do not exceed 25 km/h between MacEwan Station and NAIT Station. Travel time between Churchill and NAIT will be approximately 14 minutes. This travel time will improve as work on the signaling system continues. When the signalling system is fully operational the travel time between Churchill and NAIT will be 7 minutes.



**Fixed Block vs. Moving Block Signalling**

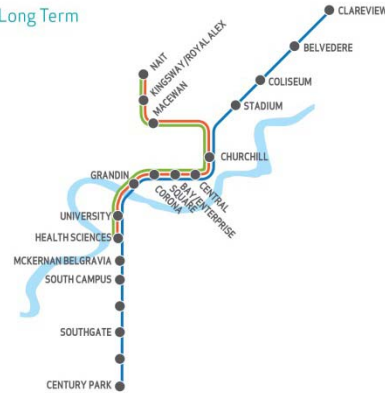
■ Metro Line Peak   
 ■ Metro Line Off-Peak   
 ■ Capital Line Peak and Off-Peak

### Short Term



Metro Line trains will run every 15 minutes.

### Long Term



Metro Line trains will run every 10 minutes.

## Short & Long-term Operating Plans for the Metro Line

### SERVICE IMPACTS

When the Metro Line opens to public service, it will be important for northbound passengers to make sure they are on the right train so they reach their intended destination:

- Capital Line trains will be travelling to Clareview Station.
- Metro Line trains will be travelling to NAIT Station.
- Passengers can listen to the station announcements or watch the digital signs on the trains to ensure they're catching the right train.

Capacity on the Capital Line will also be initially affected:

- Every third train running between Churchill Station and Century Park Station will be a three-car Metro Line train most of the time.
- Capital Line trains will be increased from four to five cars to offset this change.
- The number of train cars running between Century Park Station and Churchill Station will actually increase from 12 to 13 in a fifteen-minute peak period. The number of train cars running between Churchill Station and Clareview Station will decrease from 12 to 10 in a fifteen-minute peak period.
- With every third train branching off to the Metro Line, Capital Line passengers north of Churchill Station may have to wait a bit longer to catch a train. Peak-hour trains will arrive every 5 or 10 minutes.
- Passengers may also experience pass-ups during peak hours, meaning that some trains will bypass a station because they are full.

When the Metro Line terminates at Health Sciences/Jubilee Station, passengers will have to get off the train before it moves on to the tail track located just south of the station. Operators will use the tail track to switch directions and head back north to NAIT. Passengers can take a Capital Line train to travel further south.

Thank you for your patience as the City works to bring the Metro Line into full operation.

### FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE METRO LINE

- Visit [edmonton.ca/metroline](http://edmonton.ca/metroline)
- Call the LRT Projects Information Centre at 780.496.4874
- E-mail [LRTprojects@edmonton.ca](mailto:LRTprojects@edmonton.ca)
- Join our e-mail update list! E-mail us with the subject "subscribe to Metro Line."