

Metro Line scheduled to open in spring 2015

Based on the most recent testing schedule provided by Thales Rail Signalling Solutions Inc., the City of Edmonton is cautiously optimistic the Metro Line LRT will open to public service in spring 2015.



The Metro Line was originally scheduled to open in spring 2014, but the complexity of the interface between the Communication Based Train Control (CBTC) signaling system and Edmonton's existing LRT system requirements delayed completion of the project. Thales and the City have been working to resolve technological issues that must be addressed before the Metro Line can operate safely and reliably.

"The CBTC signaling system is advanced technology that will optimize LRT operations and enhance train frequency on the Metro Line," says Transportation Services General Manager Dorian Wandzura. "Our signaling contractor, Thales, has made some progress over the last few months, but they still have several project milestones to achieve before they can turn the system over to the City for evaluation and ETS operator training."

Communication Based Train Control allows LRT trains to detect how close they are to each other, with oversight by a centralized master control. This allows trains to safely reduce spacing between them, and provide more frequent service. In contrast, the traditional fixed-block system of existing Edmonton's LRT system requires LRT trains to maintain greater distance between them, which means less frequent service.

Operating the Metro Line with a CBTC system will optimize LRT service overall, but integrating the CBTC with the fixed-block system is taking longer than anticipated.

"Thales appreciates the patience of everyone in Edmonton as we work to complete the signaling system for the Metro Line," says Thales Vice President Mario Peloquin. "We understand how important this essential transportation infrastructure is for the people of Edmonton, and we remain committed to delivering an outstanding product that is safe, efficient and reliable, and that will serve the city for generations to come."

The City thanks Edmonton residents for their patience as we work to complete the Metro Line LRT, which is expected to add 13,200 weekday riders to Edmonton's LRT network and link major destinations such as NAIT, the Royal Alexandra Hospital and MacEwan University to the rest of the network.

For more project information please visit edmonton.ca/metroline. For infographics please visit the [City of Edmonton Photo Gallery](#).

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