



# BACKGROUND

Capital Projects Update  
October 2020

Edmonton

## Capital Project Updates

Phase 1 construction of [Imagine Jasper Avenue](#) from 109 Street to 114 Street is moving along on schedule. The Imagine Jasper Avenue project will revitalize the roadway from 109th Street to 124th Street to create welcoming spaces while maintaining access for commuters. The project team is working quickly to reopen the westbound lanes to traffic in the coming week.

The first stage of the [Terwillegar Expressway](#) project is underway with pregrading and earthworks. This project will improve vehicle capacity, reduce congestion and delays and improve the accommodation of transit users, pedestrians and cyclists. Construction of the main roadworks is anticipated to begin in spring 2021, for completion by winter 2022.

The [Scona Road/Saskatchewan Drive Intersection Improvement](#) work began in the spring and was completed in September. This work included the reconfiguration of the intersection to a single-stage pedestrian crossing with more visible pedestrian waiting locations and maintained the right turn eastbound to southbound.

Work on the [Ellerslie Road Widening](#) project will be substantially completed by the end of this year, with the potential of seasonal landscaping work being completed in the spring of 2021.

The [Neighbourhood Renewal Program](#) is about to wrap up renewal in ten neighbourhoods this season, with alley work occurring in three Edmonton neighbourhoods. This construction has progressed largely on time and on budget. The program will continue to advance with planning and public engagement for neighbourhoods scheduled for work in 2021-2023.

The [Yellowhead Trail Freeway Conversion Program](#) saw a significant milestone in 2020 with the start of construction of the first section of Yellowhead Trail widening [between 50 Street to the North Saskatchewan River](#). Construction proceeded so well that some work scheduled for 2021, including work on Victoria Trail and the start of widening on eastbound lanes near 50 Street, started this year. The site is now being winterized. While drivers may see some on-site monitoring and maintenance activity over the winter, there are no further planned lane closures until work resumes in 2021.

In LRT, crews have completed a number of major maintenance and revitalization projects this season, including LRT pedestrian crossing upgrades, Capital Line track replacements and platform renewals.

The [Valley Line Southeast LRT](#) saw extensive construction progress over the course of 2020. The bridge deck of the Tawatinâ bridge is now complete, with work to start on the underslung pedestrian walkway in the coming months.

The main LRT network transfer point--the Churchill Connector building in Churchill Square--has risen up out of the ground.

The Gerry Wright Operations and Maintenance facility has begun limited operations, and the full fleet of Light Rail Vehicles is expected by the end of year, with 18 of 26 arriving earlier this month. While the project isn't quite where the City was hoping it would be, 2020 has been a very productive year and we can expect an equally busy winter on the project with LRV testing beginning. The Valley Line Southeast is expected to open to the public some time in 2021.

Work is continuing on the [Metro Line Northwest LRT](#) Phase 1 extension into Blatchford, which is scheduled to open in 2024-2025. This year, crews installed underground sewer, storm and electrical infrastructure.

The City made significant progress on utility relocations for the [Valley Line West LRT](#), as well as preparing the route for construction by completing necessary building relocations. The project continues its preparations for full construction to begin in 2021.

The [Mill Woods Transit Centre](#) is almost complete and is expected to open in spring 2021. This year, the work focused on constructing the transit centre building and covered walkway, reconfiguring the existing parking lot, reconstructing access roads, building the busway and adding landscaping. The new transit centre will offer a closer connection to the future Mill Woods Stop on the Valley Line Southeast LRT.

Work continues on our LRT renewal program, including the redevelopment of [Stadium LRT Station](#), with crews removing the east roof canopy earlier this month. The project is expected to be complete in early 2022.

As part of the City's Rehabilitation Program, eight major facility rehabilitations were completed this year -- all while keeping each facility operating and without major disruption to services. The work included bringing mechanical and electrical systems up to date, reducing energy costs and adding another 15 to 20 years to their lifespans. Facilities included in this work were: Richard Paterson Transit Garage, Mitchell Transit Garage, Ferrier Transit Garage, Percy Wickman Transit Garage, Centennial Transit Garage, Westwood Mobile Equipment Services, EPS Westwood Renovations and Westwood Central Services.

The [Blatchford](#) community also continued to grow this year. Blatchford Renewable Energy connected their District Energy Sharing System to the first homes and is now providing renewable heating, cooling and hot water. The construction of stage one also continued, the first residents have moved in and Blatchford's building partners are planning for show home openings.

Construction for the [Muttart Rehabilitation](#) project is ahead of schedule and will be completed this year. The rehabilitation work included the replacement of the complete HVAC system for the facility, replacement of all major electrical equipment, as well as architectural improvements to enhance the overall user experience, all while continuing to maintain the plant collection throughout construction.

This year also saw the grand opening of the renewed Stanley Milner Library. The revitalized space includes a children's library that is three times the size of the former space, a 10,000 square foot Makerspace, a multi-storey interactive digital wall and Thunderbird House which is an Indigenous gathering space.

Construction for the [Queen Elizabeth II Planetarium](#) is complete and the facility is ready for use. The restored Planetarium - the first of its kind in Canada - is an important community gathering place and a vibrant cultural

hub for science and astronomy. Our partners, Telus World of Science Edmonton, are arranging for equipment installation to support their planned programming.

We completed two new art spaces in the Quarters this year with [Ociciwan Contemporary Art Centre and CO\\*LAB](#), as well as [Kinistinâw Park](#). These spaces will support the arts, embrace the diversity of the area, and add amenities to support the community in the downtown Quarters.

In addition to building new parks, the City is working to renew and improve existing park spaces including [Butler Memorial Park](#), which will support the continued revitalization of this area.

[Sir Wilfrid Laurier](#) also saw the construction of a new naturalized playground located in Laurier/Buena Vista Park and was inspired by Edmonton's renowned river valley.

The Jumpstart Inclusive Playground, located in [Clareview District Park](#), was also completed this year and accommodates physical, cognitive and sensory disabilities in a space where all children can play side-by-side. The playground is a partnership between the City of Edmonton and Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities, and will open on October 16, 2020.

For more information on these and other projects visit [building.edmonton.ca](http://building.edmonton.ca).