



# History of the West LRT

The West LRT Line was first approved by Council in 1988, based on the study "West LRT Update Functional Study - Volume 3". A later report (approved in 1990) provided updated costs, population and employment figures and recommended constructing the West LRT in one stage from downtown to 69th Street S.W.

In 2006, the Transportation department conducted a review of the approved alignment to update construction and land acquisition costs. In November 2007, City Council approved the alignment and \$700 million in funding to allow the West LRT project to proceed.



# The West LRT Project | February 2008

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## West LRT Land Acquisition Program

Several studies have been conducted on the West LRT over the past 20 years, culminating with approval by City Council in November 2007 of the alignment and funding for construction of the project. (See History of the West LRT)

Once the alignment was approved, a review was conducted of the entire 8.4 km length of the project to determine where it would be necessary, at this stage of the project, to acquire the property required for the right-of-way for the track and stations, and also to provide adequate space for construction to take place.

A number of properties, both residential and commercial will need to be purchased by The City this year to prepare for construction to begin in 2009. The City is fully committed to negotiating settlements with property owners based on offers that reflect fair market value. Owners of the identified properties will be contacted in early February to begin the acquisition process, and once the identified property owners are contacted, details of the acquisition program will be available online at: [calgary.ca/westlrt](http://calgary.ca/westlrt).

At this time, the land acquisition program is focused solely on purchasing property required for construction to proceed. Additional lands may be required to achieve future land use goals depending on the final West LRT design and transit-oriented development.

## City Council approves alignment and funding

On Nov. 20, 2007, City Council approved the route alignment and \$700 million in funding, giving the go-ahead for the construction of the new West LRT Project. Although several extensions have been added to the existing CTrain system over the last decade, this is the first new line to be added in over 20 years. Citizens on Calgary's west side can expect CTrain service available on the West LRT line in late 2012. (Related reports can be viewed online at [calgary.ca/westlrt](http://calgary.ca/westlrt))

This is a massive project that has several components, including:

### Engineering, design and construction

- Engineering design and construction for 8.4 kilometres of track and seven CTrain stations.
- Three Bus Terminal/Park 'N' Ride facilities.
- A public engagement program to accompany the engineering phase. (Representatives from communities directly adjacent to the project can obtain details on how to get involved at the upcoming information session.)
- The purchase of Light Rail Vehicles required to service the West LRT line.
- Road improvements at 17th Avenue S.W. and Sarcee Trail (still to be approved by Council).

### Land acquisition

Another important component of the project is land acquisition. Before construction can begin in 2009, it is necessary for The City to acquire property along the West LRT alignment in order to provide the right-of-way for the track and stations as well as space for construction. (More details on the Land Acquisition Program are on page 4.)

### Land Use Study

The accompanying West LRT Land Use Study, which began in 2006, will continue through this year and into 2009 with the development of a future Area Structure Plan. (See page 2 for an update.) In addition, an amendment to the Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP) for the community of Sunalta commenced recently and will continue over the next several months.

### Project management

The City will act as the project manager for the West LRT Project. An engineering consultant is being retained and will begin work on the pre-design component immediately. The pre-design phase will develop information that will be used to retain services for the design/build contract.

## Information session

(drop-in format)

**Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2008**  
5 – 8 p.m.  
Glendale Elementary School Gym  
2415 Kelwood Dr. S.W.

Drop-in to view information on the approved route alignment, engineering, land use study and land acquisitions.

## More information

VISIT THE PROJECT WEBSITE: [calgary.ca/westlrt](http://calgary.ca/westlrt)

CONTACT US BY PHONE:

WEST LRT PROJECT OFFICE

**Gale Simpson**  
Communications Manager | (403) 268-5886

WEST LRT LAND USE STUDY AND SUNALTA ARP

**Dawn Boutilier**  
Senior Planner | Land Use Planning & Policy | (403) 268-1902

WRITE TO US:

**West LRT Project Office**  
17th floor, 600 Sixth Ave. S.W. | Calgary, AB | T2P 0T8



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## West LRT Land Use Study Update

The West LRT Land Use Study launched in November 2006 encompasses the communities of Scarboro/Sunalta West, Shaganappi, Rosscarrock, Westgate, Glendale and portions of Spruce Cliff, Killarney/Glengarry and Richmond (see map).

The purpose of the Study is to produce a land use plan that will direct the right kind of development in the vicinity of future LRT stations, while at the same time, manage development pressures in other areas. The land use plan will align with Council's Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Guidelines (2004) and the Calgary Plan (1998). Ultimately, a new Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP) will be prepared for the previously mentioned communities.

A series of three visioning workshops held in March 2007 captured valuable input from the 85 people who participated. More than 700 others attended the subsequent open houses to rate the ideas generated at the workshops. The participants provided feedback to planning staff on which of the potential scenarios they found most appealing.

The Land Use Study project team has been working with a Citizens Advisory Group since March of last year to develop ideas for a draft concept plan. A Vision Statement and the key Guiding Principles have been created for the Land Use Study, based on community input to date. (Visit [calgary.ca/westlrt](http://calgary.ca/westlrt)) During the past few months, the project team has worked with other City departments and consultants to develop supporting information such as a market study, transportation and servicing analysis, and density analysis to assist in developing the plan.

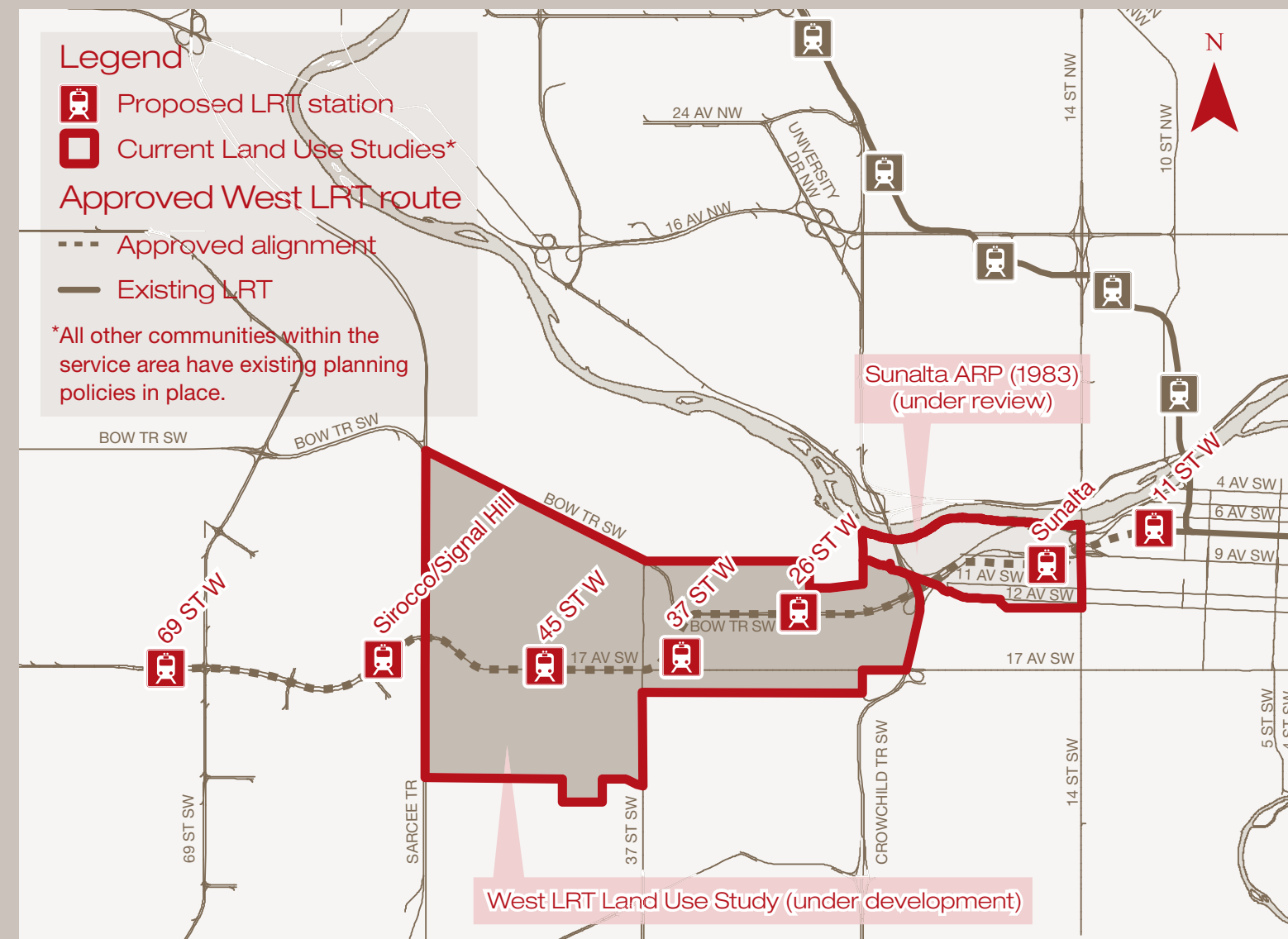
Once the draft concept plan is prepared, a public Information Session will be held to allow interested citizens to provide input on the plan.

## What is TOD?

Transit Oriented Development (TOD) policies apply to an area that is within a five-minute walk (approximately a 600-metre radius) of an LRT station or major bus stop. They take advantage of the public investment in transit and help to accommodate the demands of a growing city. For more information on TOD visit [calgary.ca/westlrt](http://calgary.ca/westlrt).

## What is an Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP)?

An ARP is a plan that establishes land use and other City policy for a specific community. An ARP must be consistent with broader city-wide policy objectives and must respect the existing community context. Essentially, an ARP is about finding the balance that's right for any given community.



The approved West LRT alignment connects to the west end of Seventh Avenue S.W. and follows Bow Trail to 33rd Street S.W., where it bends to the south and travels west along 17th Avenue S.W. to 69th Street S.W.

## Project planning milestones

	FEB. 2008	MARCH 2008	APRIL 2008	MAY 2008	JUNE 2008	JULY 2008	AUG. 2008	SEPT. 2008	OCT. 2008	NOV. 2008	DEC. 2008	Q1 2009	Q2 2009	Q3 2009	Q4 2009	2010	2011	2012	
<b>LAND ACQUISITION</b>																			
Land Acquisition Program																			
<b>ENGINEERING AND PRE-DESIGN</b>																			
Pre-design Engineering Program																			
Design-build phase																			
<b>LAND USE STUDY</b>																			
Land Use Study concept development																			
West LRT Area Redevelopment Plan																			
Sunalta Area Redevelopment Plan Amendment Study																			