

SkyTrain Station Upgrades Project

Project Background

Expo Line, the original SkyTrain line, officially launched in January 1986 with 15 stations, providing service between Waterfront Station and New Westminster Station. The service has been an incredible success since it launched, and increased passenger demand has spurred progressive extension in 1989, 1990 and 1994 to add five additional stations and bring the line to King George in Surrey.

Population and demand continue to increase; between 1999 and 2008 alone there was a 68 per cent passenger increase. The time has come to make necessary improvements to ensure the Expo Line continues to meet the needs of the region's growing population. [The Expo Line Upgrade Strategy](#) published in September 2010 provides recommendations on ways to increase capacity on the Expo Line to match projected demand. It also supports the objective of the B.C. Government's Provincial Transit Plan to double the capacity of the line.

The strategy states that significant station upgrades are required to meet infrastructure needs. The SkyTrain station and exchanges upgrades are prioritized by the stations with the greatest need for accessibility and capacity improvements and are consistent with the Provincial Transit Plan and Expo Line Upgrade Strategy.

The following seven SkyTrain stations along the Expo Line will be upgraded:

1. Main Street–Science World
2. Commercial–Broadway (Phase 2 Upgrades)
3. Metrotown
4. Scott Road
5. Joyce–Collingwood
6. New Westminster
7. Surrey Central and Bus Exchange

Public consultation on individual projects for the SkyTrain Station Upgrades Project has been ongoing since 2008.

Construction work is currently underway at two stations and upgrades will be substantially complete at all seven stations by the end of 2016.

Funding

The SkyTrain station upgrades cost \$164 million: the Government of Canada is providing \$41 million through the Building Canada Fund; the Government of British Columbia is contributing \$83 million and TransLink is contributing \$40 million. This funding program requires that station upgrade projects are complete by 2016.

For every \$20 TransLink invests — \$80 is provided by our partners



- Federal
- Provincial
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Main Street–Science World Station



Artist Rendering

Main Street–Science World Station is the oldest station on Metro Vancouver’s rapid transit system. Originally built in 1982 as a demonstration station for Expo ‘86, upgrades have long been recognized as a priority – it’s one of the stations where accessibility upgrades are needed the most.

Improvements at this station will allow TransLink to deliver on the commitment to meet accessibility standards, improve the transfer experience for passengers arriving by bus and increase the capacity of the Expo Line.

Summary of Upgrades

- An expanded east stationhouse with a new entrance
- New west station entrance
- New escalators, stairs and elevator to increase capacity and improve accessibility
- Open station design with better lighting and visibility for a safer and improved customer experience
- New secure parking area for bicycles

Construction began in spring 2013, and is expected to be complete by fall 2014. SkyTrain service will operate normally during construction with the exception of early 2014 to summer 2014 when SkyTrain will operate shuttle train service to Main Street–Science World Station. During this time, two-car trains will provide service to/from Main Street–Science World Station via Waterfront and Commercial–Broadway Stations.

Commercial–Broadway Station



Artist Rendering

Commercial–Broadway Station is a major transit hub for Metro Vancouver and serves the highest number of SkyTrain and bus passenger boardings in the network (150,000 per day). The number of passengers using the station is expected to grow, especially when the Evergreen Line is complete.

Phase 1 of station upgrades was completed in 2009, with improvements made to address capacity, accessibility and physical security. Phase 2 upgrades will expand the station to accommodate growing ridership.

Summary of Upgrades

- New east platform serving westbound Expo Line trains
- New pedestrian passageway over Broadway, connecting the platform to the Millennium line platforms and the westbound 99 B–Line stop
- Widening of the walkway that provides access to Platforms 1 and 2
- New elevators and escalators to increase capacity and further improve accessibility
- New secure parking area for bicycles

Construction is scheduled to begin in fall 2014, and is expected to be complete by summer 2016.

Metrotown Station



Artist Rendering

Metrotown Station is the second busiest SkyTrain station, serving 50,000 trips each day. The bus exchange, a transfer point for 12 bus routes, serves 25,000 trips per day. The station and bus exchange currently face significant capacity issues, and have long been identified as priorities for upgrades.

Working closely with the City of Burnaby, updates to the Metrotown Station and bus exchange will improve accessibility and passenger movement. Expansion of the station will better accommodate the high number of passengers who use the station today and the growing number of passengers expected in the future.

Summary of Upgrades

- Rebuilt east entrance and addition of new west stationhouse
- New stairs and escalators to increase capacity and further improve accessibility
- Replacement of the original elevator with two new elevators accessible via a new central entry
- A relocated bus exchange
- New secure parking area for bicycles

Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2014, and is expected to be complete by fall 2016.

Scott Road Station



Construction phase, fall 2013

Scott Road Station is a popular Park and Ride location as well as bus transfer point for South of Fraser residents. Upgrades to Scott Road Station are underway to improve accessibility, passenger safety and service for the thousands of customers who use the station every day.

Summary of Upgrades

- A new elevator at the west entrance
- Enhanced stairs, ramps and curb ramps to improve accessibility and increase capacity
- A re-designed bus loop
- Upgraded parking lot with new shelters and pedestrian walkways
- Construction work began in spring 2013 and will be complete by winter 2013/14.

New Westminster Station



Current station design

New Westminster Station is integrated into the mixed-use development beside and around the station. As the neighbourhood around the station continues to grow and develop, the station requires updates to better meet the needs of SkyTrain customers.

Summary of Upgrades

- Upgrades to existing escalators and stairs to increase capacity and improve accessibility
- Replacement of the original south elevator
- Improved station design with better lighting and visibility for a safer and improved customer experience

The project is currently in the design phase and there may be some modifications to the listed improvements. Construction is scheduled to begin in summer 2014 and is expected to be complete by fall 2015.

Surrey Central Station

Surrey Central Station is located in Surrey City Centre. The station is an important transfer point for bus and SkyTrain passengers, and the neighbourhood is emerging as a significant destination.

Surrey Central Station is in the planning phase and TransLink is working closely with the City of Surrey to identify upgrades to the bus exchange and Surrey Central Station. Construction is expected to be complete by the end of 2016.

Joyce–Collingwood Station

Joyce–Collingwood Station serves a high-density, mixed-use neighbourhood and is an important bus transfer location. As the number of passengers using the station grows, the station requires upgrades to increase capacity and improve accessibility.

Summary of Upgrades

- A new elevator and two escalators in the east stationhouse to increase capacity and improve accessibility
- Upgrades to the existing elevator and escalator in the west stationhouse
- Improved station design with better lighting and visibility for a safer and improved customer experience
- New secure parking area for bicycles

The project is currently in the design phase and there may be some modifications to the listed improvements. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2015 and is expected to be complete by the end of 2016.

For More Information

For additional information and construction updates, please visit the OnTrack section of the TransLink website: translink.ca/ontrack or call Customer Service at **604.953.3333**