

Downtown Investment Review

This table provides an overview of investment made in the downtown through the implementation of the Capital City Downtown Plan and Downtown Vibrancy Strategy for 2015 to 2023 as well as any approved budgets (as of December 2024) for 2024 and beyond.

Since 2015, the City of Edmonton has invested or committed approximately \$1.9 billion to Downtown-focused projects, including \$406.2 million in operating funding and \$1.5 billion in capital investments. In addition to this, the City has delivered approximately \$4.6 billion in major transportation infrastructure, including the Valley Line LRT, Metro Line North, and system-wide LRT enhancements and replacements. While these transit investments serve the entire city, they deliver significant connectivity and accessibility benefits to the Downtown core.

Together, these investments represent a total of \$6.5 billion in direct and catalytic investment by the City, reinforcing Downtown Edmonton's role as a vital hub for mobility, culture, business and community life.

Overview of Downtown Investment (\$ Millions)				
Downtown Operating				
Category	2015-2023 Actuals	2024-2026 Budget ¹	2027+ Budget ¹	Total
Public Art	5.0	1.1	0.4	6.5
Cleaning & Maintenance ²	2.8	9.8	2.4	15.0
Grants & Incentives ³	185.5	123.1	10.8	319.4
Marketing & Events ⁴	18.1	8.7	0.0	26.8
Public Space & Amenities ⁵	10.3	12.0	4.0	26.3
Security ⁶	5.9	4.7	1.6	12.2
Operating Total	227.6	159.4	19.2	406.2

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Downtown Capital				
Facilities	872.5	28.6	0.0	901.1
Transportation ⁷	115.1	160.2	103.0	378.3
Open Spaces ⁸	62.2	86.3	0.6	149.1
Other Assets ⁹	9.2	34.5	0.0	43.7
Capital Total	1,059.0	309.6	103.6	1,472.2
LRT				
Operating Impacts of Capital - LRT ¹⁰	105.8	123.2	41.7	270.7
LRT Capital ¹¹	2,224.1	1,958.6	148.3	4,331.0
LRT Total	2,329.9	2,081.8	190.0	4,601.7
Downtown Total	3,616.5	2,550.8	312.8	6,480.1

¹ These are the budgets approved as of December 2024. The 2027+ Budget represents a combination of one-time and ongoing annual approved funding.

² Includes Washroom Attendants for Transit, Alberta Transit System Cleanup costs, Vandalism Costs in Downtown Core, Citadel Building on-going maintenance and custodial costs. Note that the approved budget doesn't include funding for approximately \$1M/year to address an increase in vandalism related costs.

³ Funding provided to Downtown initiatives which includes: Station Lands Publicly Accessible Amenity Spaces, Winspear Centre Expansion, Heritage Buildings, Downtown Vibrancy, Edmonton Economic Recovery Construction Grant, Brownfield Redevelopment Incentive, Edmonton Arts Council, Affordable Housing Investment Program, REACH, EndPoverty Edmonton, Boyle Street Community Services, Bissell Centre and SAGE.

⁴ Includes Events, Attraction, Festivals and Event Funding

⁵ Includes public realm supports and improvement works in Downtown such as Public Washroom Strategy, Tree Lighting, Decorative Crosswalks, Traffic Signals and Control boxes, etc.

⁶ Mainly related to Security Guards at Downtown LRT stations

⁷ These projects encompass transportation infrastructure improvements, including road and bridge maintenance, streetscape improvements and active transportation enhancements.

⁸ These projects involve park development, upgrades and maintenance and downtown revitalization initiatives

⁹ These projects focus on public facility improvements and sustainable energy initiatives.

¹⁰ Operating Impact of Capital - LRT includes operating and maintenance costs for the Valley Line Southeast and Metro Line North LRT lines.

¹¹ Includes the entire projects for Valley Line Southeast and West and Metro Line - North as they provide significant value to downtown by improving transit connectivity. LRV upgrades and replacements are also included.