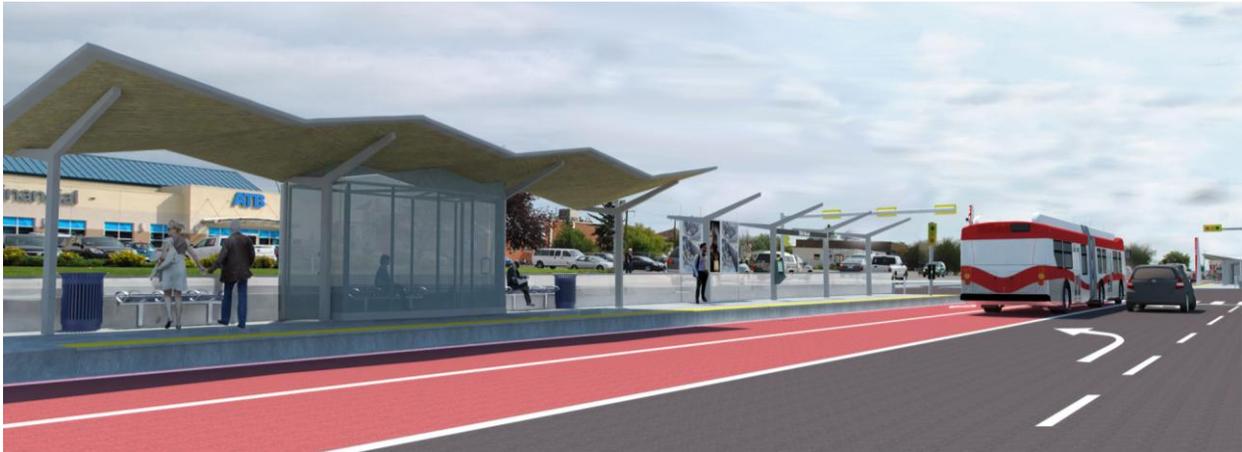


Frequently Asked Questions: 17 Avenue S.E. BRT

The City of Calgary has started construction on the 17 Avenue S.E. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project including construction of new bus-only travel lanes and BRT stations.



Why is this construction happening?

Construction is happening because the city is building a transitway on 17 Avenue S.E. to reduce travel times and increase reliability for Calgarians travelling to and through the southeast. When we're done the transit only lanes will run between Hubalta Road and 9 Avenue S.E. in Inglewood.

Construction will create:

- Dedicated bus lanes and stations along 17 Avenue S.E.
- New road surface, wider sidewalks, boulevards, landscaping, and enhanced crosswalks
- Bridge structures across the Bow River, Deerfoot Trail and Western Headworks Canal for dedicated bus lanes and a multi use trail
- New BRT stations with canopies, heated areas and real-time travel information
- A wider sidewalk to create easy access for pedestrians and cyclists

How long will the work take?

Construction is expected to be done by the end of 2018. To stay up to date with the construction schedule, detours and project information make sure to visit calgary.ca/17avesebrt.

Will 17 Avenue S.E. be accessible during construction?

Yes. This is a two year project, but we won't be on every block or in front of every business at the same time.

Temporary traffic lights are being installed along the corridor. The temporary traffic lights allow us to move the signals during road construction so we can keep people safe when they're driving down the avenue.

We expect to start work between 30 and 36 Streets at the beginning of April 2017. After that, work between 47 Street and Hubalta Road should start late-April, and work between 36 and 47 Streets should start mid-summer. These are the preliminary timelines, and we'll be confirming the start dates at a later date.

How will I be able to get around?

The City is committed to ensuring 17 Avenue S.E. remains accessible and open throughout construction. Two lanes of traffic will be kept open, in each direction, during morning and evening rush hour to help keep 17 Avenue S.E. moving. We will also make sure pedestrians can safely get to where they're going during construction.

What is BRT?

Bus Rapid Transit (or BRT) is a fast, reliable bus service. BRT routes have fewer stops than a regular bus route, which means they can cover more ground, more quickly.

The 17 Avenue S.E. BRT is one of four BRT projects The City is creating to fill important gaps in the existing transit network and provide more direct connections to major destinations. Direct connections are important, as we know that Calgarians are 50 per cent less likely to use transit if they have to make a transfer to a second (or third) bus or train.

Transitways are dedicated bus-only lanes for the exclusive use of transit and emergency vehicles. Transitways bypass congestion on existing roads and provide transit customers with a number of benefits, including:

- Reduced travel times
- Increased speed
- Improved schedule reliability
- Increased customer safety by reducing conflicts with transit vehicles
- Reduced operating costs

How much does the project cost?

The budget for phase one of the project, between Hubalta Road and 28 Street S.E., is \$96 million. The budget for phase two, which includes bridge structures over Deerfoot Trail and the Bow River, is \$85 million.