



LRT Beats Overview

Presented for Information
Edmonton Police Commission

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ETS

- In 2013, 87 million passengers traveled by bus and Light Rail Transit (LRT).
 - 16,225 security-related incidents
 - 659 of those events were Criminal Code





TAPP

Transit and Police Partnership

- Joint Task Force consisted of an integrated team of 4 EPS Constables and 4 ETS Transit Peace Officers
- Deployed between July 13, 2014 to January 1, 2015
- Focussed on High Visibility Patrols, Crime Suppression and Education





TAPP cont'd

Transit and Police Partnership

- PROS
 - Increased Intelligence sharing between EPS and ETS
 - Improved public perception of safety
 - Members became familiar with legitimate/illegitimate users
- CONS
 - Differences in training, experience, and equipment
 - Lack of authorities (TPO) and access to EPS Reporting systems
 - TPOs restricted to 3-month secondments due to union terms
 - Safety concerns for TPOs responding to high risk EPS calls for service without the proper training and tools



Creation of LRT Beats

- Launched: July 2015
- Resources: 1 Sergeant and 8 Constables
- Rotation: 4 on and 4 off
- Coverage: 2 shifts of 6:00 am to 6:00 pm, then 2 shifts of 3:00 pm to 3:00 am
- Shifts: 12 hours long



Core Functions of LRT Beats

- A visible police presence on LRT lines and at LRT stations
- Use training, experience and knowledge to liaise with community members, partners and stakeholders
- Build relationships with Security personnel, Peace Officers and City transit staff with a goal to improve public safety
- Engage and intervene with vulnerable persons
- Liaise with external partners



Patrols

- LRT Beats provides a multi-faceted police presence through the use of Segways, mountain bikes and foot patrols within and around the LRT stations





Operation Labyrinth

June 2018 to September 2018

- Objectives:
 - a) Additional deployments for 4 of 6 divisions that the LRT affects
 - b) Increase police presence during peak times
 - c) Identify high crime/disorder locations
 - d) Decrease crime and disorder



Transit Safety Initiative (TSI)

Oct. 2018 – Dec. 2018

- For 2018 Q4, Primary funding provided by City of Edmonton, Citizen Services department, to increase deployments at LRT stations, bus routes and transit centres.
- Use of integrated teams of EPS and TPO
- Goal: Increase driver/rider safety and decrease bus operator assaults



Transit Safety Initiative (TSI)

Mar. 2019 – Dec. 2019

- Additional funding provided by City of Edmonton to focus on transit centres and bus routes
- Goal: Increase driver/rider safety and decrease bus operator assaults



Current Situation

- One LRT Beat Team patrols LRT line with 18 transit stations
- No capacity to dedicate resources to bus routes or transit terminals
- Ridership increases with population growth and Metro Line expansion
 - Phase 1: NAIT to Blatchford
 - Phase 2: Blatchford for Campbell Road
- LRT Beats stats for 2018:
 - total arrests: 541 warrants executed: 1628
 - occurrences: 700 new charges: 416
- LRT Beats stats for 2019 (YTD to June 11):
 - total arrests: 345 warrants executed: 1303
 - occurrences: 416 new charges: 146



Future State

- Valley Line (south) expected to open in 2021
- Lewis Farms (west) opening date is undetermined
- Propose multiple integrated transit teams to patrol the LRT, bus routes and transit centres



Authority

- Competent guardianship is necessary
- Different levels of authority provide varying degrees of rider confidence and crime deterrent
 - Security guards
 - TPOs
 - Police



Questions?