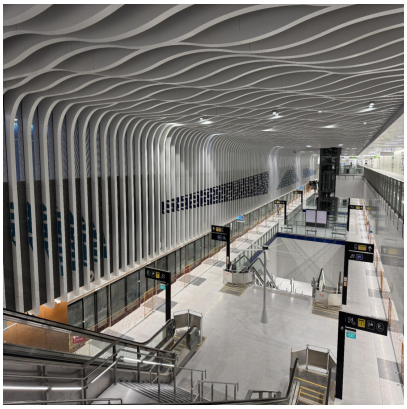

TEL5 and DTL3e opening on 26 December 2026: Bedok South, Sungei Bedok and Xilin explained

### Description

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The TEL5 and DTL3e opening date is now fixed: 26 December 2026. Three new stations open that day, adding 4.3 km of track in the east and making Sungei Bedok the second interchange between the Thomson-East Coast Line and the Downtown Line. LTA announced the details on 4 November.

## TEL5 and DTL3e opening: the three new stations

TEL Stage 5 runs about 2.1 km from Bayshore to Sungei Bedok. The DTL Extension runs about 2.2 km from Sungei Bedok to Expo. Together they add:

- TE30 Bedok South, on the TEL along Upper East Coast Road
- TE31/DT37 Sungei Bedok, the TEL and DTL interchange
- DT36 Xilin, on the DTL beneath Xilin Avenue and Changi South Avenue 3




TE30 Bedok South station. Source: Land Transport Authority

Bedok South serves residents and schools around the Bayshore precinct. Sungei Bedok is an underground interchange near Upper East Coast Road and Bedok Road, and it will have underground bicycle parking. Xilin gives better access to the Changi South industrial estate and Changi Business

Park.

## How much time you could save

LTA gave three examples of journeys using both lines. Times are LTAâ??s estimates.

- Havelock to Changi Business Park: 45 minutes, down from 1 hour 10 minutes (25 minutes saved)
- Marine Terrace to Expo: 25 minutes, down from 40 minutes (15 minutes saved)
- Marine Parade to Tampines: 35 minutes, down from 45 minutes (10 minutes saved)

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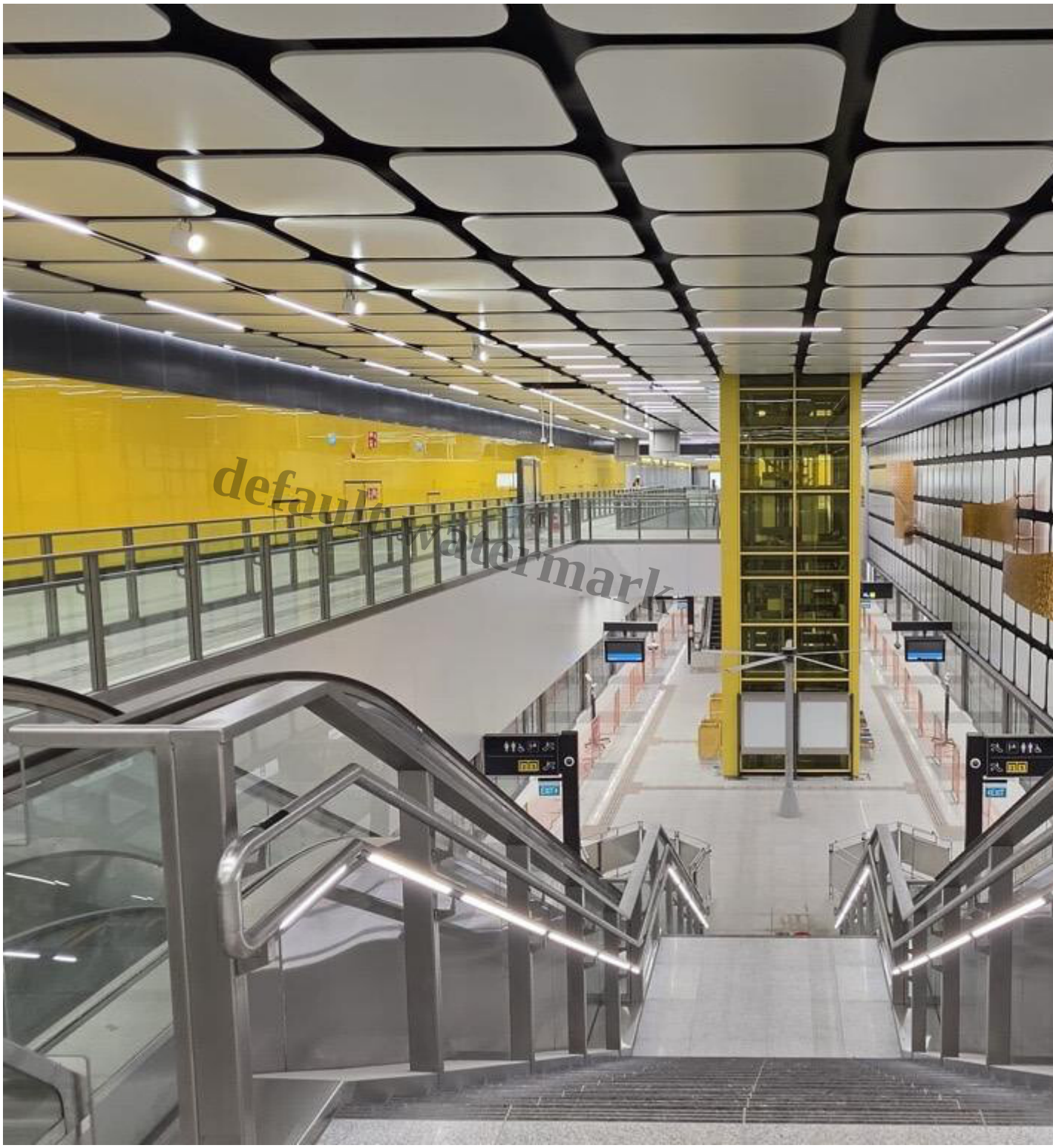


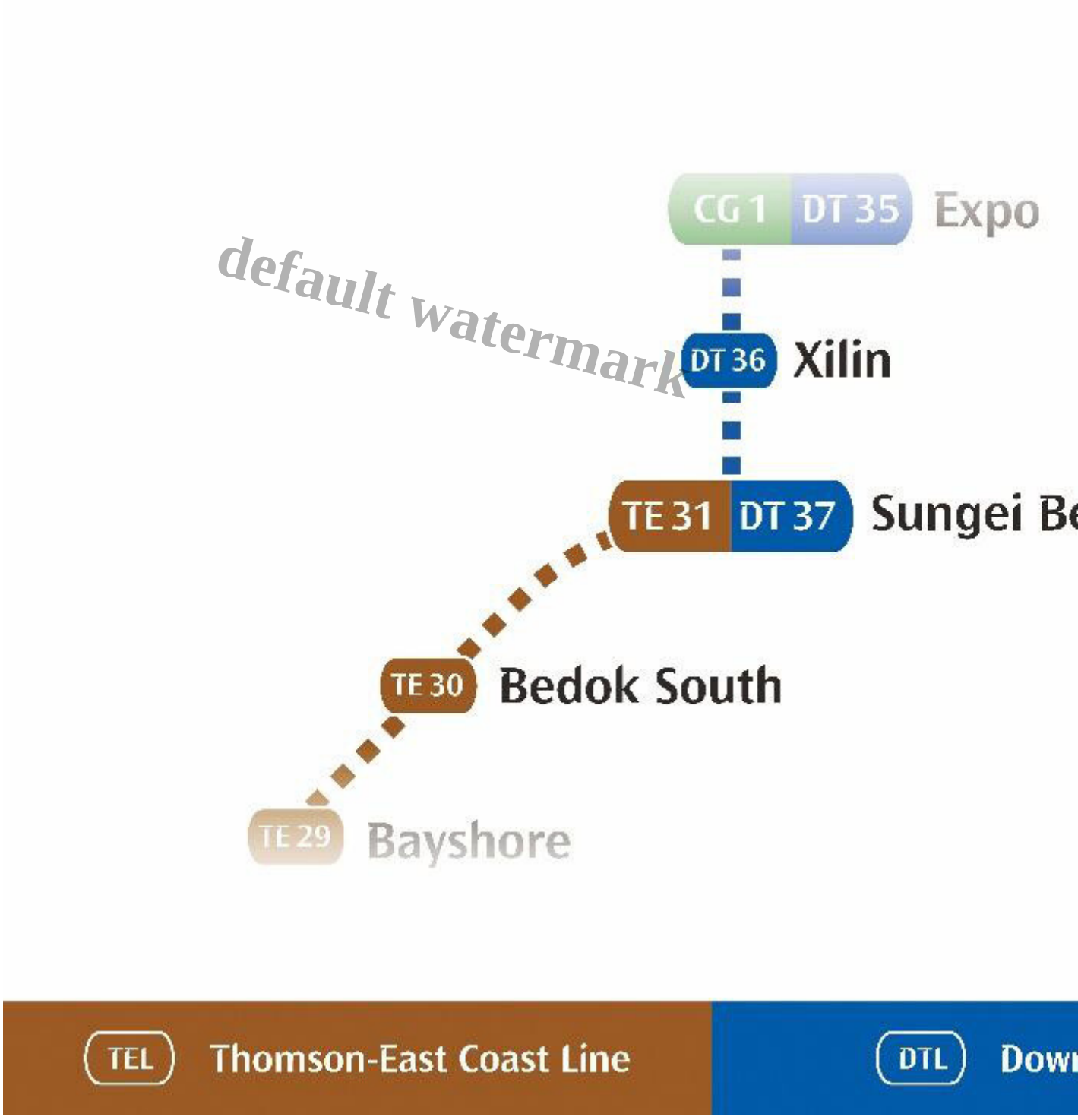

DT36 Xilin station. Source: Land Transport Authority

If you work at Changi Business Park or study in the Expo area, the Xilin stop is the one to watch. If you live around Bedok South, the line brings an MRT station closer to home.

## What the networks look like after 26 December

TEL5 completes the Thomson-East Coast Lineâ??s five-stage plan. The line will have 29 operational stations over 42.8 km. The Downtown Line will have 37 operational stations over 44.6 km.

About 240,000 households will be within a 10-minute walk of a TEL station, and about 220,000 within a 10-minute walk of a DTL station, going by LTAâ??s â??more thanâ?• figures. The TEL is expected to be extended to Changi Terminal 5 later. In the longer term, LTA expects it to serve about one million daily commuters.



Route diagram, TEL5 and DTL3e. Source: Land Transport Authority

## Who benefits most

Today, getting to Changi Business Park from the city by train takes a long detour. The new link gives a route through the TEL with a transfer to the DTL at Sungei Bedok, which is where the Havelock example above gets its saving. LTA says the stations will improve access to employment nodes such as Changi Business Park and the Tampines Regional Centre.

The new interchange also adds resilience, because commuters get another way to switch between the two lines if one part of the network has a disruption.

## What LTA has not said yet

The release does not cover opening hours on the day, any free travel period or fare details for the new stations. Those usually follow closer to the date, so check LTA and SMRT announcements in December rather than assuming.

For the other side of the DTL, the DTL 2 Extension linking the line to the North-South Line is expected to be completed in 2035.

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## How to plan for 26 December

The opening falls on the Saturday after Christmas, so expect curious riders and families trying the new stations. If you commute to the east, test the new route once on a quiet day before relying on it for a work morning. Allow extra time for the transfer at Sungei Bedok.

## Other east and transport news

If the east is your patch, see HDBâ??s plan for new homes off Pasir Ris Drive 4, open for feedback until 20 December. Property owners can also check the 2027 property tax rebate, and our guide to what the Australia talks mean for you covers the weekâ??s other headline.

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