



Construction Update: August 16, 2019

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Expect to see us on Saturdays

Often when significant infrastructure like bridges are constructed crews work on Saturdays to reduce the duration of an intensive activity or minimize impacts to the traveling public. Crews are currently working throughout the corridor on Saturdays including: SouthWest Station in Eden Prairie, Excelsior Boulevard in Hopkins, Louisiana Avenue in St. Louis Park, and the Cedar Lake Channel in Minneapolis.

Weekly Construction Photo: SouthWest Station Retaining Wall Work in Eden Prairie



Crews are installing sheet pile and associated infrastructure to support the future LRT tracks. Significant amount of sheeting for the SouthWest Station has been completed. Crews will transition to working on the bridge structure crossing Technology Drive and Prairie Center Drive.

Upcoming Work

Flying Cloud Drive in Eden Prairie: Week of August 26

The left lane on Flying Cloud Drive will be closed for watermain work. This activity could take up to two months and the left lane will be closed for the duration of this activity. Sheet piles will also be installed in this area.

TH 62 in Minnetonka: Week of August 19

Preparation work for the LRT tunnel under Highway 62 is beginning. Starting the week of August 19 crews will begin to install temporary drainage and prepare the median for future crossover traffic. Expect traffic delays as periodic inside lane closures and a traffic shift will occur to conduct this work.

Cedar Lake Parkway in Minneapolis: Anticipated September 9

Cedar Lake Parkway at the Kenilworth Corridor will be closed for up to five days in early September in order to shift the freight track. Watermain work will also be conducted in this area at that same time. The closure date for freight track work is being coordinated with watermain work to reduce to duration that the roadway is closed. Pedestrians and bicycles will continue to have access across the Kenilworth corridor when Cedar Lake Parkway is closed to vehicle traffic. The longer-term closure of Cedar Lake Parkway for LRT tunnel work is anticipated later this year.

On-going Activities Update

SouthWest Station in Eden Prairie

The temporary passenger drop-off lanes at SouthWest Transit Station have been moved to the west end of the parking structure. SouthWest Transit Station and buses are operating as usual. Pile driving for utility work near the former Culver's site has begun.

LRT Bridge at I-494/Flying Cloud Drive in Eden Prairie

Expect heavy equipment in the area for construction of the new LRT bridge. A crane is stationed in the median of the roadway. Pier construction for the new LRT bridge has begun and traffic control barriers are in place. The I-494 eastbound ramp to TH 212, which closed the week of August 12, will remain closed for up to seven weeks for this work. **See detour map below.** While traffic control barriers will be in place, please remember to observe the posted speed limit to help ensure the safety of our crews.

Golden Triangle Station in Eden Prairie

Pile driving work is ongoing during daytime hours. This may include work on Saturday. At the end of August night piling work will resume in the area and may continue for several months. Efforts have been made to reduce the noise generated by equipment. Residents should still anticipate that they will be able to hear activity. Overall, pile driving between Golden Triangle and Shady Oak Road is anticipated as an on-going activity until summer 2020. Over 100 piles have been driven in the area. Crews will continue to make their way north toward Shady Oak Road, where bridge work will also be conducted.

Smetana Road in Minnetonka and Hopkins

Feltl Road is anticipated to close on Saturday morning, August 17, and will remain closed until Monday, August 19 **(see detour map below)**. Soon after this short closure, Smetana Road from Feltl Court to Feltl Road will be closed for six weeks. Following the six-week closure, Smetana Road from Feltl Road to Nolan Drive will be closed up to a year. Signs will be posted seven days before each closure.

Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail in Hopkins

The Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail in Hopkins between 11th Avenue South and Shady Oak Road remains closed due to storm sewer construction activities. This portion of the trail may be closed for up to a year. Crews are looking at options to reduce the duration **(see detour map below)**.

Excelsior Boulevard Area in Hopkins: Lane Closures August 19

The temporary parking lot on the west side of Hopkins Depot is complete and open to the public. Crews have removed trail pavement and began excavation for the piers for the LRT bridge over Excelsior Boulevard. Expect traffic delays as work will intensify in this area in the coming weeks. The sidewalk is closed on the north side of Excelsior Boulevard in the immediate vicinity of the tracks as piling for bridge piers has begun, please follow posted pedestrian detours. Removal of existing freight track siding has begun. Beginning the week of August 19, a closure of the left-turn lane and the adjacent left westbound through lane will be established and the turn onto Milwaukee Street will be prohibited **(see detour map below)**. These lanes will be closed for approximately two weeks. A full closure of Excelsior Boulevard at the freight railroad crossing is expected at the conclusion of current activities in late August for approximately one month. An additional closure will be needed later in the Fall to complete this phase of activity. Signs will be posted seven days before each closure.

Blake Road in Hopkins: Full Closure Anticipated August 26

The west side of Blake Road is being closed today, and traffic will be diverted to the east side of the road, with one lane in each direction. This lane closure will last a couple weeks in coordination with ongoing City of Hopkins roadway construction. A one-day full closure of Blake Road to move overhead utilities is anticipated on August 26 (**see detour map below**). Signs will be posted seven days in advance of the closure. A second one-day full closure will take place shortly thereafter. Following these closures, the southbound lanes of Blake Road will remain closed as crews construct a tunnel for the regional trail to improve safety. This work will take up to six months.

Louisiana Avenue in St. Louis Park

The roadway has reopened. Traffic is reduced to one lane in each direction as crews continue to work on bridge piers. Expect to see cranes and sheet piling in the area.

TH 100 in St. Louis Park

The project will be re-positioning the existing freight rail bridge and build a new LRT bridge over TH 100. Center pier bridge work began the week of August 12. For approximately three weeks, traffic will be shifted to create a workspace in the median area of TH 100. Nightly lane closures on TH 100 are anticipated; signs will be posted in advance of the lane closures. Expect to see fencing and erosion control as well.

Beltline Boulevard in St. Louis Park

Work on the new Cedar Lake Trail Bridge has begun. Expect to see traffic control for lane shifts. Crews are excavating for bridge abutments followed by pier work. A partial closure of Beltline Boulevard is upcoming this Fall. A full closure of up to twelve days, yet to be scheduled, will follow this work. Look for posted notice.

Cedar Lake Trail

Cedar Lake Trail through Hopkins, St. Louis Park, and Minneapolis is closed in three segments until Fall 2021 (**see detour maps below**). The Cedar Lake Trail will remain open between France Avenue in St. Louis Park and Kenilworth Trail/Midtown Greenway intersection in Minneapolis. The Midtown Greenway will remain open. Currently, cross streets remain open to automobiles, bikes and pedestrians, with separate closure of roadways upcoming at various dates. The trail is closed between these segments:

- Between 5th Avenue South and 8th Avenue South in Hopkins, trail users will follow a pedestrian and bike detour via 8th Avenue, Excelsior Boulevard and 5th Avenue.
- Between just east of the North Cedar Lake Trail connection in Hopkins to France Avenue in St. Louis Park.
- Minneapolis from Linden Yards located west of Van White Boulevard to east of Royalston Avenue.

Kenilworth Trail Closure

The Kenilworth Trail is closed in Minneapolis until Summer 2022. At this time, automobiles, bikes and pedestrians will continue to cross at Cedar Lake Parkway and at W 21st Street.

- The Kenilworth Trail is closed at the intersection with the Midtown Greenway and extends northeast to just south of W 21st St.

We continue to receive public feedback about trail signage and are making modifications for better wayfinding.

Burnham Road in Minneapolis: Full Closure on August 26

A partial closure of Burnham Road from Cedar Lake Parkway to Park Lane (approx. 800 ft) is in effect to install a watermain under the roadway. Crews will move traffic control barriers to the side as inspections are completed. Beginning August 26 crews will begin to cut into the roadway to continue watermain work. A full closure will be put into effect at that time and last about three weeks. For the first few days of the closure, residents will be allowed to turn from Cedar Lake Parkway onto Park Lane. When work progresses down the roadway, this turn will be prohibited. Access to homes in the immediate vicinity of closure will be maintained. The final stage of watermain work will include a full closure of Cedar Lake Parkway. During this closure, City of Minneapolis water crews will be working along Burnham Road to make the connection to the watermain (this is the same work referenced under the Cedar Lake Parkway notice). Two-way traffic will continue to be allowed on Burnham Road Bridge during the detours. **See detour maps below.**

Cedar Lake (Kenilworth) Channel and Works Progress Administration (WPA)

Work to retrofit the existing pedestrian bridge for construction vehicles is complete and construction equipment is now moving through the Kenilworth corridor. WPA wall salvage work has begun and there are sandbags on the banks of the channel. Shoring for bridge pier construction is being installed and piling is underway. Individuals using the waterway between Lake of the Isles and Cedar Lake will encounter intermittent closures lasting approximately 20 minutes during construction activity for approximately three weeks. Work on Saturday is also anticipated through August to minimize the duration of activities. Please cooperate with the flagging boats as they are there for your safety. A full closure of the Cedar Lake Channel is expected later this summer; a 14-day advanced notification will be provided prior to a full closure.

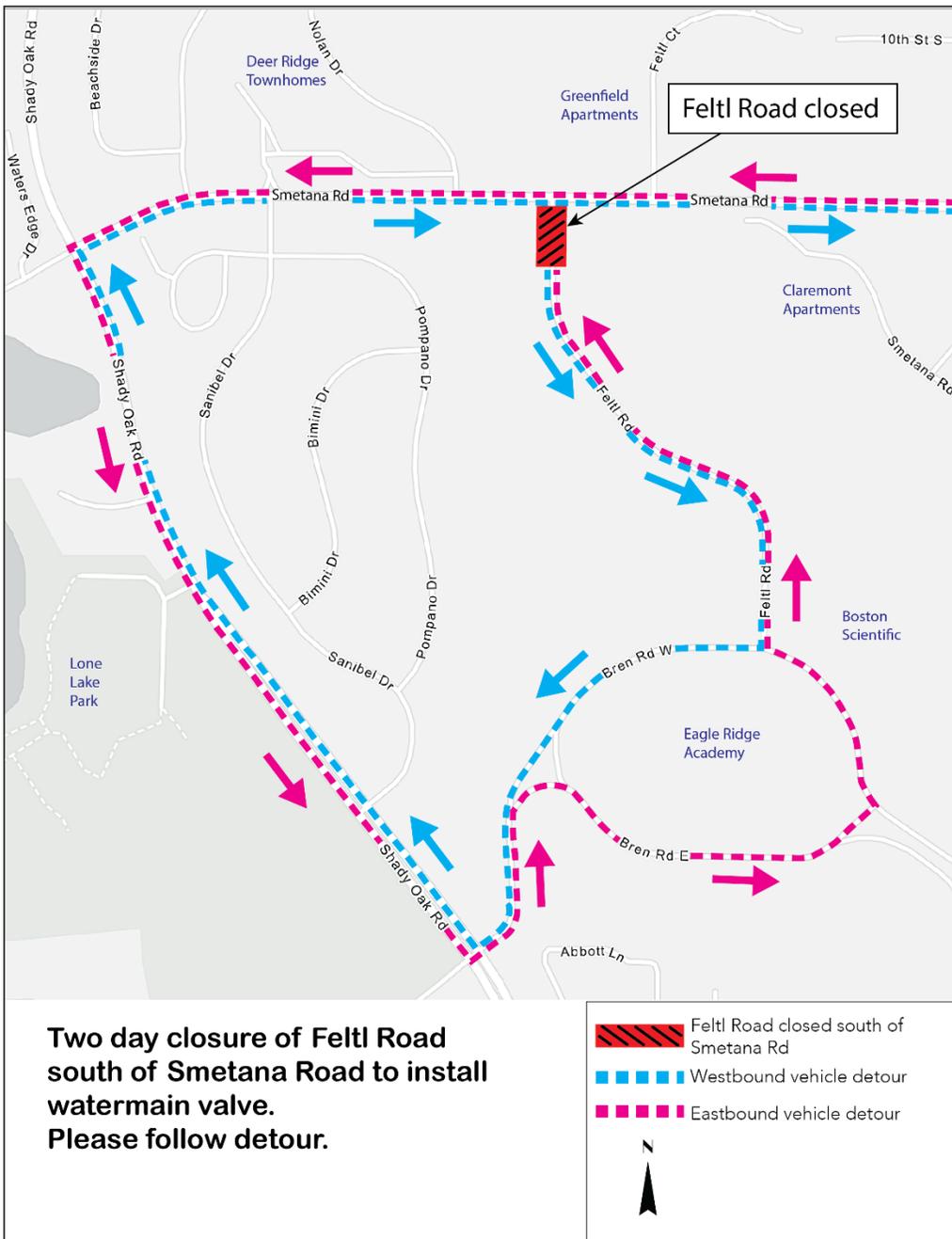
Glenwood Avenue in Minneapolis

The closure of Glenwood Avenue between Lyndale Avenue North and 11th Street North began on July 15 and will last approximately two years. Local access to businesses will be maintained. Generally, vehicle detours will use Lyndale Avenue, Olson Memorial Highway and 7th/10th Streets. The pedestrian detour will utilize Border Avenue, Holden Street and Royalston Avenue sidewalks. **See detour map below.** Crews have removed the bridge deck and are beginning the removal of the bridge girders and substructure.

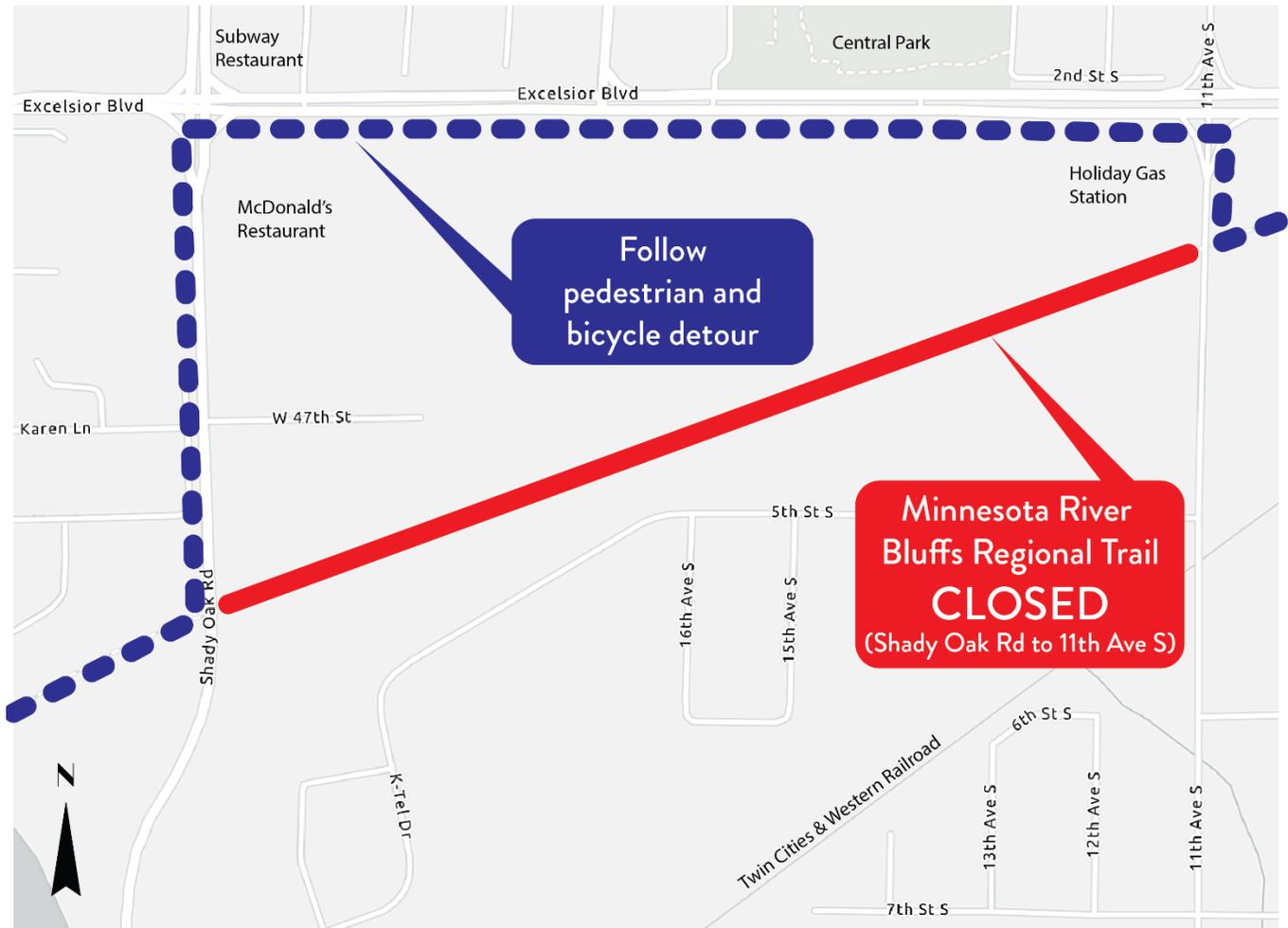
Northbound I-494 to Eastbound TH 212 Detour



Feltl Road in Minnetonka Detour



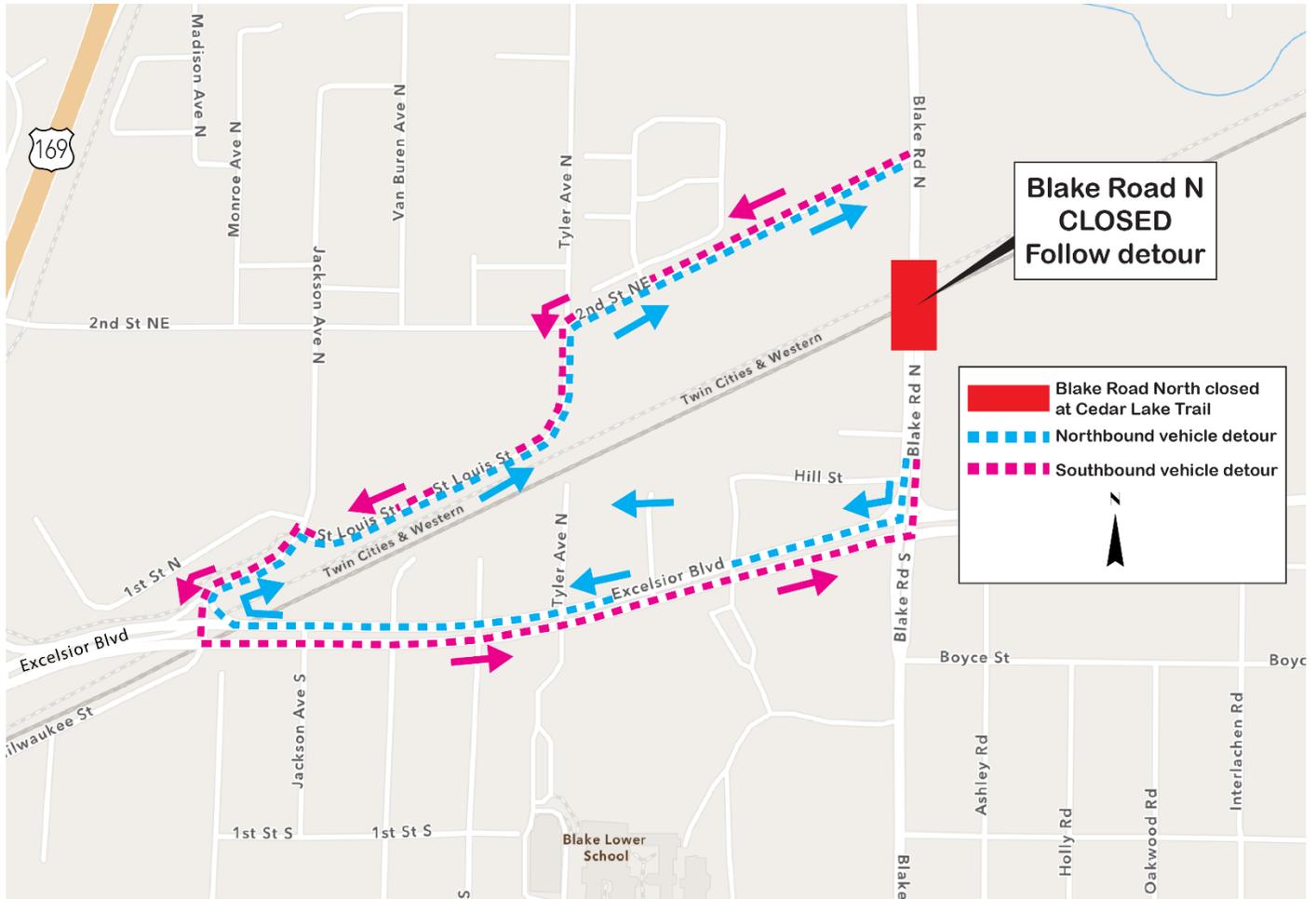
Minnesota River Bluff Trail from Shady Oak Road to 11th Avenue Detour



Excelsior Boulevard Left Turn to Milwaukee Detour

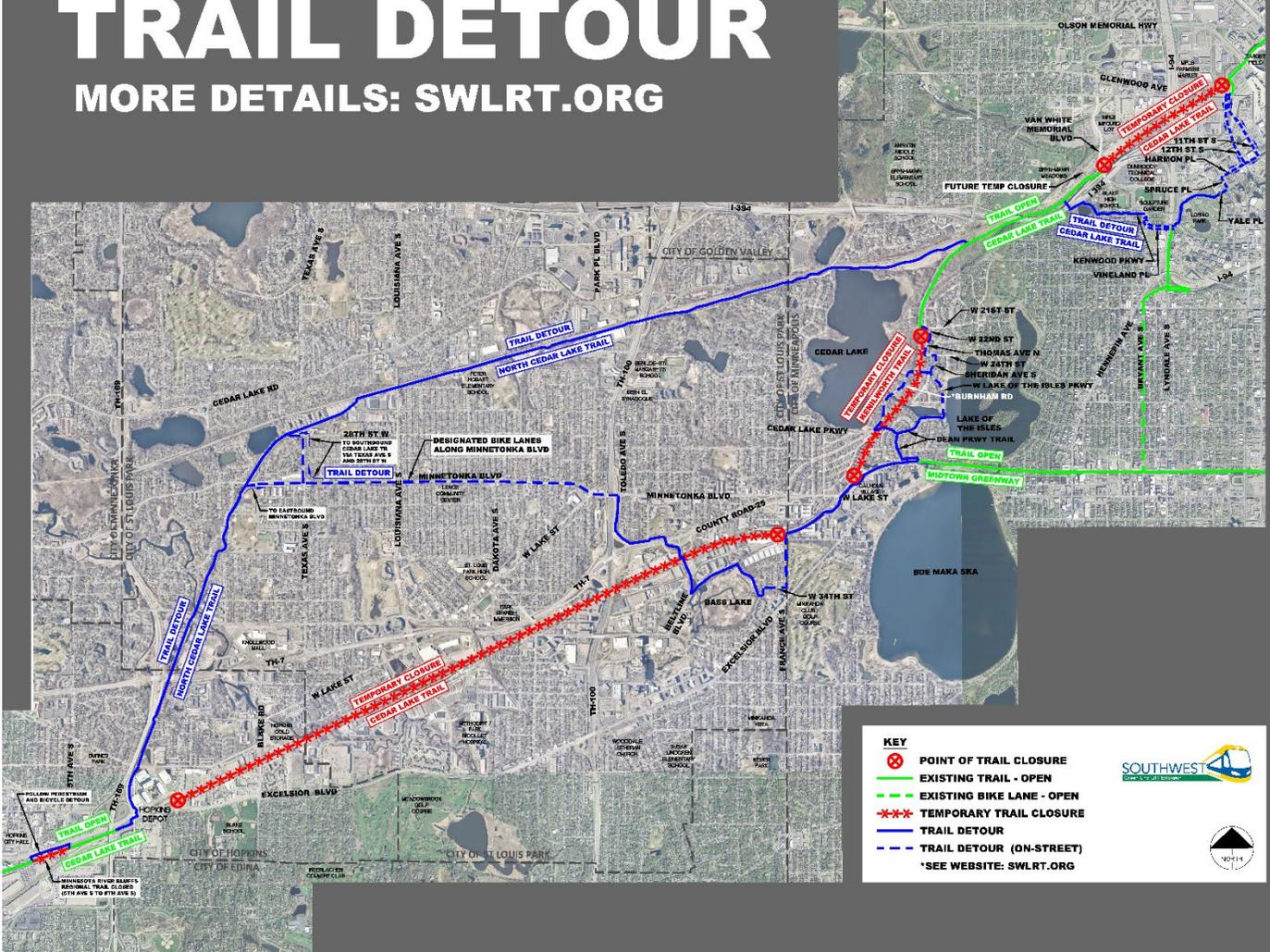


Blake Road Detour Map

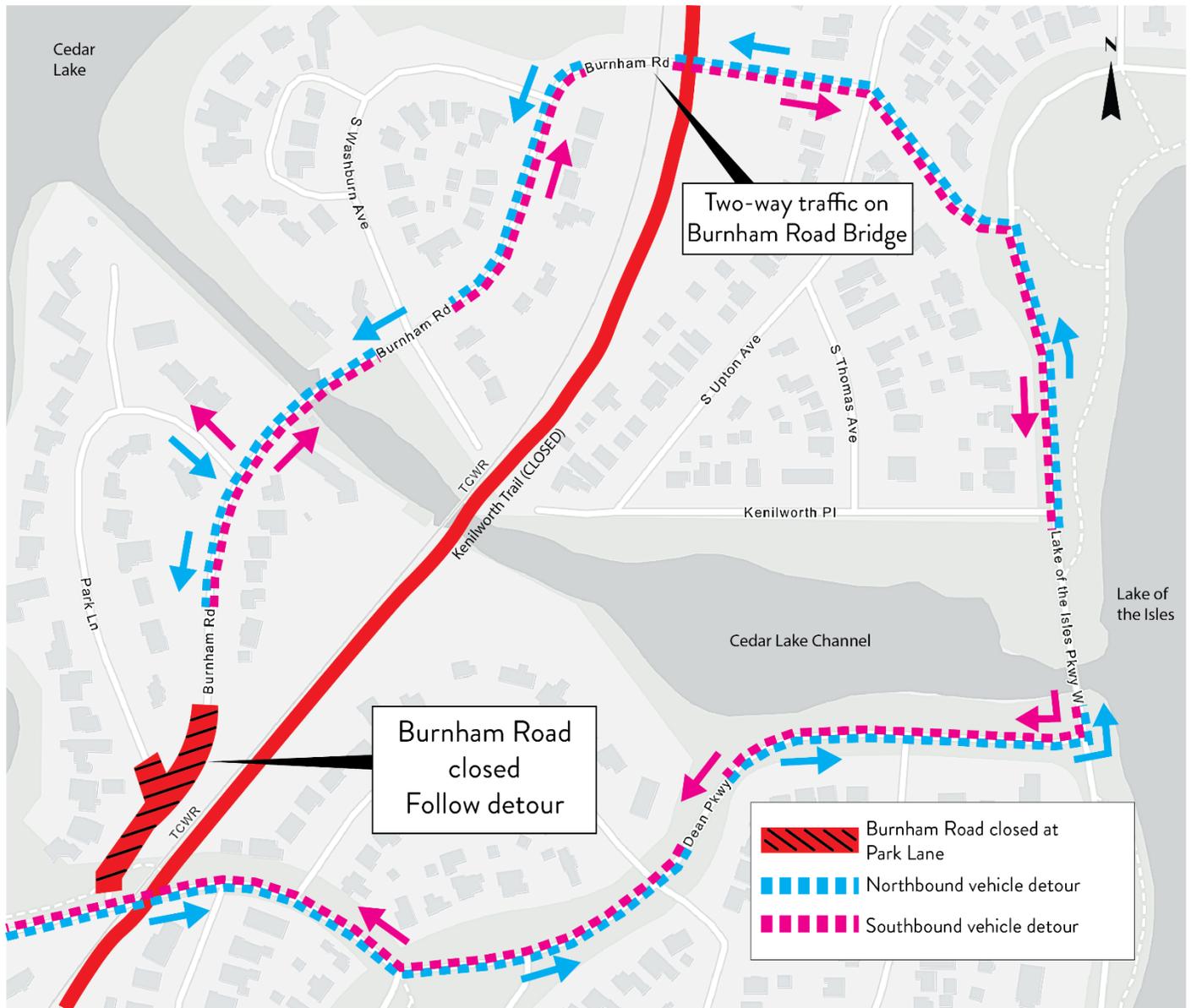


TRAIL DETOUR

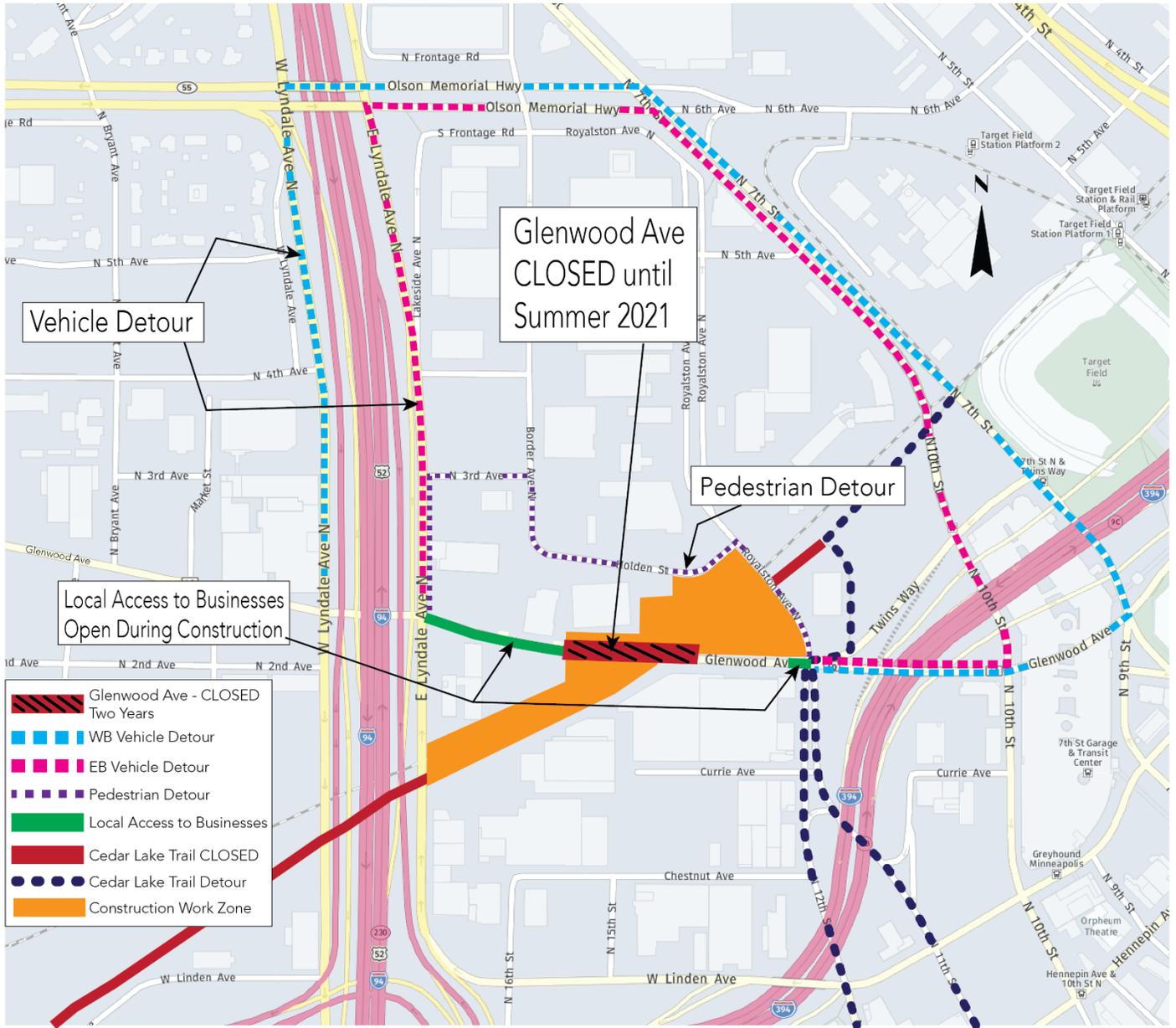
MORE DETAILS: SWLRT.ORG



Burnham Road Closure at Cedar Lake Parkway in Minneapolis Detour



Glenwood Avenue in Minneapolis Detour



Cedar Lake Trail in Minneapolis Pedestrian and Bike Detour

