



Construction Update: August 20, 2021

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Upcoming: Two-Week Closure of Cedar Lake Parkway in Minneapolis

As early as September 20, 2021, Cedar Lake Parkway at the Kenilworth Trail will close to vehicle traffic for two weeks. Pedestrian and bicycle access will be preserved for the duration of this closure. Crews will work on metal sheets under the Parkway and perform grouting work to seal gaps between sheeting. Expect noise and vibration.

[See Minneapolis detour maps here.](#)

Weekly Construction Photo: Kenilworth Tunnel in Minneapolis



A view into the Kenilworth Tunnel as crews work on concrete at the base of the tunnel, called a leveling slab. Crews work cell by cell, excavating, installing lateral supports, and pouring concrete. There will be a waterproof membrane around the concrete tunnel structure.

[Eden Prairie](#)

Eden Prairie Construction: Map 1 of 2



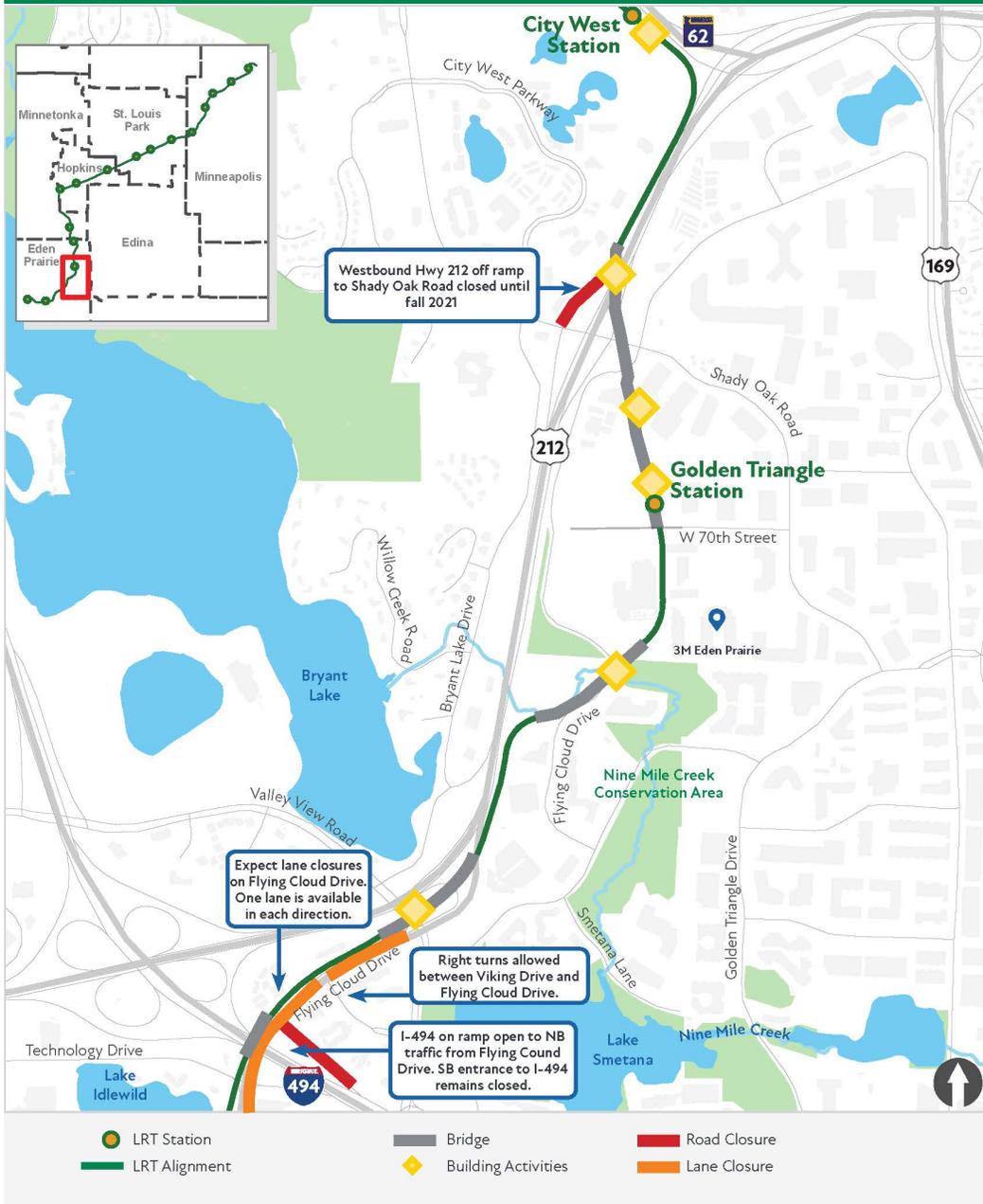
SouthWest Station to Eden Prairie Town Center Station

Construction Overview: At the SouthWest Station crews recently poured the top floor of the new park-and-ride ramp adjacent to the existing ramp. Work is advancing on the new, joint SouthWest Transit/MetroTransit bus and LRT station. Crews continue laying track on the Prairie Center Drive LRT Bridge over Technology Drive and Prairie Center Drive. Eden Prairie Town Center Station construction, as well as planter boxes and storm pond excavation continue along Town Center Place.

Current activities to expect in this area:

- Construction of the new SouthWest Station parking ramp and waiting area continues to advance, with the main structure mostly in place.

Eden Prairie Construction: Map 2 of 2



LRT Bridge at I-494 to Shady Oak Road

Construction Overview: In this portion of Eden Prairie road work continues along Flying Cloud Drive. Trackwork is underway on Valley View Bridge. Crews are pouring sidewalks and decking on the Nine Mile and Hwy 212/Shady Oak Bridges. Construction continues to advance on Golden Triangle Station.

Current activities to expect in this area:

- The I-494 off-ramp to Flying Cloud Drive is closed for the 2021 construction season. The eastbound I-494 on-ramp from Flying Cloud Drive is open. Traffic traveling westbound on Flying Cloud Drive should follow the posted detours to access eastbound I-494. [See Eden Prairie detour information.](#)
- Flying Cloud Drive is reduced to one lane in both directions between Town Center Place to Valley View Road through the summer. Left turns in and out of Technology Drive at the Flying Cloud Drive intersection are not allowed through the summer.
- The westbound Highway 212 off-ramp to Shady Oak Road will remain closed through the end of the construction season.
- Expect intermittent nighttime lane closures on Hwy 212 between TH 62 and Shady Oak Bridge to complete ongoing bridge concrete work.
- The Highway 62 on-ramp from Shady Oak Road is closed while crews advance adjacent construction. Expect lane closures along eastbound Highway 62 between Shady Oak Road and Highway 212. These closures are anticipated to last through the summer. [See Eden Prairie detour information.](#)
- Crews are advancing the southern portion of the Highway 62 LRT tunnel and area retaining walls. Most of the tunnel's structure is in place, and backfilling activities are underway.
- A closure of Highway 62 for a weekend is anticipated in mid-September. More details to follow.

Minnetonka Construction: Map 1 of 1



City West Station in Eden Prairie to Shady Oak Station in Hopkins

Construction Overview: Work around the City West Station area continues with retaining wall work and construction of City West Station. Other civil work in this segment includes the LRT tunnel under Highway 62, Opus Station, many large retaining walls, the Smetana/Feltl roadway bridges over LRT and the Hopkins/Minnetonka LRT Bridge ending at the Shady Oak Station.

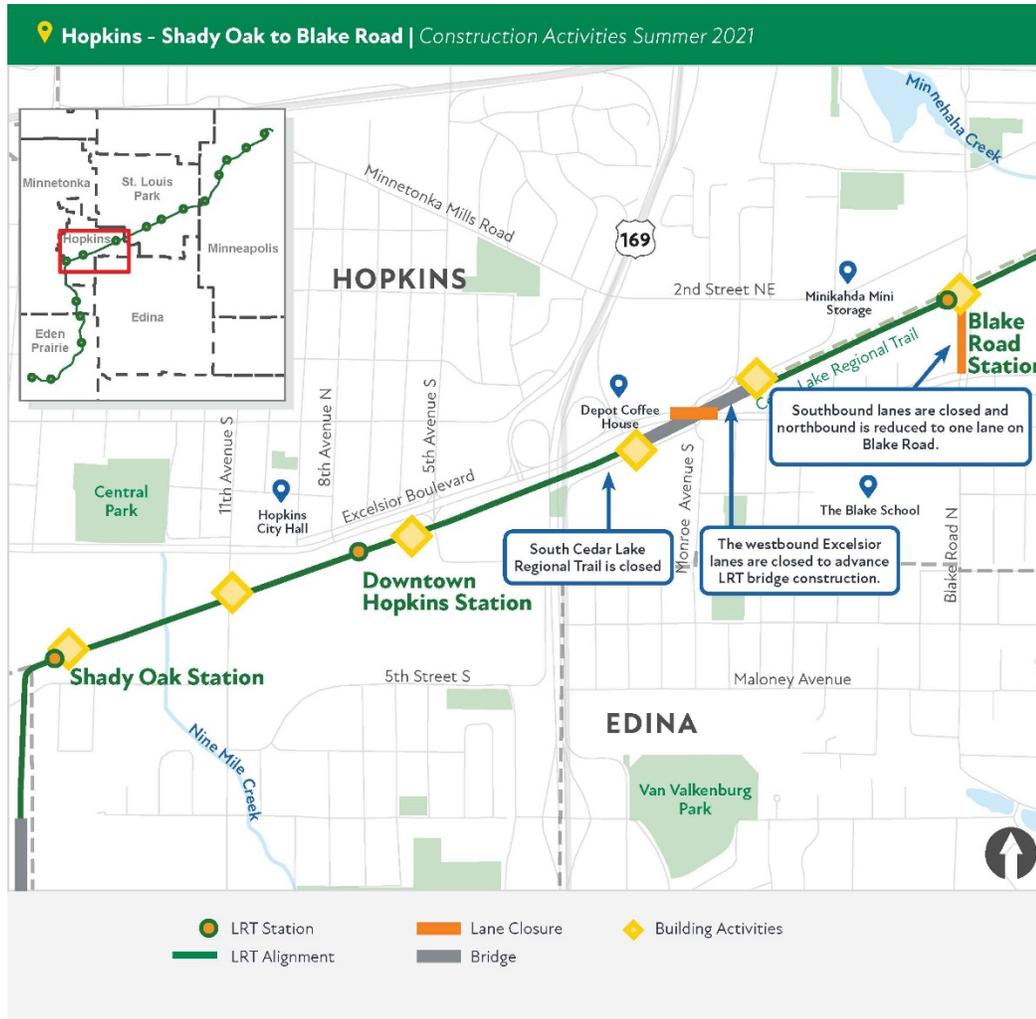
Current activities to expect in this area:

- The westbound lane on Green Circle Drive near the intersection with Bren Road West is closed through the 2021 construction season to complete work in the LRT corridor.
- A segment of Bren Road East is being reconstructed near the LRT corridor. Traffic on Red Circle Drive and Bren Road East temporarily connects with Yellow Circle Drive. Yellow Circle Drive is a two-way road during this phase of construction to accommodate through traffic and local businesses. [See Minnetonka detour maps here.](#)
- The City of Minnetonka has closed the Blue Circle Drive bridge. This work is anticipated to continue through November. [See Minnetonka detour maps here.](#)

- Smetana Road from Feltl Road to Nolan Drive remains closed until later this fall. A bypass is in place east of the old intersection of Smetana and Feltl roads to accommodate local traffic in and out of Opus Park. [See Minnetonka detour maps here.](#)
- Crews continue to work on the Minnetonka-Hopkins LRT bridge. Expect noise from piling as bridge pier construction continues.

Hopkins

Hopkins Construction: Map 1 of 1



Shady Oak Road Station to Blake Road Station

Construction Overview: There are three stations in Hopkins: Shady Oak Road, Downtown Hopkins and Blake Road. Major structures in Hopkins include an LRT bridge over Excelsior and a regional trail underpass at Blake Road. In addition to LRT track construction there is also freight rail and regional trail work in the area. There are multiple LRT and freight railroad crossings at roadways.

Current activities to expect in this area:

- Westbound Excelsior Boulevard is closed at Jackson Avenue. Traffic will remain detoured while crews advance the construction of the cantilevered LRT bridge over Excelsior Boulevard. Left turns from southbound Jackson Avenue to eastbound Excelsior Boulevard are prohibited. [See Hopkins detour maps.](#)
- Left turns from Milwaukee Street to westbound Excelsior Boulevard will be restricted starting August 23, while crews advance light rail bridge construction over Excelsior Boulevard.
- The construction of the regional trail underpass at Blake Road North is underway. Blake Road traffic has been reduced to one northbound lane between Excelsior Boulevard and 2nd Street N.E. while southbound Blake Road traffic is detoured at 2nd Street N.E. [See Hopkins detour maps.](#)

St. Louis Park

St. Louis Park Construction: Map 1 of 1



Louisiana Avenue to Beltline Boulevard

Construction Overview: Like in Hopkins, the project includes the construction of LRT track, freight rail track, and the regional trail. There are also three stations in St. Louis Park: Louisiana Avenue, Wooddale Avenue and Beltline Boulevard. Structures in this area include LRT and freight rail bridges over Louisiana Avenue, a

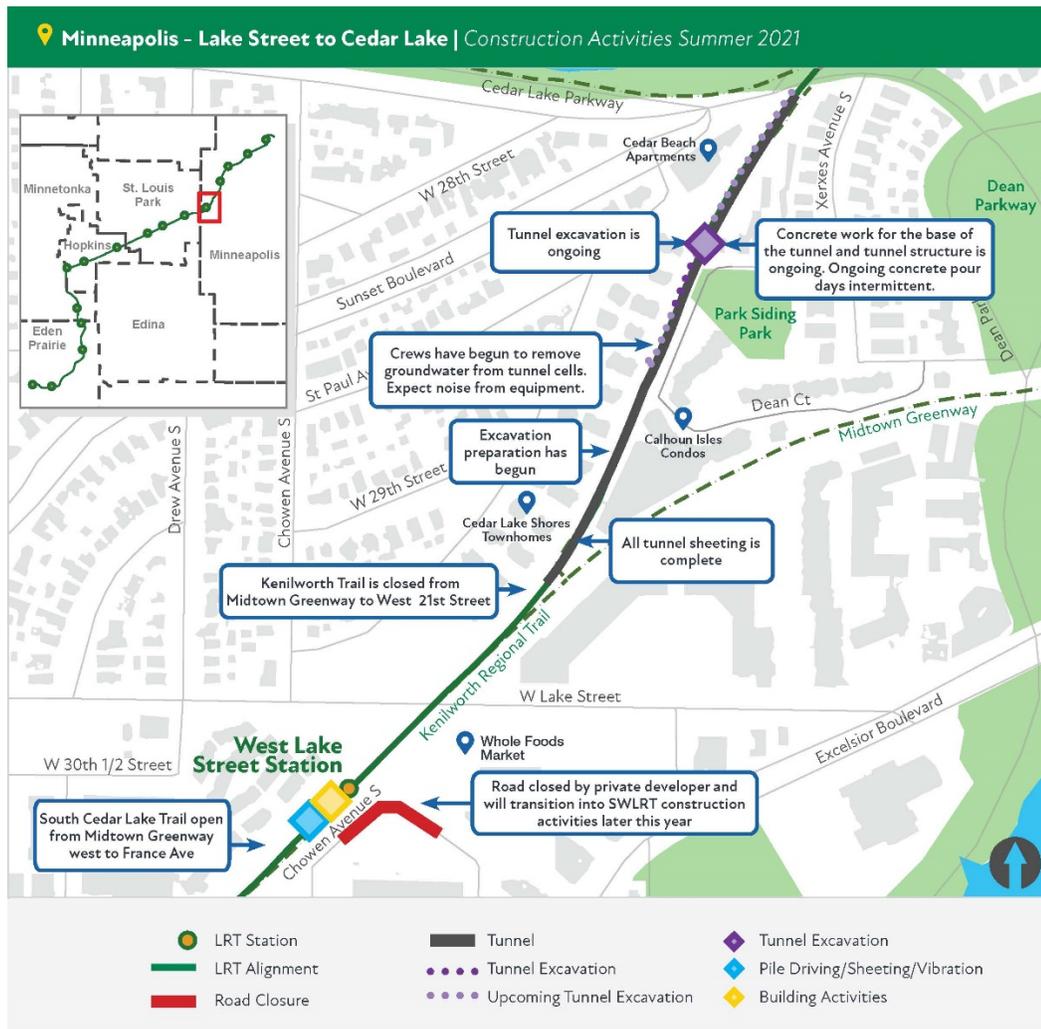
connection between freight lines, a pedestrian/trail underpass east of Louisiana Avenue, freight, LRT and trail bridges over Minnehaha Creek, a regional trail underpass at Wooddale Avenue, freight, LRT and trail bridges over Highway 100 and a regional trail bridge crossing over Beltline Boulevard.

Current activities to expect in this area:

- Expect lane closures through the summer along Louisiana Avenue between West Lake Street and Oxford Street while crews advance bridge construction. Piling operations are expected.
- Crews continue to advance the freight rail connection in the Louisiana Avenue area.

Minneapolis

Minneapolis Construction: Map 1 of 5



Chowen Avenue to Cedar Lake Parkway

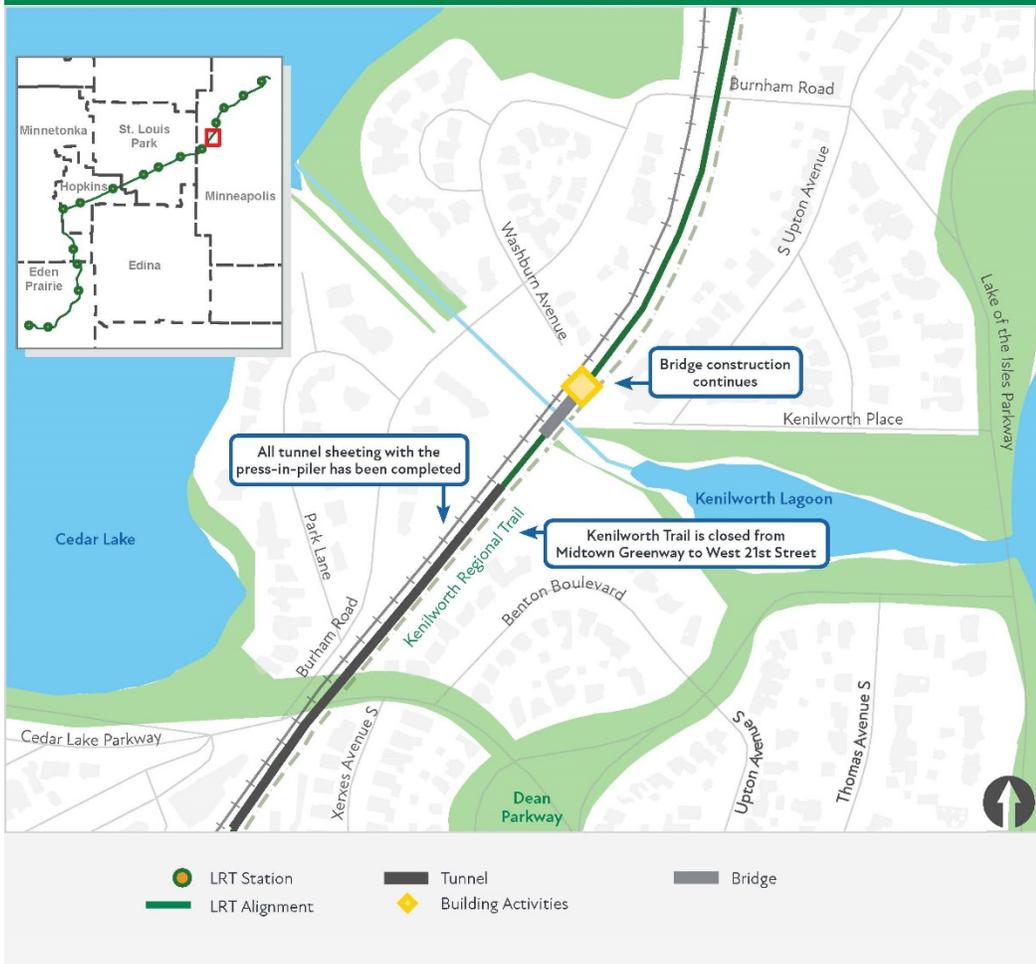
Construction Overview: In addition to the West Lake Street Station, crews will be reconstructing the Chowen/Abbott roadway connection. The LRT tunnel is being constructed in this area, running between the West

Lake Street Station and the Cedar Lake Channel. To complete work in this area there is also freight rail infrastructure and trail facilities.

Current activities to expect in this area:

- Freight rail work continues for the following weekend days: August 22, and August 28-29. Work hours will be 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM. Crews will pull new rail, install spikes and ties, and tamp ballast. Work this weekend is expected between Burnham Road and West 21st Street, but residents could see additional activity anywhere between France Avenue and the BNSF Wayzata Junction near the Bryn Mawr Station area. Expect noise, equipment and materials moving through the corridor as well as vibratory activity from tamping ballast. These construction activities coincide with planned freight rail outages.
- Construction of the West Lake Street Station continues with excavation work and the installation of underground elements such as duct banks, and pier protection.
- Tunnel construction continues. Crews have poured base concrete slabs in some of the initial cells and will advance the structure of the tunnel. Expect noise from excavators, generators and pumps for water management, concrete application, and drilling.
 - Work activities include power washing and water management, and various concrete work. Expect concrete truck traffic to and from the site.
 - Grouting continues to fill any gaps between the sheets along the length of the tunnel. The grout is mixed on site. Expect heavy equipment.
 - Expect construction traffic along Sunset Boulevard, Depot Street, France Avenue and Cedar Lake Parkway. This route will primarily be used to deliver materials and equipment such as concrete and rebar for the construction of the Kenilworth LRT tunnel.

Minneapolis Construction: Map 2 of 5



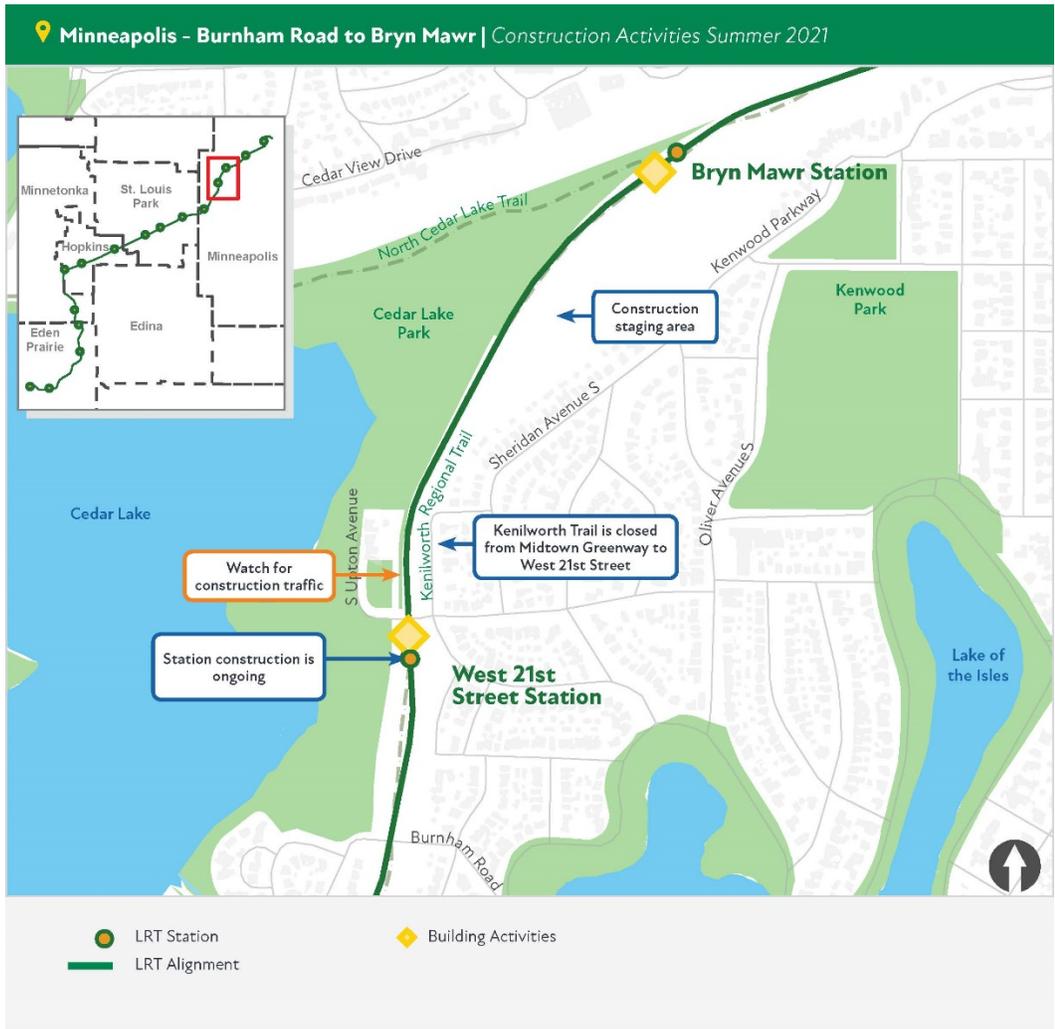
Cedar Lake Parkway to Burnham Road

Construction Overview: The LRT tunnel continues in this segment. Other elements include the construction of retaining walls (complete), and freight, LRT and trail bridges over the Cedar Lake Channel.

Current activities to expect in this area:

- As early as September 20, 2021, Cedar Lake Parkway at the Kenilworth Trail will close to vehicle traffic for two weeks. Pedestrian and bicycle access will be preserved for the duration of this closure. Crews will work on metal sheets under the Parkway and perform grouting work to seal gaps between sheeting. Expect noise and vibration. [See Minneapolis detour maps here.](#)
- The Cedar Lake Channel is expected to close as early as Monday, August 23 for about two weeks. Crews will be constructing temporary support structures to construct the LRT bridge as well as set bridge beams. The Channel will reopen during weekends to recreational traffic.

Minneapolis Construction: Map 3 of 5



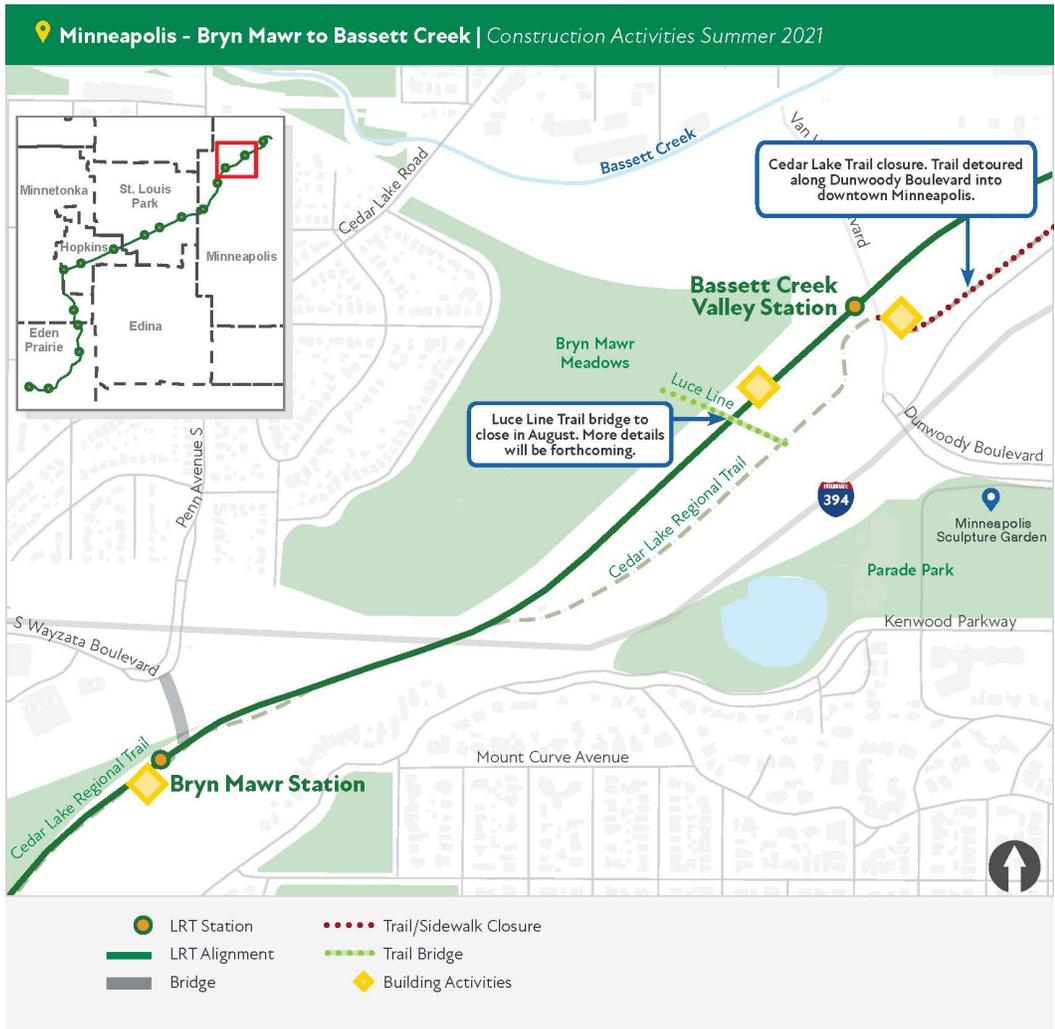
Burnham Road to Bryn Mawr Station

Construction Overview: In addition to the LRT, freight rail and trail construction, this area has two stations: West 21st Street and Bryn Mawr. The Bryn Mawr Station includes a pedestrian bridge that will extend over the freight tracks from the bluffs to the station platform.

Current activities to expect in this area:

- Construction at Bryn Mawr Station is continuing with excavation and installation of piles to construct the pedestrian bridge. Retaining wall work on the bluff south of Wayzata Boulevard and Penn Avenue is expected to start toward the end of August.

Minneapolis Construction: Map 4 of 5



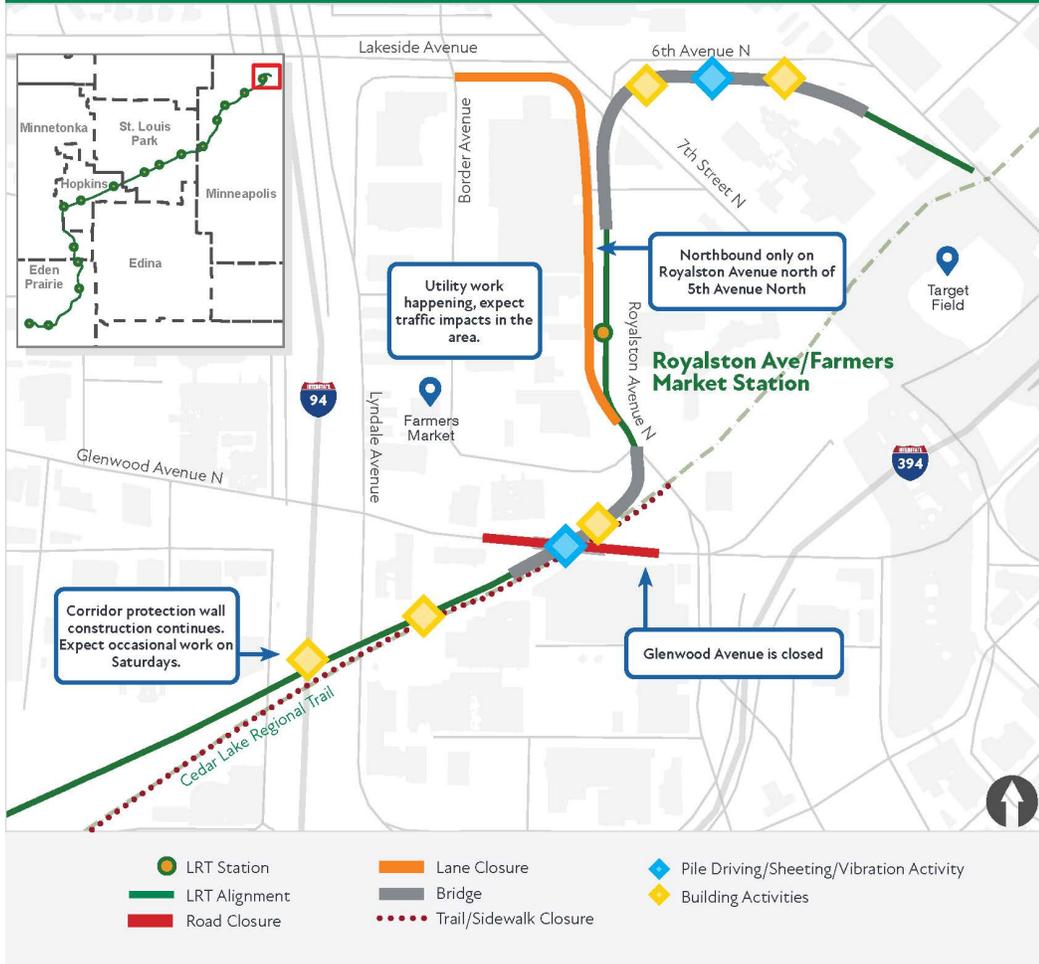
Bryn Mawr Station to Bassett Creek Valley Station Area

Construction Overview: There are two stations serving residents in this area; Bryn Mawr Station and the Bassett Creek Valley Station. In addition, area construction includes LRT track, trails and the corridor protection wall.

Current activities to expect in this area:

- The Luce Line Trail Bridge over Linden Yards and the BNSF railroad is expected to be demolished later in September. Trail users will cross the rail corridor to the west adjacent to Highway I-394. [See Minneapolis detour maps here.](#) The trail bridge will be closed for approximately a year, while a new bridge is constructed.
- Crews continue to build a corridor protection wall between Glenwood Avenue and Highway I-394, including work on Saturdays.

Minneapolis Construction: Map 5 of 5



Glenwood Avenue to Target Field Station

Construction Overview: LRT will cross a new Glenwood Avenue bridge at the roadway grade. To make that happen three bridges need to be constructed, freight rail shifted, and extensive retaining walls built. This area will see the development of the Royalston Avenue/Farmer’s Market Station, an LRT bridge crossing over North 5th Avenue and North 7th Street and LRT connecting to the Target Field Station. The Holden/Royalston/Border roadway loop will also be reconstructed with improvements.

Current activities to expect in this area:

- Construction activities to advance the Glenwood Avenue LRT bridge include high-vibration sheeting installation and pile-driving for most of the summer. Glenwood Avenue between Lyndale Avenue North and North 12th Street remains closed. [See Minneapolis detour maps here.](#)
- Bridge pier work near 7th and 6th Avenues has resumed. This work entails high-vibration activities for sheeting installation and pile driving. This work is expected to continue through the construction season. Expect lane closures on eastbound 6th Avenue.

Regional Trails

Opus Area in Minnetonka

- Various trails within the Opus area are closed as crews work to advance many project elements.

Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail

- The Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail in Hopkins is closed between Shady Oak Road and 5th Avenue South. [See detour map here.](#)
- The section between Shady Oak Road and 11th Avenue South is closed due to storm sewer construction activities. This portion of the trail is closed until 2022.
- The section between 11th Avenue South and 5th Avenue South is closed until 2022.

South Cedar Lake LRT Trail

The South Cedar Lake Trail from just east of the North Cedar Lake Trail connection in Hopkins to France Avenue in St. Louis Park is closed until 2022. The South 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, bikers and pedestrians. [See detour maps here.](#)

Kenilworth Trail Closure

The Kenilworth Trail is closed in Minneapolis at the intersection with the Midtown Greenway to just south of West 21st Street. We are currently assessing the tunnel schedule which impacts the opening of this trail segment and we will provide an update when the schedule is known. Access for automobiles, bikers and pedestrians remains open at Cedar Lake Parkway and at West 21st Street. [See detour map here.](#)

North Cedar Lake Trail in Minneapolis

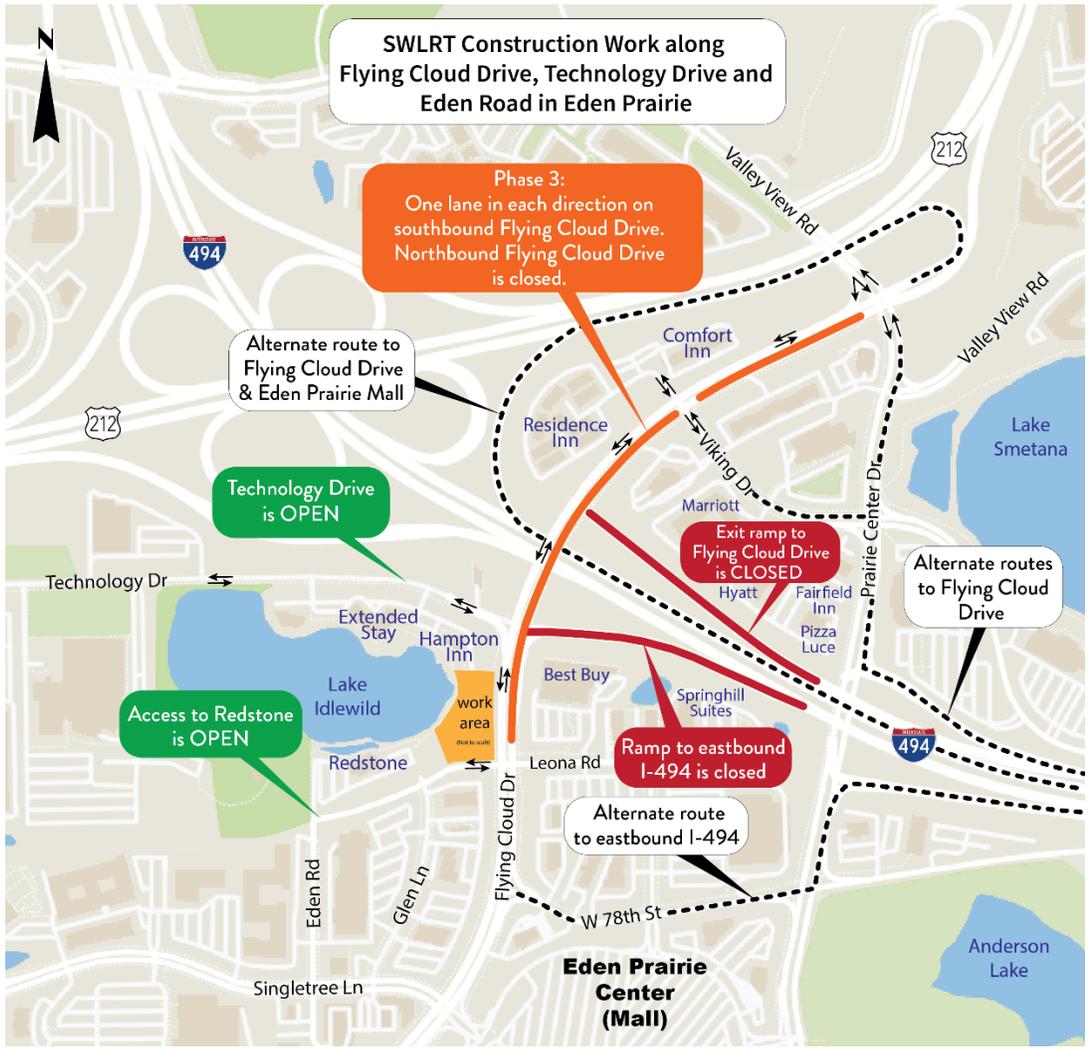
The North Cedar Lake Trail in Minneapolis from Linden Yards located west of Van White Boulevard to east of Royalston Avenue is now anticipated to be closed until 2022. [See detour maps here.](#)

Please note, construction vehicles cross the trail as they enter and exit staging areas. Construction vehicles yield to trail users but please be aware that you may encounter construction traffic in this area.

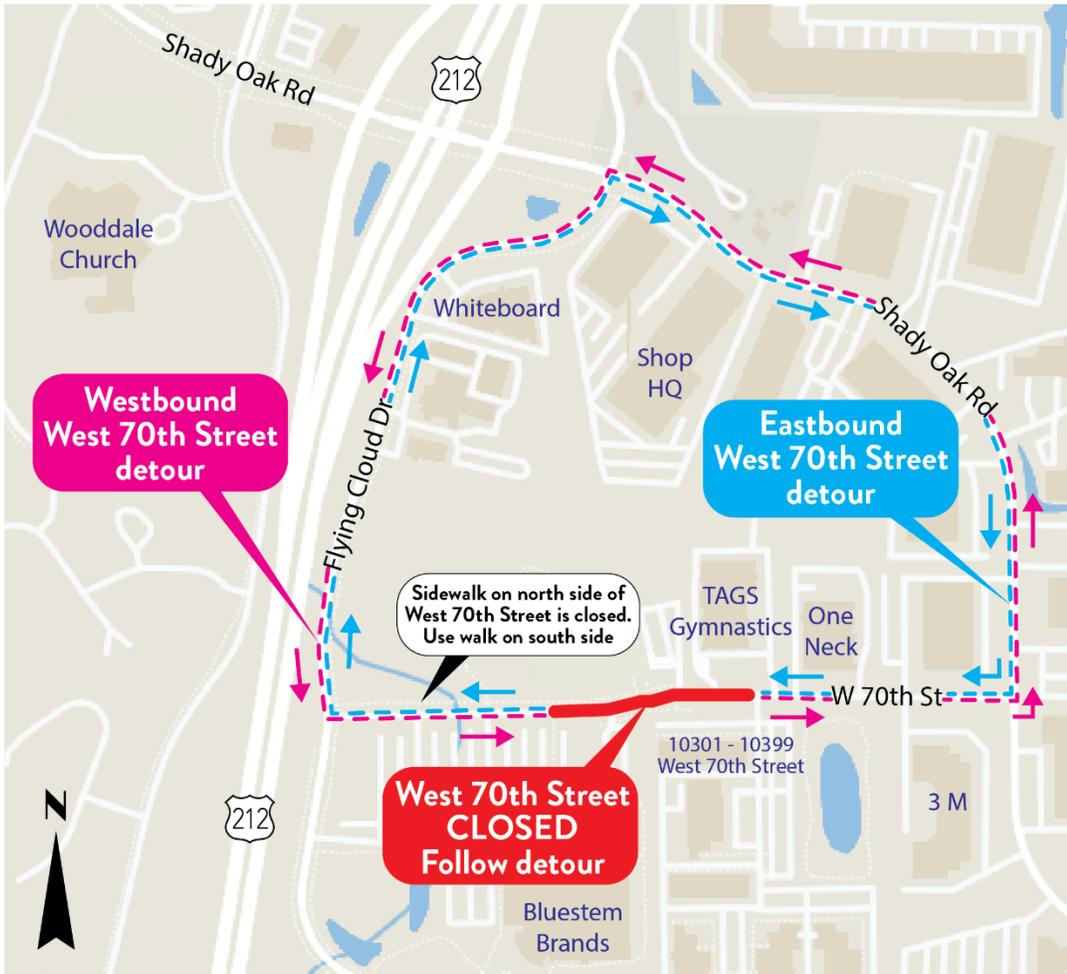
SouthWest Transit Station Pedestrian Detour in Eden Prairie



Flying Cloud Drive & Highway 494 Ramps in Eden Prairie



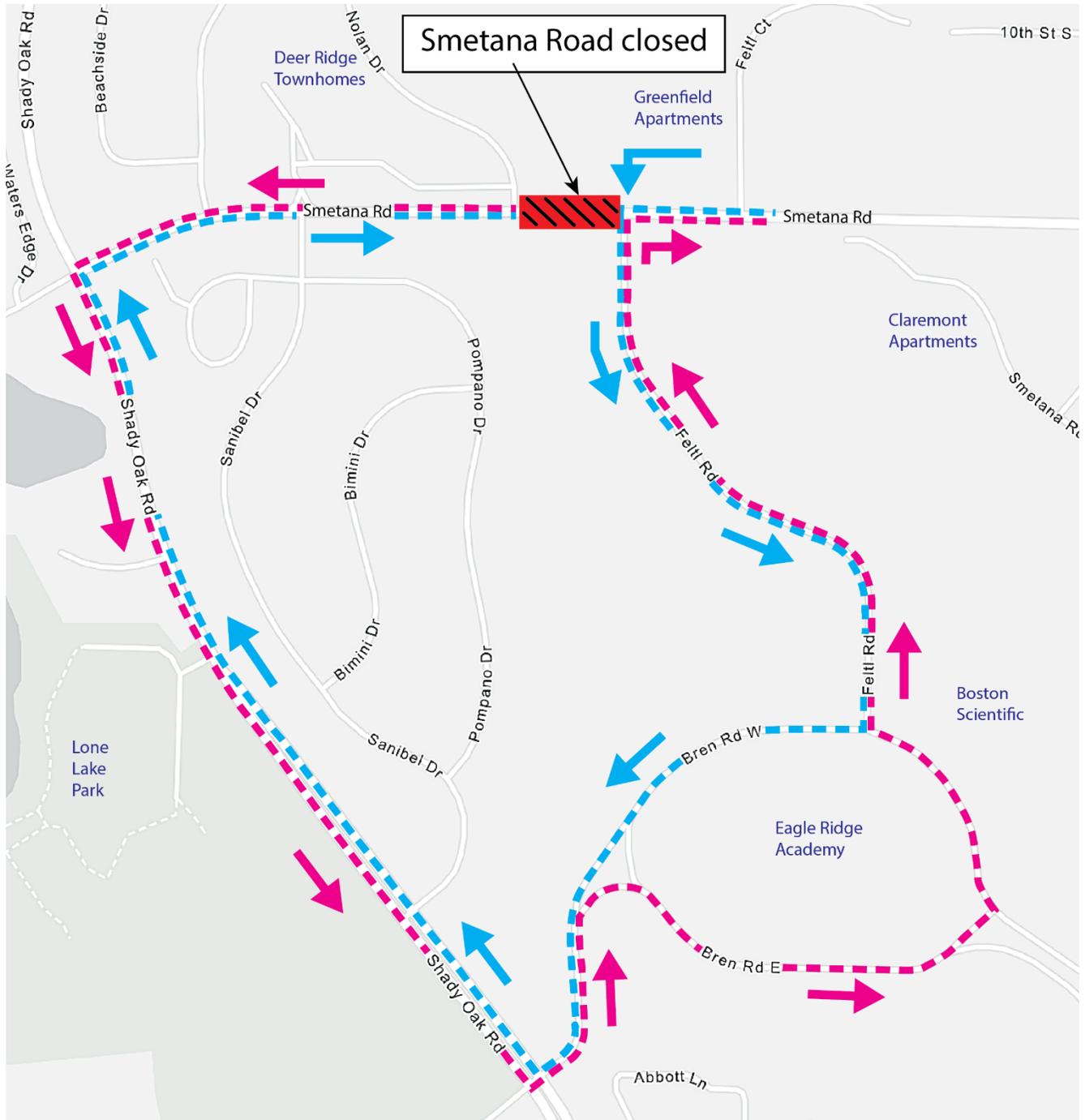
Upcoming West 70th Street in Eden Prairie



Opus Area Detours in Minnetonka: Red and Yellow Circles



Smetana Road in Minnetonka

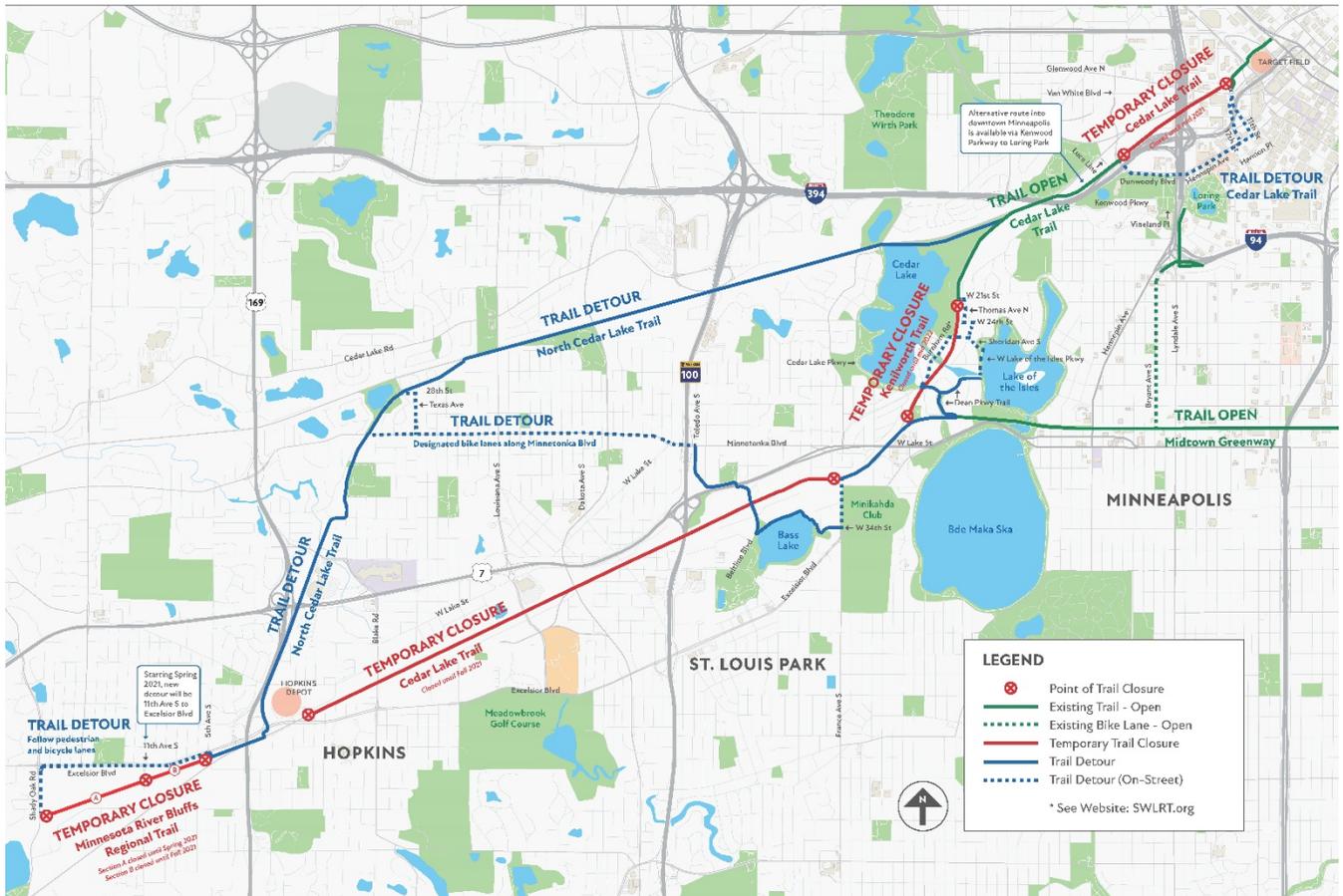


Blake Road in Hopkins



TRAIL DETOUR

MORE DETAILS: SWLRT.ORG



Cedar Lake Regional Trail in Minneapolis

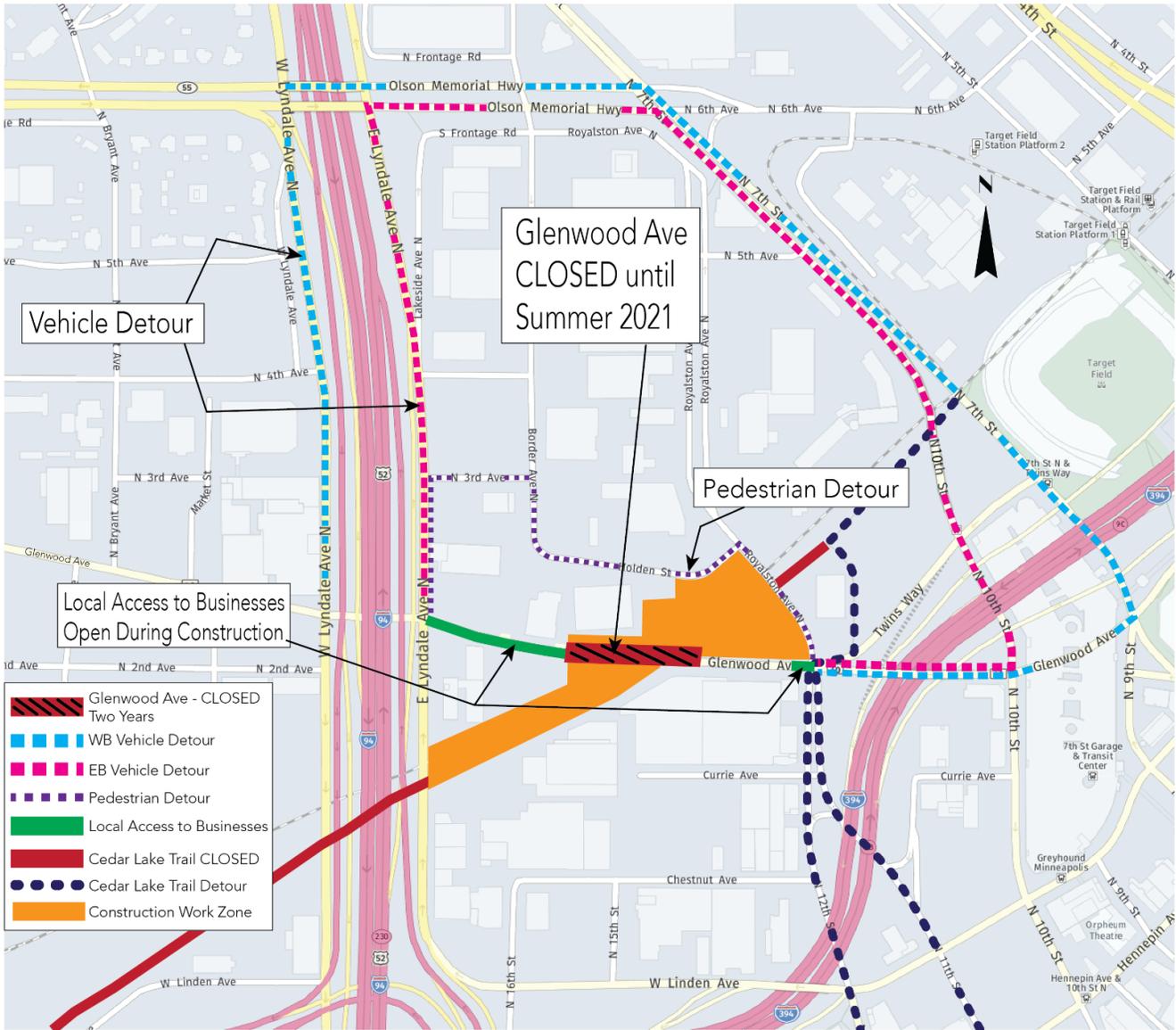
CEDAR LAKE REGIONAL TRAIL

TEMPORARY ALIGNMENT

MORE DETAILS: SWLRT.ORG



Glenwood Avenue Detour in Minneapolis



Royalston Avenue Detour in Minneapolis

