



Construction Update: August 9, 2019

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Job Site Activation: You will be hearing from us

As the project moves into building more of the major construction elements, like LRT bridges, communities surrounding the project will hear more noise. We are piling and sheeting in multiple locations along the corridor, examples include: SouthWest Station, Golden Triangle Station, Louisiana Avenue, Beltline Boulevard, and the Cedar Lake Channel. These activities are noticeable in the urban environment, especially because the piling and sheeting doesn't make a continuous noise. We will provide updates at these various locations when activities begin, and the progress being made to complete the work. The Cedar Lake Channel is one new location where work has commenced. While the sheeting may be the more noticeable work activity, please know efforts are also underway to restore the historic WPA walls on the banks of the channel.

Weekly Construction Photo: Works Progress Administration (WPA) Wall at the Cedar Lake Channel



Crews work to install shoring for bridge construction at the Cedar Lake Channel. The base bridge structure will start to take shape over the next month as this and pier work progress. This area will be a focus of activity to complete this work quickly to minimize the overall impact to recreational channel water users and the surrounding community.

Upcoming Work

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 inside lane closures and a traffic shift will occur to conduct this work.

TH 100 in St. Louis Park: August 13

The project will be re-positioning the existing freight rail bridge and build a new LRT bridge over TH 100. Starting August 13, center pier bridge work will begin. For approximately three weeks, traffic will be shifted to create a workspace in the median area of Highway 100. Nightly lane closures on Highway 100 are anticipated; signs will be posted in advance of the lane closures. Expect to see fencing and erosion control as well.

Cedar Lake Parkway in Minneapolis: End of August to early September

Cedar Lake Parkway is anticipated to be closed for up to five days at the end of August or early September in order to complete freight track work. Watermain work is also anticipated in the area and is being coordinated with adjacent activities. The longer-term closure of Cedar Lake Parkway for LRT tunnel work is anticipated in the Fall.

On-going Activities Update

Corridor-wide: Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, St. Louis Park, Minneapolis

Conditions are changing along the corridor as work continues including survey work, staking, earth work, major utility relocation and vegetation removal with heavy equipment.

Corridor-wide Freight Track Work: On-going

Along the project corridor, the contractor is beginning to remove existing freight rail siding track and prepare for the temporary and permanent location of the freight tracks in Hopkins, St. Louis Park and Minneapolis. In the Kenilworth Corridor, south of the Cedar Lake Channel, earthwork, grading and the arrival of ballast for the temporary and permanent freight rail shifts has begun. This work will be completed before the freight track is shifted to make way for tunnel construction later in the fall.

SouthWest Station in Eden Prairie: On-going

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: On-going

Expect heavy equipment in the area for construction of the new LRT bridge. Crews have prepped the area for a lane shift. Pier construction for the new LRT bridge will begin the week of August 12 and traffic control barriers will be in place. The I-494 eastbound ramp to TH 212 will also close again at this time 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: On-going

Pile driving work has resumed during daytime hours. Pile driving between Golden Triangle and Shady Oak Road is anticipated as an on-going activity until summer 2020. This will include work on Saturday in some cases. 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: On-going

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 these short closures, Smetana Road from Feltl Court to Feltl Drive will be closed for six weeks. Following the six-week closure, Smetana Road from Feltl Drive to Nolan Drive will be closed for almost a year. Signs will be posted seven days before the closures.

Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail in Hopkins: On-going

The Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail in Hopkins between 11th Avenue South and Shady Oak Road remains closed due to additional construction needs with storm sewer 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: On-going

The temporary parking lot on the west side of Hopkins Depot is complete and open to the public. Crews will begin to remove trail pavement and begin 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 will be closed on the north side of Excelsior Boulevard in the immediate vicinity of the tracks as piling for bridge piers begins during the week of August 12, please follow posted pedestrian detours. Removal of existing freight tracks 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. A full closure of Excelsior Boulevard at the freight railroad crossing is expected in mid-September for approximately one month. An additional closure will be needed later in the fall to complete this phase of activity.

Blake Road in Hopkins: On-going

The west side of Blake Road is being closed, 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 and is coordinated with ongoing City of Hopkins construction in the area. Following this first stage, a full closure of Blake Road of approximately five days is, anticipated to occur in mid-August. A second full closure of approximately 5 days will take place at a later time.

Louisiana Avenue in St. Louis Park: On-going with a second full closure anticipated August 12

Traffic is reduced to one lane in each direction as crews begin to work on bridge piers. A second full closure of Louisiana Avenue for approximately five days begins on August 12 (**see detour map below**).

Beltline Boulevard in St. Louis Park: On-going

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

Cedar Lake Trail: On-going

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.

We have received public feedback about trail signage and are making modifications for better wayfinding.

Kenilworth Trail Closure: On-going

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.

Burnham Road in Minneapolis: On-going

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. In about a week, crews will begin to cut into the roadway to continue watermain work. To complete this work, a full closure of Burnham and a short-duration closure of Cedar Lake Parkway will be needed. Two-way traffic will continue to be allowed on Burnham Road Bridge during the detours. **See detour map below.**

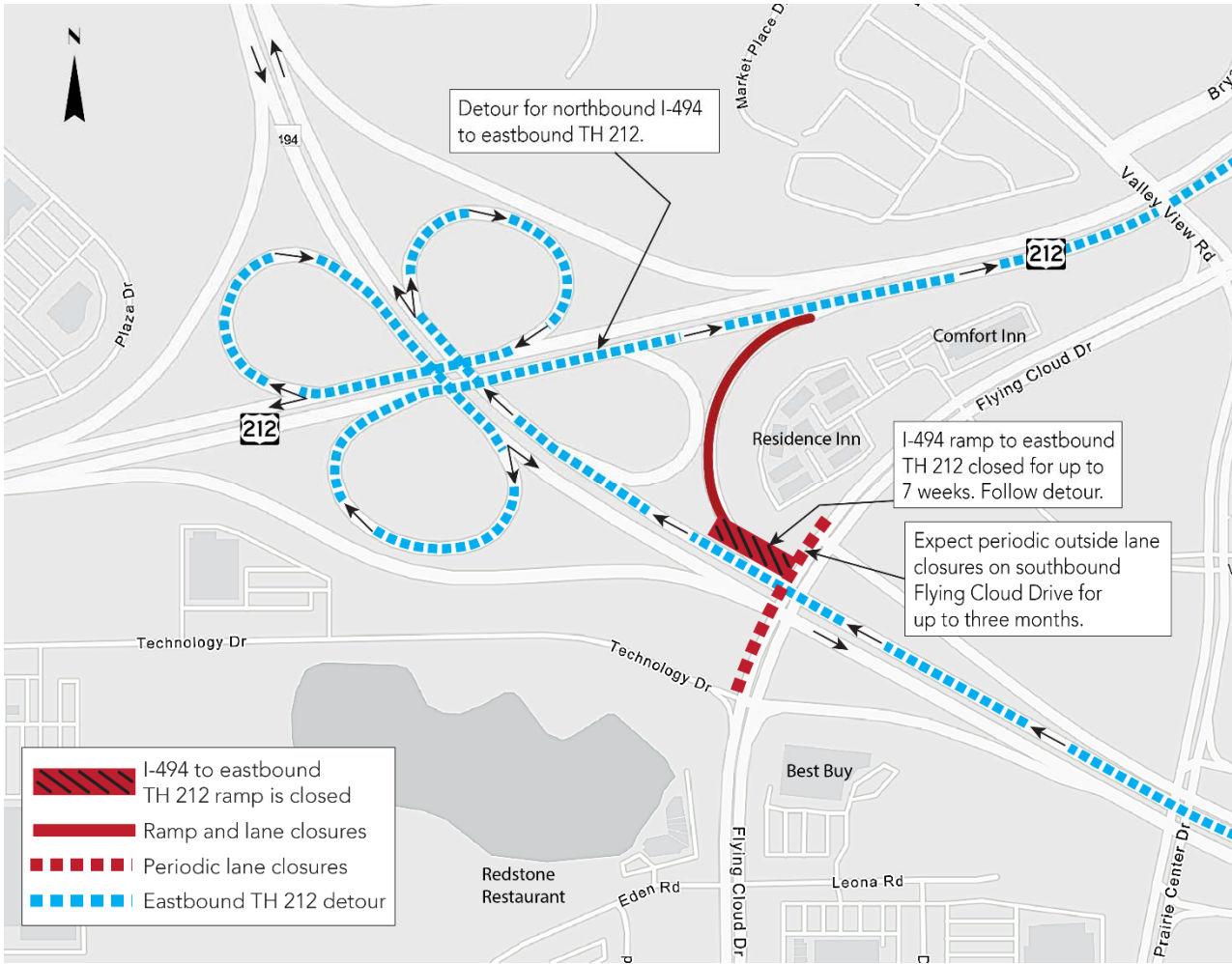
Cedar Lake (Kenilworth) Channel and Works Progress Administration (WPA): On-going

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.

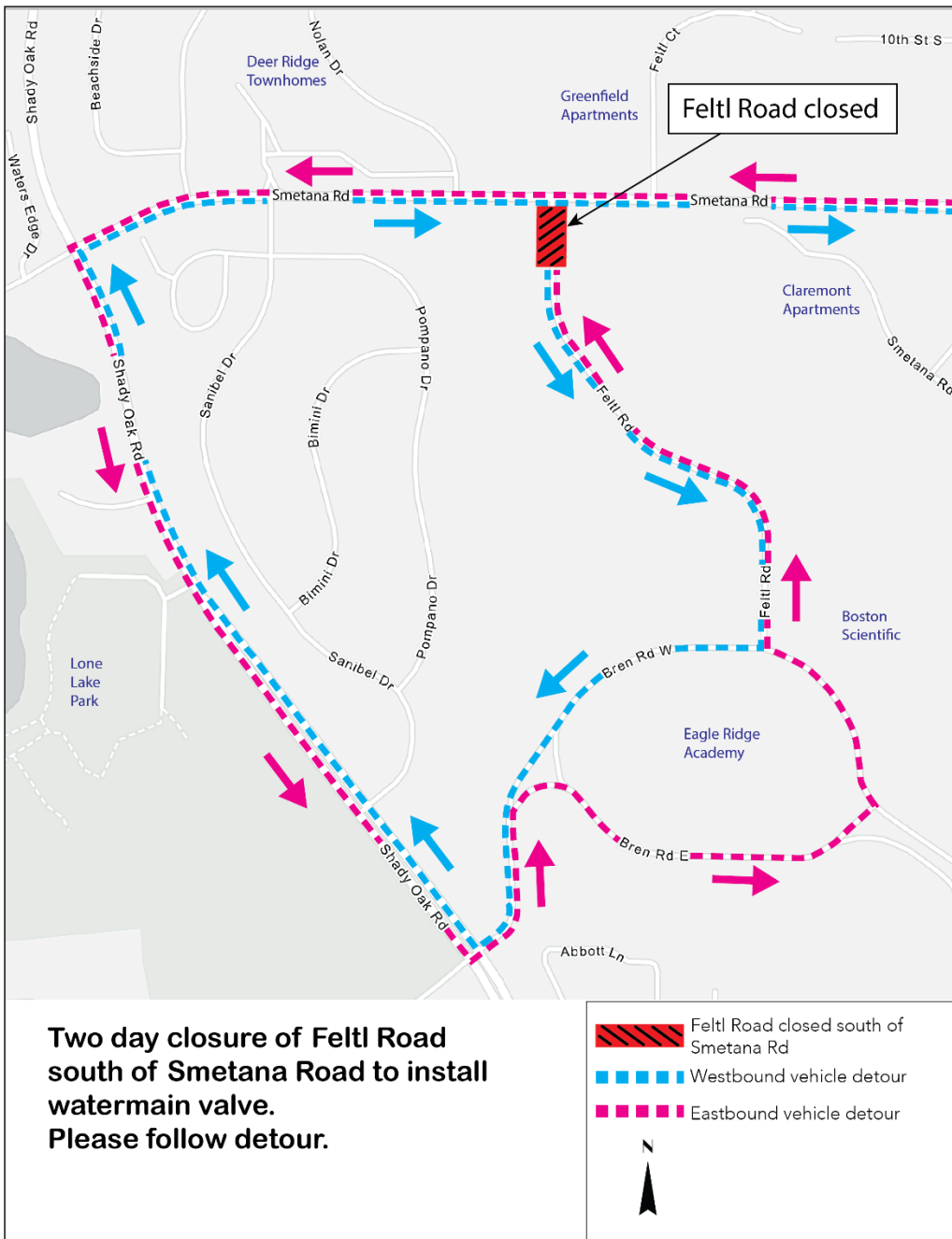
Glenwood Avenue in Minneapolis: On-going

The closure of Glenwood Avenue between Lyndale Avenue North and 11th Street North occurred 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.

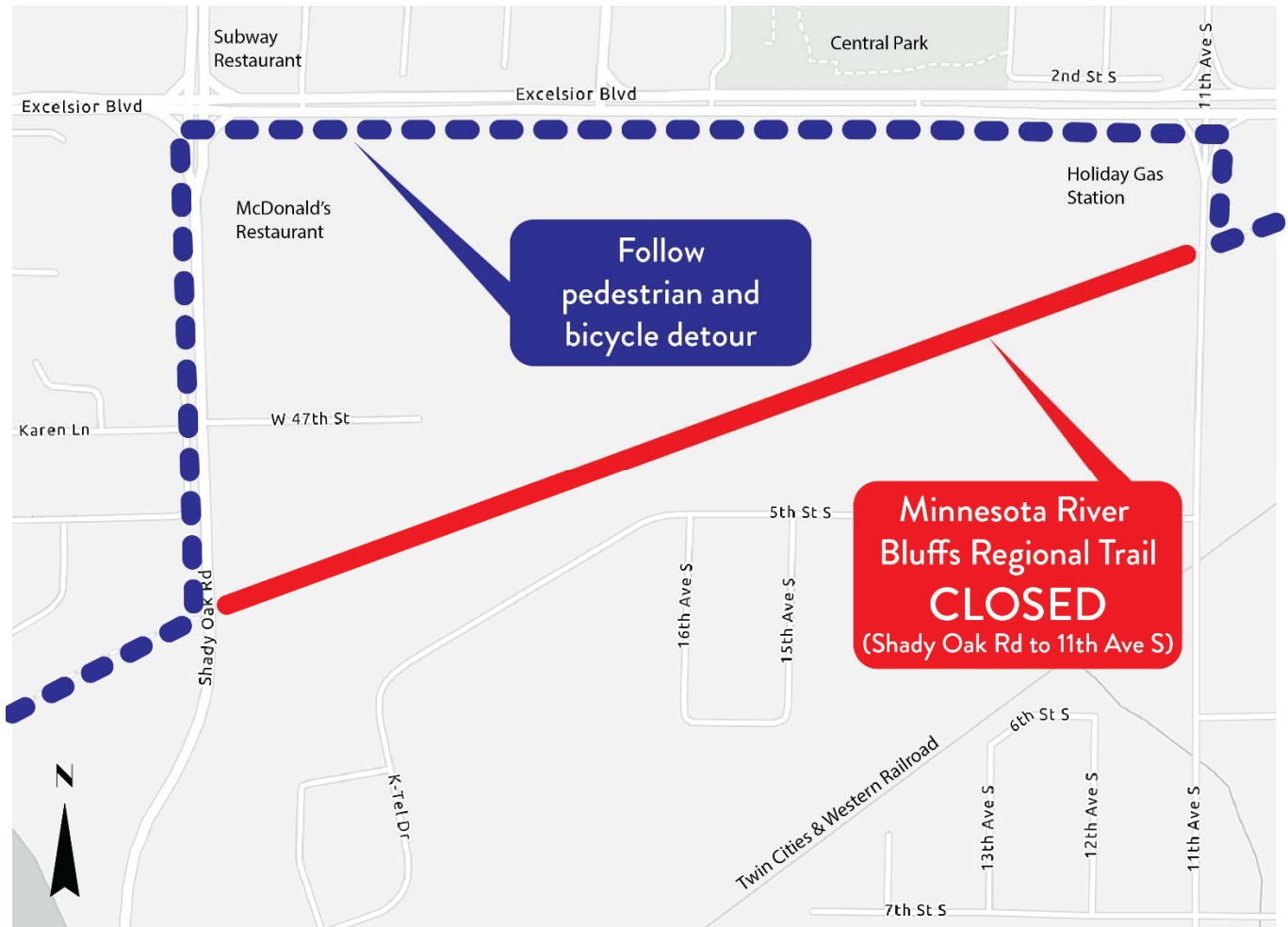
Northbound I-494 to Eastbound TH 212 Detour



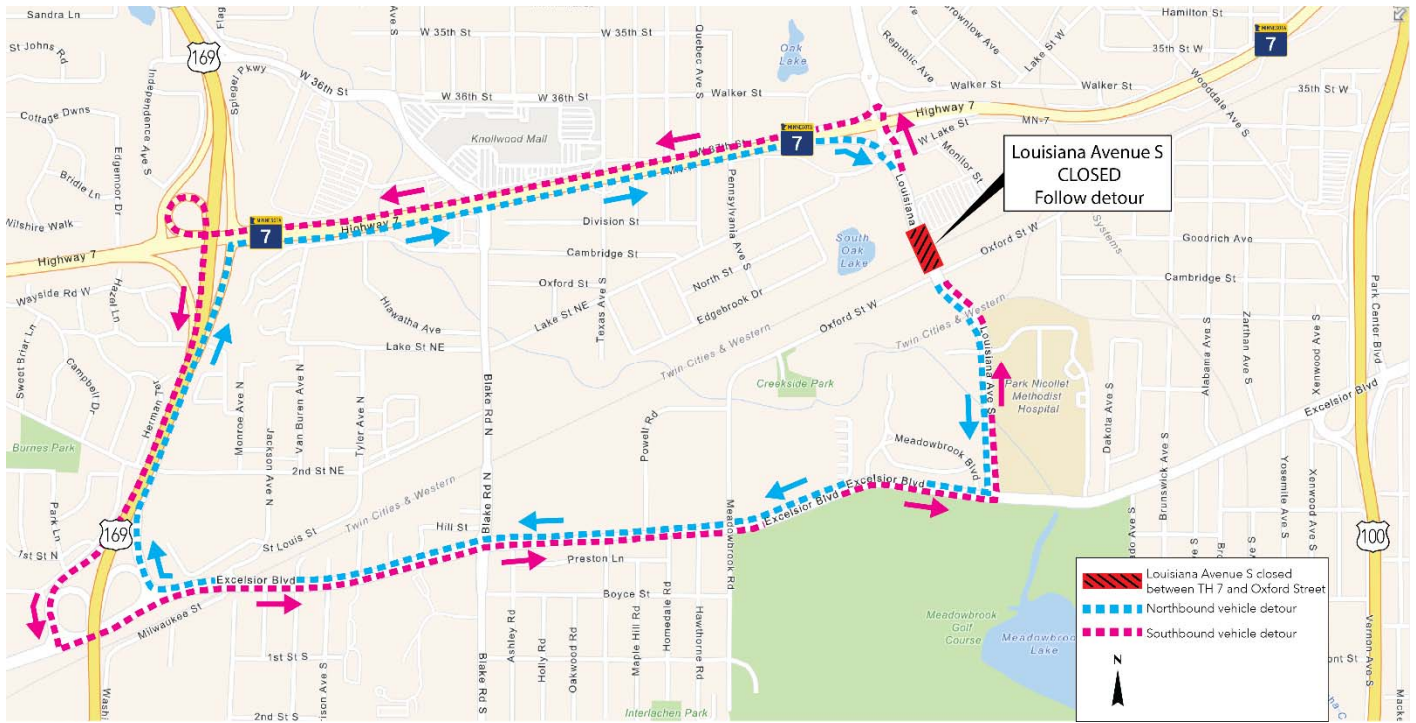
Feltl Road in Minnetonka Detour



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

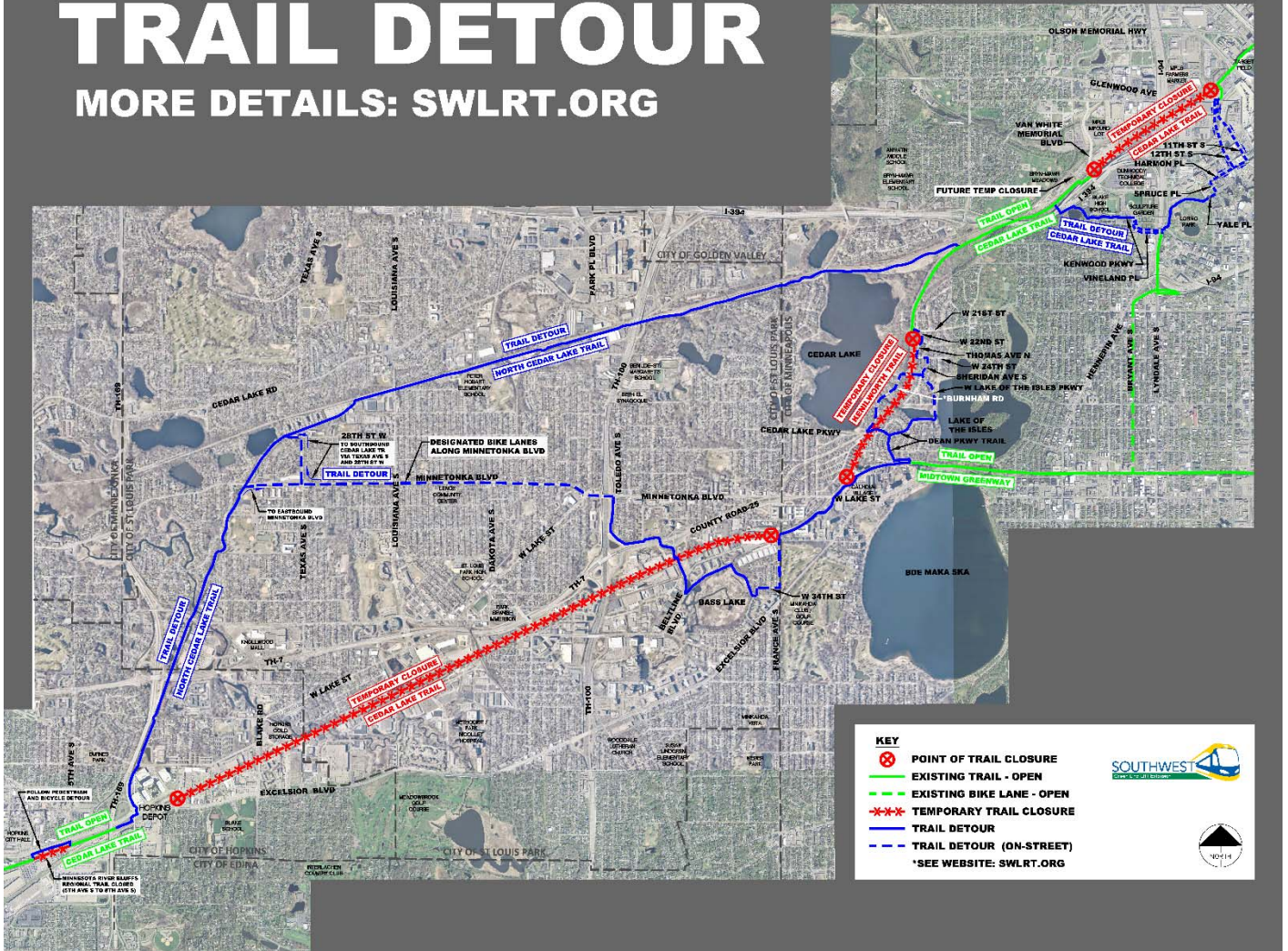


Louisiana Avenue in St. Louis Park Detour

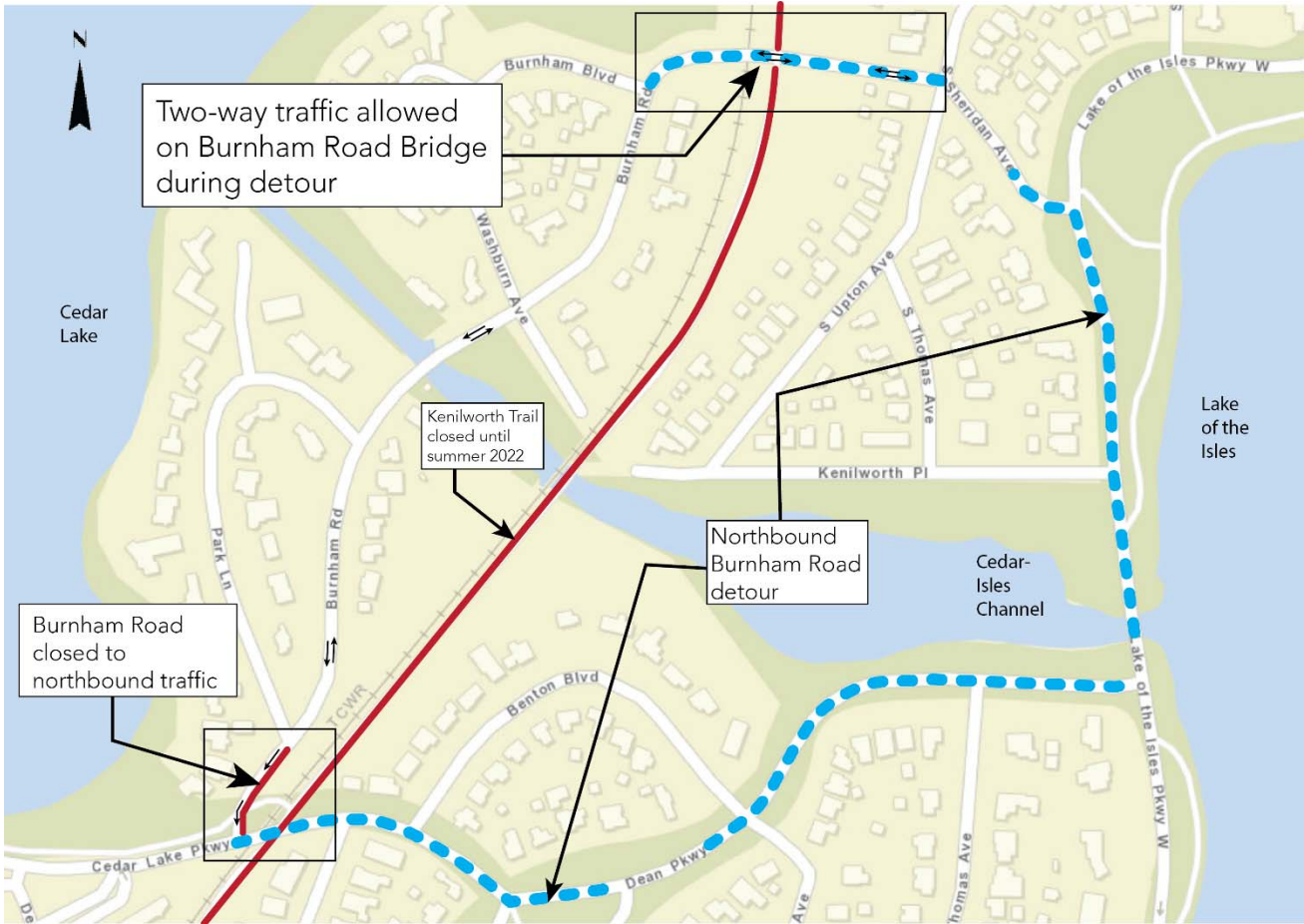


TRAIL DETOUR

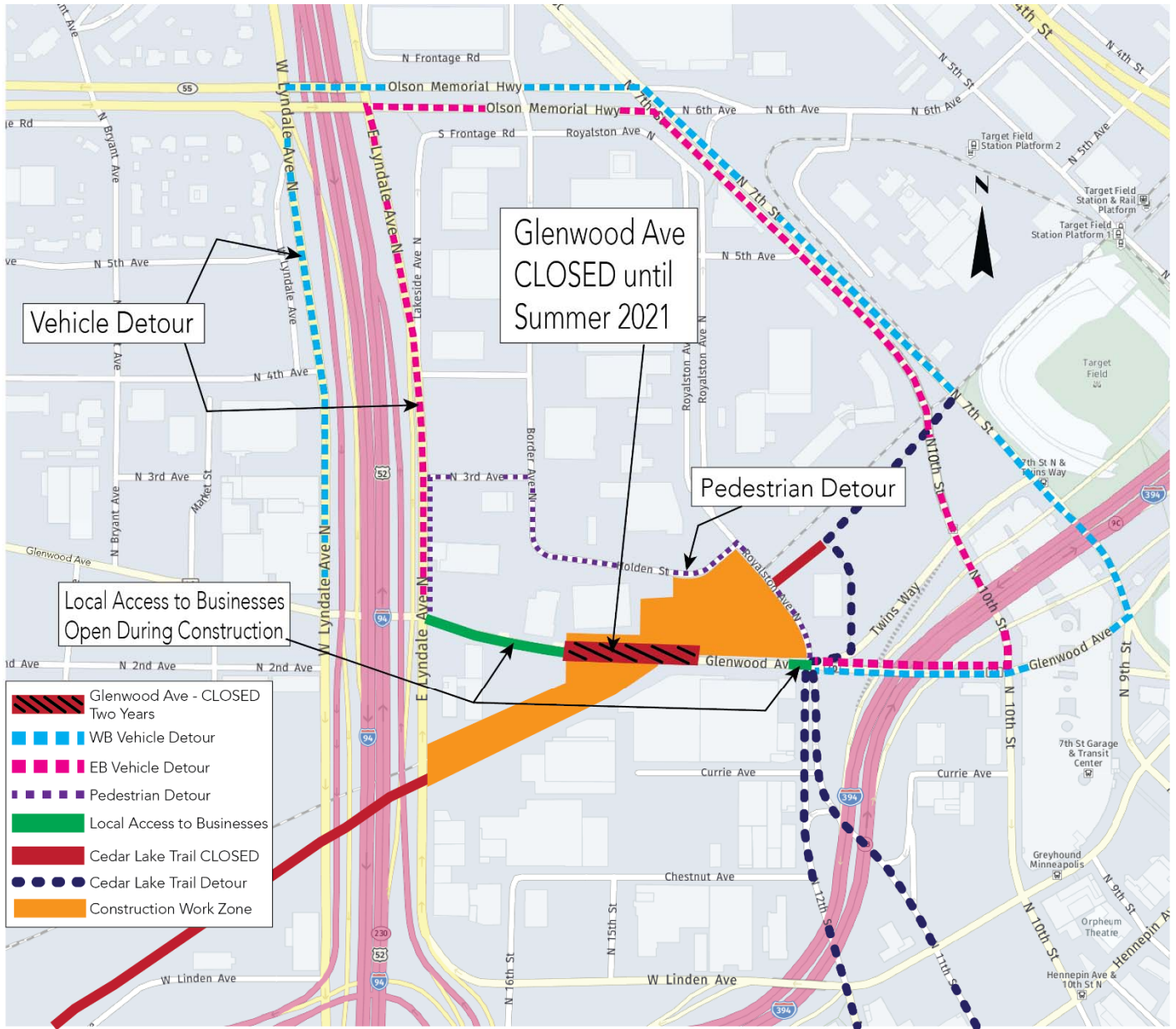
MORE DETAILS: SWLRT.ORG



Burnham Road Partial Closure at Cedar Lake Parkway in Minneapolis Detour Map



Glenwood Avenue in Minneapolis Detour



Cedar Lake Trail in Minneapolis Pedestrian and Bike Detour

