



Construction Update: July 26, 2019

Web: swlrt.org

Twitter: @SouthwestLRT

Construction Hotline: 612-373-3933

Thank you for joining us!

We had great conversations and feedback at the construction open houses over the last two weeks. We appreciate everyone that took the time to come learn more and engage with project staff. For those who were unable to make it, open house materials are available on the project website: swlrt.org in the Public Involvement section.

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, minor 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 is anticipated to begin the week of July 29.

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

Expect heavy equipment in the area as work on the new LRT bridge continues in the coming weeks.

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.

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 July 29, please follow posted pedestrian detours. Removal of existing freight tracks will also begin at the same time. A full closure of Excelsior Boulevard at the freight railroad crossing is expected later this summer.

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 will reopen to bikes and pedestrians during the week of July 29.

Louisiana Avenue in St. Louis Park: On-going

A full road closure of Louisiana Avenue at the Cedar Lake Regional Trail began on July 22 and crews have demolished the existing trail bridge. Louisiana Avenue is now reopened to vehicle traffic. Traffic is reduced to one lane in each direction as crews begin to work on bridge piers. A second full closure of Louisiana Avenue will occur later this summer for approximately a week.

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. To complete this work, full and partial closures of Burnham and a short-duration closure of Cedar Lake Parkway will be needed over the next two months. Two-way traffic will continue to be allowed on Burnham Road Bridge during the detours. **See detour map below.**

Works Progress Administration (WPA) Wall Located at the Cedar Lake (Kenilworth) Channel: 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 is scheduled to begin next week. Expect to see sandbags on the banks of the channel. Crews will use the sandbag to draw down water closest to the wall to better observe the lower condition of the walls. This work also includes manual and mechanical excavation along segments of the walls. This work is anticipated to take up to 4 months depending on the condition of the walls and preservation protocols. The channel will remain open for recreational use but will be narrowed to approximately 25 feet during this work. A full closure of the 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 are currently removing the bridge deck and plan to begin removal of the bridge girders and substructure the week of July 29th.

Upcoming Work

Smetana Road in Minnetonka and Hopkins: Late July/Early August

Private utilities began to prepare this area for utility relocations associated with the project. Site fencing and erosion control is being installed. Beginning in early August crews will start work on the water main with two separate short-duration roadway closures for this work: one overnight closure of Feltl Road and a five-day closure of Smetana Road. Following these short closures, Smetana Road from Feltl Court to Feltl Drive will be closed for six weeks. Signs will be posted seven days before the closures. **See detour map below.**

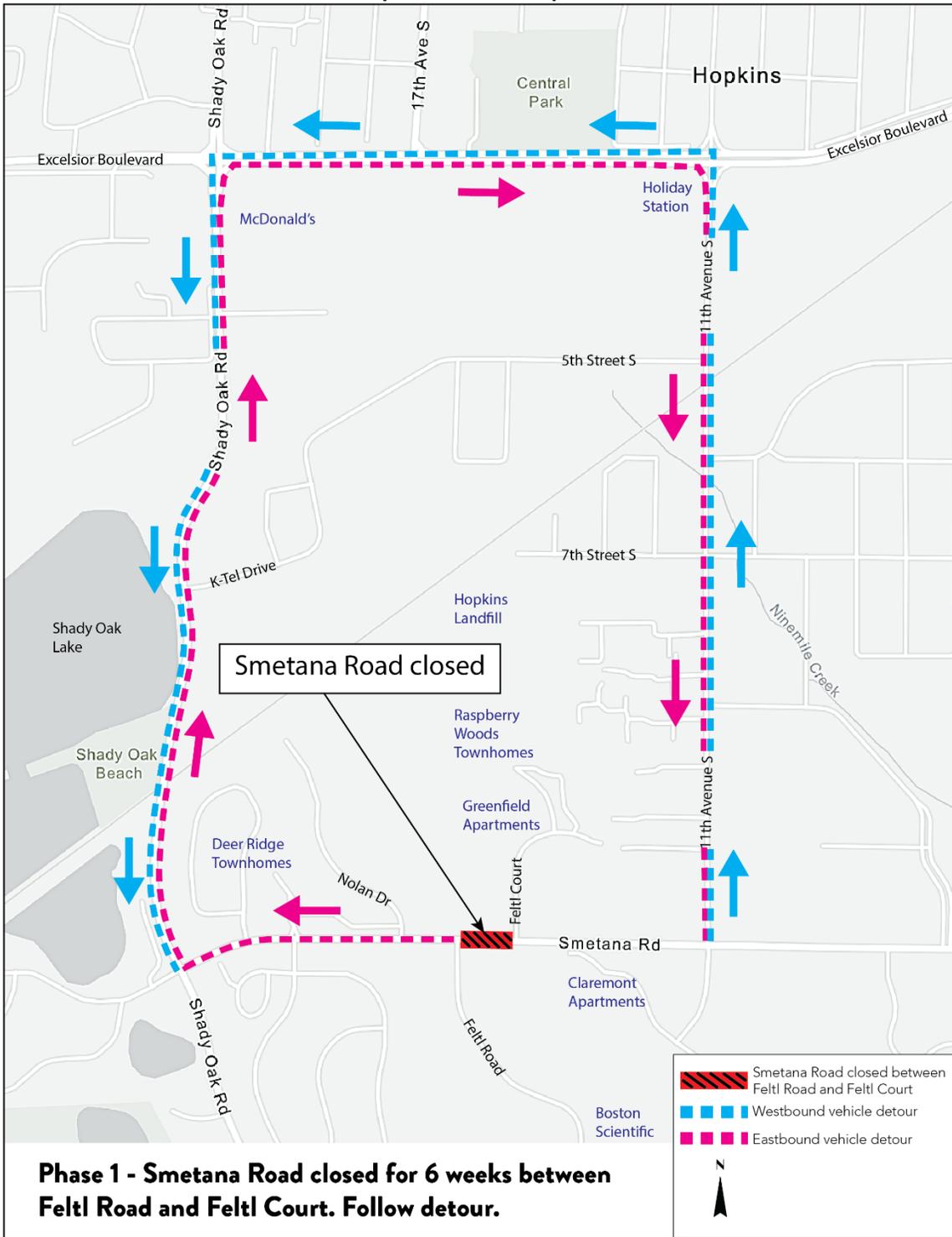
Highway 100: Mid-August

The project will be re-positioning the existing freight rail bridge and building a new LRT bridge over TH 100. Starting in mid-August, center pier work will begin. For approximately three weeks, traffic will be shifted to create a work-space 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.

Upcoming Roadway Closures: To give people advanced notice, the table below includes a list of planned closures. Detour signage will be in place seven days prior to closure to give notice of the actual closure date. As more information is available, we will include in weekly updates.

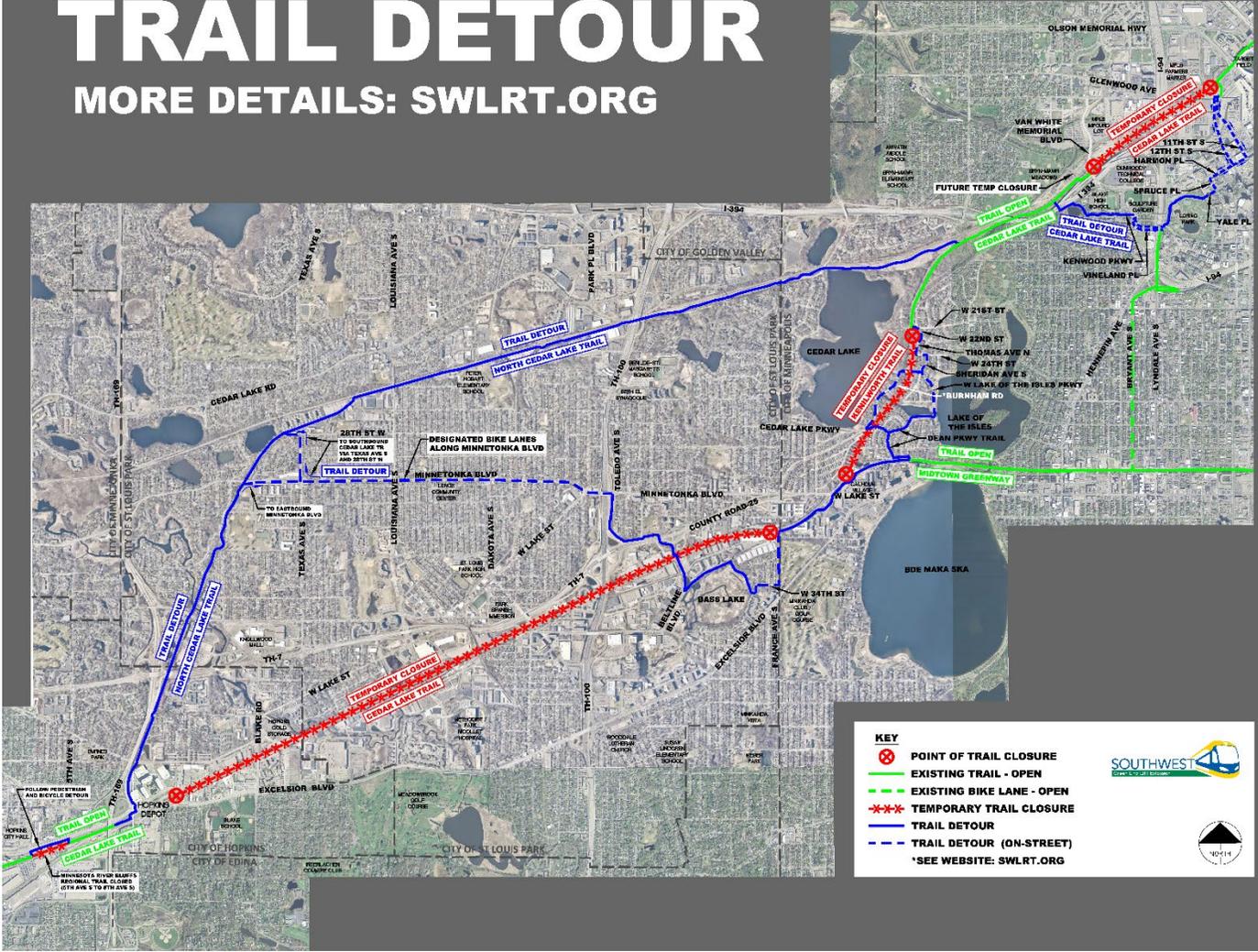
Community	Roadway	Anticipated Timeframe	Approx. Duration
Hopkins	FULL CLOSURE of Excelsior Boulevard at the intersection of Jackson Avenue North and Milwaukee Street	Late Summer	Two, 2-week closures (approx. 28 days total)
Hopkins	FULL CLOSURE of Blake Road at the Cedar Lake Trail and freight rail crossing	Fall	Up to 2 weeks

Smetana Road in Minnetonka and Hopkins Detour Map

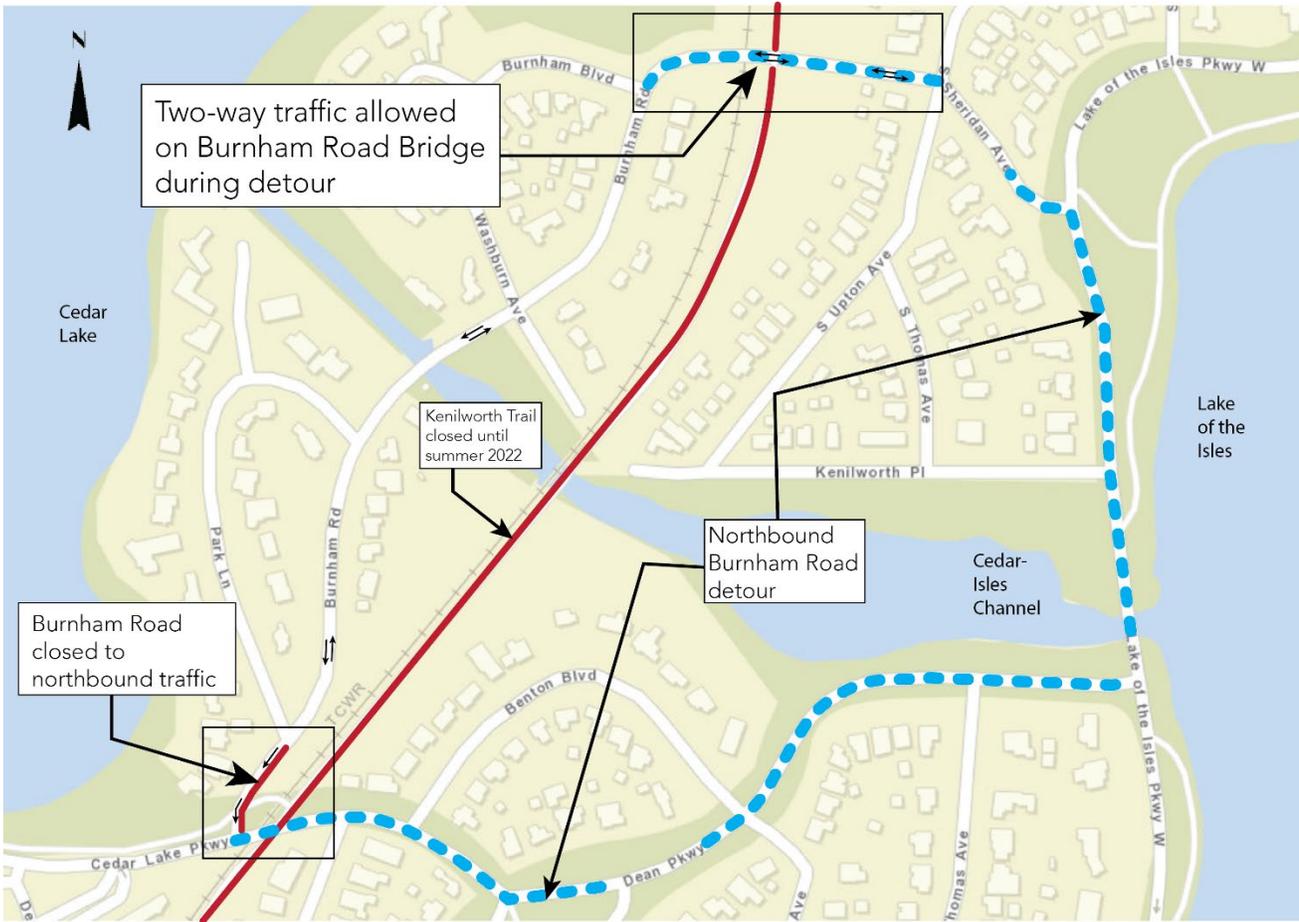


TRAIL DETOUR

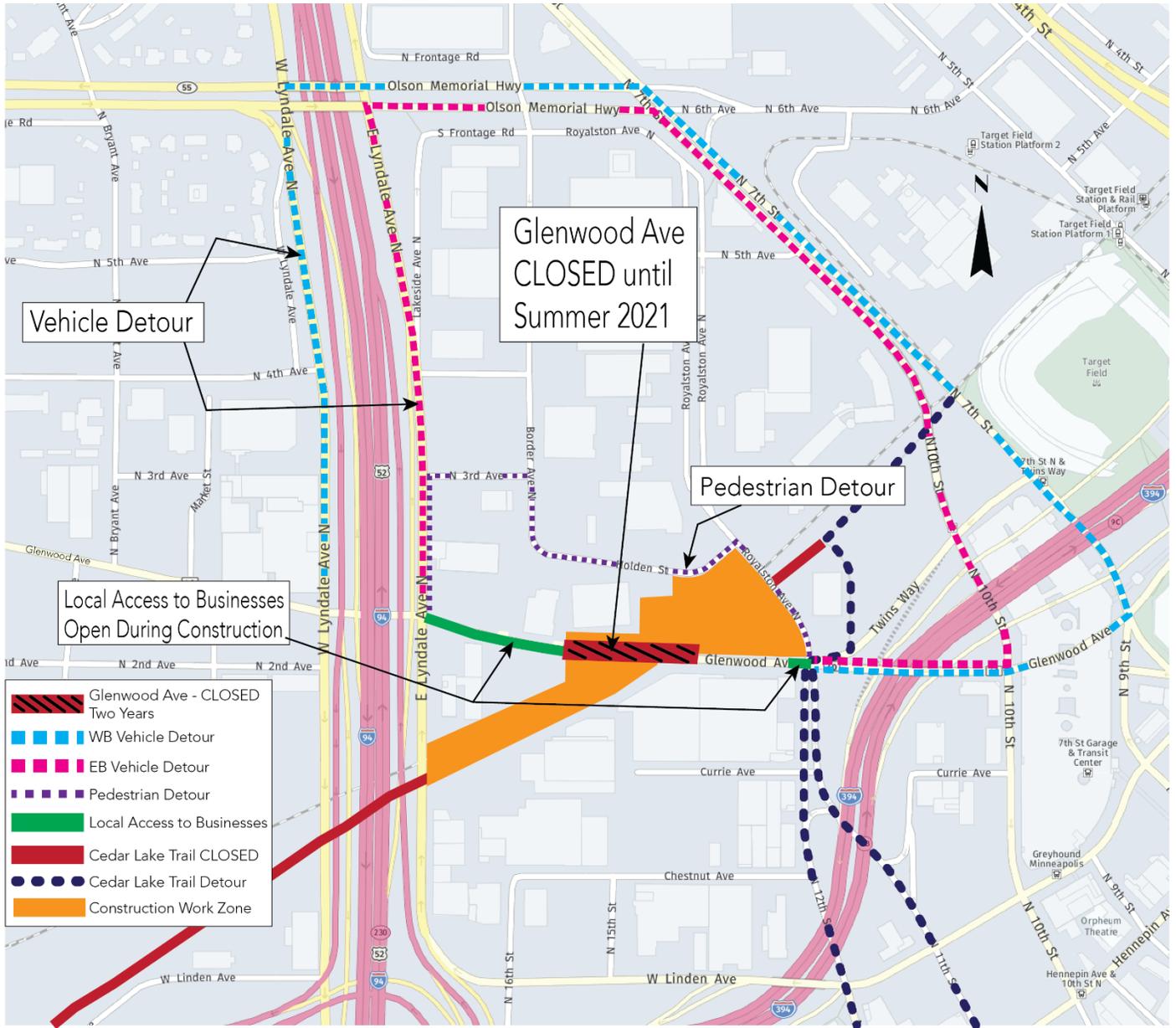
MORE DETAILS: SWLRT.ORG



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



Glenwood Avenue in Minneapolis Detour Map



Cedar Lake Trail in Minneapolis Pedestrian and Bike Detour Map

