

# Terwillegar Drive Expansion Construction Update

# Welcome!

Public Information Session  
December 2023

Edmonton

# Terwillegar Drive Expansion: Overview

- + Terwillegar Drive is a key north–south route in southwest Edmonton and an important link to 170 Street, which will become a future connection to Highway 19
- + Due to significant growth in southwest Edmonton, this vital corridor exceeded its capacity causing congestion, delays, increased collisions, as well as the reduction in speed and reliability of transit services
- + The corridor does not accommodate active transportation, such as walking and cycling
- + To accommodate current and future needs, the City is constructing an integrated expansion plan for Terwillegar Drive



Learn more by going to: [edmonton.ca/terwillegardrive](https://edmonton.ca/terwillegardrive)

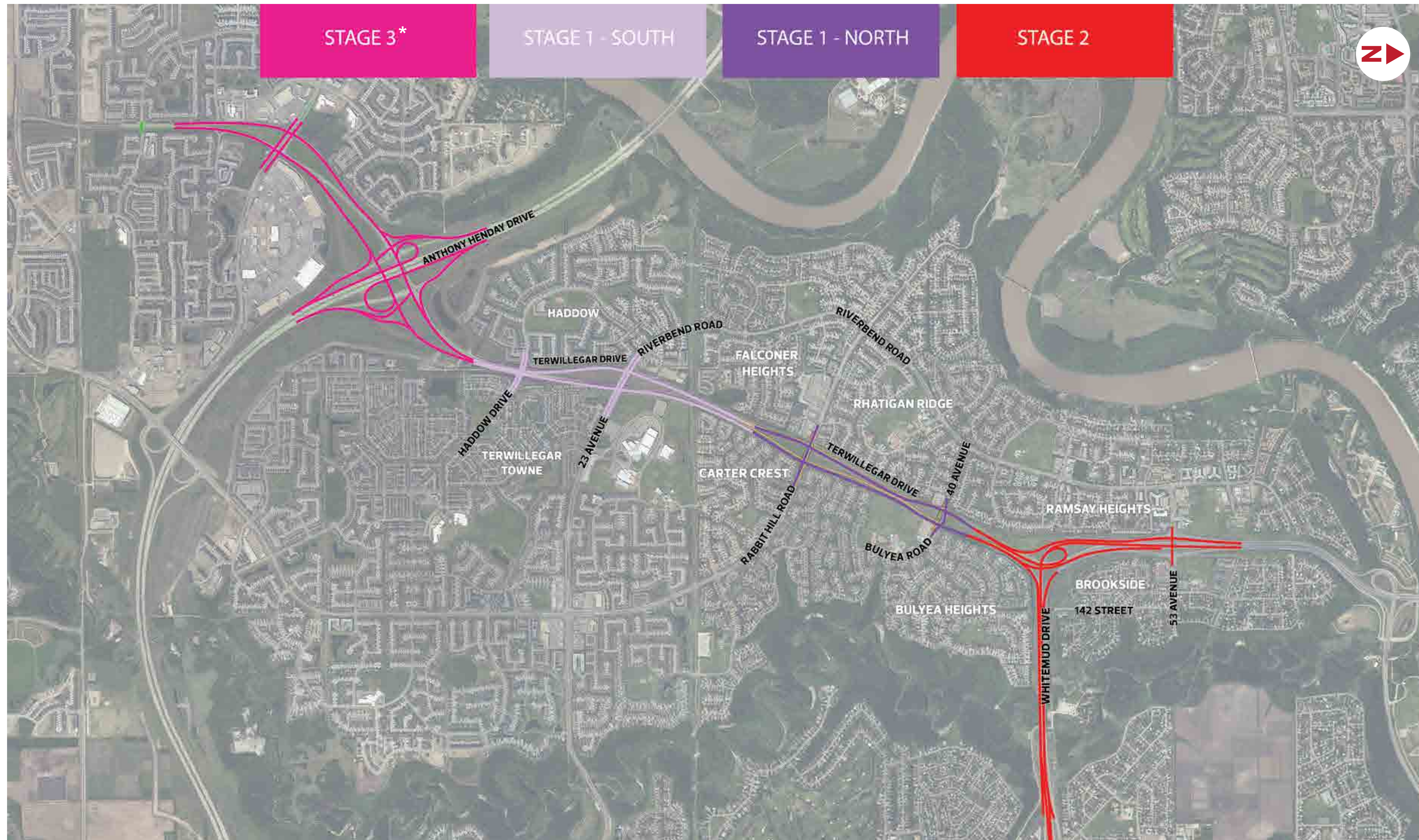
# Terwillegar Drive Expansion: Program Purpose

- Major city-building initiative
- Build out of roadway, transit and active transportation (walk, bike, roll) to safely and efficiently accommodate future needs
- Help achieve the outcomes of the City Plan to accommodate a population of 2 million
- Alleviate congestion
- Improve access and connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists
- Accommodate all users safely and efficiently



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# Program Stages



\* Final design to be determined



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# Expansion Timeline

○ **1980s:** Freeway plan

○ **2017:** Concept planning study begins

○ **2018:** Council approval of the expressway plan

○ **2019/20:** Funding approval from City and Province

○ **2021:** Construction on Stage One begins

○ **2022:** Construction on Stage One continues

○ **2023:** Construction on Stage One continues, Stage Two begins

○ **2024:** Construction on Stage One: South and Stage Two continues, Stage Three may begin

○ **2025–2026:** Construction on Stage Two and Stage Three continues



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# Program Schedule

Project Description	Concept Planning	Preliminary Design	Detailed Design	Construction Start
<b>STAGE ONE</b>				
Terwillegar Drive Expressway – Rabbit Hill Road to Whitemud Drive	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE *Landscaping will be completed in 2023.
Terwillegar Drive Expressway – Anthony Henday Drive to Rabbit Hill Road	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	Underway
<b>STAGE TWO</b>				
Whitemud Drive and Interchange Upgrades	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	Underway
142 Street Pedestrian/Cyclist Bridge	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	2024
<b>STAGE THREE</b>				
Anthony Henday Drive Interchange Upgrades	COMPLETE	2023	2024	2024 <sup>1</sup>

1. Anticipated start of construction. Construction dependent on the final budget.



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# Terwillegar Drive Expansion Stage Two:

## Whitemud Drive and Interchange Upgrades



# Stage Two: Improvements 2024–2026

- Rainbow Valley Bridge widening
- Bus-only lane southbound between 53rd Avenue and Terwillegar Drive
- Whitemud Drive/Terwillegar Drive interchange improvements
- Whitemud Drive widening between Terwillegar Drive and 122 Street
- Active transportation improvements
- Ramsay Heights noise barrier
- 142 Street Pedestrian/ Cyclist Bridge



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# Stage Two: 2023 Construction Progress

## 2023:

- Construction begins for Rainbow Valley bridges and pedestrian/cyclist bridge
- Terwillegar Drive Interchange upgrades
- Replacement of the 122 Street ramp
- Extension of the south Rainbow Valley parking lot
- Tree removal and preservation



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# Stage Two: 2024 – 2026 Construction Timelines

## 2024:

- Rainbow Valley bridge westbound selective demolition, rehabilitation, and widening
- Rainbow Valley pedestrian/ cyclist bridge construction
- 142 Street pedestrian/ cyclist bridge construction
- Westbound Whitemud Drive widening and renewal
- Bus-only lane retaining wall and roadway
- Ramsay Heights noise barrier
- Shared-use path realignment adjacent to Snow Valley

## 2025:

- Rainbow Valley Bridge eastbound selective demolition, rehabilitation, and widening
- 142 Street Pedestrian/ Cyclist Bridge construction
- Eastbound Whitemud Drive widening and renewal
- Bus-only roadway continues

## 2026:

- Final landscaping and paving
- Project area returned to full capacity



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# Construction Impacts on Traffic

## Vehicle Traffic

- Additional construction and major traffic impacts will begin on Whitemud Drive in early 2024.
- Roadworks will require staged shoulder and lane closures along the Whitemud Drive and Terwillegar Drive corridors
- Access to Snow Valley and the Rainbow Valley Campground will be maintained
- Traffic will be monitored, and adjustments will be implemented where possible to improve traffic flow through the project area

## Pedestrian and Cyclist Traffic

- Pedestrian and cyclist pathway connectivity will be maintained throughout the project
  - Active modes users will be detoured through the Whitemud Creek ravine temporarily while the new shared-use path bridge is being constructed
- The current pedestrian sidewalk on the Westbound Rainbow Valley Bridge will be closed and replaced by the new Rainbow Valley shared-use path bridge (2024)
- The 142 Street Pedestrian/ Cyclist bridge will cross Whitemud Drive and provide a connection between Brookside and Brookview at 142 Street. Completion is anticipated in 2025.



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# Overall Traffic Impacts 2024 – 2026

- On Whitemud Drive, two lanes will remain open in each direction during peak hours. There will be impacts to traffic flow during off peak hours as necessary
- The westbound Rainbow Valley Bridge will close in Early 2024. Two-way traffic will be moved onto eastbound Rainbow Valley Bridge
- The eastbound Rainbow Valley Bridge will close in 2025. Two-way traffic will be moved onto westbound Rainbow Valley Bridge



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# Rainbow Valley Bridge Rehabilitation and Widening

- The bridges, constructed in 1979 and 1982, are due for their first major rehabilitation
- The bridges will be widened to four lanes plus shoulders
- Sidewalk will be removed and new pedestrian bridge constructed
- Construction site compounds will be located in Rainbow Valley



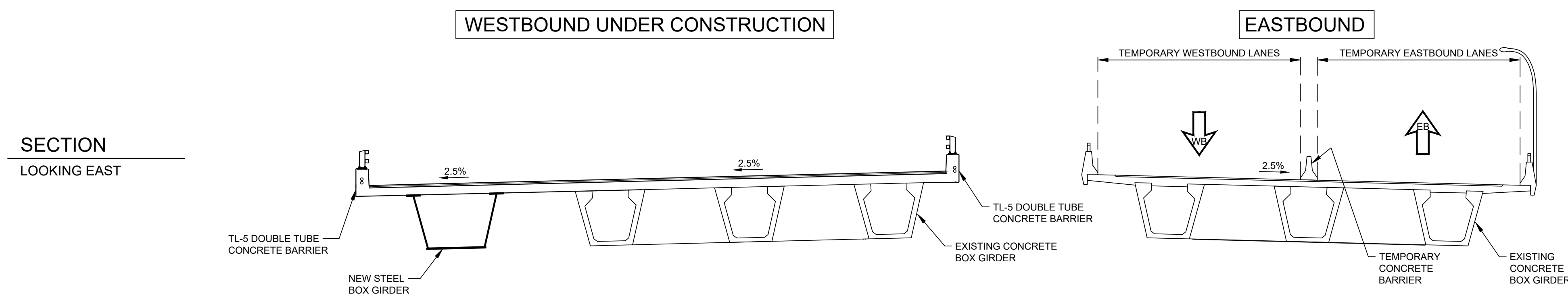
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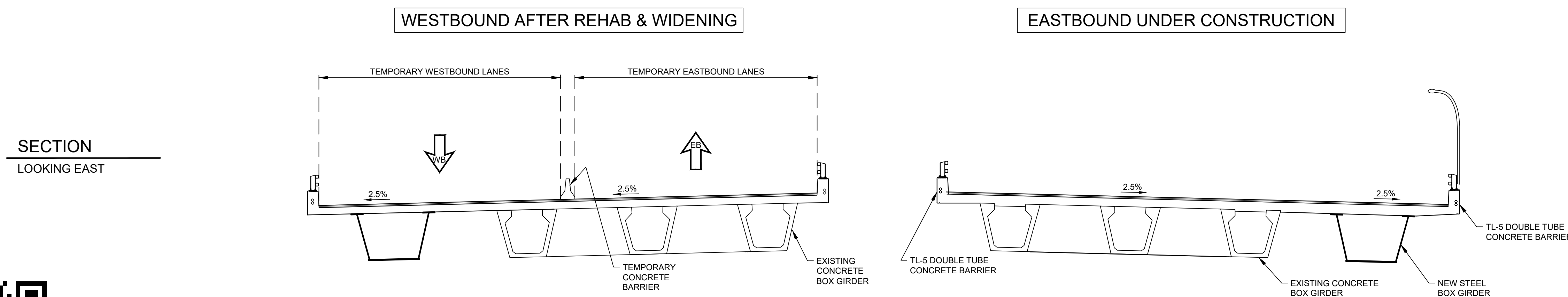
# Vehicular Traffic: Major Traffic Disruptions

Rehabilitation and widening of the Rainbow Valley Bridges will be phased:

→ **2024:** Closure of Westbound Rainbow Valley Bridge, two-way traffic established on Eastbound Whitemud Drive (Early 2024)



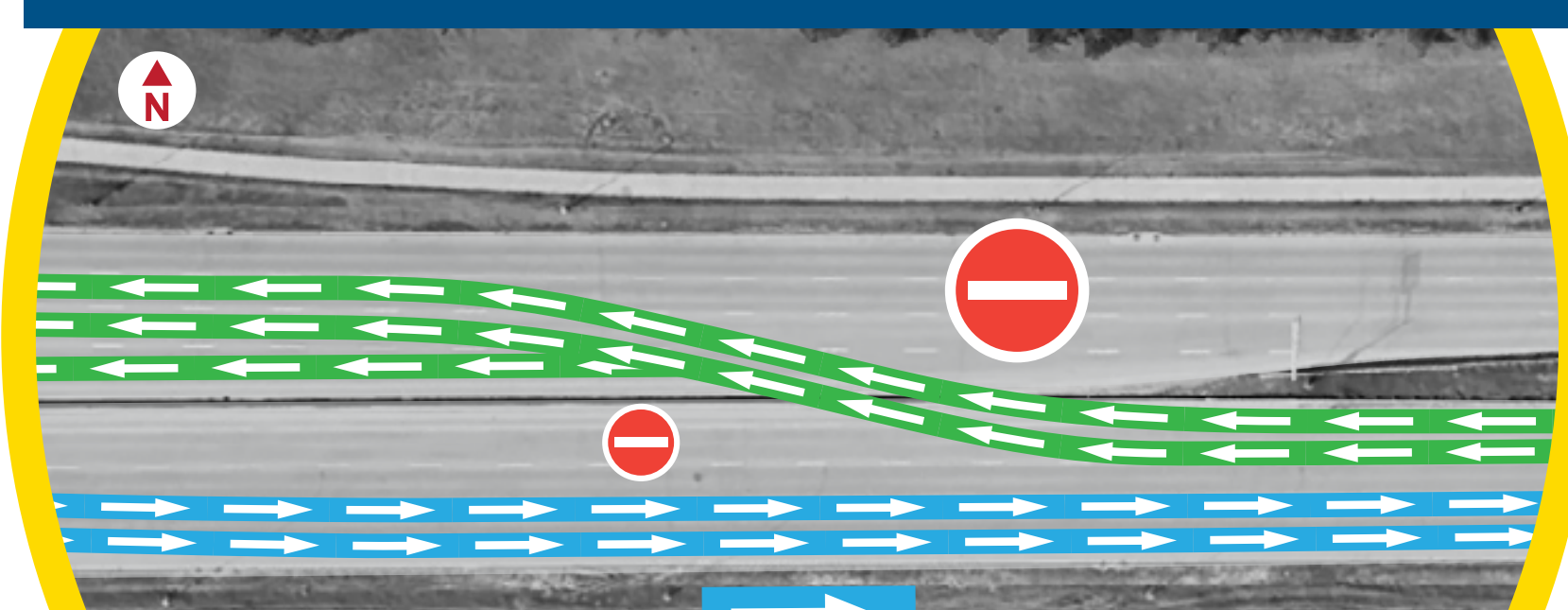
→ **2025:** Closure of Eastbound Rainbow Valley Bridge, two-way traffic established on Westbound Whitemud Drive (Early 2025)




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# 2024 North Rainbow Valley Bridge Closure

**WESTBOUND TRAFFIC:**  
After the bridge, drivers will move back to the usual westbound lanes.



**EASTBOUND TRAFFIC:**  
Before the bridge, there will be temporary lane closures to accommodate oncoming westbound traffic.



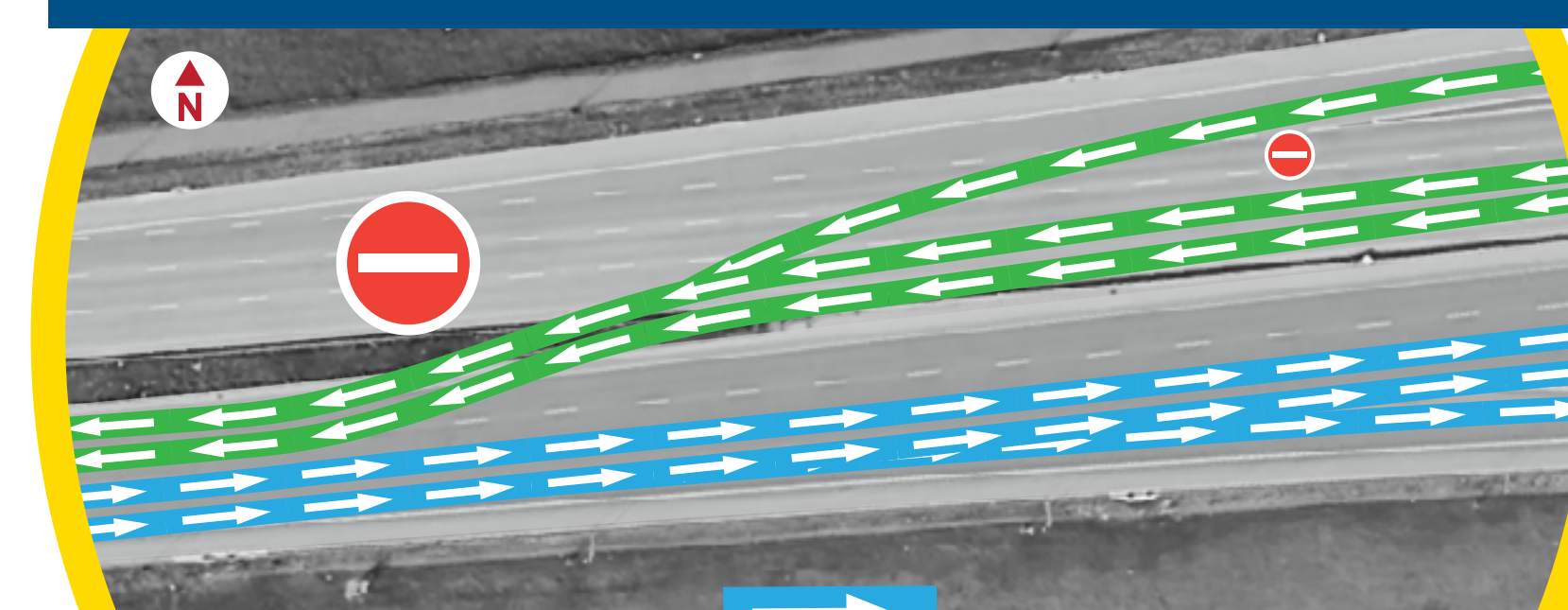
**NORTH BRIDGE CLOSED**



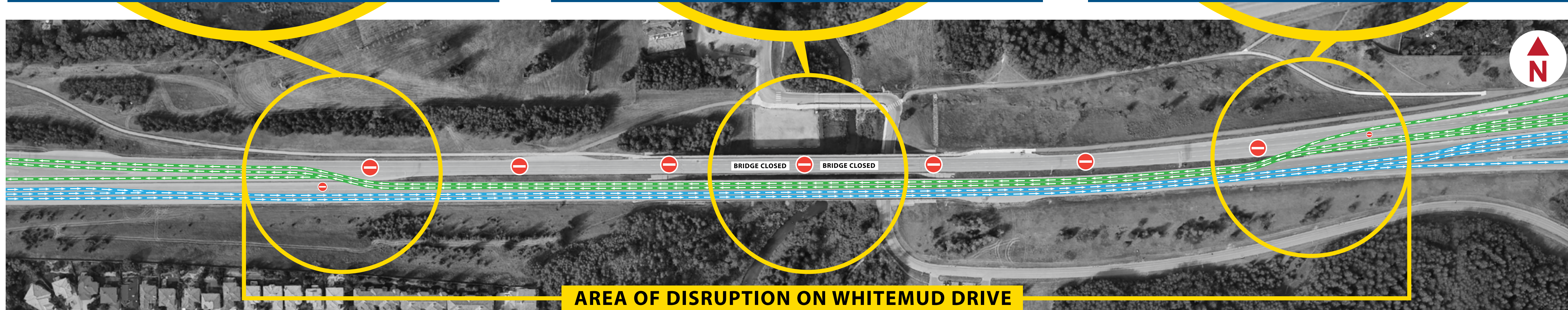
**ALL TRAFFIC:**  
Two lanes eastbound and two lanes westbound will be maintained during morning and afternoon peak hours. Watch for signage.



**WESTBOUND TRAFFIC:**  
Before the bridge, people driving westbound will be detoured onto lanes on the south bridge.



**EASTBOUND TRAFFIC:**  
After the construction zone, traffic lanes return to normal.

**LEGEND**

-  WESTBOUND TRAFFIC
-  EASTBOUND TRAFFIC

**Two lanes will be maintained in each direction during peak hours.**  
In off-peak hours, various lane closure changes may occur. Please drive with caution, and follow all speed limit changes, signs and the instructions of construction personnel.



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# Active Transportation: Rainbow Valley Pedestrian/Cyclist Bridge

→ Active modes users will be moved away from live traffic

→ Anticipated completion in 2024



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# Active Transportation: 142 Street Pedestrian/Cyclist Bridge

→ New pedestrian/cyclist bridge over Whitemud Drive near 142 Street, open space enhancements

→ Construction begins in 2024, with anticipated completion in 2025



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# Active Transportation: Shared Use Path Upgrades

→ Upgrades to the existing shared-use path between 122 Street and 142 Street

- Construction of a shared-use path started in 2023 with the path reconstructed near 122 Street. The remainder of the path will be constructed in 2024
- A fence or similar barrier between Whitemud Drive and the path for the safety of cyclists and pedestrians will be constructed in 2024



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# Transit Upgrades: Bus-Only Lane

Construction includes:

- ➔ Retaining wall construction in 2024
- ➔ Bus-only signals at 53 Avenue west ramp intersection
- ➔ Segregated bus-only lane from 53 Avenue to Terwillegar Drive is anticipated to be complete in 2025



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# Whitemud Drive Widening and Upgrades

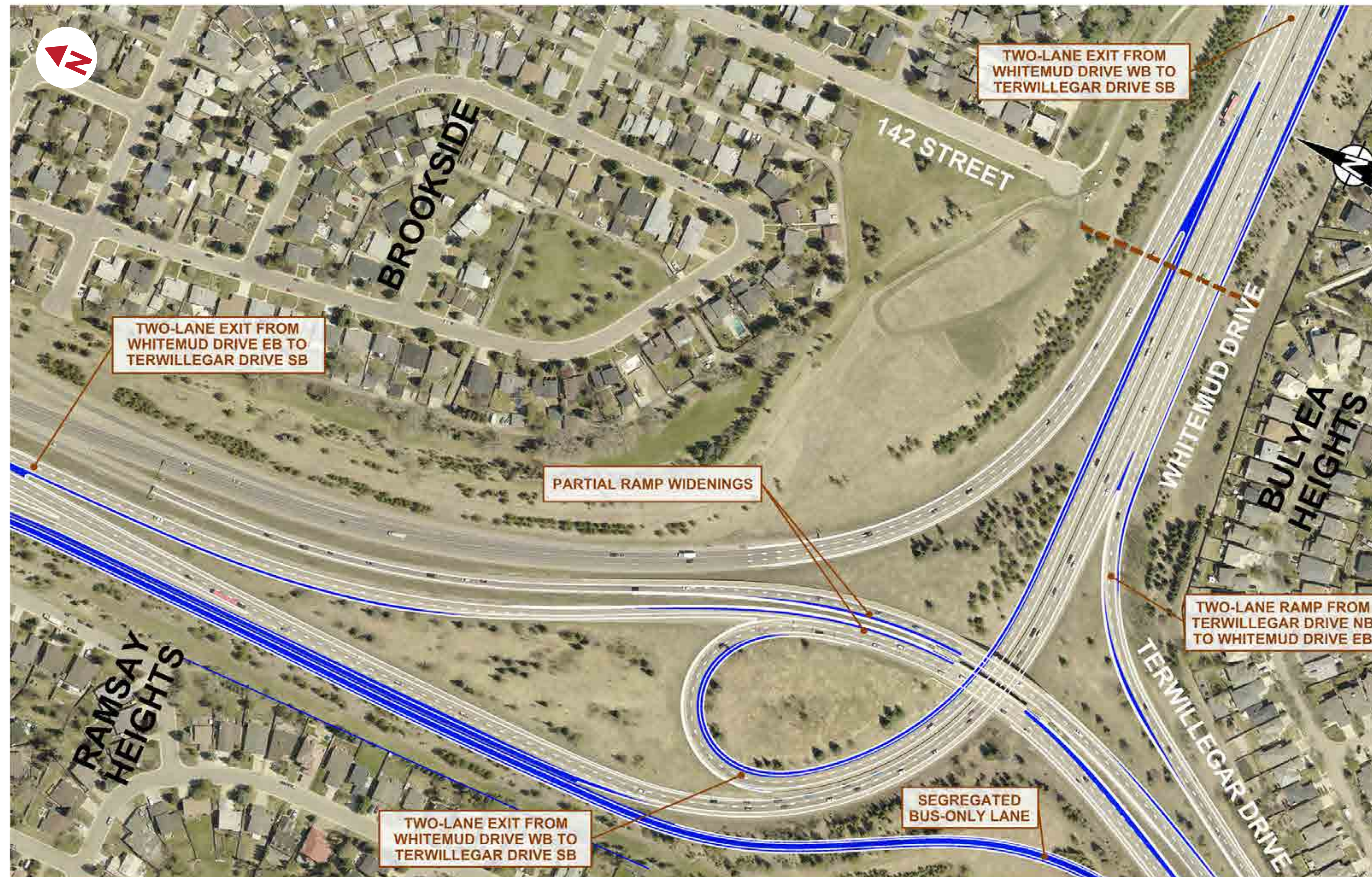
→ Whitemud Drive will be widened to four lanes in each direction between Terwillegar Drive and 122 Street

→ Widening of mainline Whitemud Drive will take place on the westbound lanes in 2024 and the eastbound lanes in 2025



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# Whitemud Drive/Terwillegar Drive Interchange (2023 - 2024)



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# Retaining Walls Ongoing – 2024

Five retaining walls are needed for roadway widenings and the bus only lane:

- 1 Bus-Only Lane Retaining Wall
- 2 Westbound Whitemud Drive under the Terwillegar Drive structures
- 3 Westbound Whitemud Drive (east of 142 Street) Retaining Wall
- 4 Northbound Terwillegar Drive to Eastbound Whitemud Drive Ramp Retaining Wall
- 5 Eastbound Whitemud Drive Retaining Wall

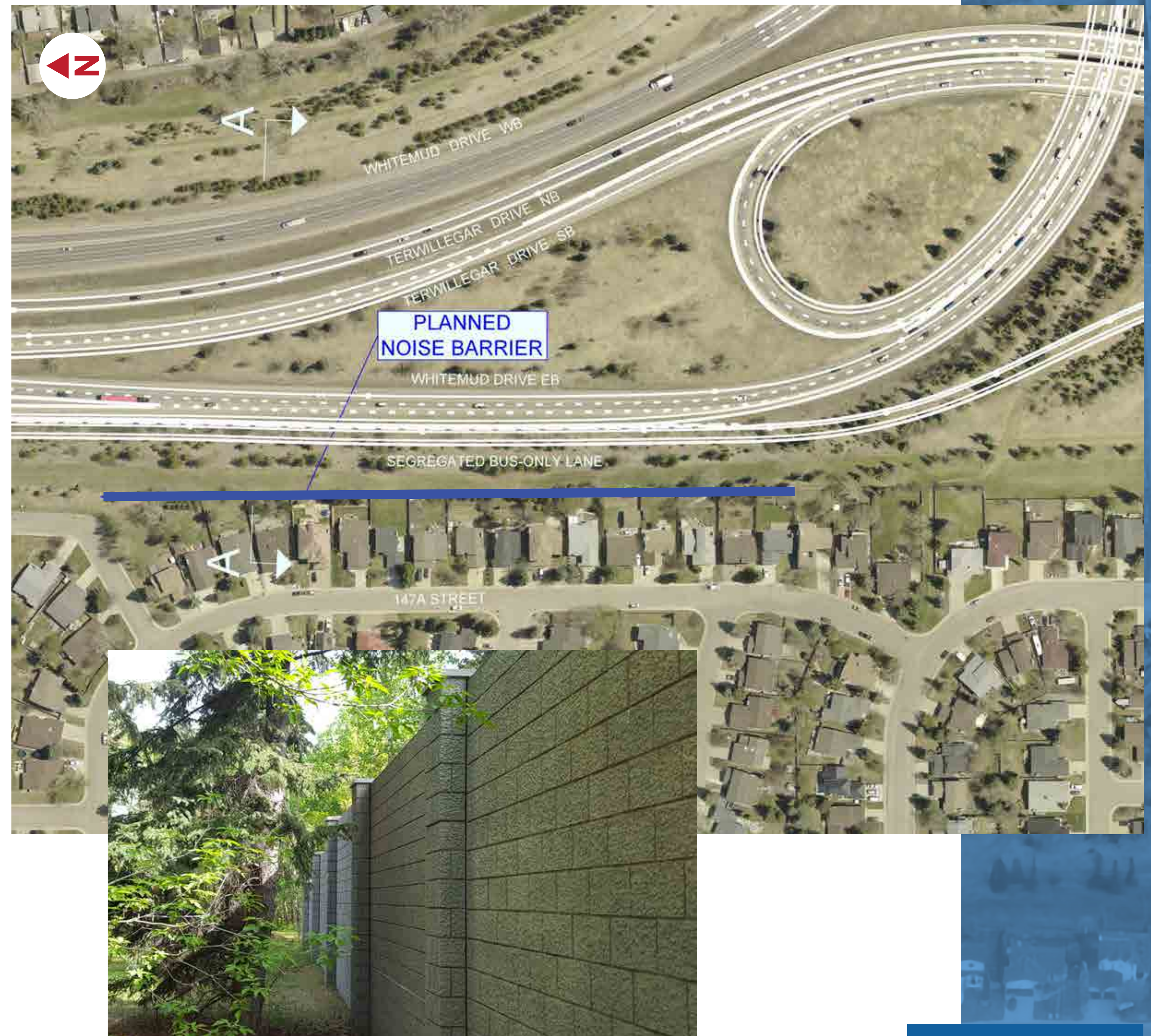


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# Noise Attenuation

Noise assessment was conducted. Noise attenuation is considered when noise levels in private residential backyards exceed 65 dBA

- A noise barrier will be constructed in Ramsay Heights
- Engagement with residents backing onto the wall is ongoing
- Works are anticipated to begin in late 2024



Learn more by going to: [edmonton.ca/terwillegardrive](https://edmonton.ca/terwillegardrive)

For questions or to provide  
comments, email:

**[TerwillegarDrive@edmonton.ca](mailto:TerwillegarDrive@edmonton.ca)**

For more information, visit:

**[edmonton.ca/TerwillegarDrive](https://edmonton.ca/TerwillegarDrive)**



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# Terwillegar Drive Expansion

## Stage One:

Terwillegar Drive between  
Anthony Henday Drive and  
Whitemud Drive



# Stage One: Improvements

- + Four lanes in each direction (three for motor vehicles and one dedicated lane for transit)
- + Intersection upgrades, including new left and right turning lanes and shared-use path crossings
- + Bus stop upgrades, including longer pull outs, weather-protected shelters, connections to the shared-use path and lighting
- + Shared-use path on the east side of Terwillegar Drive, including connections to the communities and lighting
- + Continued landscape naturalization and additional tree plantings
- + New bus rapid transit services anticipated to be in operation once construction is complete (Route 31)



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# Stage One: Construction

- Construction began in 2020 and is anticipated to be complete in 2024
- Two vehicle travel lanes will be open in each direction during peak hours until the end of 2023
- No additional trees are planned to be removed for Stage One



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# Stage One North: Rabbit Hill Road to Whitemud Drive

- Widening between Whitemud Drive and Rabbit Hill Road was completed in 2022
- Landscaping including soil placement, tree replacements, new boulevard trees on cross streets and the addition of naturalized grasses along the corridor is complete



Terwillegar Drive Stage One looking north. November 2022.



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# Stage One South: Anthony Henday Drive to Rabbit Hill Road

- Widening between Haddow Drive and 23 Avenue is ongoing and connections to the new Haddow Drive and 23 Avenue intersections have been pre-graded. Roadway construction in this area is to be completed in 2024
- Landscaping south of 23 Avenue will take place upon completion of roadway work



Terwillegar Drive Stage One: Terwillegar Drive/Rabbit Hill Road looking northwest. November 2022.



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# Stage One: Shared-use Path

- Construction of the shared-use path along the east side of the corridor in Stage One South, along with the pedestrian lighting, will be completed in 2023
- The shared pathway in Stage One North is complete



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