






Yellowhead Trail: East Widening Construction Information

Learn about the design plans and upcoming construction for Yellowhead Trail between 61 Street and North Saskatchewan River.

61 Street to North Saskatchewan River: **Yellowhead Trail East Widening**

Construction Information

-  Construction is estimated to begin in mid-May 2020 and finish in November 2021.
-  At a minimum, one travel lane will be open in each direction at all times during construction.
-  Two lanes will be maintained in each direction during day time hours on Yellowhead Trail.
-  On and off ramp closures will occur overnight only. Advanced public notification will be provided for this work.
-  Access on and off Yellowhead Trail at 50 Street and Victoria Trail will be maintained.

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Communications During Construction



Area residents and businesses will be notified by the contractor before construction begins and again before any planned road or lane closures.



Construction bulletins will be issued 48 hours prior to any changes to accesses.



Construction information will be shared through the [Edmonton.ca](https://www.edmonton.ca) website, email, construction bulletins and road signs.

61 Street to North Saskatchewan River: **Yellowhead Trail East Widening**

Construction contact information: **Contractor**

Project Manager: Michael Stang

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City of Edmonton

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For more information and to sign up for updates on the Yellowhead Trail Freeway Conversion Program visit:
edmonton.ca/YellowheadTrail



The Edmonton logo is a blue square with the word "Edmonton" in white, sans-serif font. It is positioned in the bottom right corner of the page, partially overlapping a decorative graphic on the right side of the page. The graphic features a yellow, stylized path or road that curves upwards and to the right, set against a dark background with various construction-related icons and symbols, including a truck, a crane, and a road sign.

61 Street to North Saskatchewan River: **Yellowhead Trail East Widening**

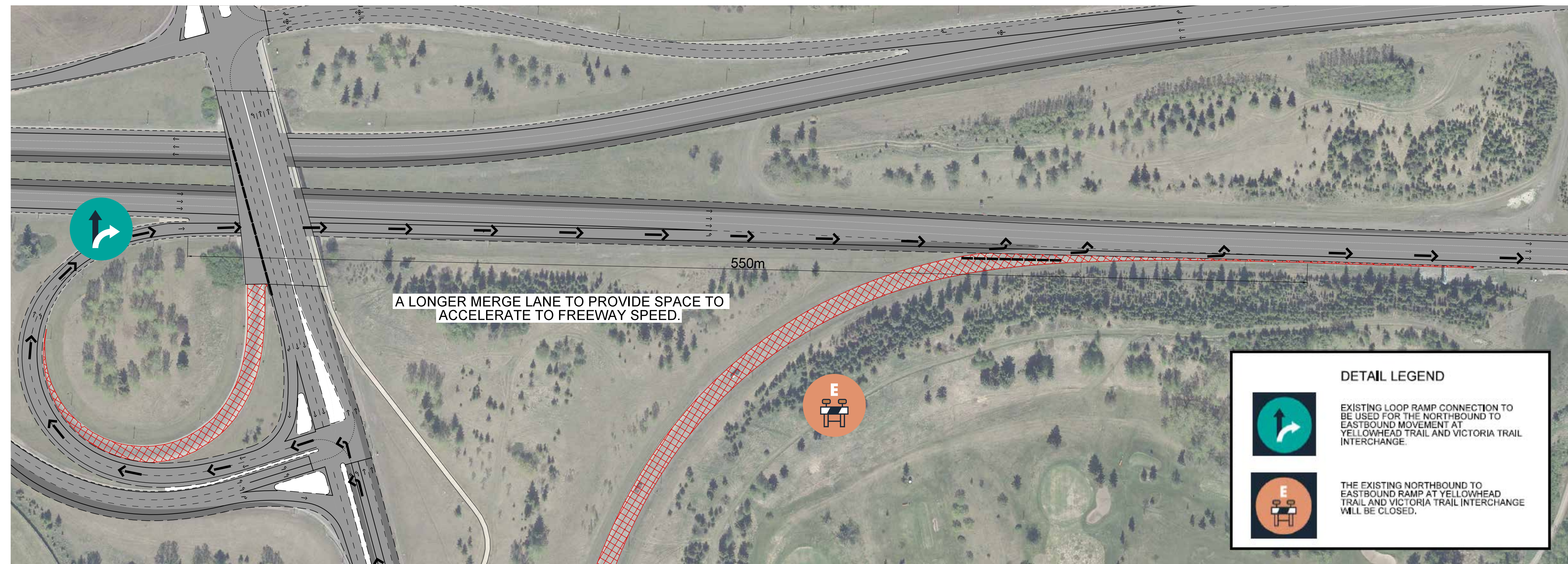
Final Design



Construction will include:

-  Yellowhead Trail from 61 Street to the North Saskatchewan River will be widened from two to three lanes in each direction.
 - + From 61 Street to 50 Street, new lanes will be added along the shoulder to provide 3 continuous lanes in each direction.
 - + New auxiliary lanes will be added between the ramp at 50 Street and 61 Street on the north side, and the future ramp at 66 Street and the ramp at 50 Street on the south side.
 - + From 50 Street to the North Saskatchewan River new lanes will be added in the existing median.
-  Median openings and accesses will be modified to provide safer conditions for drivers.
 - + Median opening near 34 Street will be removed.
 - + Measures will be put in place to discourage future use of the median at the Ukrainian Centennial Pioneer Forest.

Final Design



Construction will include:



The existing northbound to eastbound ramp at Yellowhead Trail and Victoria Trail interchange will be removed.

- + Construction will include the removal of pavement, curbs, gutters and light poles.
- + The area will also be landscaped with topsoil and grass seed.
- + Configuration of the interchange will be re-evaluated as part of widening the river bridges in the future.

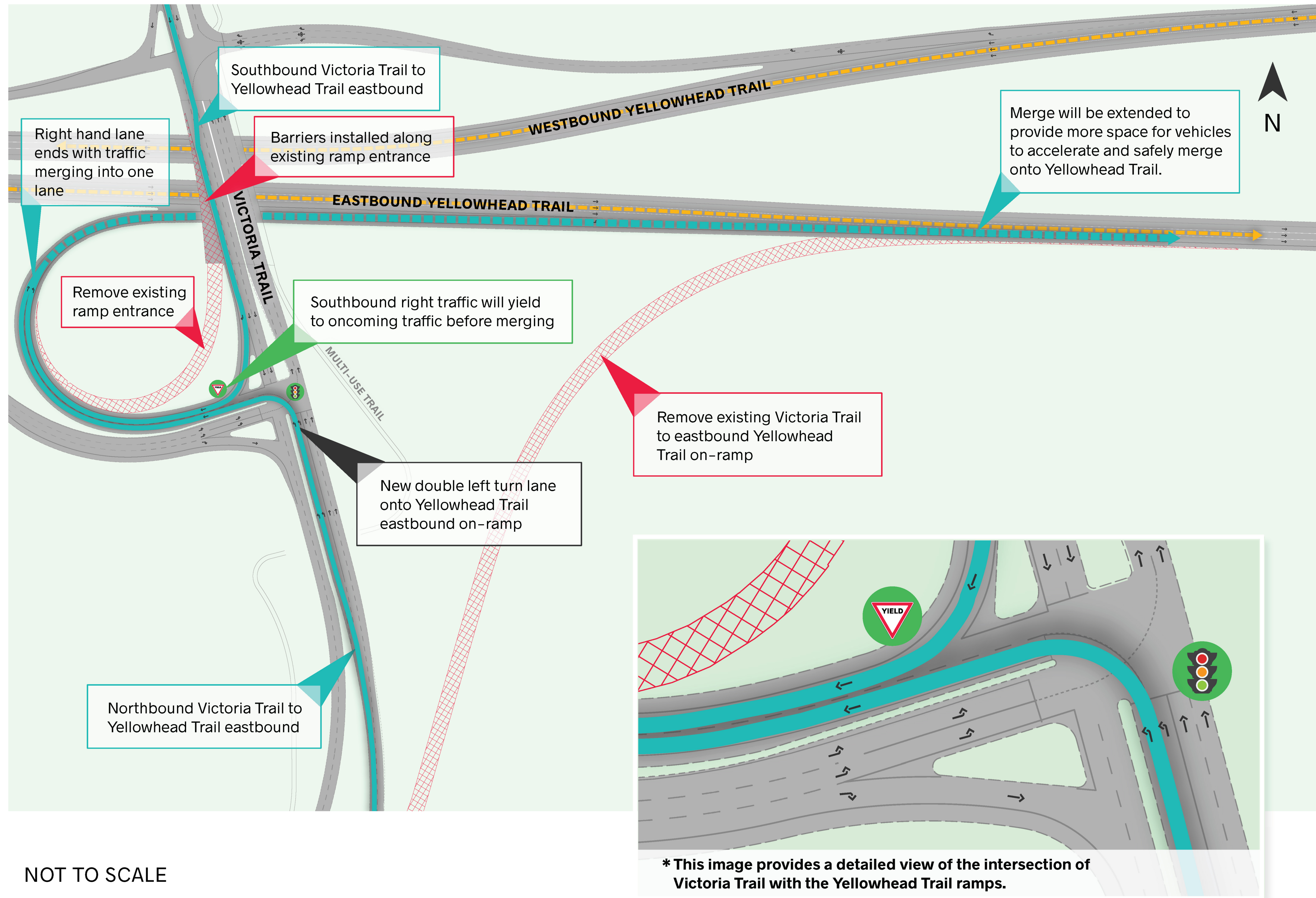


Existing loop ramp connection to be used for the northbound to eastbound movement at Yellowhead Trail and Victoria Trail interchange.

- + The on and off ramps at the intersection of Victoria Trail and Yellowhead Trail eastbound will be modified to accommodate two northbound left turn lanes on Victoria Trail.
- + Changes will include new signal lights to accommodate the new northbound left turns, and a new yield sign for southbound right turns.
- + The merge lane from the loop ramp onto Yellowhead Trail eastbound will be extended by 170 metres to help safe merging.

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Final Design



61 Street to North Saskatchewan River: **Yellowhead Trail East Widening**

Final Design



Construction will include:



Additional changes will be made to provide safer conditions for drivers.

+ Improvements will be made to enhance right turns:

- + northbound 50 Street to eastbound Yellowhead Trail;
- + eastbound Yellowhead to southbound 50 Street;
- + eastbound Yellowhead Trail to southbound Victoria Trail;
- + southbound Victoria Trail to westbound Yellowhead Trail;
- + northbound Rundle Park Road to eastbound Victoria Trail.

61 Street to North Saskatchewan River: **Yellowhead Trail East Widening**

Project Phases



Strategy: In 2011, the City explored the technical changes needed between 61 Street and the North Saskatchewan River to support the conversion of Yellowhead Trail into a freeway.

Concept Phase: The concept plan was created in August 2016.

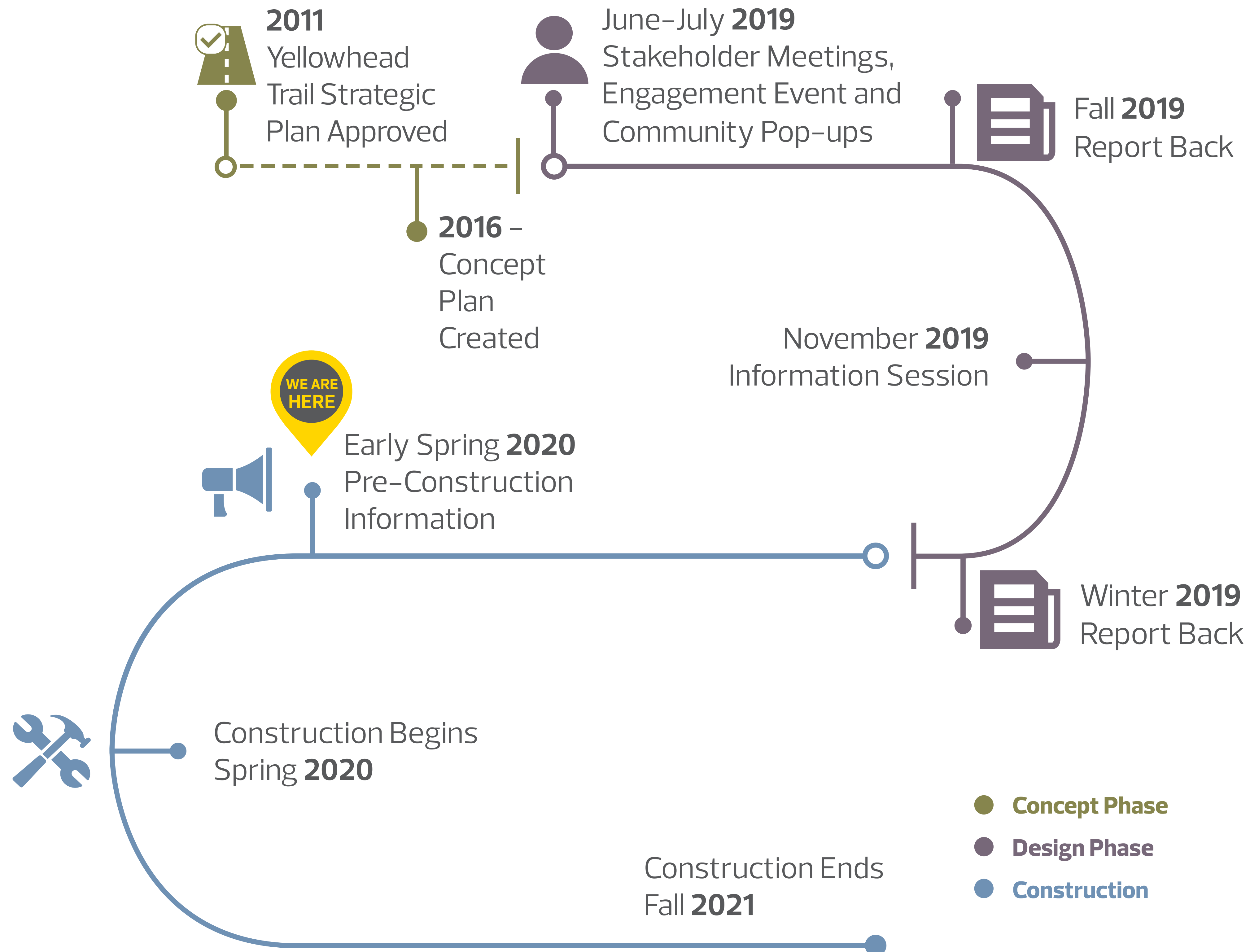
Design Phase:

- + The public and stakeholders were invited during the summer of 2019 to share their views on how this segment of the Yellowhead Trail is used.
- + The public and stakeholders learned about the final design that considered the input gathered throughout this project phase in November 2019.

Build: Construction will begin in Spring 2020. The final design will be applied to the area.

Operate: Construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2021.




Project Timeline



61 Street to North Saskatchewan River: **Yellowhead Trail East Widening**

Public and Stakeholder Engagement

How we asked

-  2 community pop-ups: over 60 participants
-  1 public engagement event: over 70 participants
-  8 stakeholder meetings: over 15 participants

What we asked

We asked the public and stakeholders to **ADVISE** the project team on the following areas for consideration:

- + Current user experience along the Yellowhead Trail between 61 Street and the North Saskatchewan River
- + Current user experience with the shared-use path along Victoria Trail
- + Preferred engagement and communications methods.

When we asked

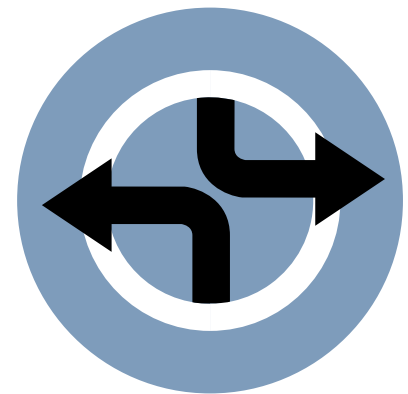
Between June and August 2019

What We Heard

Yellowhead Trail: 61 Street to the North Saskatchewan River

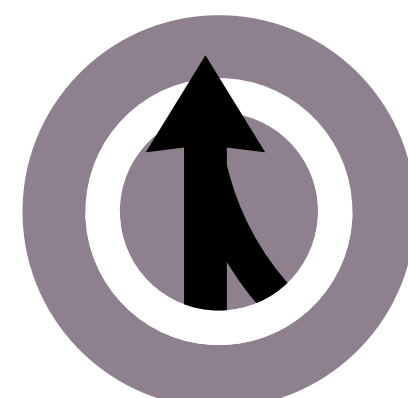
What We Heard

What We Did



- + Drivers expressed that the current lane configuration and pavement markings at interchanges do not clearly guide people into the correct lane when turning on and off Yellowhead Trail.

- + Pavement markings will be improved to better guide traffic along the route.
- + Signage was reviewed to help improve intersection navigation.



- + Drivers did not feel comfortable with the current back to back ramp entrances onto Yellowhead Trail eastbound from Victoria Trail.

- + The northbound to eastbound ramp will be removed. Northbound to eastbound movement will be accommodated by the existing loop ramp.
- + The ramp merge will be lengthened to allow traffic adequate distance to increase speed to merge onto Yellowhead Trail.



- + People who drive in the project area noted that their sightlines are impacted by larger vehicles turning across intersections in the area.

- + Sightline issues were reviewed. Where changes are needed, they have been included in the final design.

What We Heard

Yellowhead Trail: 61 Street to the North Saskatchewan River

What We Heard



- + The public was concerned with the amount of traffic, in the project area, particularly during peak times.



- + Members of the public suggested that the current noise wall does not adequately block traffic noise near St. Maria Goretti School.

What We Did

- + The additional lanes on Yellowhead Trail will increase traffic capacity. Current and future traffic were considered during project design.

- + Noise modelling was conducted at locations that the public identified as concerns.
- + Modelling showed that noise levels in the area ranged from 54.12 to 62.6 dBA, which is below the City of Edmonton's threshold of 65 dBA for the installation of noise mitigation.

What We Heard

Shared-Use Path

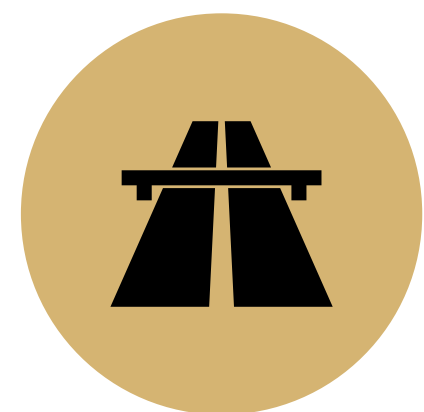
What We Heard

What We Did



- + People shared that they enjoy using the shared use path along Victoria Trail for both recreational and commuting purposes.

- + Additional landscaping opportunities are being explored to improve the area for recreation and commuting.



- + People shared concerns about some activity that occurs along the shared-use path, particularly in the underpass which is hidden from public sight.

- + Improvements to lighting on the shared-use path have been designed. These improvements will help to deter unsafe activity.



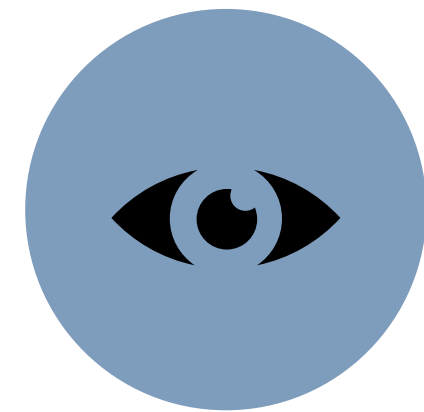
- + People who walk and bike shared that the lack of lighting along the shared use path along Victoria Trail and the underpass is a safety concern, particularly at night and early in the morning.

- + Additional lighting on the shared-use path has been designed. This will help to improve safety in the area.

What We Heard

Shared-Use Path

What We Heard



- + People who use the shared-use path voiced that sightlines are a concern in some locations.



- + The public expressed concern about litter, debris, and unsafe items that are discarded along the shared-use path.

What We Did

- + The shared-use path follows the natural features and contours of the area, including going through an underpass at Victoria Trail to avoid conflicts with cars.
- + The project team has raised the issue of litter and debris with the City of Edmonton's park maintenance group. The public can continue to report issues by calling 311 or using the 311 app.

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Fall 2019 Public Information Session

What we shared

We invited the public to LEARN about the project. The following project information was shared:

- + The Yellowhead Trail Freeway Conversion Program including goals, objectives and motivations.
- + The Yellowhead Trail East Widening project and how it contributes to the overall vision for the Yellowhead Trail Freeway Conversion Program.
- + Details about the design for the Yellowhead Trail East Widening Project.
- + The history and influence of public engagement during the Yellowhead Trail East Widening Project.

How we shared

A public information session was held at Riverview Crossing Mall and over 90 people attended.

When we shared

November 13, 2019

The Edmonton logo is located in the bottom right corner of the page. It consists of the word "Edmonton" in a white, sans-serif font, set against a dark blue rectangular background. The background of the entire page features a dark, textured design with various icons and symbols, including a yellow arrow pointing right, a white truck icon, and a white car icon, all set against a dark grey background with white lines and dots.