

# POLO PARK AREA INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Welcome!*

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the Polo Park Area Infrastructure Improvements Project. This Open House is part of a Public Consultation being undertaken by the City of Winnipeg Public Works Department to inform the public about the project and gain input. City of Winnipeg Public Works representatives and project consultants are here to discuss the project with you and answer your questions.



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## *Project Background*

A polo park area study for traffic improvement and development review, completed in 2001, made recommendations for future transportation improvements within the study area, bounded by Saskatchewan Avenue to the north, Portage Avenue to the south, Canadian Pacific Railway to the east and Route 90 to the west.

A major roadworks project is underway and will address some key recommendations for improvements such as delays at intersections, traffic flow and congestion, connections to existing and future Active Transportation corridors, area aesthetics, and accessibility.

Other project components consist of sidewalk improvements; additions and improvements to the existing land drainage system; landscaping to improve aesthetics; and relocation and renewal of several utilities including water mains.

The City of Winnipeg recognizes many businesses and people living and working in the surrounding area will be affected by this project work. The area also connects suburban commuters to downtown and other surrounding neighbourhoods. Given all those affected, a public information and consultation process is now underway.

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## *Project Scope*

The project includes extending and widening St. Matthews Avenue from Route 90 to Empress Street, improvements to St. James Street from Maroons Road to Ellice Avenue, and intersection improvements at Ellice Avenue/St. James Street. Some land acquisition will be needed to accomplish this, and the City is communicating with affected property owners. If the costs of acquiring property needed for the extension of St. Matthews are too high, that portion of the project may be cancelled. Available funds would then be redirected to other roadway and traffic improvements in the area.

Construction will start in spring 2014 and may extend into the 2015 construction season.

These infrastructure improvements have been included in the City of Winnipeg 2013 Capital Budget. Additional work may be identified and completed by 2015.

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## *Project Area*



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## *Neighbourhood Concerns*

The public consultation process will identify neighbourhood concerns and measures to mitigate the impacts will be developed. These may include:

- ▶ Traffic Flow and Access for all Road Users
- ▶ Alternate Traffic Routes
- ▶ Parking
- ▶ Hours of Work
- ▶ Timing/Scheduling (e.g. Peak Retail Times)
- ▶ Safety

The City will also work with area residents and businesses to monitor and respond to other concerns that may arise.

Access through the area, including emergency and transit services, will be maintained at all times. Occasional closures that may occur will be brief. Extended construction work hours may be required at times. Public and worker safety as well as the City's Noise By-law will be taken into account always.

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## *Accessibility & Universal Design*

The City of Winnipeg has Universal Design Standards that are adhered to when building new infrastructure. These include sidewalk widths, placement of traffic signals, paving materials, curb ramps and unobstructed pathways, for example.

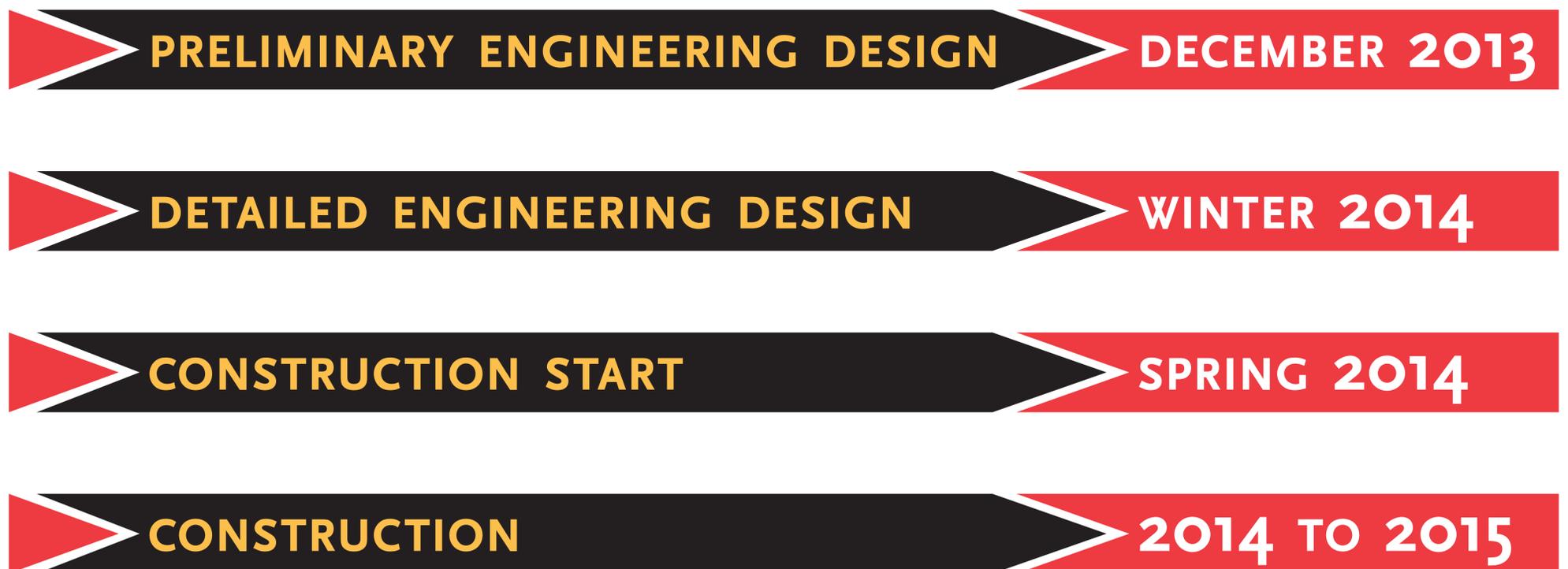
Similarly, Active Transportation is designed and built as part of new infrastructure, where feasible.

The City's Active Transportation program is building a network of bike paths and trails throughout the City. Accommodation for cyclists is being planned that will result in well designed, safe facilities and connectivity to existing or future bike routes.

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## *Project Timeline*

Construction will start in spring 2014 and may extend into the 2015 construction season.



# POLO PARK AREA INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Proposed Traffic Improvements*

### **St. Matthews Avenue**

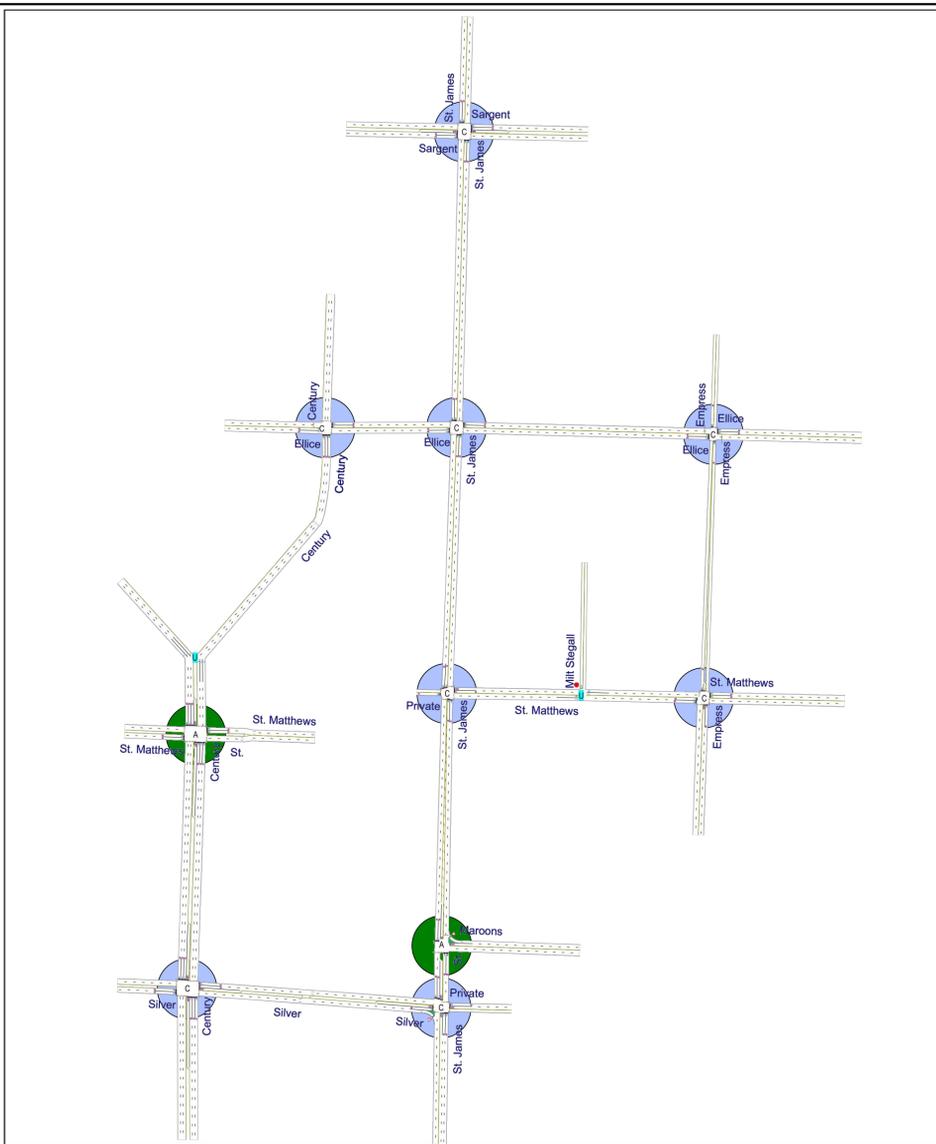
- ▶ Widen and extend St. Matthews Avenue between Century Street and St. James Street (subject to acquiring property). This will provide an alternate east-west route to Route 90.
- ▶ Widen St. Matthews Avenue and install raised concrete median from St. James Street to east of Empress Street to improve safety.
- ▶ Provide left turn storage lanes at key locations on St. Matthews Avenue to improve traffic flow.
- ▶ Optimize signal timings to minimize delay.

### **St. James Street**

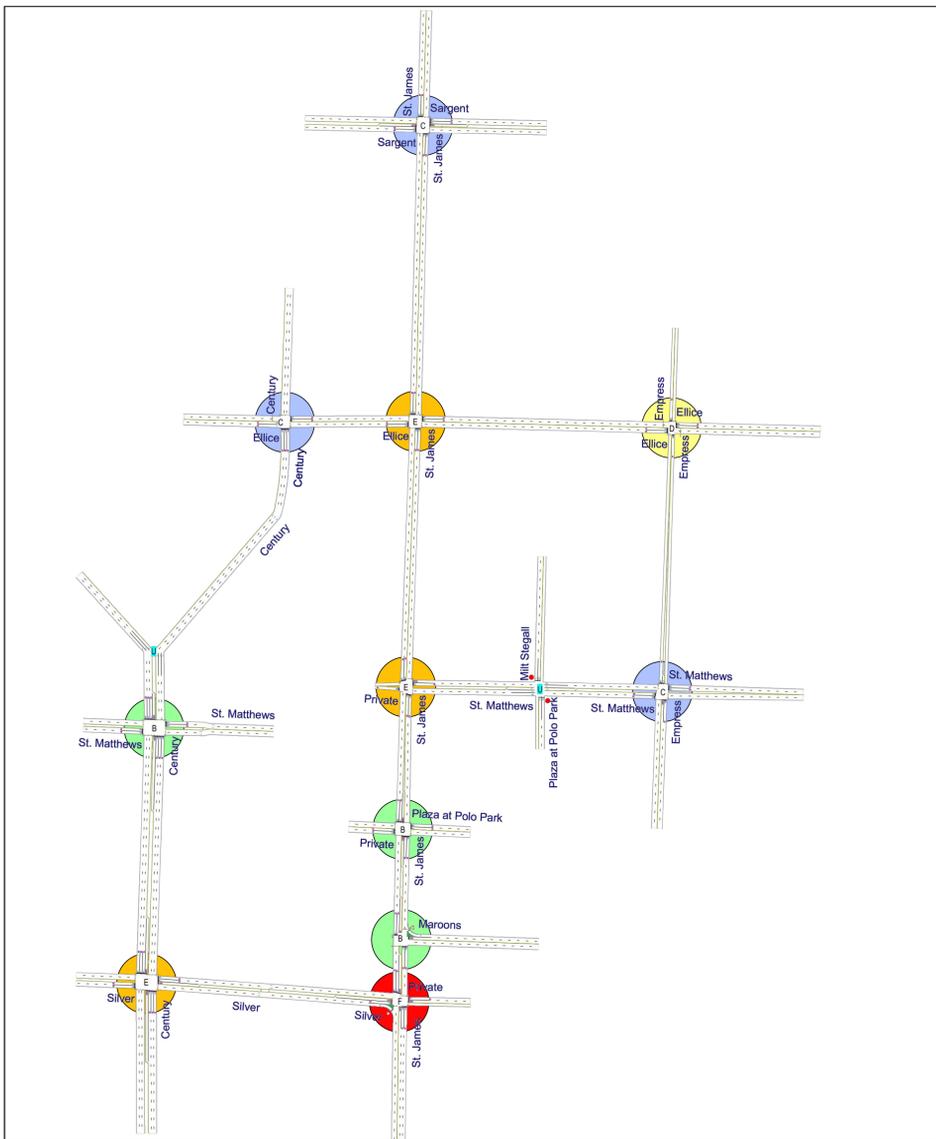
- ▶ Widen St. James Street and install raised concrete median from Maroons Rd. to north of Ellice Avenue to improve safety.
- ▶ Provide left turn storage lanes at key locations on St. James Street to improve traffic flow.
- ▶ Optimize signal timings to minimize delay.

### **Ellice Avenue**

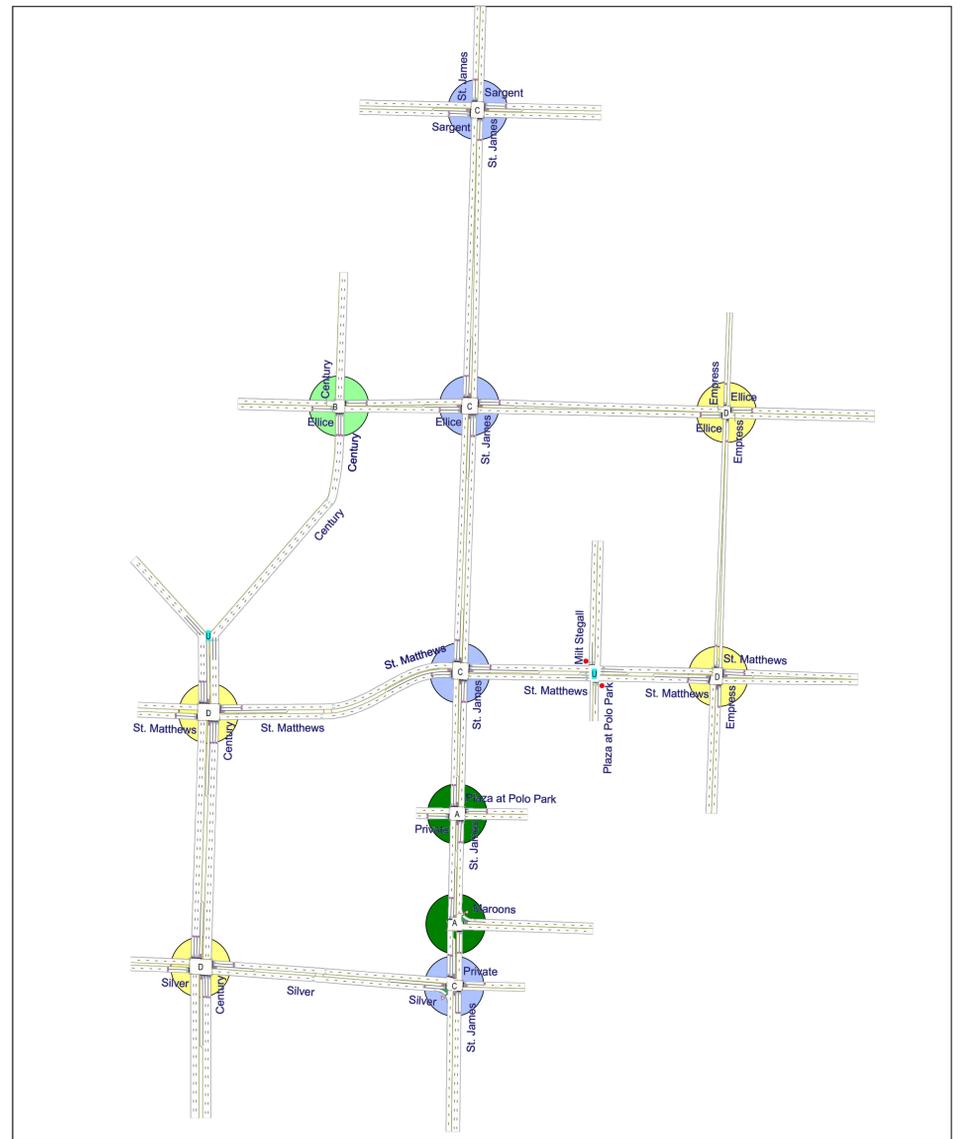
- ▶ Widen Ellice Avenue in the vicinity of St. James Street to provide left turn storage lanes to improve traffic flow and improve safety.
- ▶ Optimize signal timings to minimize delay.



**EXISTING LEVEL OF SERVICE**



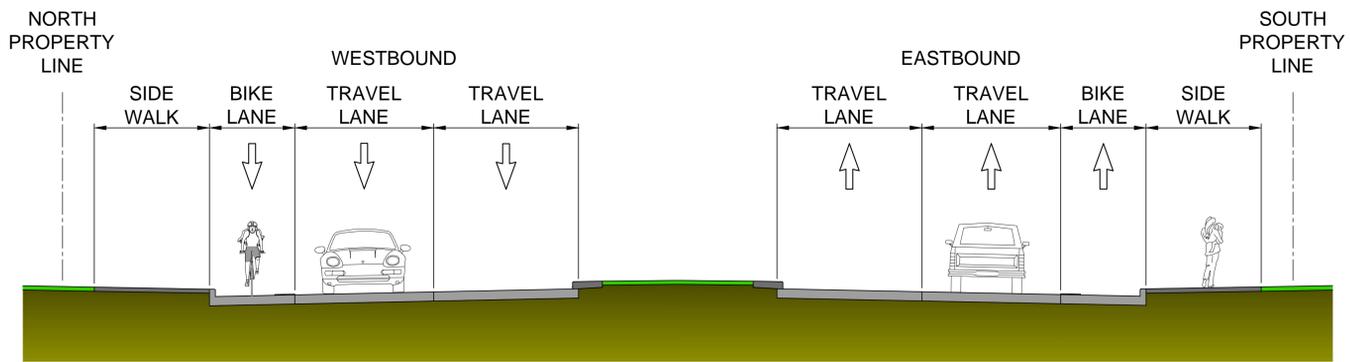
**FUTURE (+20 YEARS) LEVEL OF SERVICE WITHOUT IMPROVEMENTS**



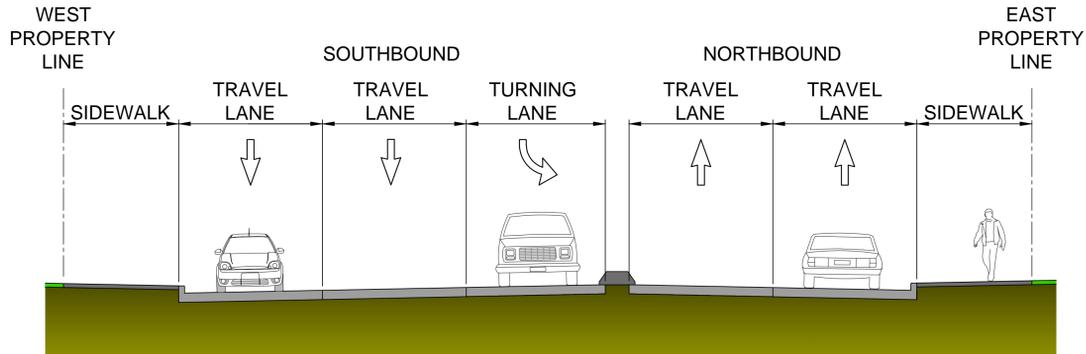
**FUTURE (+20 YEARS) LEVEL OF SERVICE WITH IMPROVEMENTS**

**LEGEND:**

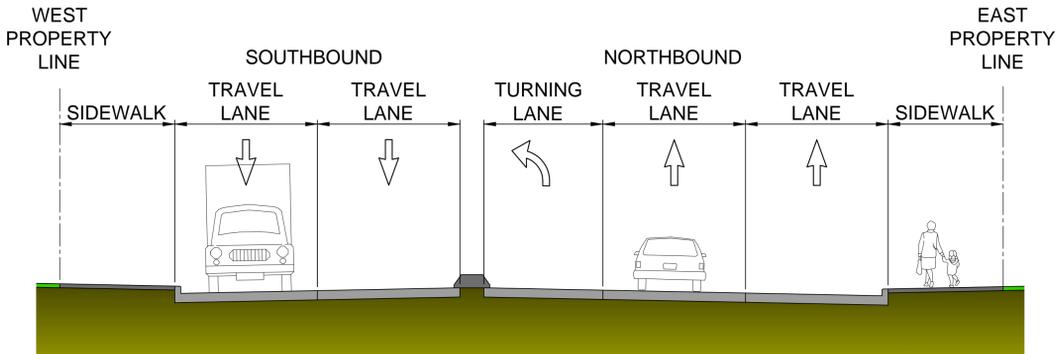
- A** MINIMAL DELAYS
- B** LOW LEVEL OF DELAY AND QUEUING
- C** INTERMITTENTLY VEHICLES WAIT THROUGH MORE THAN ONE SIGNAL INDICATION, OCCASIONALLY BACKUPS MAY DEVELOP, TRAFFIC FLOW STILL STABLE AND ACCEPTABLE.
- D** DELAYS AT INTERSECTIONS MAY BECOME EXTENSIVE, BUT ENOUGH CYCLES WITH LOWER DEMAND OCCUR TO PERMIT PERIODIC CLEARANCE, PREVENTING EXCESSIVE BACKUPS. LOS D HAS HISTORICALLY BEEN REGARDED AS A DESIRABLE DESIGN OBJECTIVE IN URBAN AREAS.
- E** TRAFFIC FILLS INTERSECTION CAPACITY, LONG QUEUES AND DELAYS, MANY VEHICLES NEED TO WAIT THROUGH MORE THAN ONE GREEN INDICATION.
- F** TRAFFIC DEMAND EXCEEDS CAPACITY OF INTERSECTION, VERY LONG QUEUES AND DELAYS, MOST VEHICLES NEED TO WAIT THROUGH MORE THAN ONE GREEN INDICATION.



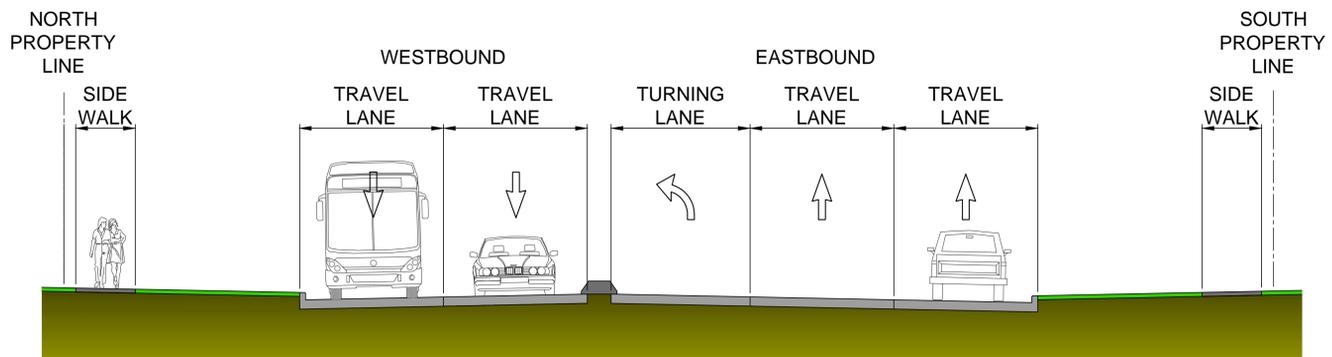
**ST. MATTHEWS AVENUE - TYPICAL CROSS SECTION**



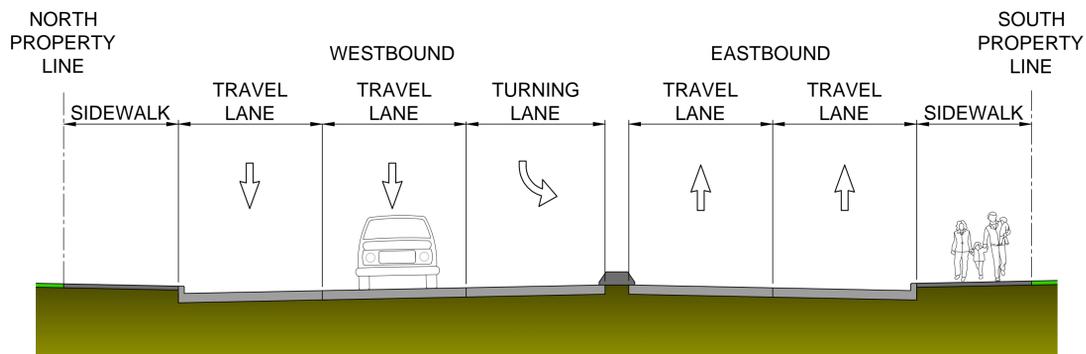
**ST. JAMES STREET - NORTH OF ST. MATTHEWS AVENUE**



**ST. JAMES STREET - SOUTH OF ST. MATTHEWS AVENUE**



**ELLICE AVENUE - WEST OF ST. JAMES STREET**



**ELLICE AVENUE - EAST OF ST. JAMES STREET**

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## *Thank you!*

We hope this Open House has been helpful for you.

Please tell us what you think by completing a comment sheet. Refreshments are available — please help yourself. We value your comments and suggestions.

Thank you for coming!

