

# POLO PARK AREA INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Welcome!*

Welcome to the second Open House for the Polo Park Area Infrastructure Improvements project. This Open House is part of the Public Communication and 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's detail design with you and answer your questions. Please complete a comment sheet before you leave!



# POLO PARK AREA INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Project Background*

The *Polo Park Area Study for Traffic Improvement and Development Review*, completed in 2001, made recommendations for future transportation improvements within the area, bounded by Saskatchewan Avenue to the north, Portage Avenue to the south, CPR La Riviere to the east and Route 90 to the west.

A major roadworks project is underway to address recommendations for traffic improvements and development in the Polo Park area. Improvements will smooth out traffic flow, ease congestion and delays at intersections, encourage active transportation, and enhance pedestrian accessibility.

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, there have been opportunities to gain information, ask questions and share input throughout the planning and design process.

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## *Project Scope*

The current plan for the Polo Park Area Infrastructure Improvements includes:

- ▶ Extend/widen St. Matthews Avenue from Route 90 to St. James Street;
- ▶ Widen St. Matthews Avenue from St. James Street to Empress Street;
- ▶ Widen St. James Street from Maroons Road to Ellice Avenue; and
- ▶ Intersection improvements at Ellice Avenue/St. James Street and St. Matthews Avenue/St. James Street.

**Note:** *Some land acquisition is needed to accomplish the work. If costs of acquiring the property needed to extend St. Matthews Avenue 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.*

Other project components include new sidewalks; additions and improvements to existing land drainage; connections to existing and future active transportation corridors; improved aesthetics; water mains and relocation/protection of several utilities.

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## *Current Project Status*

The detail design of the project is complete, and the purpose of this Open House is to have a look at the design, learn about the construction plans and consider measures to lessen impacts or inconvenience to area businesses, residents, and commuters during construction.

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

Construction work will be ongoing throughout the project area this construction season including water mains, utilities, sidewalks and roadways.

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## *Participant Input*

Those affected by the project have been kept informed about the project and had the opportunity to express their views through interviews, newsletters, City of Winnipeg project web page, online correspondence, a first Open House in November 2013 which included a questionnaire, and a Discussion Session with area stakeholders.

The key topics identified were traffic flow and congestion, cycling accommodation, pedestrian needs and truck traffic. Read on to see how these are being addressed.

# POLO PARK AREA INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

<i>Area of Concern</i>	<i>Project Response</i>
<b>Traffic Flow and Congestion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ St. Matthews Avenue extension to improve traffic flow.</li><li>▶ Added left turn storage lanes at the St. James Street/Ellice Avenue and St. James Street/St. Matthews Avenue intersections.</li><li>▶ Some participants suggested a one-way pair option on Empress and St. James Streets: These pairings were reviewed in earlier studies and not recommended, in part, due to traffic movement. In some cases, neighbouring streets don't have the capacity for additional traffic, while others don't have the land available to build required turns and lanes.</li></ul>
<b>Cycling Accommodation and Connectivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ In accordance with the City of Winnipeg's active transportation plan, there will be new bike lanes in the east-west direction along St. Matthews Avenue to connect existing routes leading west to St. James and east to the West End.</li><li>▶ Intersection improvements will also improve cycling at two locations currently identified as 'caution zones' on the City of Winnipeg Cycling Map.</li></ul>

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<i>Area of Concern</i>	<i>Project Response</i>
<b>Meeting Pedestrian Needs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ New and rebuilt sidewalks with 1.5 metre clear travel paths.</li><li>▶ Audio pedestrian crossing signals at all signalized intersections.</li><li>▶ New sidewalks on St. James Street, St. Matthews Avenue and Ellice Avenue will have tactile indicator surfaces for visually impaired.</li><li>▶ Lighting will be enhanced with light standards along all streets, on both sides, in the project area.</li><li>▶ New medians that accommodate left turning traffic will provide a small stopping space for pedestrians, particularly helpful as they cross wider streets.</li></ul>
<b>Truck Traffic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ The project will not change truck routes on streets in the project area, where they are currently limited to St. Matthews Avenue, Ellice Avenue, Century Street, St. James Street, and Empress Street.</li><li>▶ Residential streets are not truck routes, although trucks with more than four tires may use them to conduct business, using the shortest possible route to return to designated truck routes.</li></ul>

# POLO PARK AREA INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Minimizing Construction Impacts*

Construction is scheduled to begin this spring, 2014. Some lane closures will be required. Possible mitigation measures for temporary, construction-related congestion, access to businesses, and increased vehicle traffic on residential streets, could include:

- ▶ Temporary left turn restrictions to ease construction-related congestion;
- ▶ One lane of traffic in each direction to be maintained during construction;
- ▶ Right turn-in and right turn-out for access to businesses;
- ▶ One sidewalk for pedestrians kept open during construction, where there are sidewalks on both sides of the road;
- ▶ Construction staging and scheduling plan made easily available to all;
- ▶ Extended work hours to speed up completion with typical hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.;

# POLO PARK AREA INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Minimizing Construction Impacts – continued...*

- ▶ Contractor may work on Saturday to speed up completion of work;
- ▶ Monitoring of traffic before and during construction, to respond to concerns about increased cut-through traffic on residential streets;
- ▶ Local approach access maintained or re-directed as much as possible for businesses' deliveries and customers;
- ▶ Emergency vehicle access and service throughout construction;
- ▶ Transit access maintained, with some possible temporary closing or re-locating of stops;
- ▶ As on-street parking will not be available, parking accommodation will be maintained near businesses wherever possible.

# POLO PARK AREA INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Next Steps*

A notice of construction letter will be delivered to all businesses in the area after the Open House. Contact information will be provided for easier, direct communication.

### PROJECT SCHEDULE

**CONSTRUCTION START** **SPRING 2014**

**CONSTRUCTION** **2014 TO 2015**

# POLO PARK AREA INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Thank you!*

Thank you for attending this Open House. We hope it was helpful and informative and we look forward to hearing your input. Please complete a short comment sheet before you leave.

Thank you for coming!





**NOTE:**  
CONSTRUCTION DEPENDS ON TIMING OF  
PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS AND WEATHER





EXTEND EXISTING SOUTHBOUND LEFT TURN LANE (COULD POSSIBLY BE DONE IN 2014)

UTILITY RELOCATIONS  
WATERMAIN RENEWAL  
NEW LDS  
RECONSTRUCT AND WIDEN ROADWAY  
RECONSTRUCT SIDEWALKS  
NEW STREET LIGHTING

COMPLETE PAVEMENT RECONSTRUCTION AT INTERSECTION

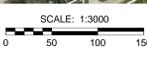
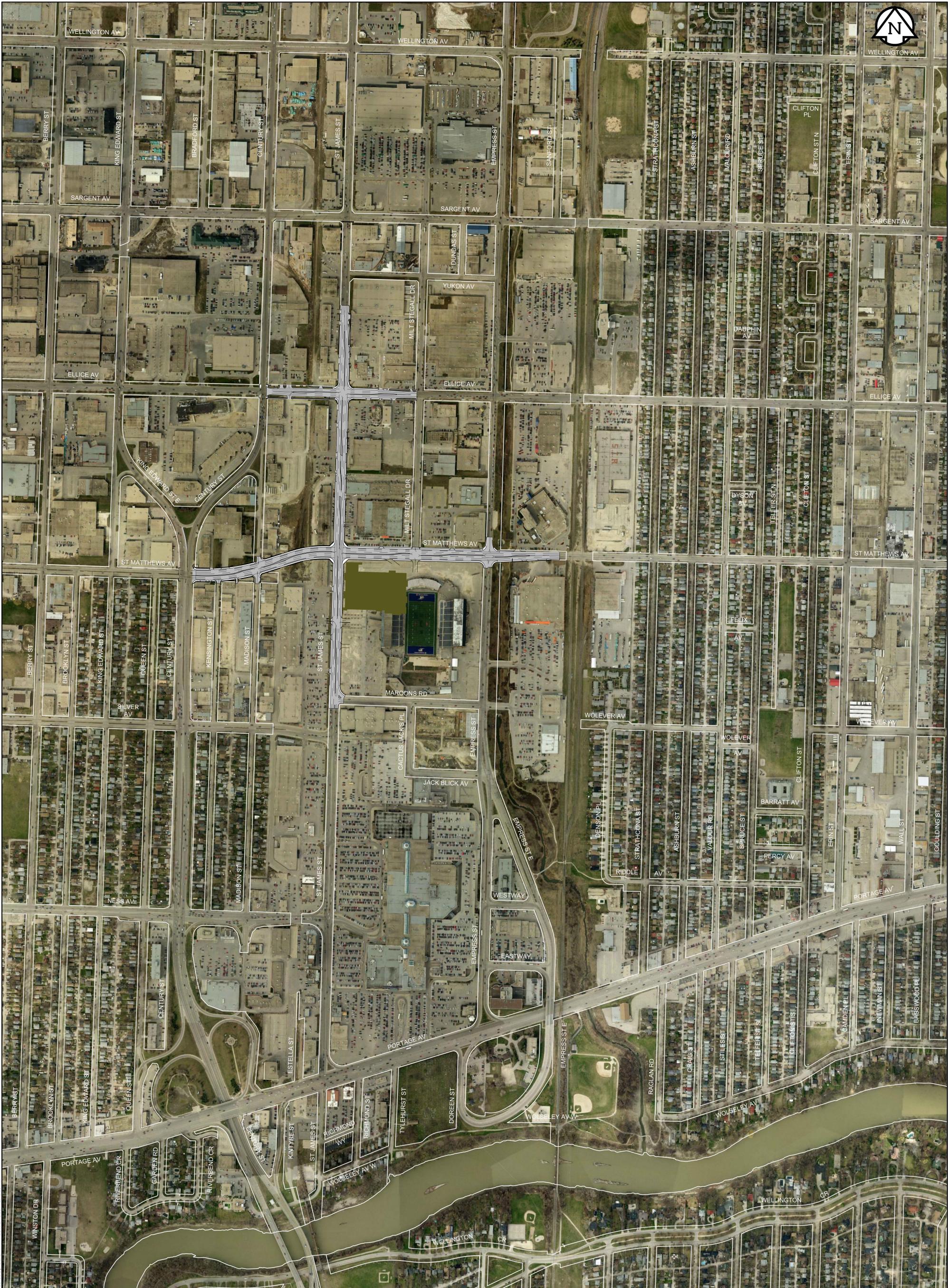
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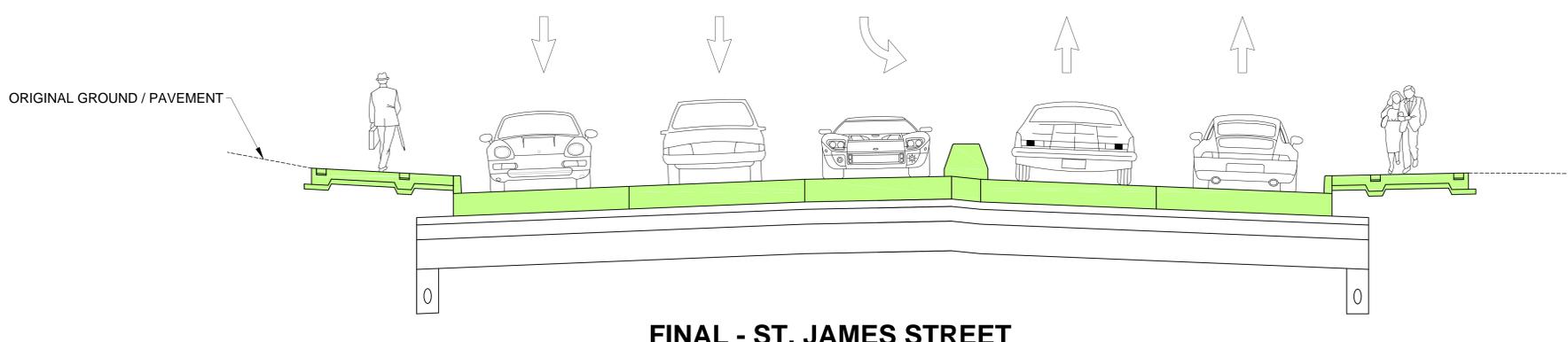
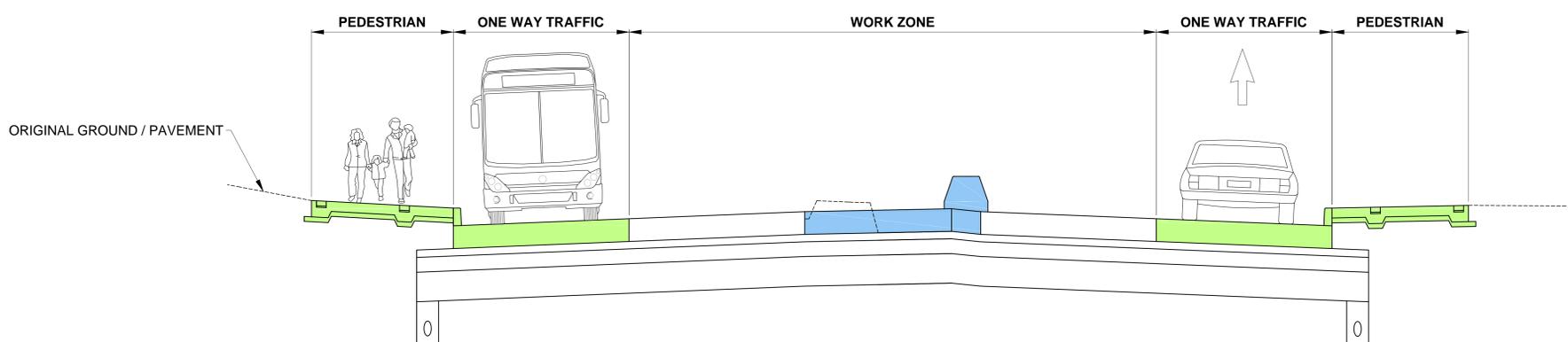
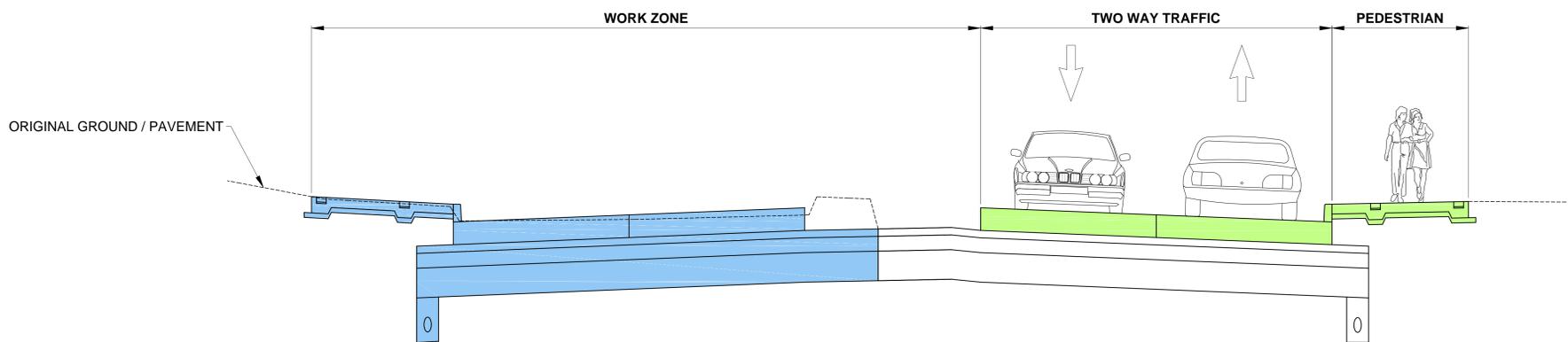
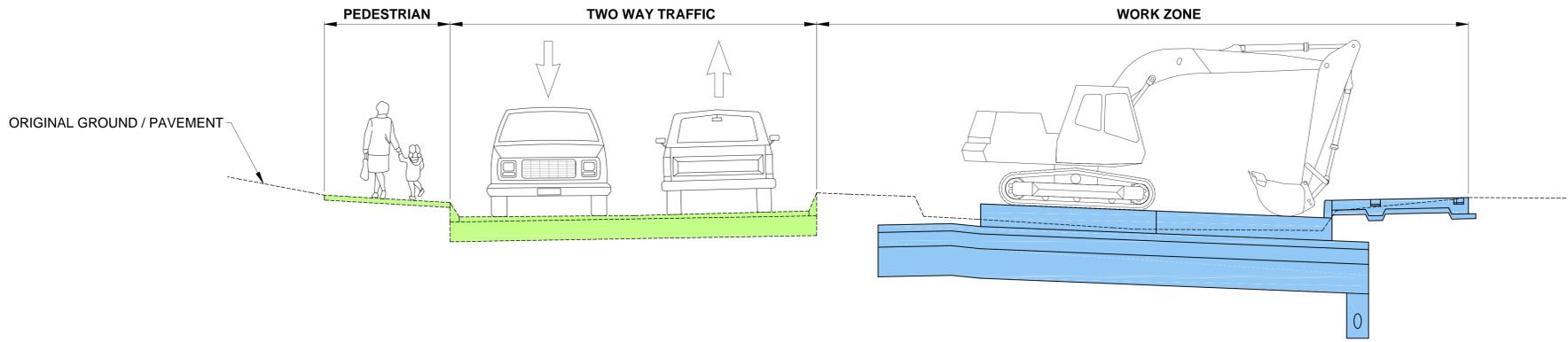
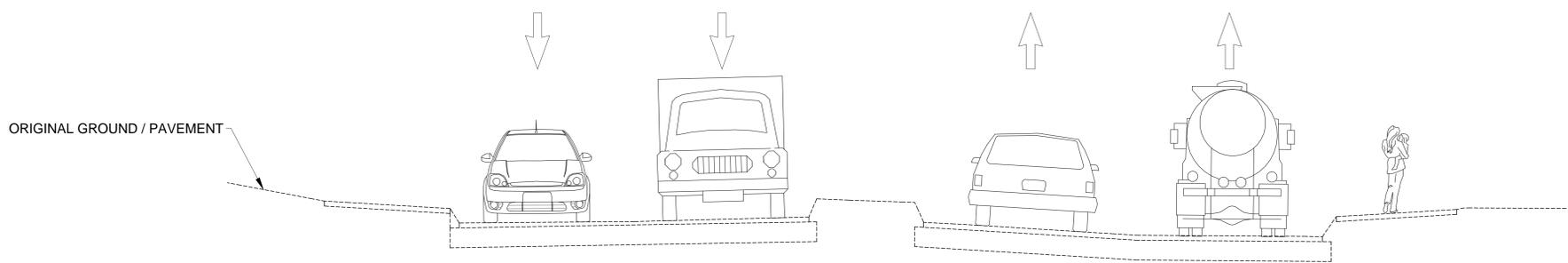
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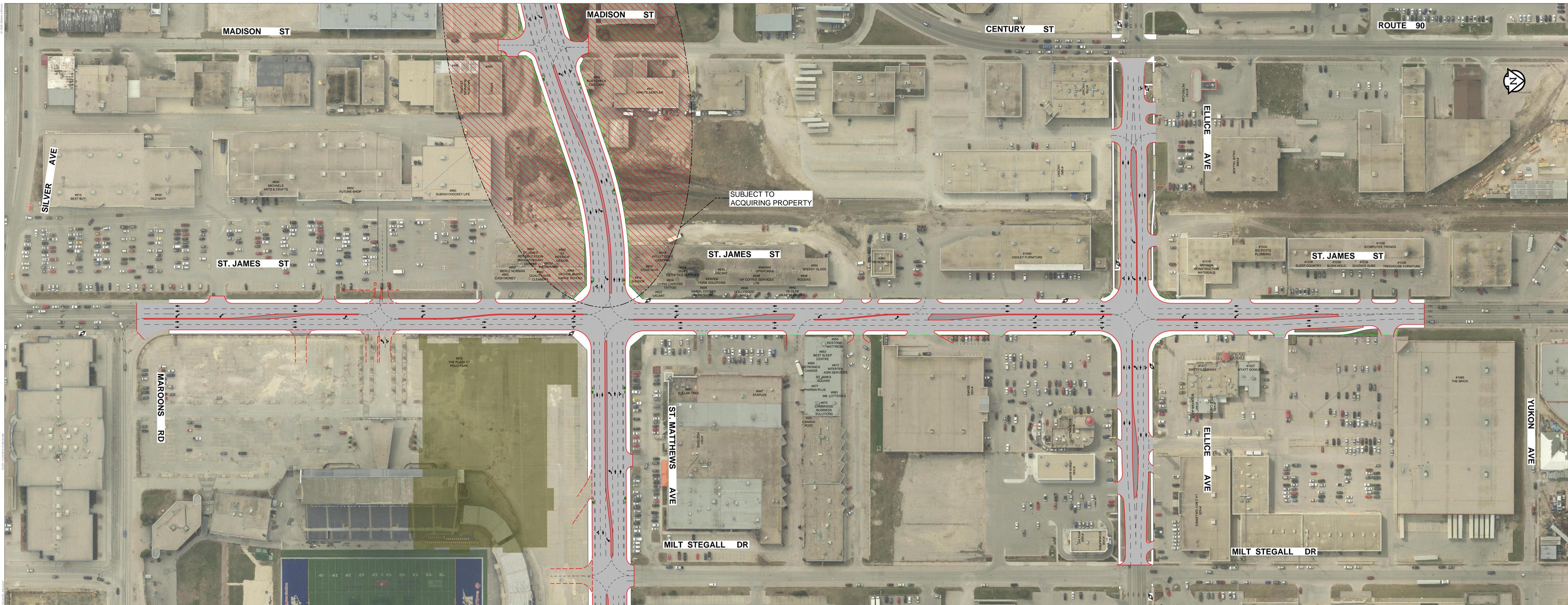
UTILITY RELOCATIONS  
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NOTE:  
CONSTRUCTION DEPENDS ON TIMING OF PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS AND WEATHER









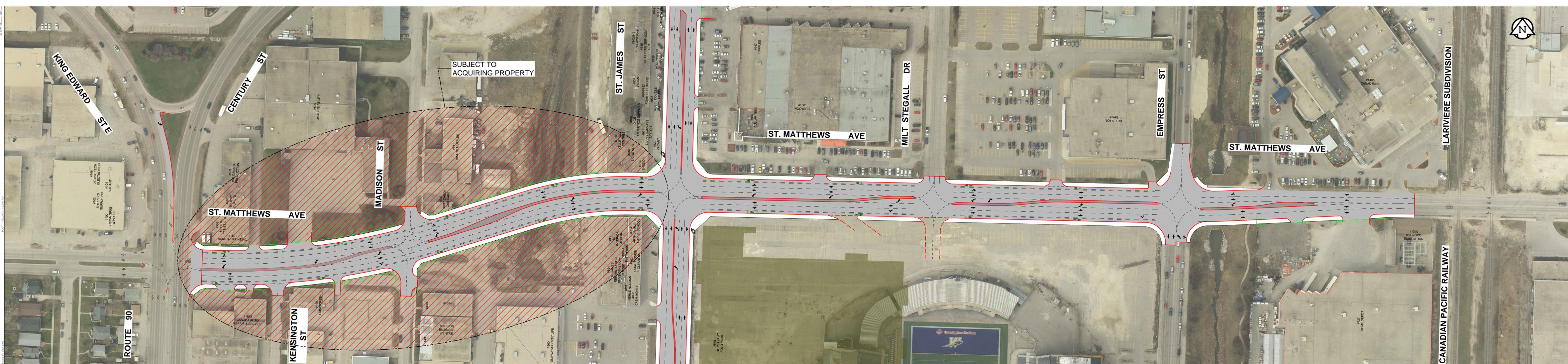
# ST JAMES STREET/ ELLICE AVENUE

SCALE 1:500  
0 10 20 30m

	PAVEMENT
	MEDIAN
	SIDEWALK
	BIKE LANE
	TRAFFIC FLOW

2013 POLO PARK INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS  
 ST JAMES STREET/ ELLICE AVENUE  
 PRELIMINARY DESIGN

FILE NAME: W13202031-11-21-2018-AM  
SCALE: 1:500  
DATE: 11/21/2018 11:21:09 AM  
DRAWN BY: J. GIBSON



# ST MATTHEWS AVENUE

- PAVEMENT
- MEDIAN
- SIDEWALK
- BIKE LANE
- TRAFFIC FLOW