



Transportation and
Economic Corridors



Highway 2 Widening – Red Deer

Project Summary Presentation

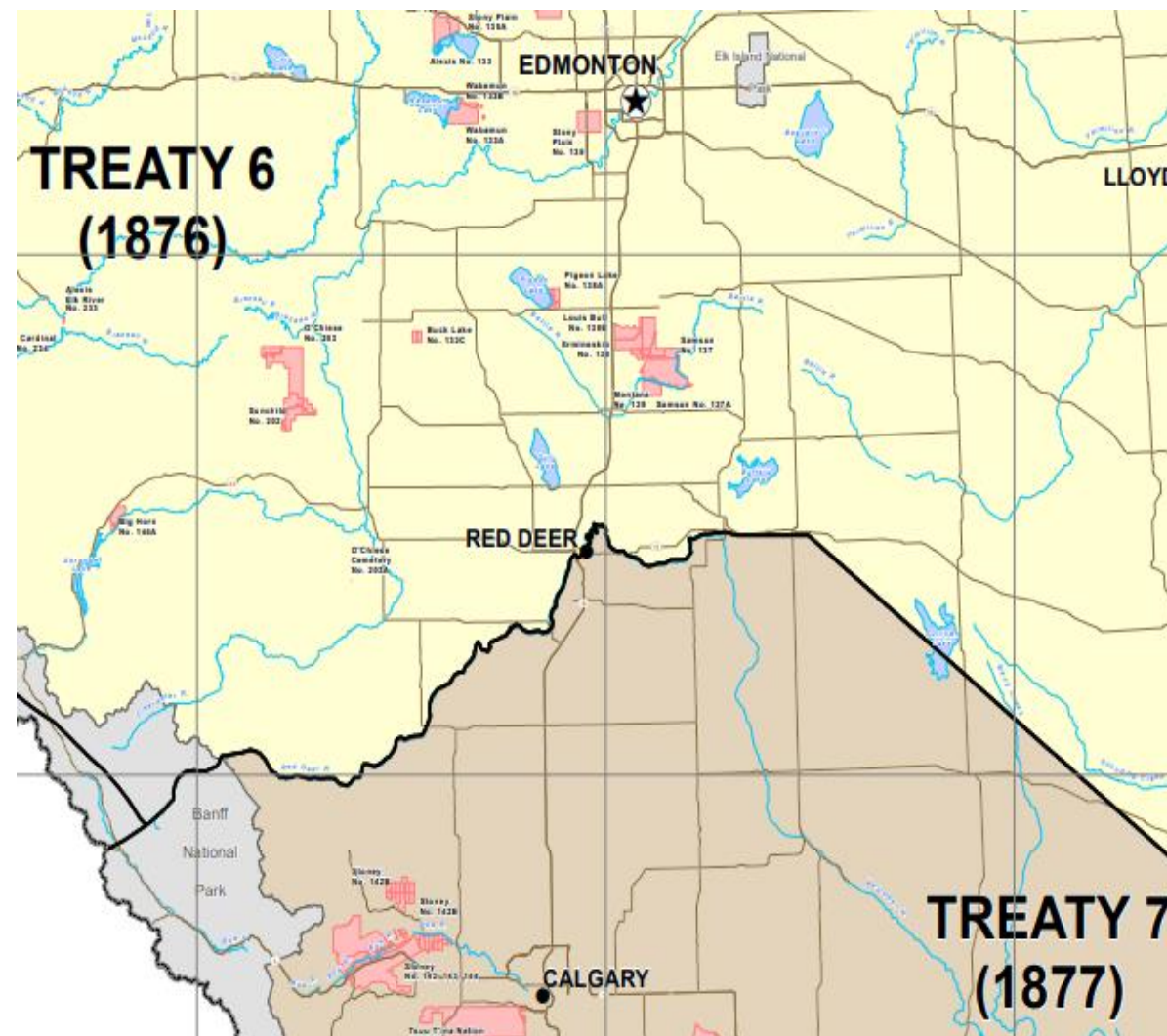


July 15, 2025

Land Acknowledgment

We are on the ancestral territories of the Saulteaux, Nakota Sioux, Dene, Siksika, Piikani, Kainai, Îethka Stoney Nakoda, Tsuut'ina, and Métis Peoples.

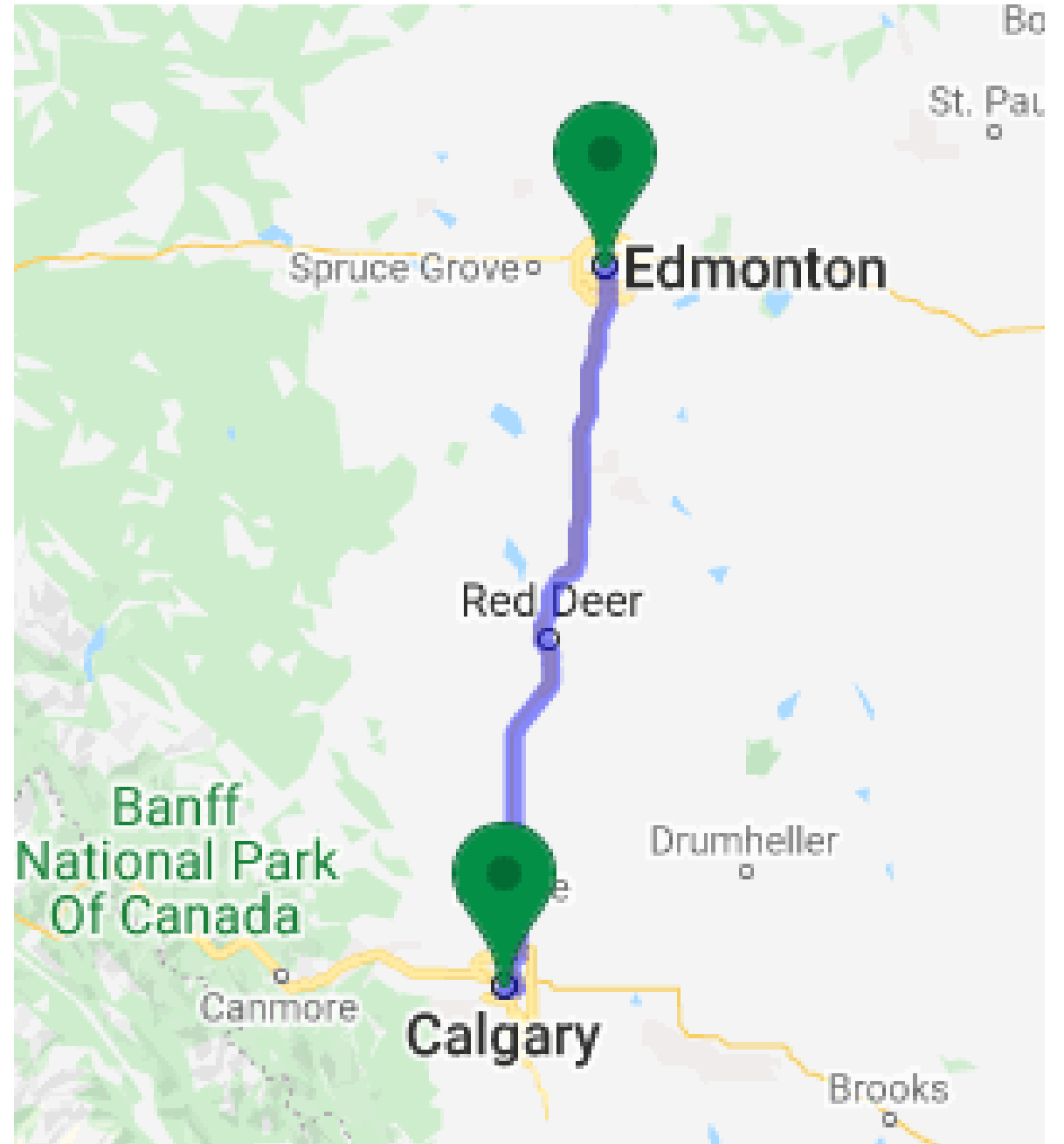
We respectfully acknowledge all the Indigenous Peoples who have cared for these lands since time immemorial. We make this acknowledgement as an act of reconciliation, and to show gratitude for the lands that feed and sustains us.



Highway 2 Corridor

Highway 2, also known as the Queen Elizabeth II (QE2) highway, is the busiest provincial highway in central Alberta.

Long term plan to widen QE2 from four lanes to six lanes between Calgary and Edmonton in order to improve safety and capacity.



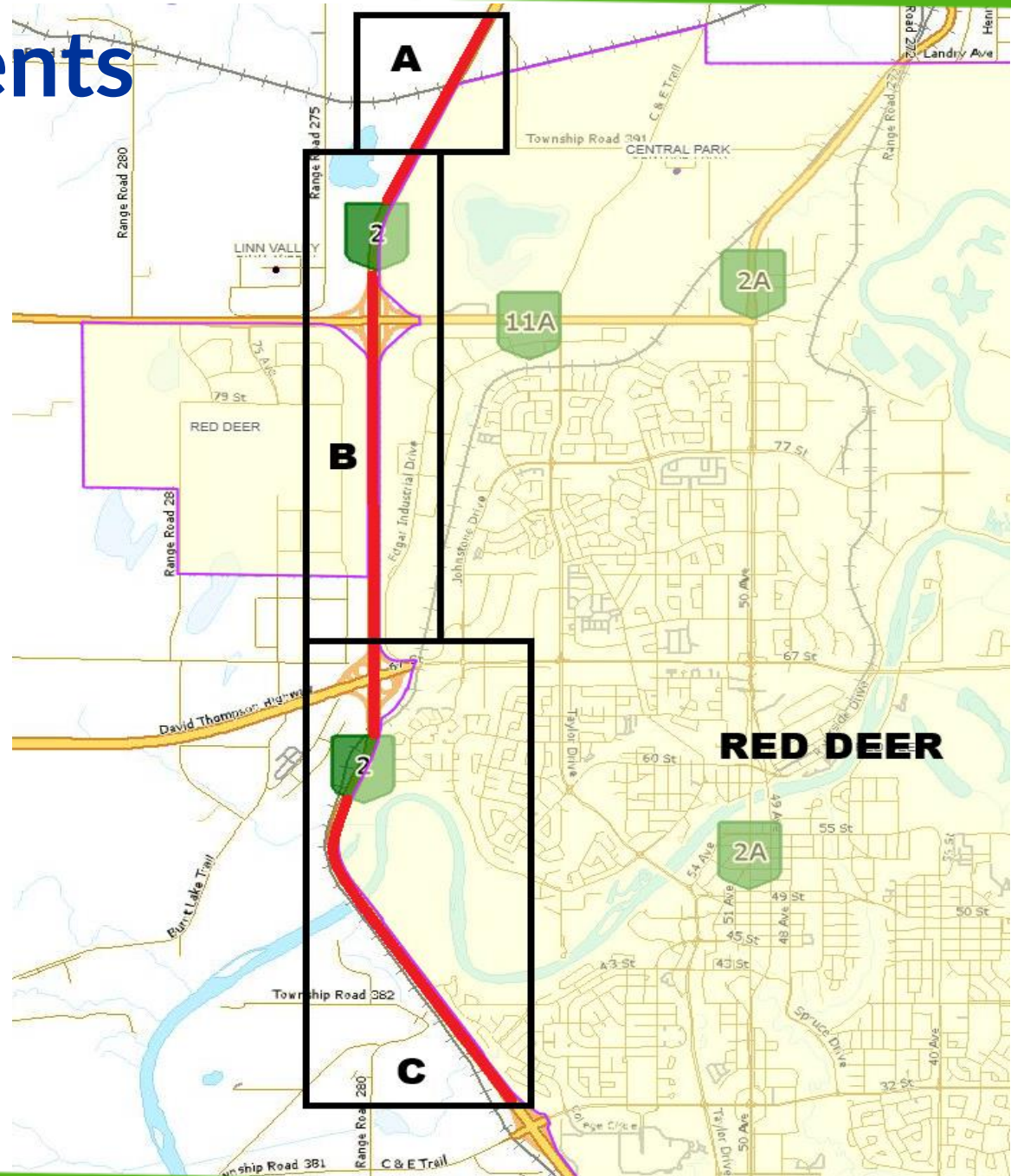
Highway 2 Improvements

In the Red Deer area the project will have three sections:

A: Replace CN bridges and widen to 6 lanes.

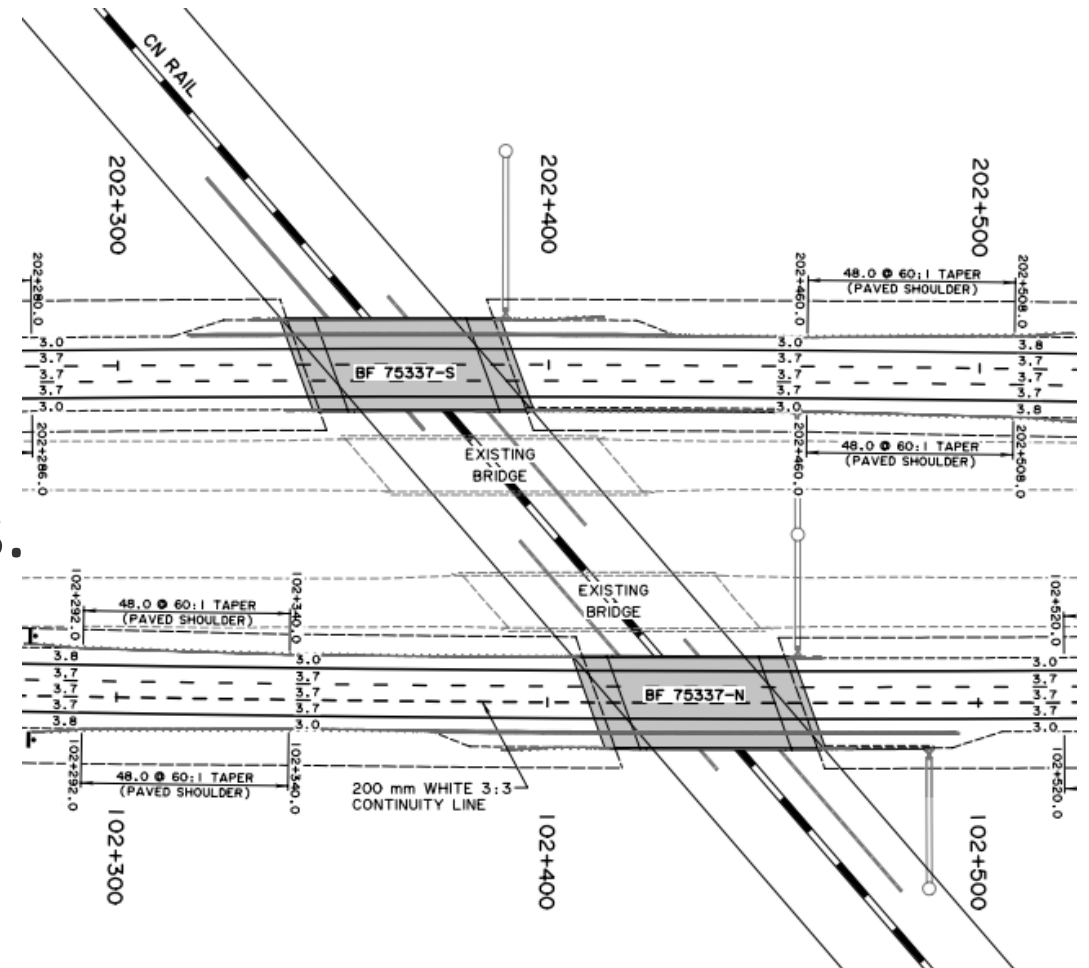
B: Widen to 6 lanes.

C: Replace river bridges and widen to 8 lanes.



Section A

- Replace the existing Highway 2 overpass over the Canadian National (CN) railway line, north of Red Deer.
- Two new, 3-lane bridges will replace the existing pair of two-lane bridges built in the early 1960s.
- The new bridges will be built to the outside of the existing bridges.
- The highway will be realigned onto the new bridges and widened to three lanes in each direction.



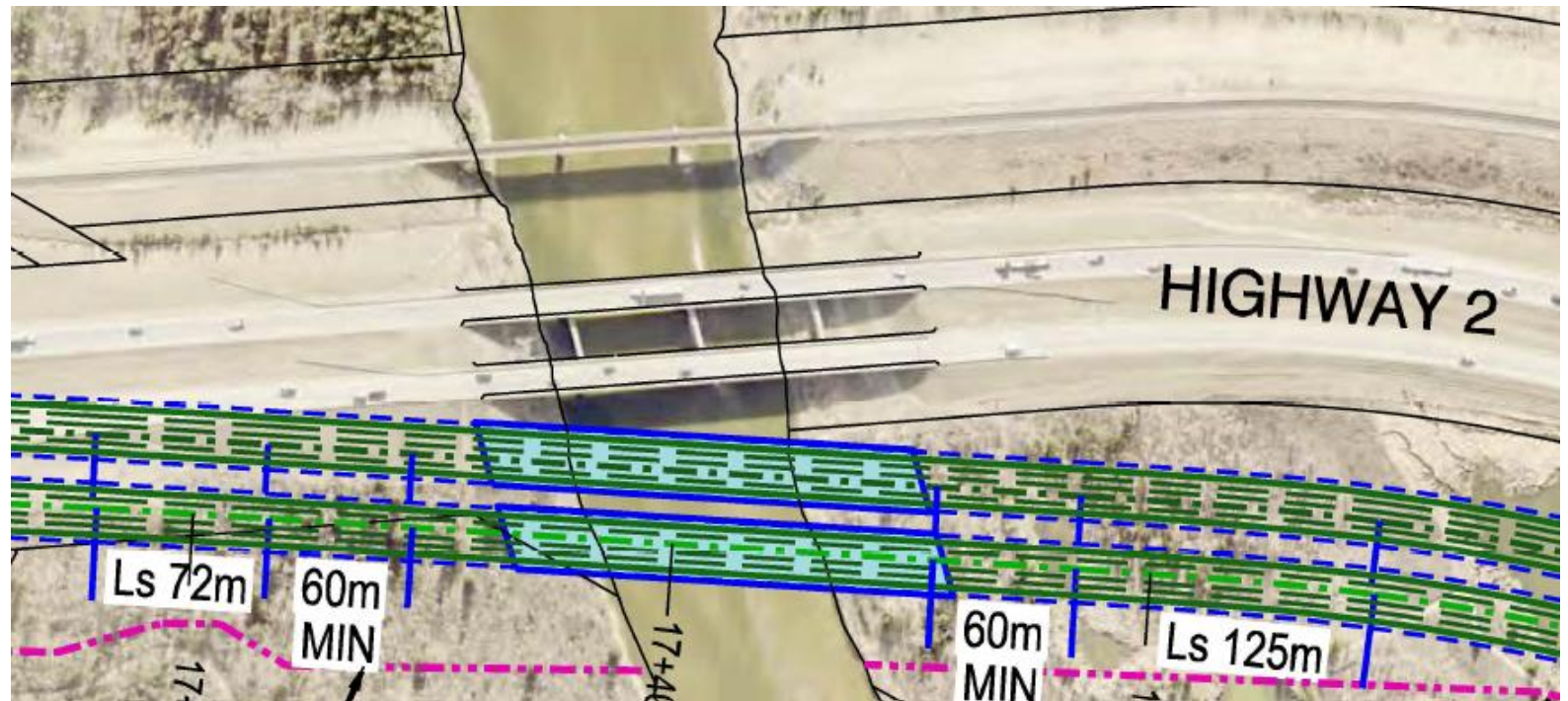
Section B

- This section includes widening the Highway 2 from 4 lanes to 6 (3 in each direction).
- The extra lanes will be constructed from the north side of Highway 11 interchange to approximately 2 kilometres north of the Highway 11A interchange.
- The lane configuration will be similar to that of Hwy 2 in the vicinity of 32 Street (see photo).



Section C

- Widening Hwy 2 between the 32 Street and 67 Street interchanges from 4 lanes to 8 lanes (4 in each direction).
- Realigning Hwy 2 to have gentler horizontal and vertical curves to provide a smoother drive through the river valley.
- Constructing two new river bridges on the east side of the existing bridges.
- Replacing Hwy 11 westbound bridge.



Project Benefits

Safety Improvements:

- Eliminate constant maintenance needs of existing bridges requiring lane closures and the resulting traffic jams.
- Smooth out vertical and horizontal curves reducing need for sudden steering changes, hard braking and aggressive acceleration going in and out of the valley.
- Increase the visual sightlines so drivers can see further and have more time to react to situations.
- Improved and consistent overhead illumination so the driver's eyes don't have to adjust to changing light levels.

Project Benefits

Capacity Improvements:

- Increased number of lanes reduces congestion.
- Dedicated lane northbound and southbound for traffic travelling between 32 Street and 67 Street.
- Consistent driving “feel” throughout the region.

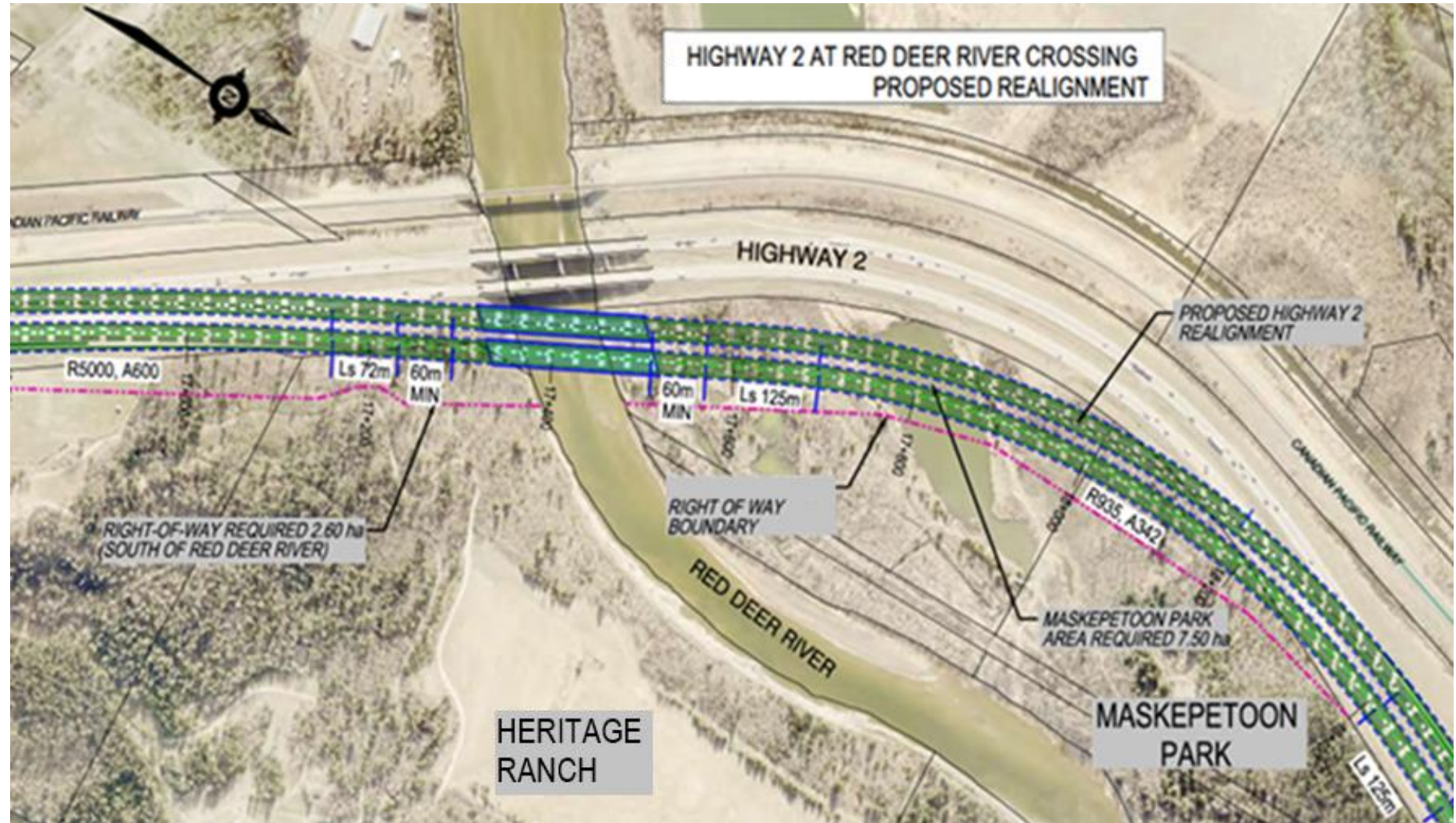
Other:

- Creation of a large natural area including multiple ponds and wetlands via conversion of the project’s gravel pit.
- Accessibility improvements to adjacent river and park areas.

Project Downsides

Encroachment into Maskepetoon Park and Heritage Ranch

- Reduced park size.
- Loss of treed areas.
- Loss of wetlands.
- Disturbance during construction.



Stakeholders (in alphabetical order)

Alberta Sports Hall of Fame

Canadian Pacific Kansas City

City of Red Deer

Parks Department and Heritage Ranch

Oriole Park and Westlake/Westpark

County of Red Deer

The Indigenous, Inuit and Métis peoples

Red Deer River Naturalists, Red Deer Watershed Alliance,

Waskasoo Environmental Education Society



Potential Schedule (depending on funding availability)

Section A (Proceeding)

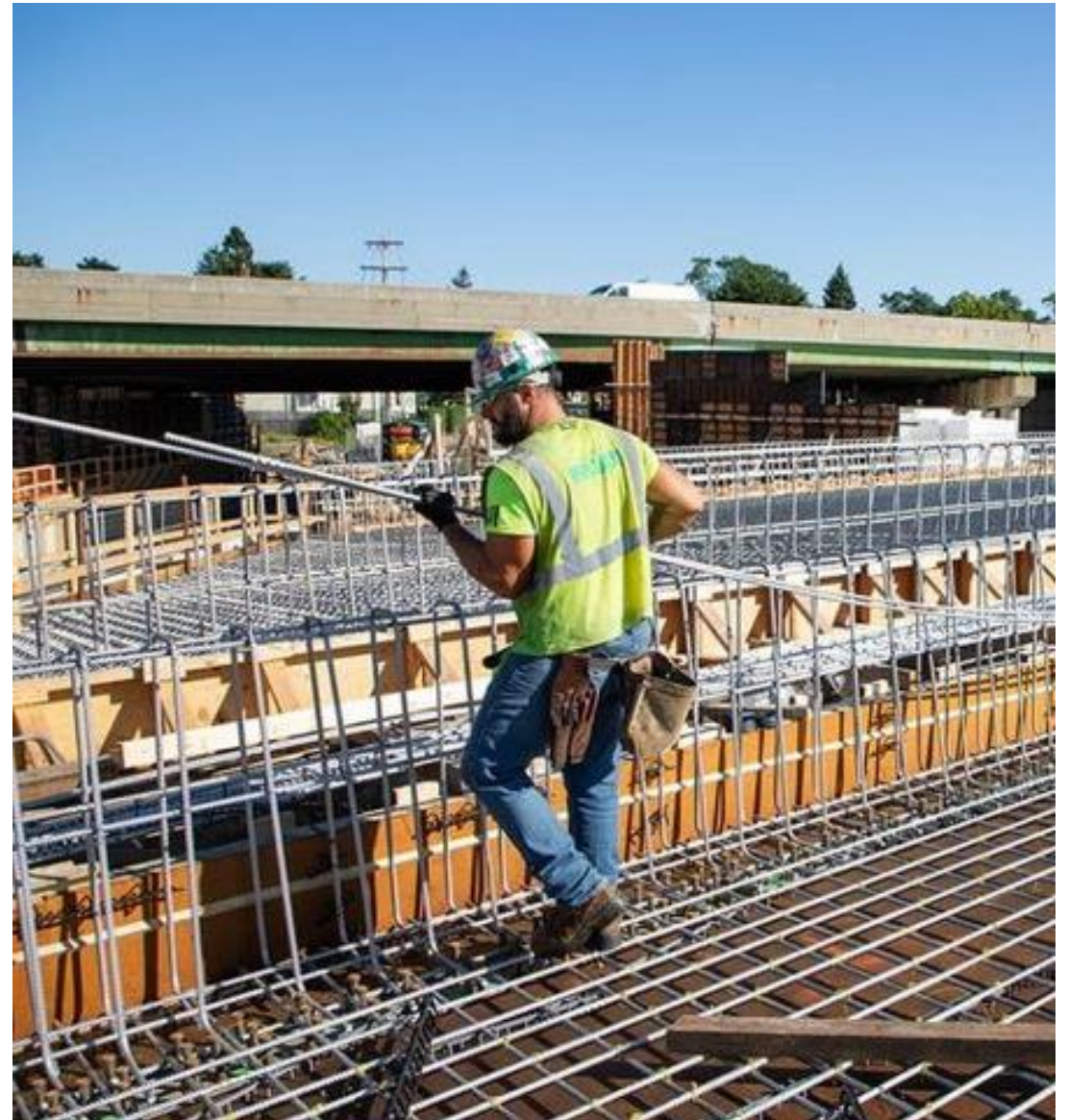
- Construction 2025 - 2026

Section B (Anticipated)

- Tender Fall 2025
- Construction 2026 - 2027

Section C (Anticipated)

- Design 2025 - 2026
- Tender Fall 2026
- Construction 2027 - 2031



What You Can Expect to See Next

- Geotechnical drilling and surveying

Red Deer River bridges

July / Aug 2025

Maskepetoon Park

Dec 2025 / Jan 2026

- CN Overpass construction

Summer or fall 2025

through 2026



Comments or Questions?

- Project Website:

<https://www.alberta.ca/highway-2-improvements-in-the-red-deer-area>

- Project E-mail: tec.hwy2reddeer@gov.ab.ca

