



Transportation Connects
Alberta Conference

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FOR A FAST-TRACKED HIGHWAY TWINNING PROJECT

HIGHWAY 11 TWINNING Functional Planning Study Highway 22 to Township Road 390

Chris Lo, Alberta Transportation & Economic Corridors

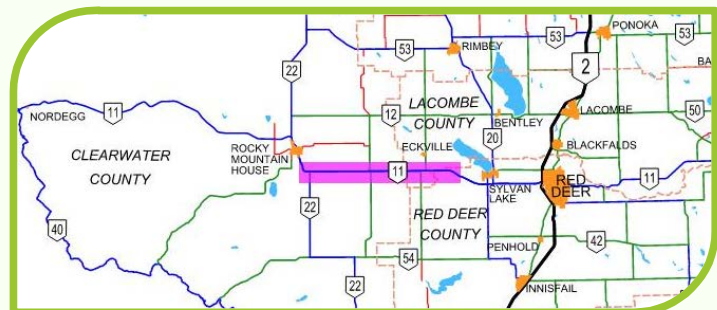
Henry Devos, CIMA Canada Inc.

March 3, 2025 - 10:30am / Salon 11



HIGHWAY 11 STUDY CORRIDOR

- The 42 km long corridor was announced as a Covid era stimulus project in 2020





HIGHWAY 11 TWINNING
Functional Planning Study
Highway 22 to Twp Rd 390

STUDY TEAM

■ CIMA Canada Inc.	Project Management & Design
■ Soles & Company	Public Engagement & Communications
■ Spencer Environmental	Environmental & Historical Resources
■ Terrace Engineering	Bridge Planning & River Engineering
■ Thurber Engineering	Geotechnical Evaluation
■ Scott Land & Lease	Right-of-Way/Property Values & Issues

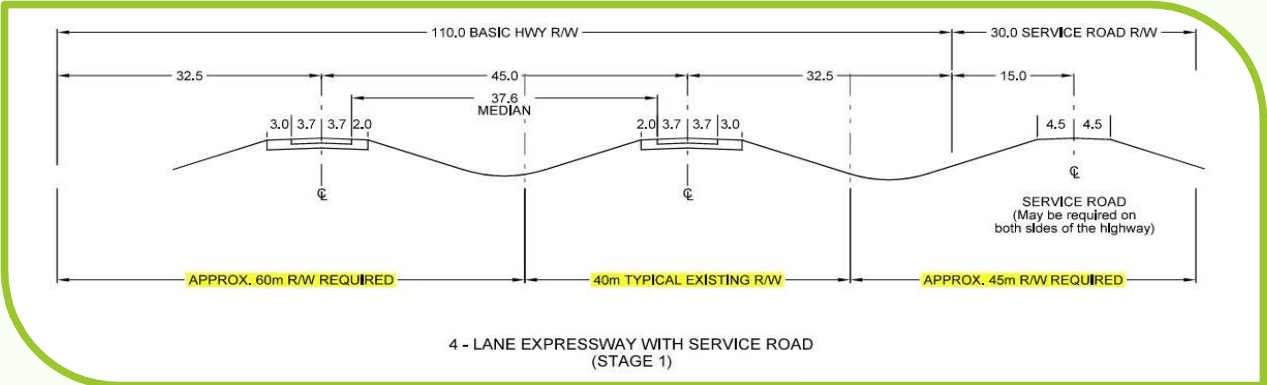
3



HIGHWAY 11 TWINNING
Functional Planning Study
Highway 22 to Twp Rd 390

TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION

- Typical Twinning First Assumed, potentially affecting 140 landowners



4



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TYPICAL PROPERTIES IMPACTED



5



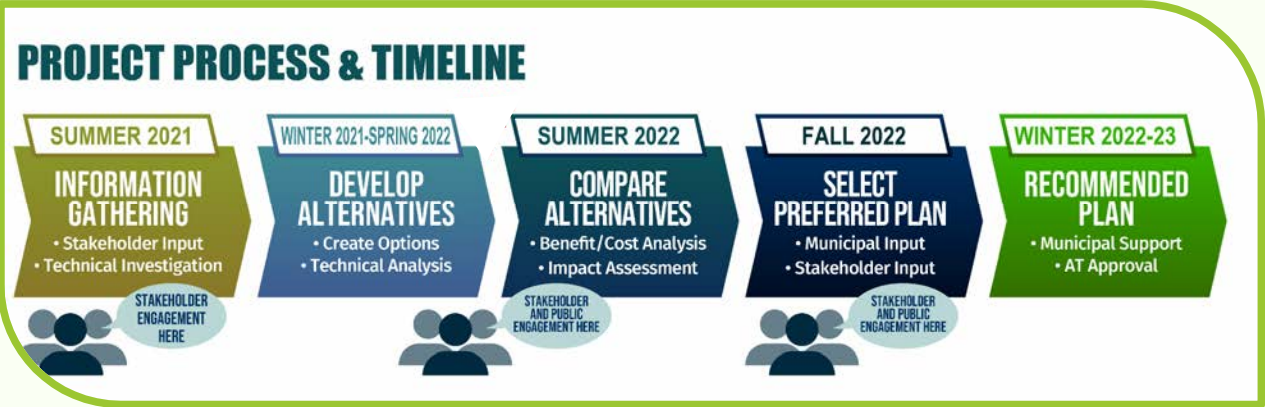
HIGHWAY 11 TIMELINE

HIGHWAY 11 TWINNING
Functional Planning Study
Highway 22 to Twp Rd 390

- Construction was anticipated within 3 to 5 years
 - No prior functional plans
 - No right-of-way plans
- Little or no public awareness of the pending property impacts
 - Normal planning timeline to construction is closer to 20+ years
 - Landowners had little/no time to adjust their plans/interests
- Comprehensive stakeholder engagement process was needed
 - Requiring an increased level of involvement with stakeholders
 - Requiring a process that evolved in response to stakeholder needs

6

INITIAL STUDY PROCESS



7

HIGH LEVEL OF STAKEHOLDER INTEREST



8

INITIAL ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

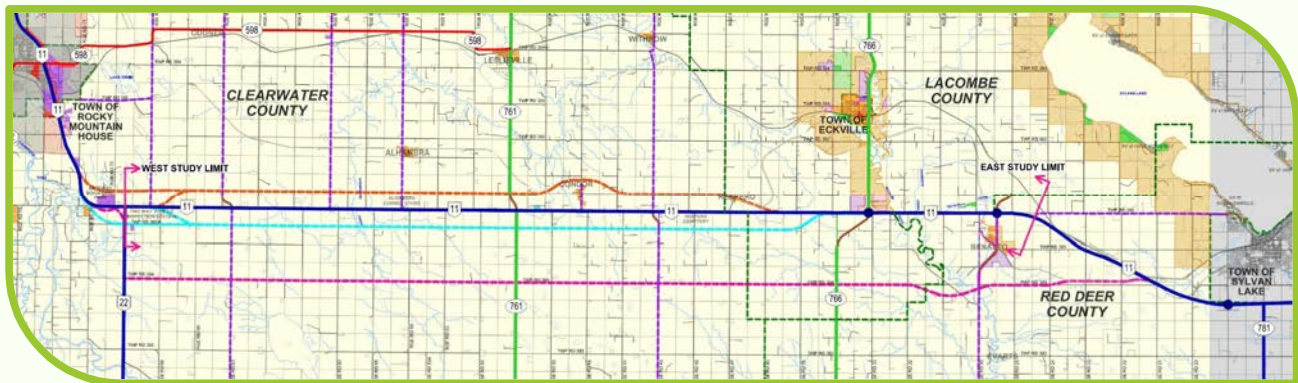
- Meetings with individual landowners along the corridor (Covid 19)
 - Introduce study process & requirements
 - Invite initial input & concerns
- Future meetings in small groups
 - In advance of open houses
 - Landowners divided geographically
 - Learn more about impacts & preferences
- Two public open houses proposed
 - Open House #1 to show alternatives
 - Open House #2 to show preferred plan



9

NEW ALIGNMENT ALTERNATIVES

- Developed in response to stakeholder/landowner input
- One group petitioned to use Twp Rd 384 as the eastbound leg of a couplet with the existing highway; a 3.2 km wide separation





HIGHWAY 11 TWINNING Functional Planning Study Highway 22 to Twp Rd 390

ALIGNMENT & TWINNING OPTIONS

- Existing Highway 11 Alignment
 - Twinning to current standards; or a Passing Lane system
- Alignment 800m North of Highway 11
 - Twinning to current standards; or a Couplet Concept with ex. highway
- Alignment 800m South of Highway 11
 - Twinning to current standards; or a Couplet Concept with ex. highway
- Alignment 3.2 km South of Highway 11
 - Couplet Concept with existing highway

11



HIGHWAY 11 TWINNING Functional Planning Study Highway 22 to Twp Rd 390

FINAL ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

PROJECT APPRAISAL

- 1** Information Gathering to
Twin Existing Highway

Individual Meetings
240 LANDOWNERS
130 MEETINGS

ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT & ASSESSMENT STAGE 1

- 2** Show Four Options
along Two Alignments

Small Group Meetings
240 LANDOWNERS
94 ATTENDED MEETINGS

- 3** Show Four Options
along Two Alignments

Open House #1
GENERAL PUBLIC

ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT & ASSESSMENT STAGE II

- 4** Show Three Additional Options
Along Two New Alignments

Small Group Meetings
307 LANDOWNERS
138 ATTENDED MEETINGS

SELECTION OF PREFERRED TWINNING ALIGNMENT

- 5** Show Results of Evaluation
and Selection Process

Open House #2
504 LETTERS TO LANDOWNERS
and the GENERAL PUBLIC

DEVELOP PREFERRED TWINNING PLAN

- 6** Show Detailed Functional Plan
to Twin Existing Highway 11

Small Group Meetings
129 LANDOWNERS
76 ATTENDED MEETINGS

APPROVED FUNCTIONAL PLAN

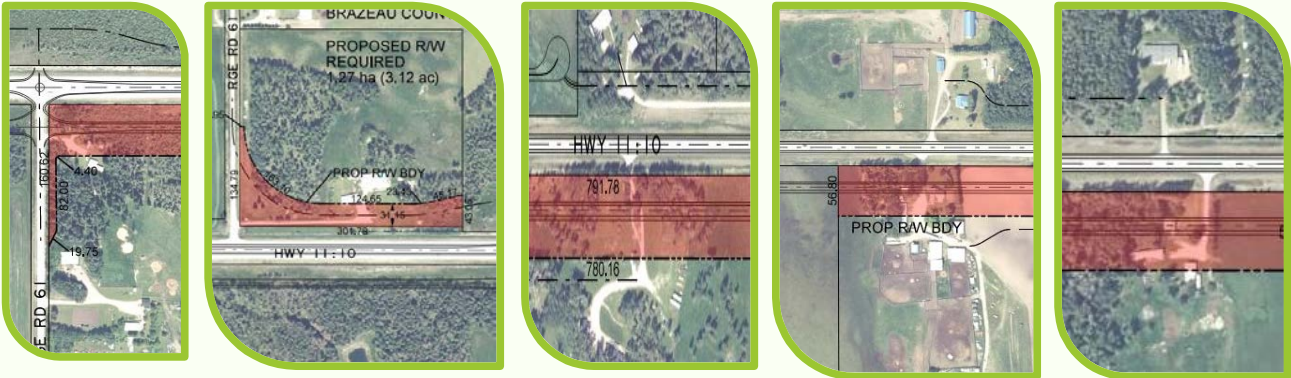
- 7** Place Approved Plan
on Project Website

All Affected Landowners Notified
149 PROPERTIES AFFECTED

- Engagement was active throughout, responding to hundreds of emails and calls

12

TYPICAL PROPERTY IMPACTS

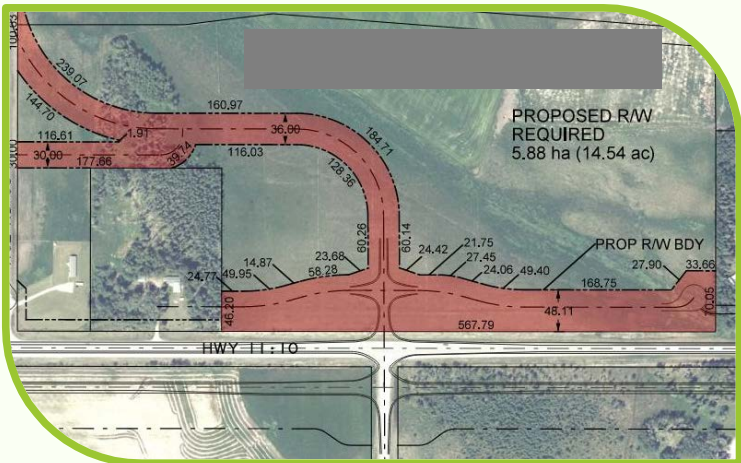


13

TYPICAL PROPERTY IMPACTS

FARMING OPERATIONS

- In response to the farming community's need to cross a twinned Highway 11 with long slow-moving vehicles, an *Intersection Conflict Warning System* was proposed for two pilot locations



14



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KEY OUTCOMES

- Engagement: The rapport established with landowners through the 30-month long process led to a defensible plan
- Approved Plan: Twin the existing Highway 11 alignment
 - Confirmed by a detailed evaluation process
 - Supported by the four municipalities
- Recommendation: Initiate R/W acquisition as soon as possible
 - Most landowners sought early resolution
 - It was understood that R/W requirements were still subject to change
- Status: The right-of-way acquisition process is underway
 - Design assignments are being awarded

15



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LESSONS LEARNED

- Planning Study Process
 - Absent prior planning, a short project delivery timeline heightens the level of anxiety for affected communities
 - It requires a responsive, evolving, engagement process from planning through design
 - The engagement process and input opportunities must be communicated clearly and often
 - Stakeholder inquiries and concerns need to be addressed on an ongoing basis throughout
- Project Delivery
 - The first functional planning exercise to twin a major corridor must take a broad view of potential options, likely affecting a geographic area much wider than the existing corridor
 - Adjacent, concurrent, upgrading projects should share a common engagement process
 - The risk for spillover affects and expectations for municipalities outside the immediate corridor, e.g., twinning through the Town of Rocky Mountain House

16



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Thank you