# Highway 64 Alignment Clear River Valley Functional Planning Study

Information Session

October 23, 2024 - 4:30 to 8:00 pm

Menno Simons Community School

### WELCOME



Highway 64 Clear River Bridge Looking North





### Welcome

Highway 64 Alignment Clear River Valley Functional Planning Study

### **Information Session #2**

This information session is an informal drop-in format, there will be no presentation.

#### The purpose of this information session is to:

- Provide information on the updated study process and objectives
- Share the alignments explored for Highway 64
- Present the proposed alignment
- Gather your comments and input

Please take a few minutes to review the display panels and discuss the study with project staff.

This is the second of two Information sessions for the study. The first information session was held in November 2022.





### **Study Background**

- Highway 64 is a major two-lane provincial highway facility
- First paved in 1983, the highway is the primary transportation corridor through Clear Hills County, connecting Highway 2 near Fairview with British Columbia and linking most of the County's hamlets.
- With 8 active slide locations, the existing Clear River crossing is increasingly at risk of slide activity and road closures.
- The existing bridge will soon need a major rehabilitation or replacement and river stabilization.

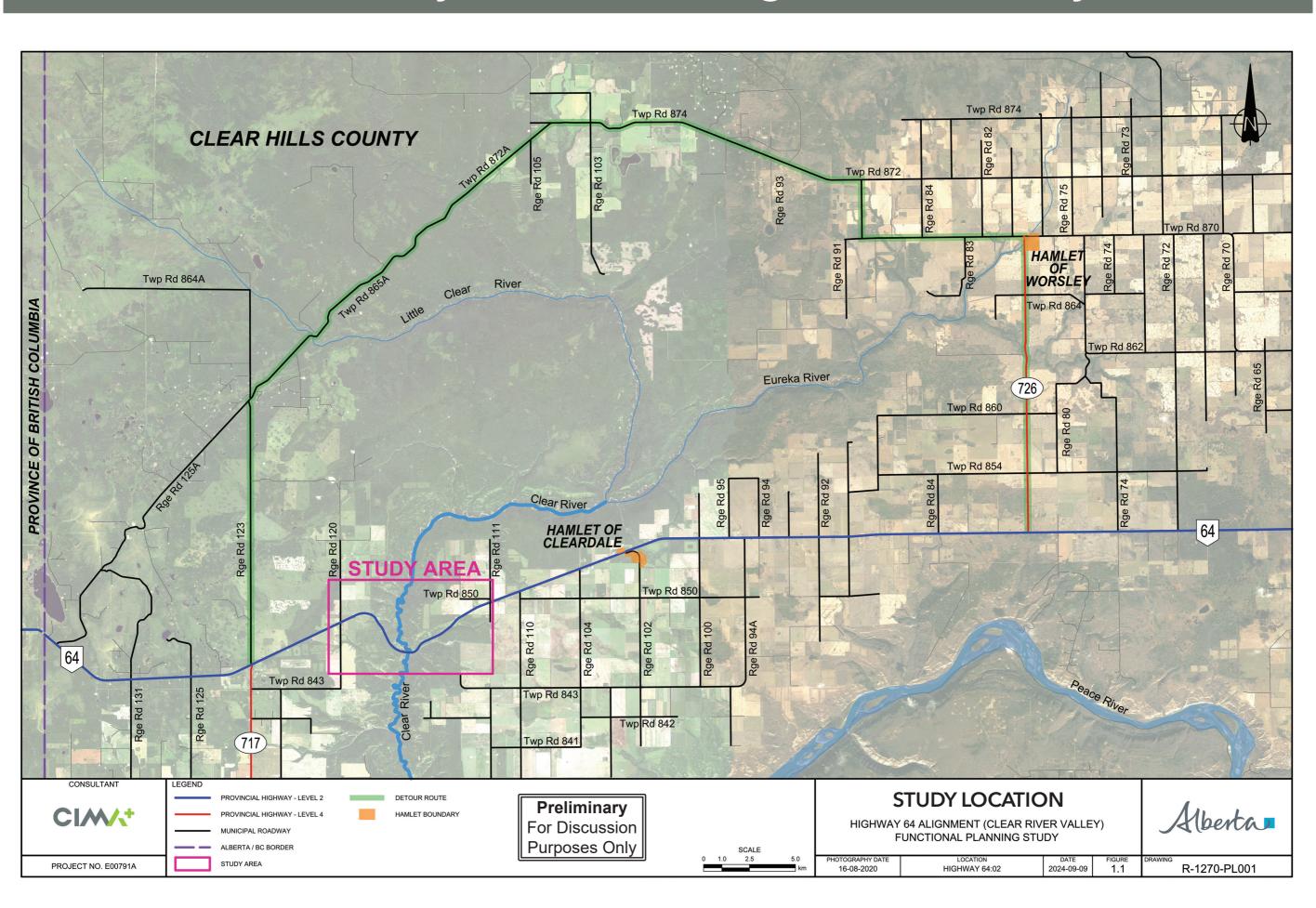


Existing Highway 64 Looking East Across the Clear Rive





### Study Location & Regional Roadway Network



Bold text indicates changes made since Information Session #1.

### **Study Purpose**

Identify and review technically feasible alternatives for a potential new Highway 64 alignment crossing of the Clear River Valley and compare with options to upgrade the existing highway alignment.

### **Study Objectives**

To develop a technically feasible alignment plan that:

- Provides the most appropriate design given site and implementation constraints
- Addresses stability and safety, community interests, environmental and historical resources, drainage and other impacts
- Identifies access requirements
- Identifies right-of-way requirements

### **Study Outcome**

The outcome of this study will:

Help the province understand the most feasible/practical long-term alignment crossing of the Clear River Valley exists





### **Working Together**

#### **Technical Review Committee (TRC)**

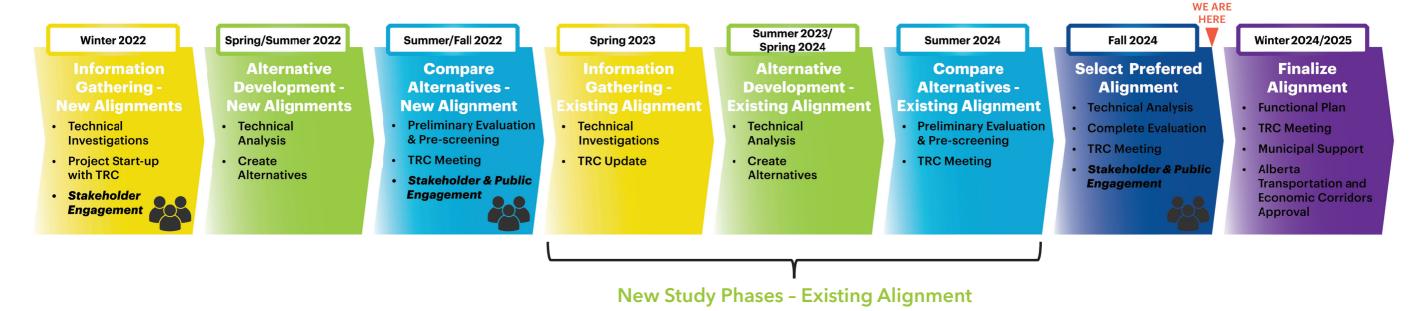
- Clear Hills County is a member of the Technical Review Committee
- The Technical Review Committee guides the study process at key points

#### Stakeholders & Members of the Public

- The study team will obtain feedback on alternatives and outcomes
- Information session #1 was held in November 2022, focusing on the development of new alignment options.

#### **Project Process & Timeline**

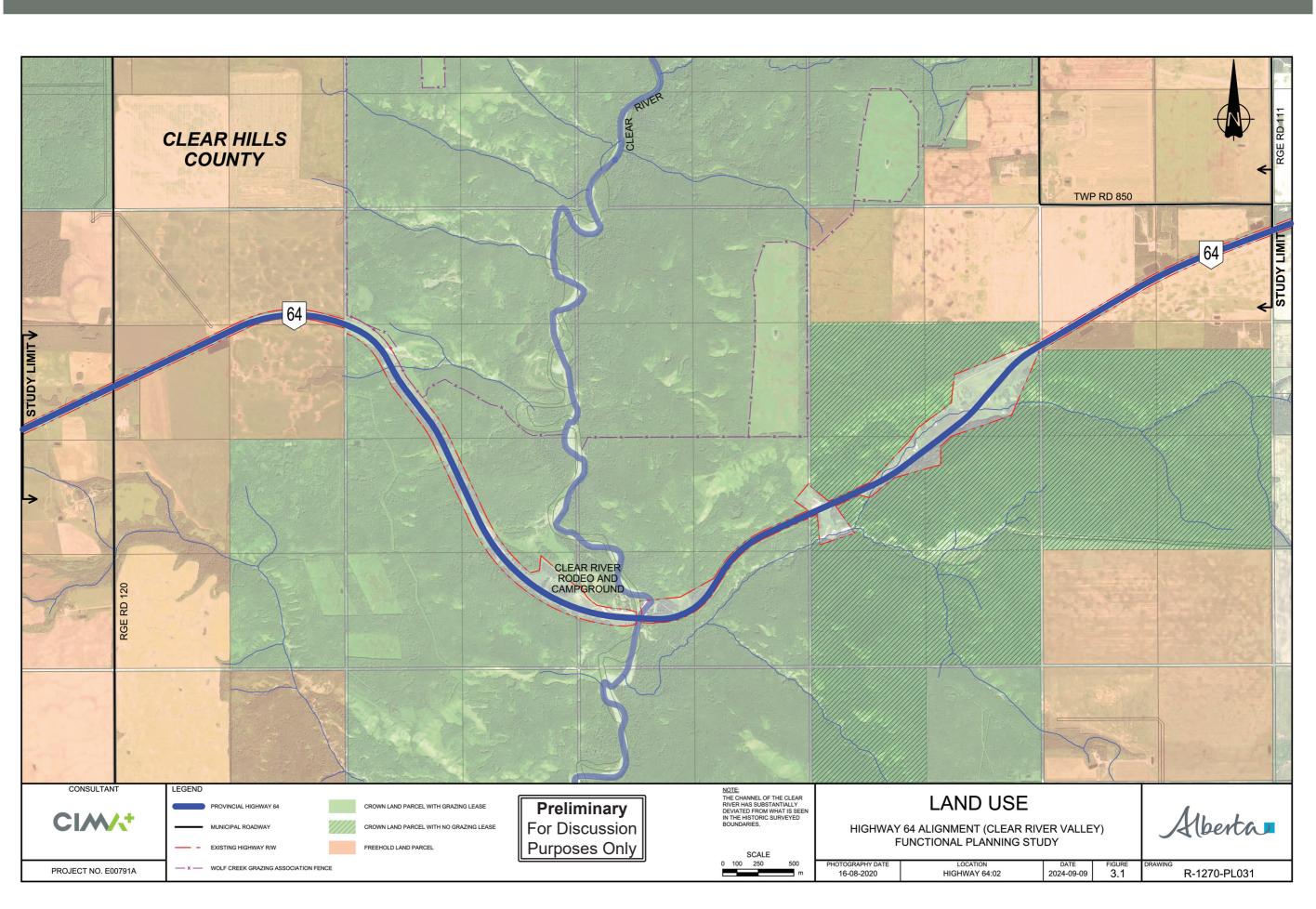
Based on feedback received and the initial study findings, the scope of the study was revised to include alignments along existing Highway 64.



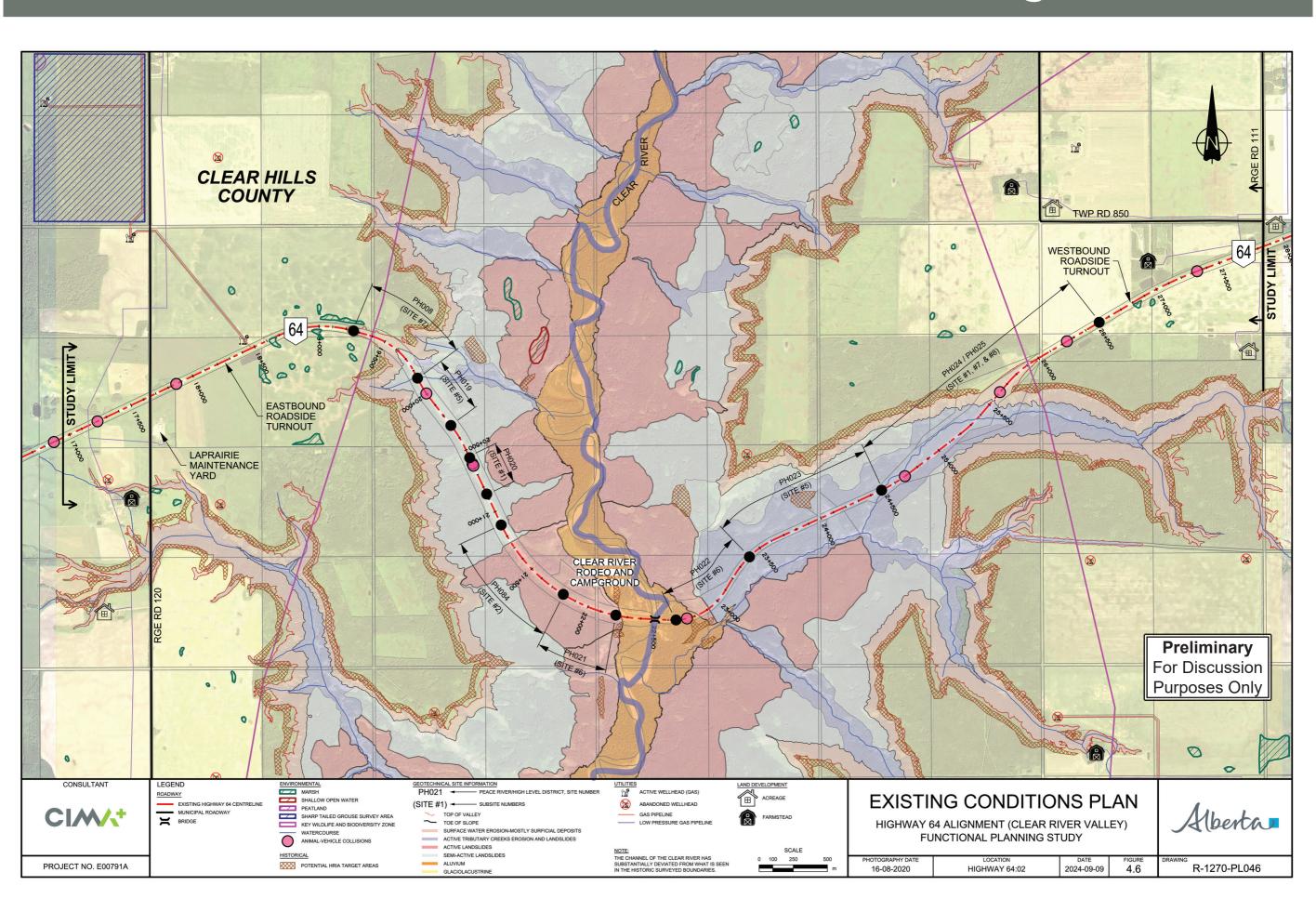




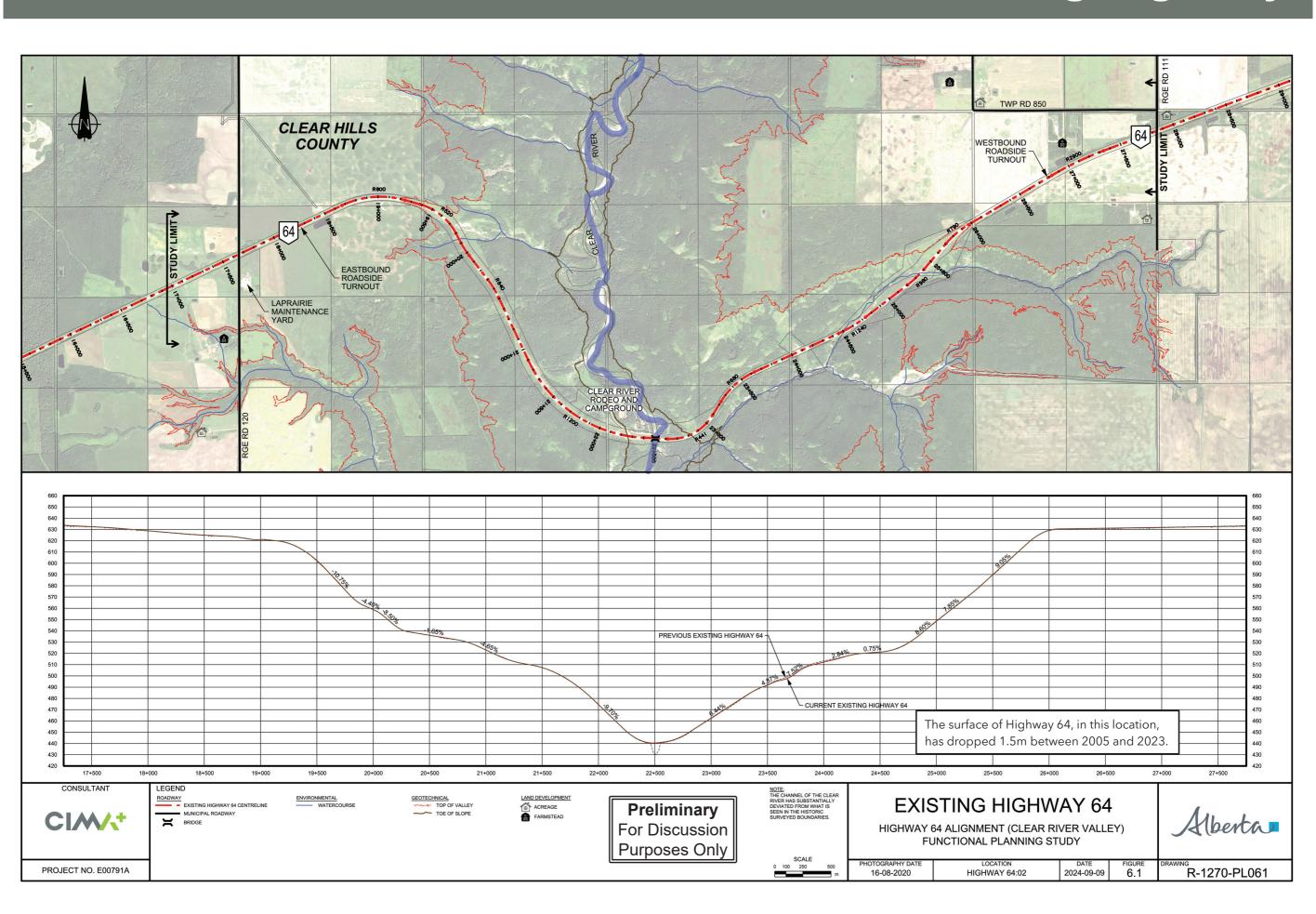
### Land Use



### **Existing Conditions**



### **Existing Highway**



### **Alternative Development**

Key technical factors in the development of alternatives were:

- Geotechnical stability
- River stability and bridge requirements
- Roadway design standards
- Constructability and stageability
- Environmental and historical resources

Alternatives for both a new crossing location and upgrading existing Highway 64 were reviewed by the study team. A preliminary screening was used to narrow down to the most practical/feasible alternatives along both the new and existing alignments. These preferred options were carried forward to the final screening to identify a proposed plan. This process is shown in the following displays.

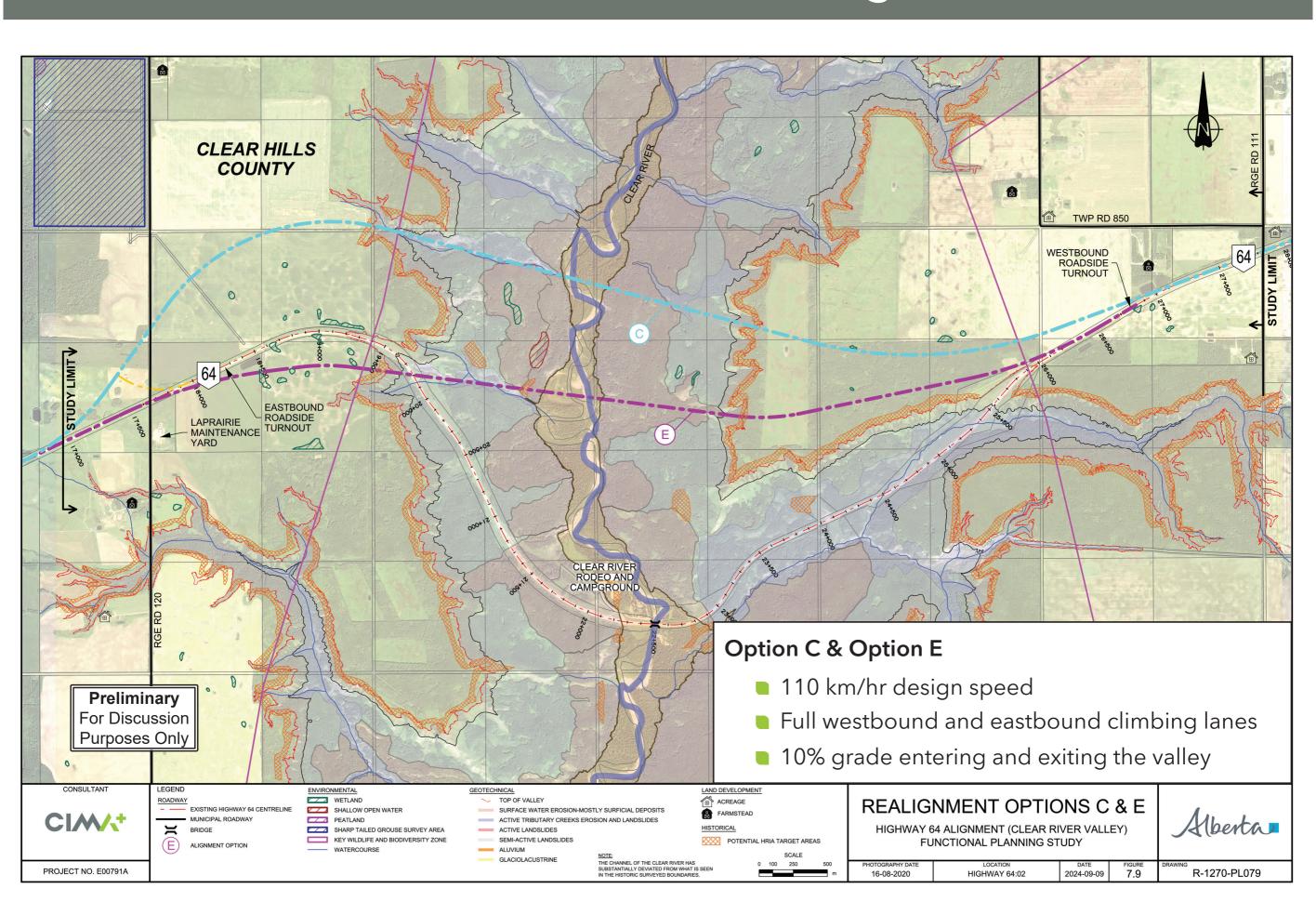


Highway 64, Looking West Across the Clear River Valley





### New Alignment Alternatives



### Preliminary Screening (2022) - New Alignment

		Criteria No.: 1		2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9
		DESCRIPTION:	Environ-	Bridge		cal Stability	Construct- ability - Traffic Disruption	Rodeo & Camp-	Impact to Land Uses	Land Requirements			Preliminary
	ALIGNMENT OPTIONS		mental & Historical Resources	Placement & River Training	Bridge Placement	Hillsides				In the River Valley	Above the River Valley	Excavation	Cost Estimate
	1	Option 'C' (north of existing)	Good	Good	Moderate	Moderate	Best	Best	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Worst
	2	Option 'E' (crossing existing)	Moderate	Best	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Good	Good	Best	Best	Good	Worst

#### **Screening Criteria**

#### 1. Environmental & Historical Resources

Impact on watercourse crossings, fisheries, wetlands and historical resources.

#### 2. Bridge Placement & River Training

Ability to move the river, hold it in place using river training spur & guide bank structures

#### 3. Geotechnical Stability

Compares alignments to a typical river crossing with flat stable terraces on each side and approach fills less than 10 m high and considers added risks compared to a typical approach cut of less than 15 m depth in a stable valley slope

#### 4. Constructability - Traffic Disruption

Extent of construction related disruption to access and traffic flow

RANKING LEGEND

	Poor Outc	omes		Better Outcomes				
Scale:	Worst	Poor	Moderate	Good	Best			

#### 5. Ease of Access to Rodeo Grounds & Campground

#### 6. Impact to Land Uses

Level of fragmentation to existing agricultural and grazing areas.

#### 7. Land Requirements

Comparison of land requirements both in & above the river valley

#### 8. Excavation

Amount of surplus material, including disposal impacts, ability to adjust design to improve material balance

#### 9. Cost Estimate

Anticipated construction and property costs





## Public Input What We Heard - November 2022

Eight (8) stakeholders and Twenty (20) members of the public attended the stakeholder meeting and public information session.

### The November 2022 sessions focused on development of new alignment options for Highway 64.

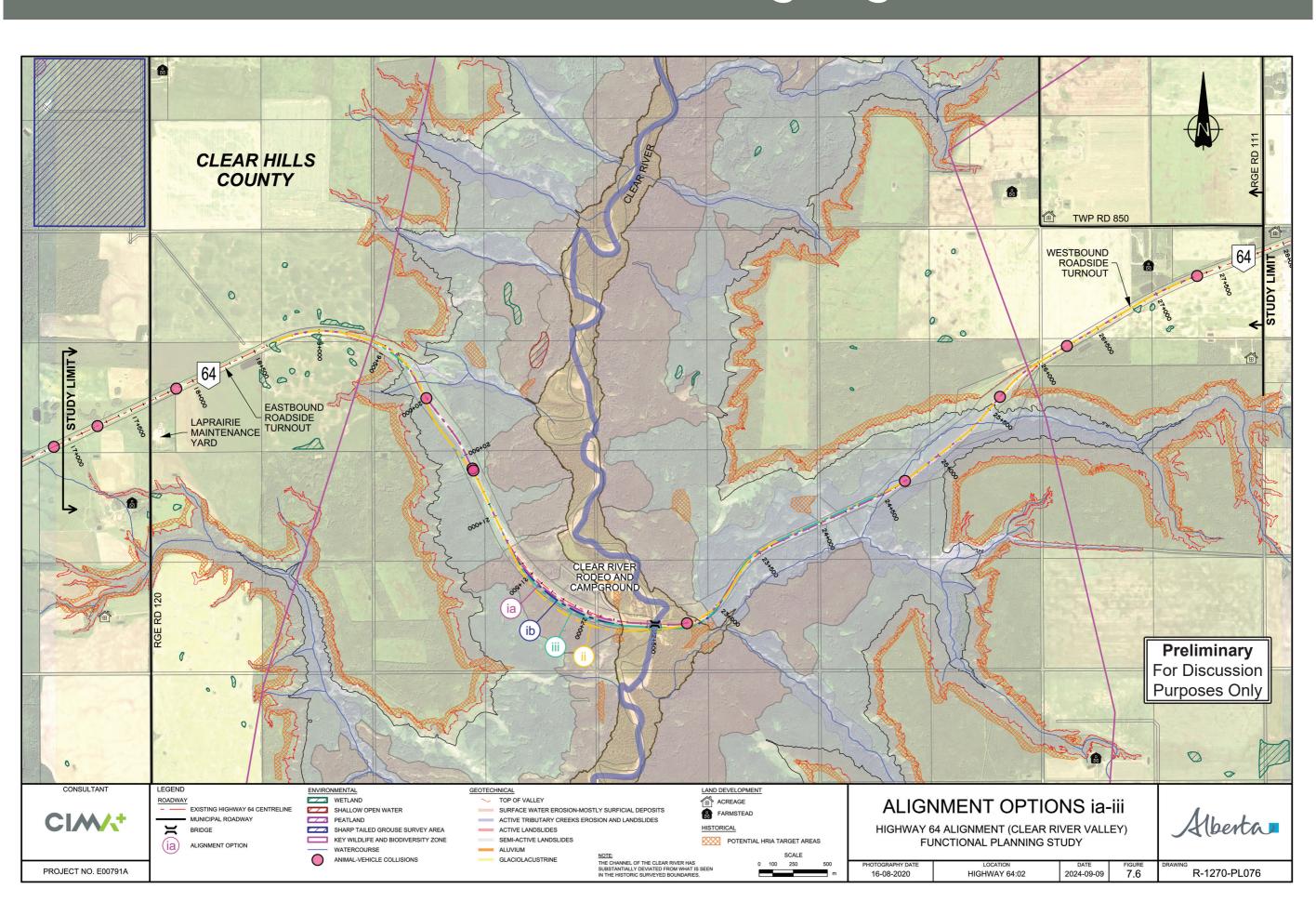
#### Common themes from the November 2022 sessions included:

- Option E was preferred between the two new realignment alternatives
- General concern for:
  - The cost implications and land impacts associated with a new alignment
  - That any new construction would maintain the existing steep grade (10%)
  - The underlying problem of slide activity in the valley may remain in the long-term
- That the potential funding be used towards upgrading the existing alignment, particularly related to the curve/grade on the west side of the crossing.





### **Existing Alignment Alternatives**



### **Existing Alignment Alternatives**

#### **Current Practice**

- Reactive maintenance
- No new or extended climbing lanes

#### **Option** ia

- Minimum Upgrade to an 80 km/h design speed
- Bridge is replaced on existing alignment
- Full climbing lanes

#### Option ib

- Minimum Upgrade to an 80 km/h design speed
- Bridge replaced 25m south of existing
- Full climbing lanes

#### **Option iii**

- Upgrade to a 90 km/h design speed
- Bridge replaced 25m south of existing
- Full climbing lanes

#### Option ii

- Upgrade to a 110 km/h design speed
- Bridge replaced 45m south of existing
- Full climbing lanes





### Preliminary Screening (2024) - Existing Alignment

	Criteria No.:		1	2	3	4	,	5		7	8		
	DESCRIPTION:	Compati- Roadway Class		Operational:		Bridge	Long-Term Geotechnical Stability		Traffic Disruption &	Stageability (Ease of	Scope and Cost		
ł	ALIGNMENT OPTIONS	Based on Design Speed	bility with Arterial Class	Extent of Climbing Lanes	mental & Historical Resources	Placement & River Training	a) Design Require- ments	b) Service Life & Risk	Construct- ability During Construction	Upgrading Over Several	Land Requirements	Disposal of Surplus Fill	Preliminary Cost Estimate
	Current Practice (Reactive Maintenance Work)	Local	Worst	Poor	Best	Moderate	Worst	Worst	Worst	Best	Best	Best	Good
i	ia Minimum Upgrade (Existing Bridge Location)	Local	Worst	Best	Good	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Worst	Good	Best	Good	Moderate
i	ib Minimum Upgrade (New South Bridge Location)	Local	Worst	Best	Good	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Good	Good	Best	Good	Moderate
i	iii Modest Upgrade (90 km/h design speed)	Collector	Poor	Best	Good	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor
	ii Preferred Standard (110 km/h design speed)	Arterial	Moderate	Best	Good	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Worst	Worst	Worst	Worst	Worst

#### **Screening Criteria**

- 1. Compatibility with Current Highway Classification
- 2. Extent of Climbing Lanes The four upgrade options all include full climbing lanes
- 3. Environmental & Historical Resources
  Impact on watercourse crossings, fisheries, wetlands and historical resources.
- 4. Bridge Placement & River Training Ability to stabilize the river and build the bridge structure
- 5. Geotechnical Stability
  Compares design requirements to establish a stable roadway and minimize risk of future failures and road closures.



6. Detours (Traffic Disruption & Constructability)

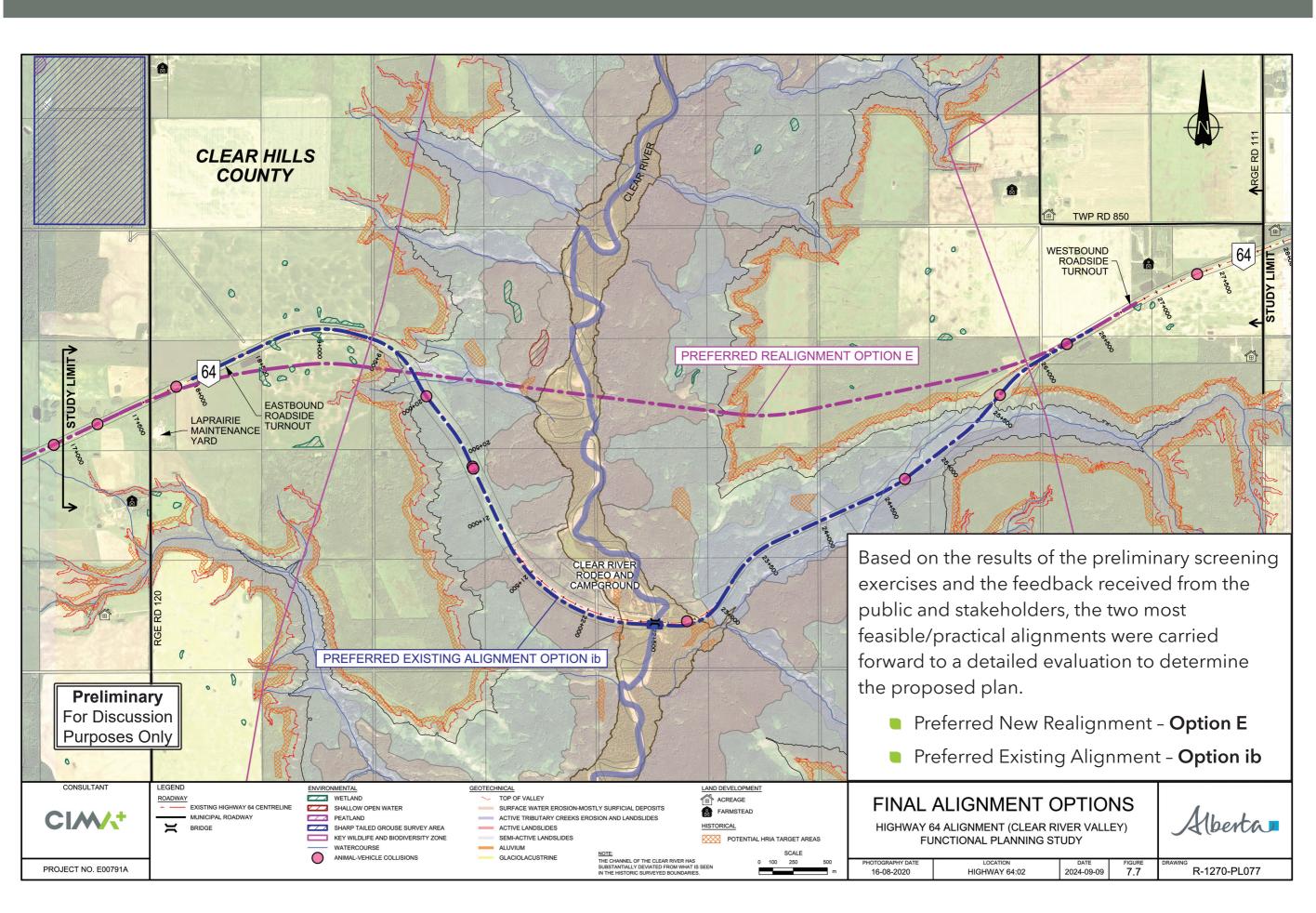
Extent of disruption to traffic flow and access and ease of construction.

- 7. Stageability Ease of upgrading over several years
- 8. Scope & Cost
  - Comparison of land requirements both in & above the river valley
  - Amount of surplus material, including disposal impacts, ability to adjust design to improve material balance
  - Anticipated construction and property costs





### **Preferred Alternatives**



### Final Screening - Proposed Alignment Option

		Criteria No.:	1	2	3	4	4		6	7	8		
	DESCRIPTION:	Roadway	Compati- Environ-		Bridge	Long-Term Geotechnical Stability		Detours (Traffic	Stageability (Ease of	Impact to Land Use	Scope and Cost		
A	IGNMENT OPTION	Class Based on Design Speed	bility with Arterial Class	mental & Historical Resources	Placement & River Training	(a) Risk and Uncertainty	(b) Estimated Service Life	Disruption & Construct-	Funding & Upgrading Over		Lallu	Disposal of Surplus Fill	Preliminary Cost Estimate
ik	Existing Highway Alignment (Minimum Upgrade)	Local	Worst	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Good	Good	Best	Best	Poor	Poor
E	New Highway Alignment (Preferred Standard)	Arterial	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Moderate	Good	Best	Worst	Poor	Worst	Best	Worst

#### **Screening Criteria**

- 1. Compatibility with Current Highway Classification
- 2. Environmental & Historical Resources

Impact on watercourse crossings, fisheries, wetlands and historical resources.

3. Bridge Placement & River Training

Ability to stabilize the river and build the bridge structure.

4. Geotechnical Stability

Compares design requirements to establish a stable roadway and minimize risk of future failures and road closures.

5. Stageability

Ease of upgrading over several years



#### 6. Detours (Traffic Disruption & Constructability)

Extent of disruption to traffic flow and access and ease of construction

#### 7. Impact to Land Use

Access to campground and fragmentation of existing agricultural and grazing areas.

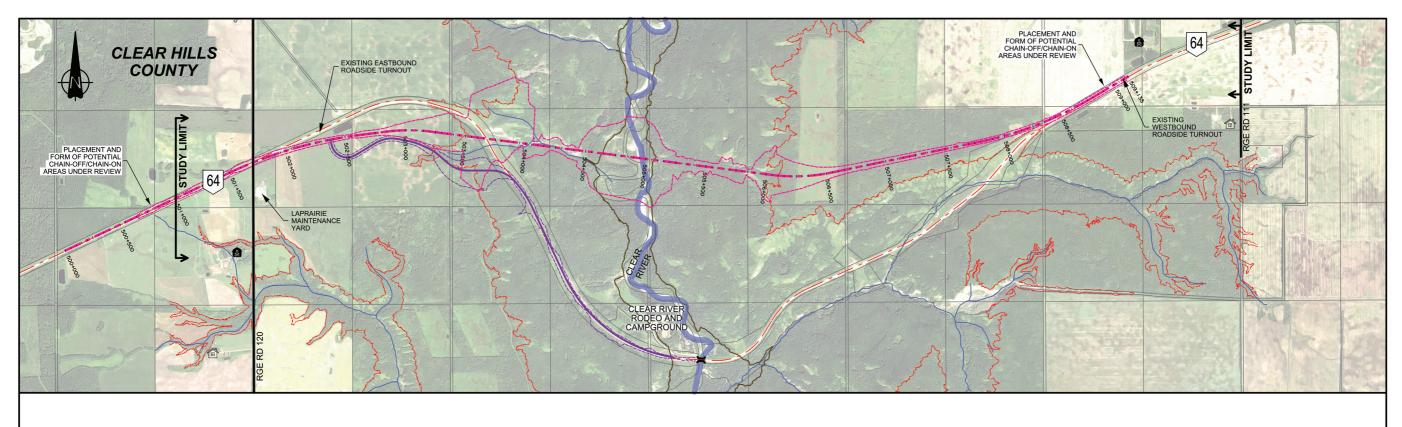
#### 8. Scope & Cost

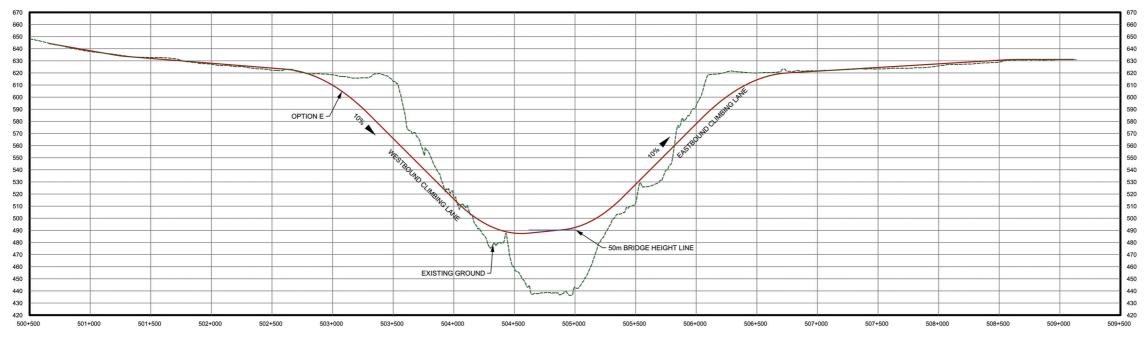
- Comparison of land requirements both in & above the river valley
- Amount of surplus material, including disposal impacts, ability to adjust design to improve material balance
- Anticipated construction and property costs





### Preferred New Alignment - Option E





CIMA

PROJECT NO. E00791A

CONSULTANT

ENVIRONMENTAL WATERCOURSE

GEOTECHNICAL

TOP OF VALLEY

TOE OF SLOPE

LAND DEVELOPMENT

ACREAGE

FARMSTEAD

Preliminary
For Discussion
Purposes Only

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VER HAS SUBSTANTIALLY
VIATED FROM WHAT IS
EN IN THE HISTORIC

PREFERRED REALIGNMENT OPTION E

HIGHWAY 64 ALIGNMENT (CLEAR RIVER VALLEY) FUNCTIONAL PLANNING STUDY



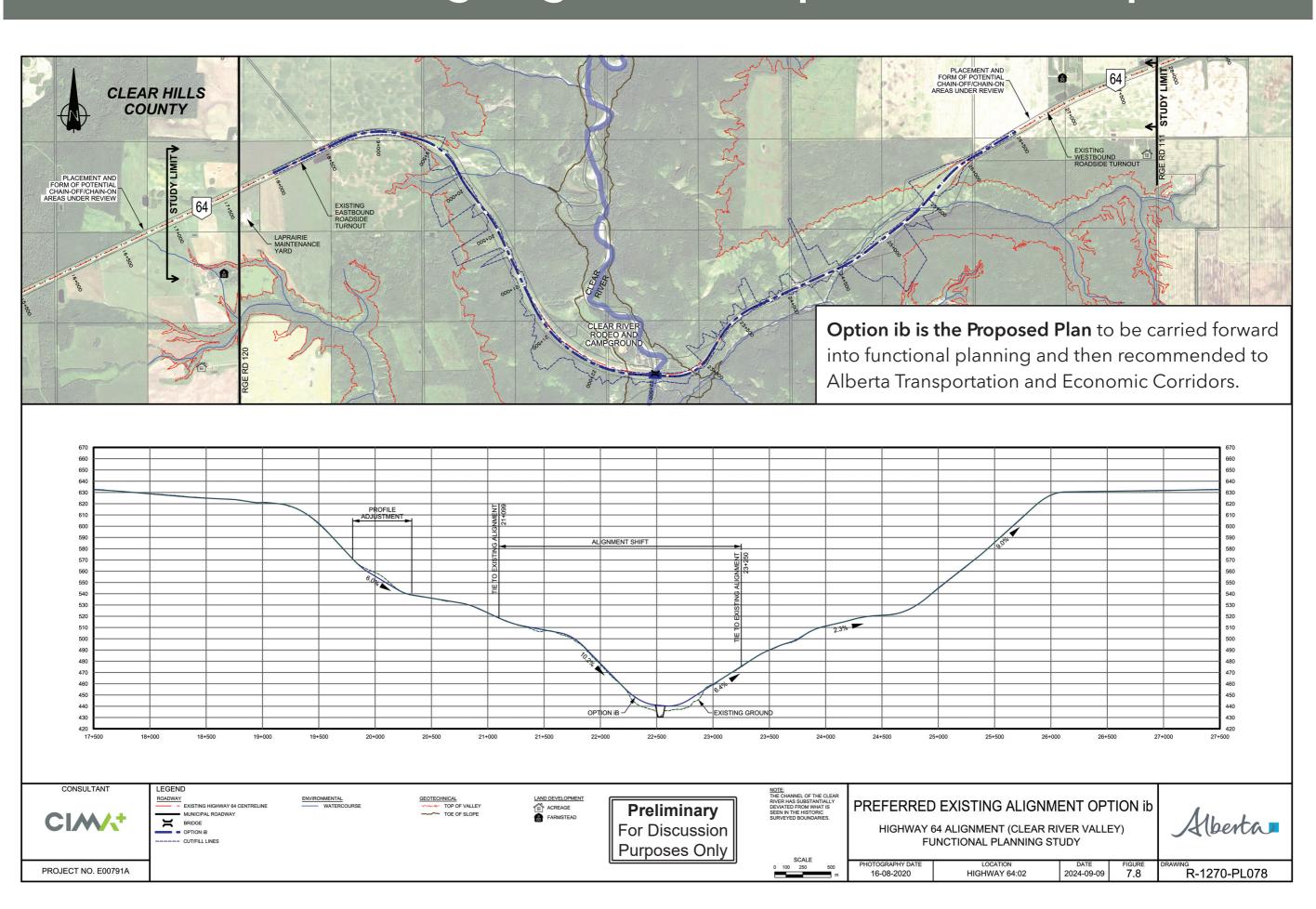
PHOTOGRAPHY DA

LOCATION HIGHWAY 64:02 DATE 2024-09-09

7.5

R-1270-PL075

### Preferred Existing Alignment (Proposed Plan) - Option ib



### Highway 64 Alignment - Clear River Valley Functional Planning Study

### **Next Steps**

- Review and summarize Information Session comments
- Confirm proposed alternative (Option ib)
- Assess to finalize environmental, stormwater, bridge planning, and geotechnical requirements
- Develop functional plans
- Follow-up with Landowners & Grazing Lease Holders
- Recommended Final Plan to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors



Highway 64, Looking East Across the Clear River Valley





### Thank you for Attending!



Your input is important. Please fill out a comment form.



Was the information provided helpful in understanding the study?

Please provide your general comments on the study information presented.



Information session information and final study recommendations will be available at:

https://www.alberta.ca/highway-64-clear-river-valley.aspx



