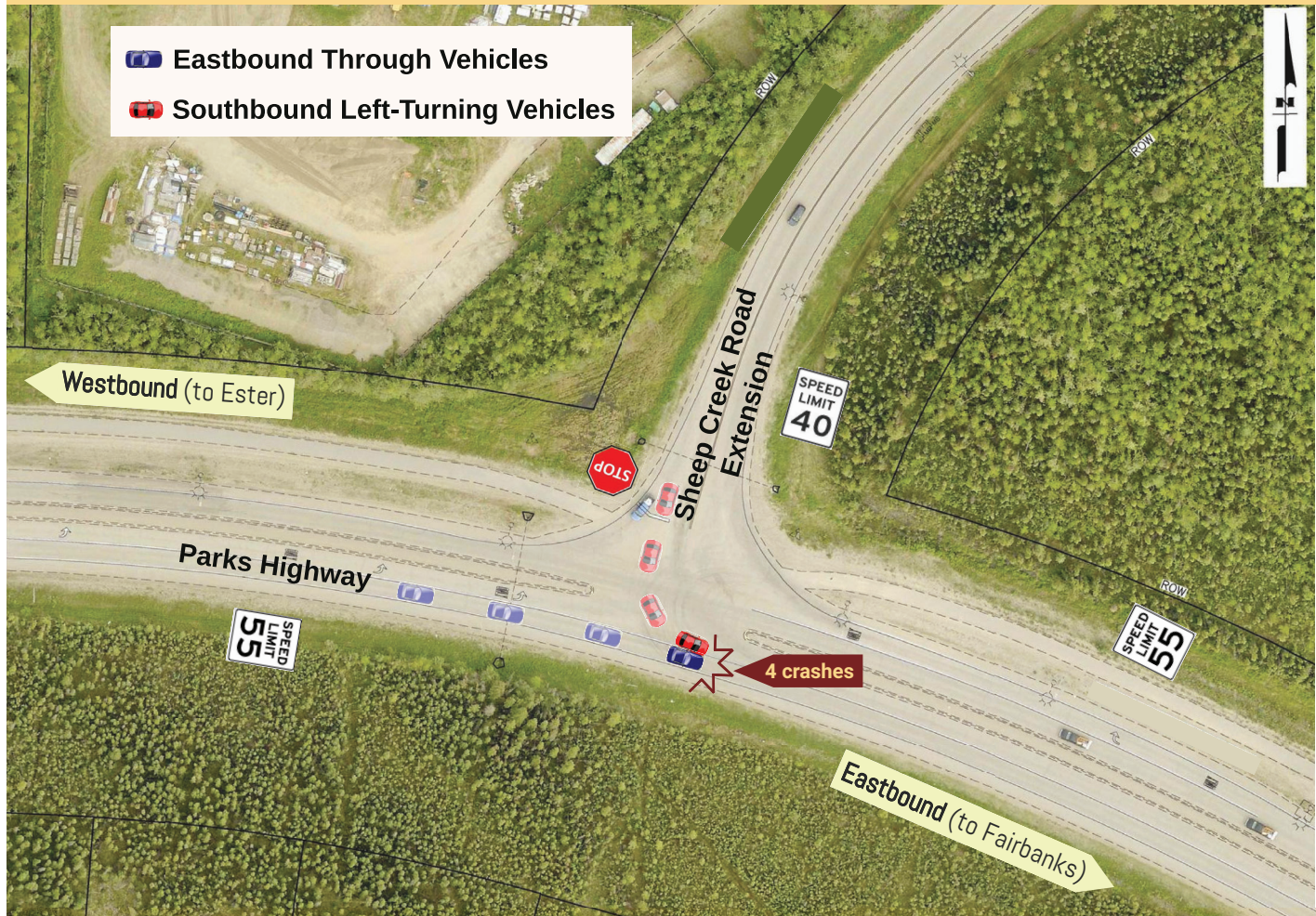




Crash History

involving Eastbound Parks Highway traffic



Four of the 29 crashes occurring between 2013-2023 were angle crashes involving southbound left-turning vehicles with eastbound Parks Highway vehicles.

One of these four crashes was a serious injury crash.

What contributed to these crashes?



Roadway Geometry

Vehicles turning left from Sheep Creek Road Extension onto Parks Highway must accelerate between gaps in the westbound Parks Highway traffic, and contend with the superelevation towards the eastbound Parks Highway lane that wants to force the vehicle to the inside of the curve.



Misjudging Gap

Decision-making expediency is required by southbound drivers when finding a gap in approaching Parks Highway traffic travelling at high speeds (55 mph).



Icy Road Conditions

In winter when road surface conditions are likely to be icy, snowy, or frosty, drivers lack the traction required to turn, accelerate, and overcome the superelevation. Also, lane markings used to guide drivers and ensure they remain in their designated lane are obscured by snow in the winter.



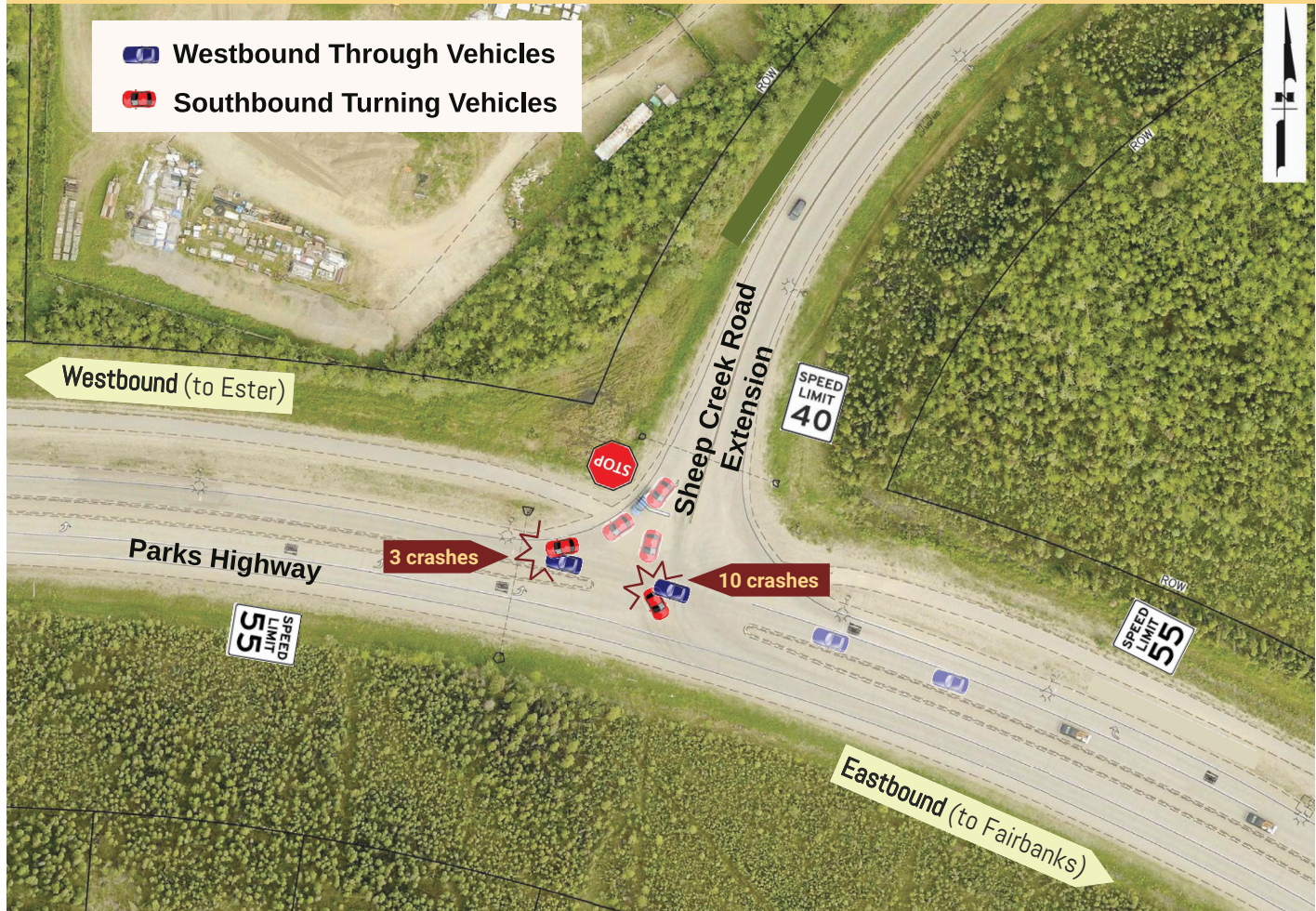
Driver Confusion

Drivers unfamiliar with the intersection may be confused as to which lane to use. Drivers must also trust that approaching traffic remain in their designated lane.



Crash History

involving Westbound Parks Highway traffic



13 of the 29 crashes occurring between 2013-2023 were angle crashes involving westbound Parks Highway vehicles with southbound Sheep Creek Road Extension traffic turning either right or left. One of the right-turn crashes was a serious injury and five of the left-turn crashes were minor injury crashes.

What contributed to these crashes?

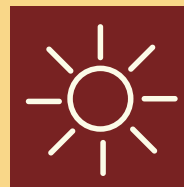
Roadway
Geometry



Sight
Distance



Sun
Glare



Driver
Confusion



Vehicles turning from Sheep Creek Road Extension onto the Parks Highway collided with westbound Parks Highway vehicles more during daylight hours in the spring, summer, and fall months. Commonly stated causes were obstructed sight distance (blocked by turning vehicles and glare from the sun) and confusion to which westbound lane was occupied. Westbound vehicles are provided a through and right-turn lane at the intersection. This turn lane, in conjunction with the minor approach being on the outside of the horizontal curve, frequently creates sight obstructions for vehicles on Sheep Creek Road Extension.