

CGA Energy Nexus & Annual Technical Conference 2025

Town of Jasper Wildfire

Corey Ellis & Abhinav Badoni



Fuelling the Future

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- ① **Background**
- ② **Initial Response & Planning**
- ③ **Re-Energization**
- ④ **Re-Entry**
- ⑤ **By The Numbers**
- ⑥ **Lessons Learned**

BACKGROUND

About Jasper National Park

- Attracts 2.5 million visitors each year
- Before the wildfire, the # of visitors was increasing by about 15% per year
- ATCO Energy Systems is the electricity and natural gas provider for the park



BACKGROUND

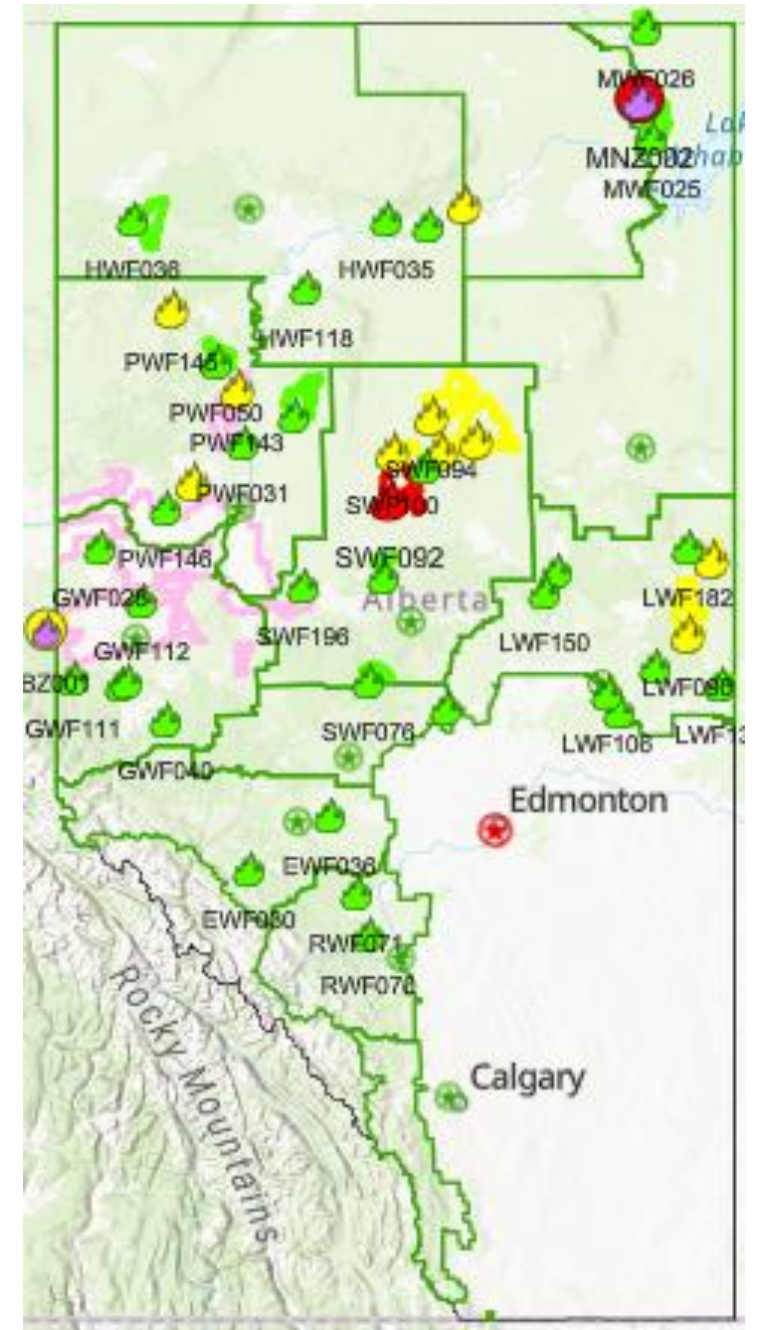
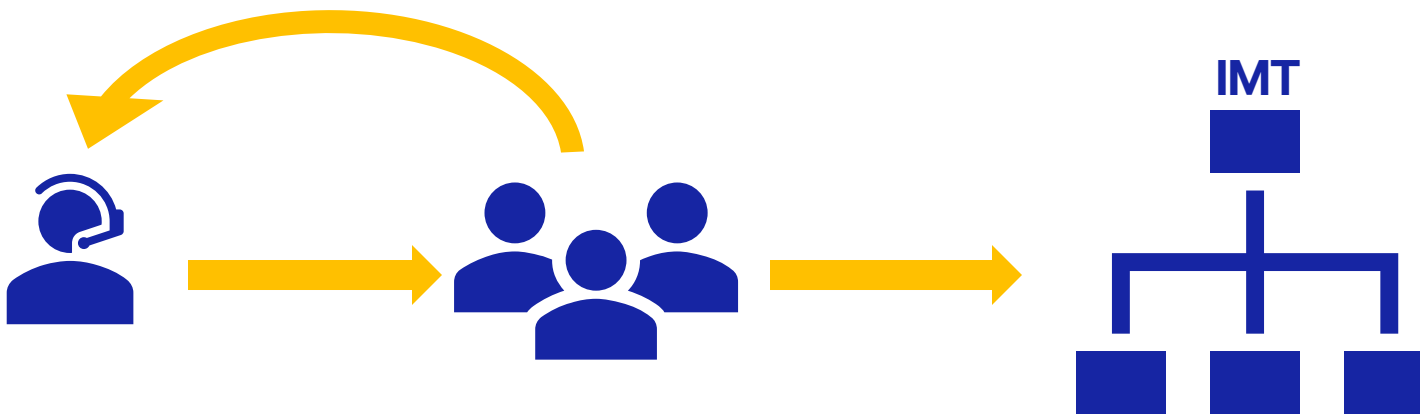
Wildfire Monitoring



1000+ Wildfires in Alberta every year

ATCO Control Center Monitors wildfires

As a fire approaches an asset, regional teams assess and decides whether to take command



TIMELINE

July
22nd

Parks Canada
reports a
wildfire NE of
the Town of
Jasper

Evacuation
order issued





Town of Jasper

Initial Monitoring and De-Energization

From the 22nd to the 24th the IMT team is monitoring situation, planning and preparing to respond

Gate station was shut in on the 24th and all remaining operators in town were evacuated.



Figure 1: NASA FIRMS map for July 23, 2024 (12:30)



Figure 1: NASA FIRMS map for July 23, 2024 (1930)

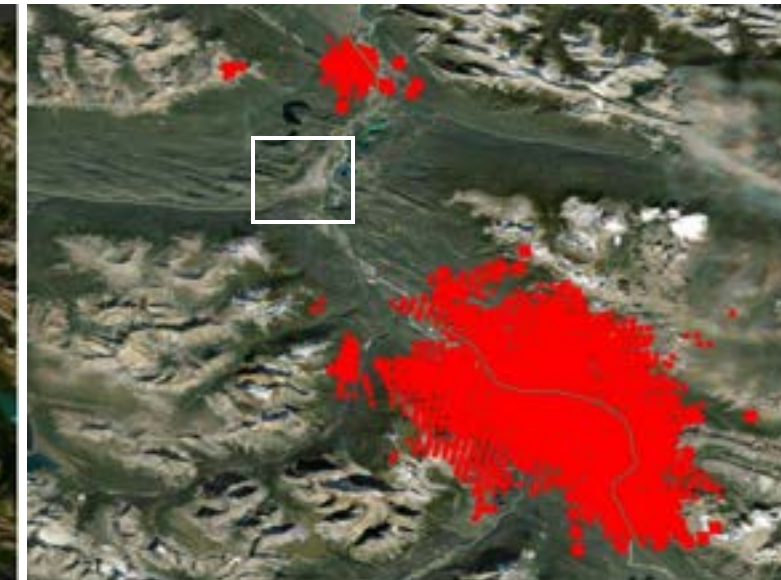


Figure 1: NASA FIRMS map for July 24, 2024 (0830)

TIMELINE

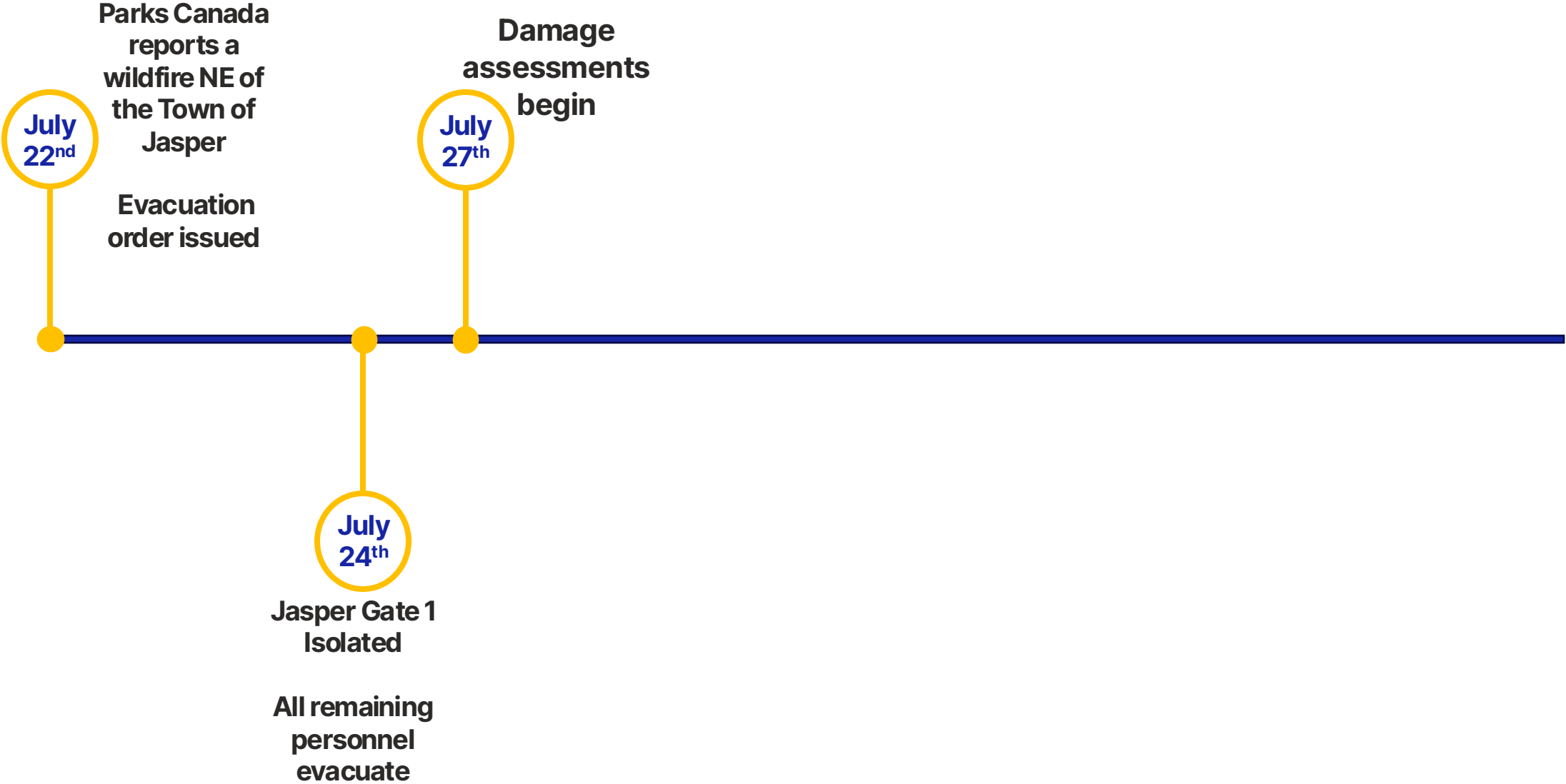








TIMELINE



Damage Assessment

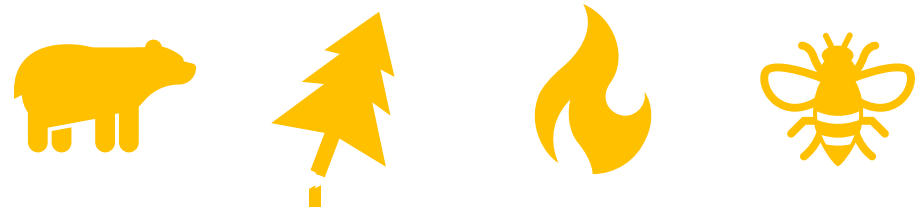
July 27th Fires in townsite are mostly extinguished

ATCO begins coordinating with unified command to perform Damage Assessments

Damage Assessments performed by teams of ATCO Gas & Electric reps, a safety officer, and a public health officer



Also checking to make sure isolation valves are operable, back valving services, and noting safety concerns

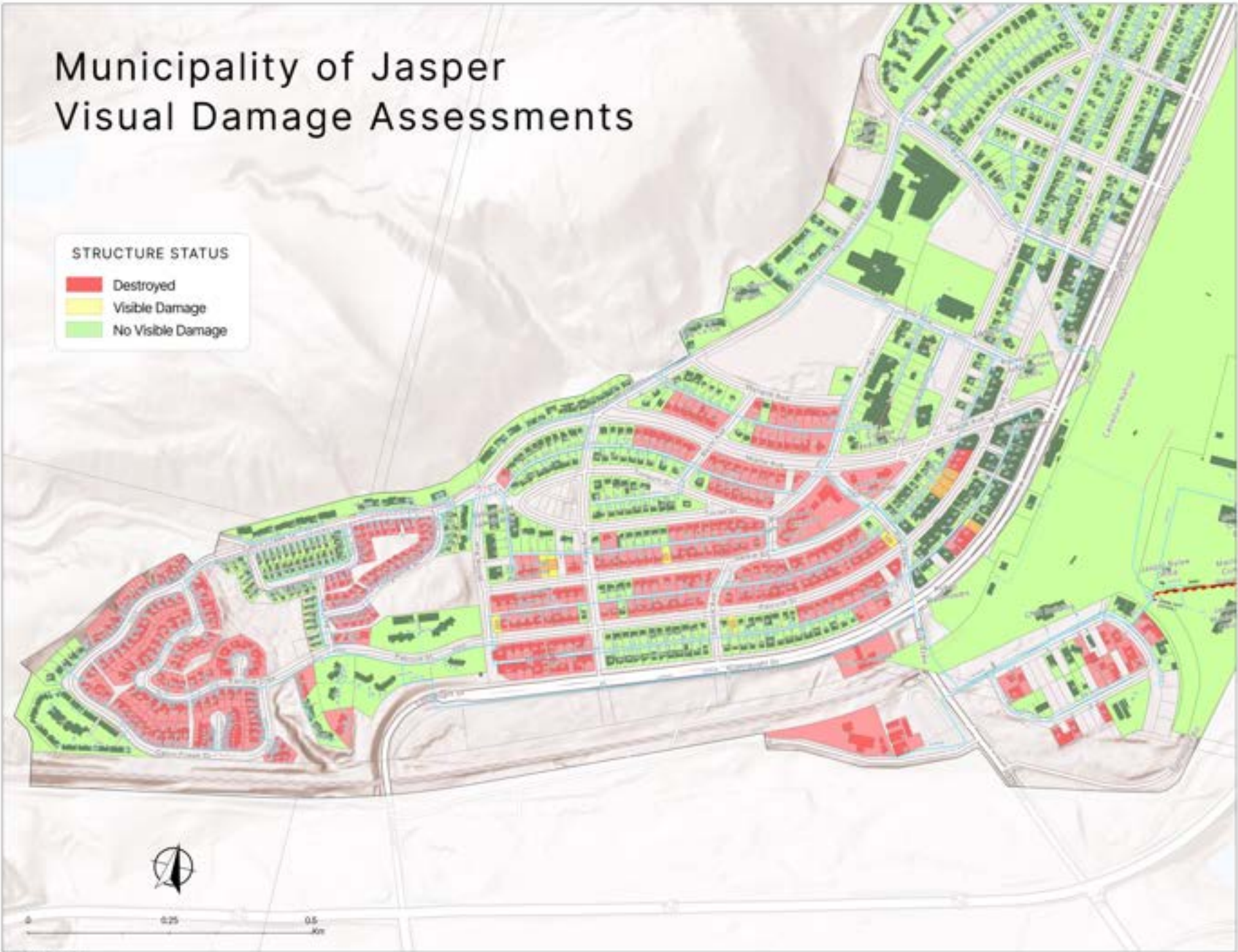








Municipality of Jasper Visual Damage Assessments





Re-Energization Planning

With completed damage assessment map, re-energization planning can be completed



Based on damage assessment, energization phases are created.

Goal is to quickly re-energize portion of town with limited damage, and further analyze portion of town that was more impacted

Unified Command provided a list of ~40 critical infrastructure/ essential customers



Includes: grocery stores, hotels, gas stations, pharmacies, banks, hospital, other institutional buildings

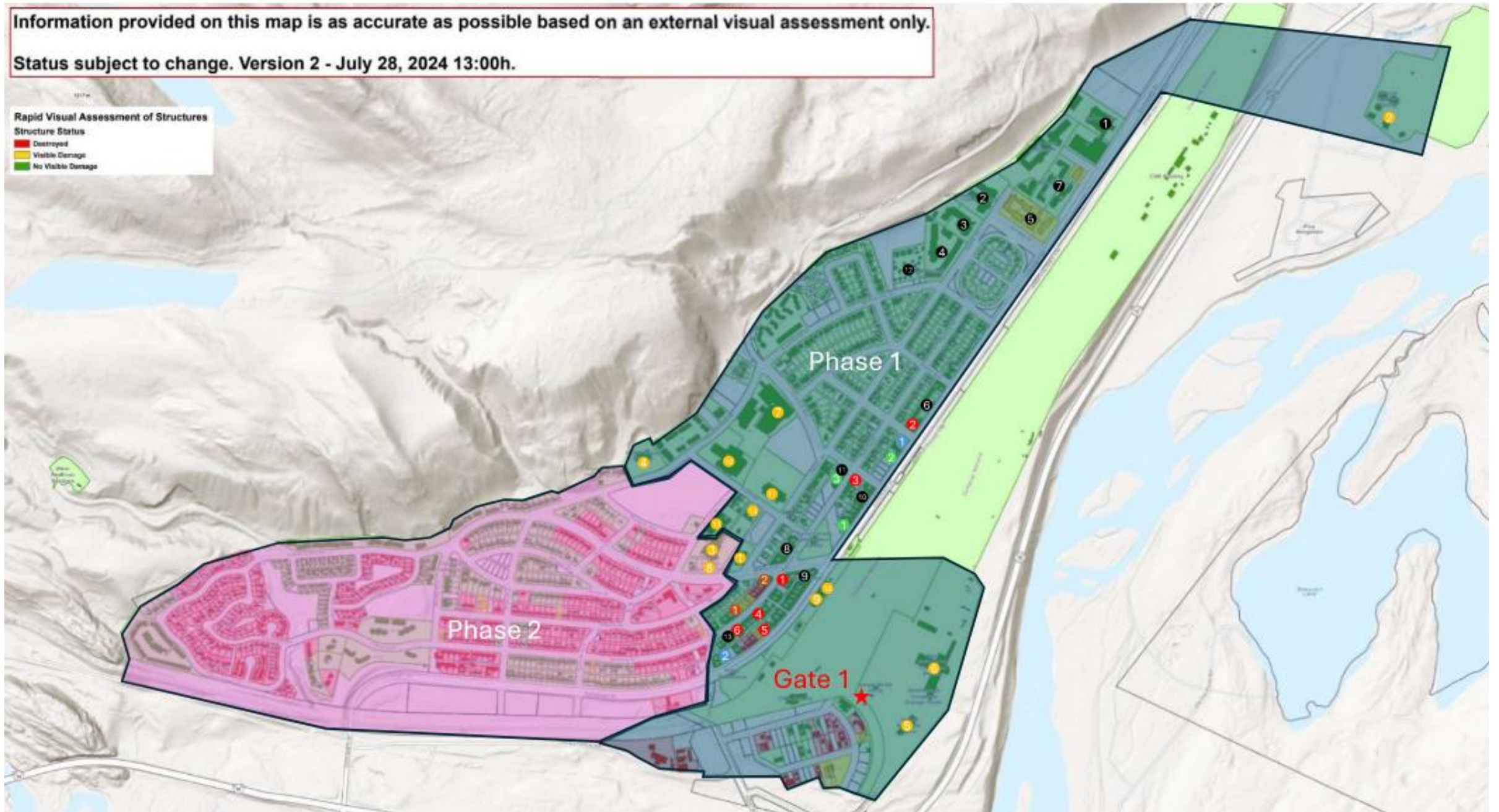
Critical buildings that need gas immediately are supported via CNG trailers until gas system can be re-energized



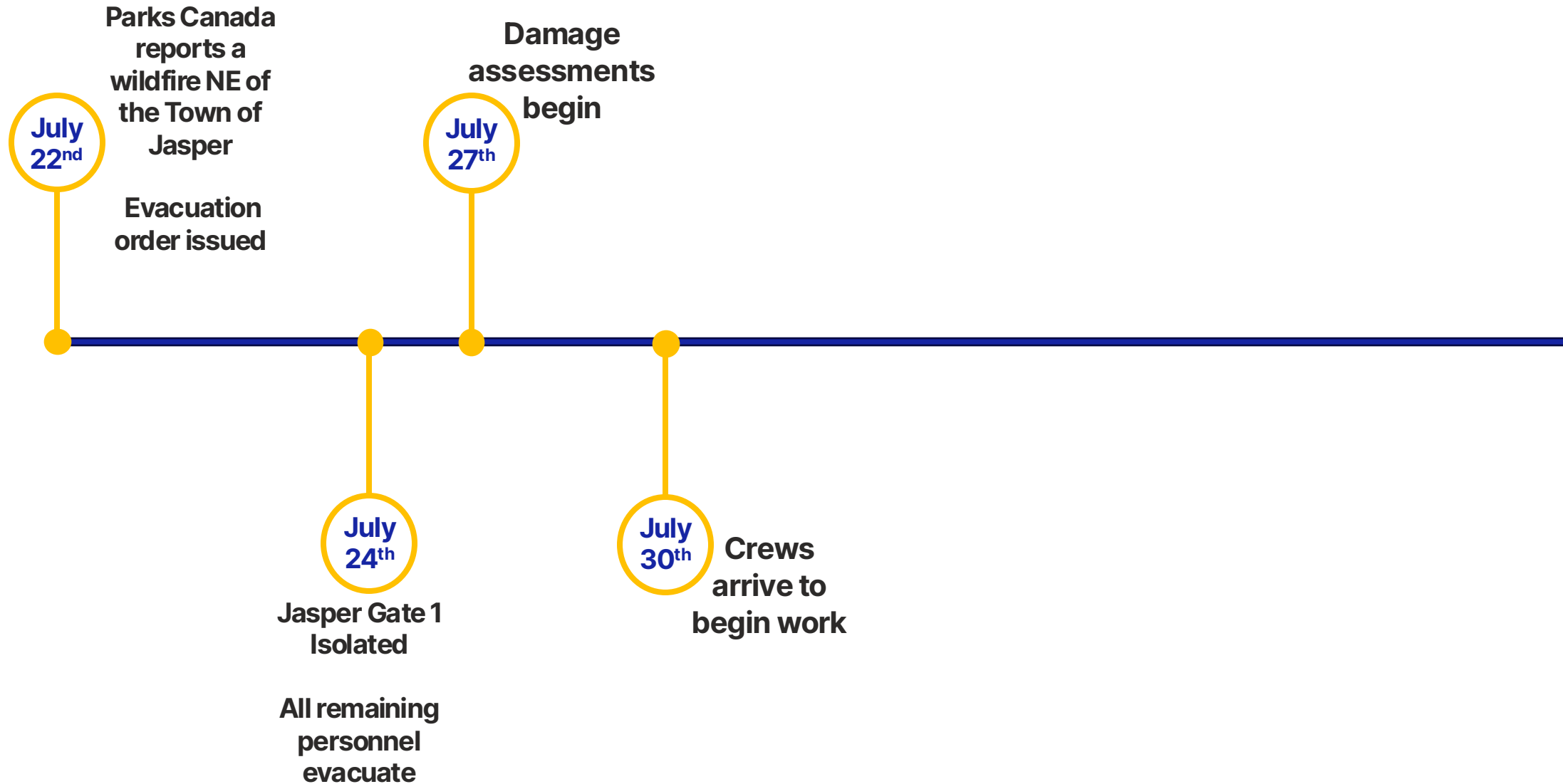
Information provided on this map is as accurate as possible based on an external visual assessment only.

Status subject to change. Version 2 - July 28, 2024 13:00h.

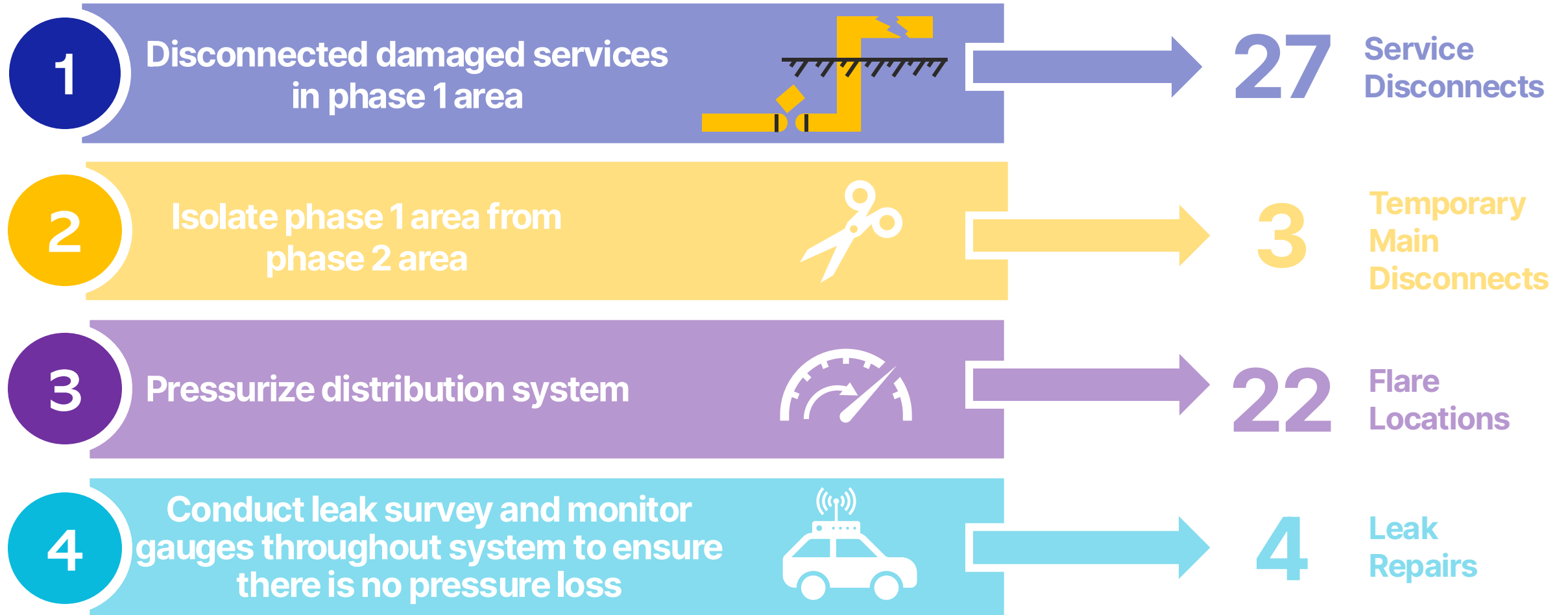
Rapid Visual Assessment of Structures
Structure Status
Destroyed
Visible Damage
No Visible Damage



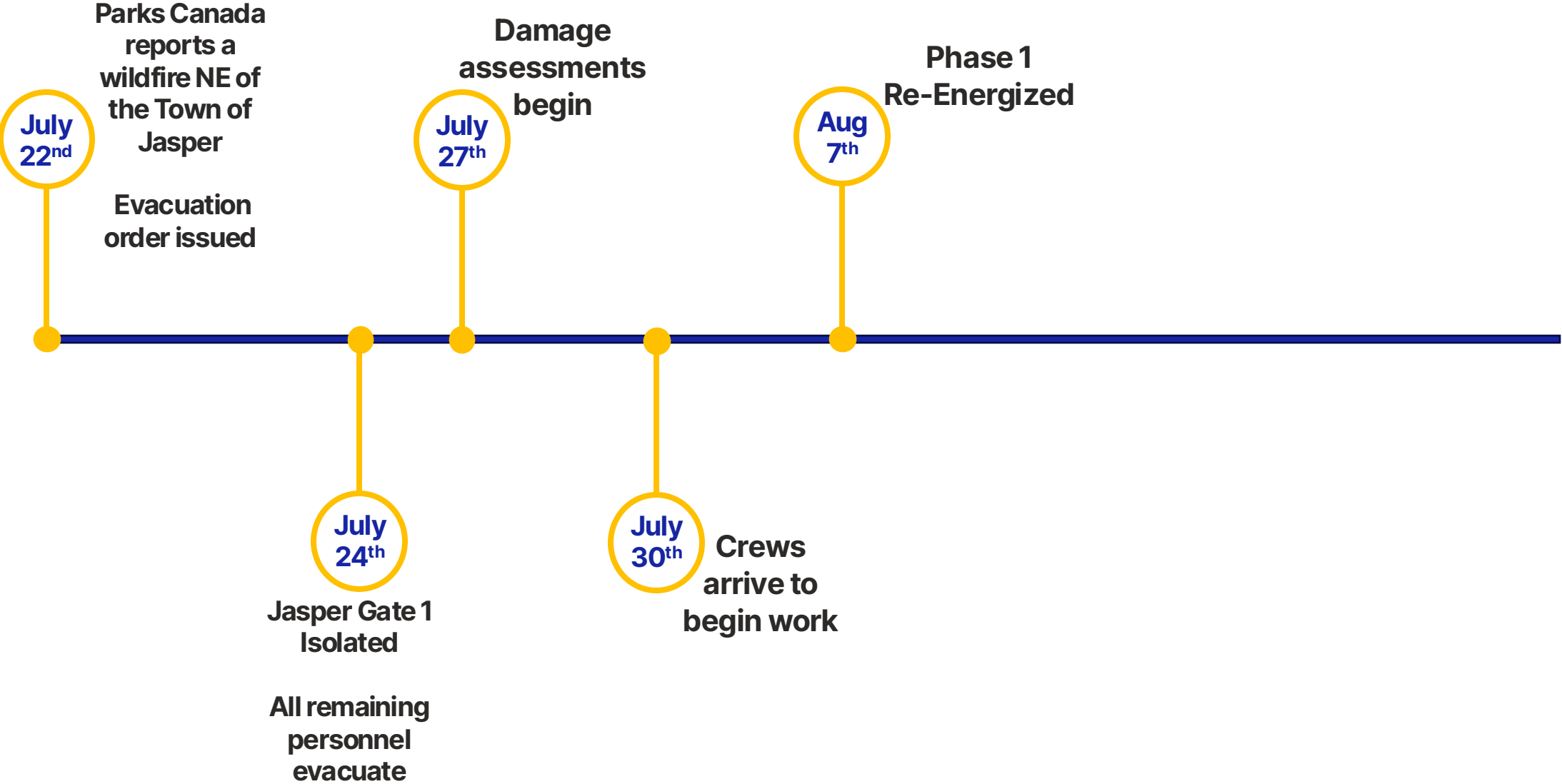
TIMELINE



Re-Energization: Phase 1



TIMELINE



Re-Energization Planning: Phase 2

For Phase 2 Planning, we have additional concerns

Water in the Pipes



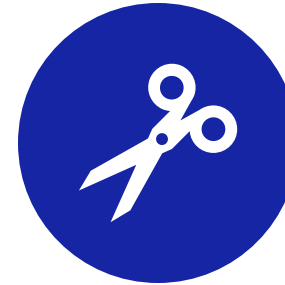
With the extent of damage and fire fighting that occurred in the area, water is a concern

Reconnecting to Source



The Phase 2 area was disconnected, and now needs to be reconnected

Service Disconnects



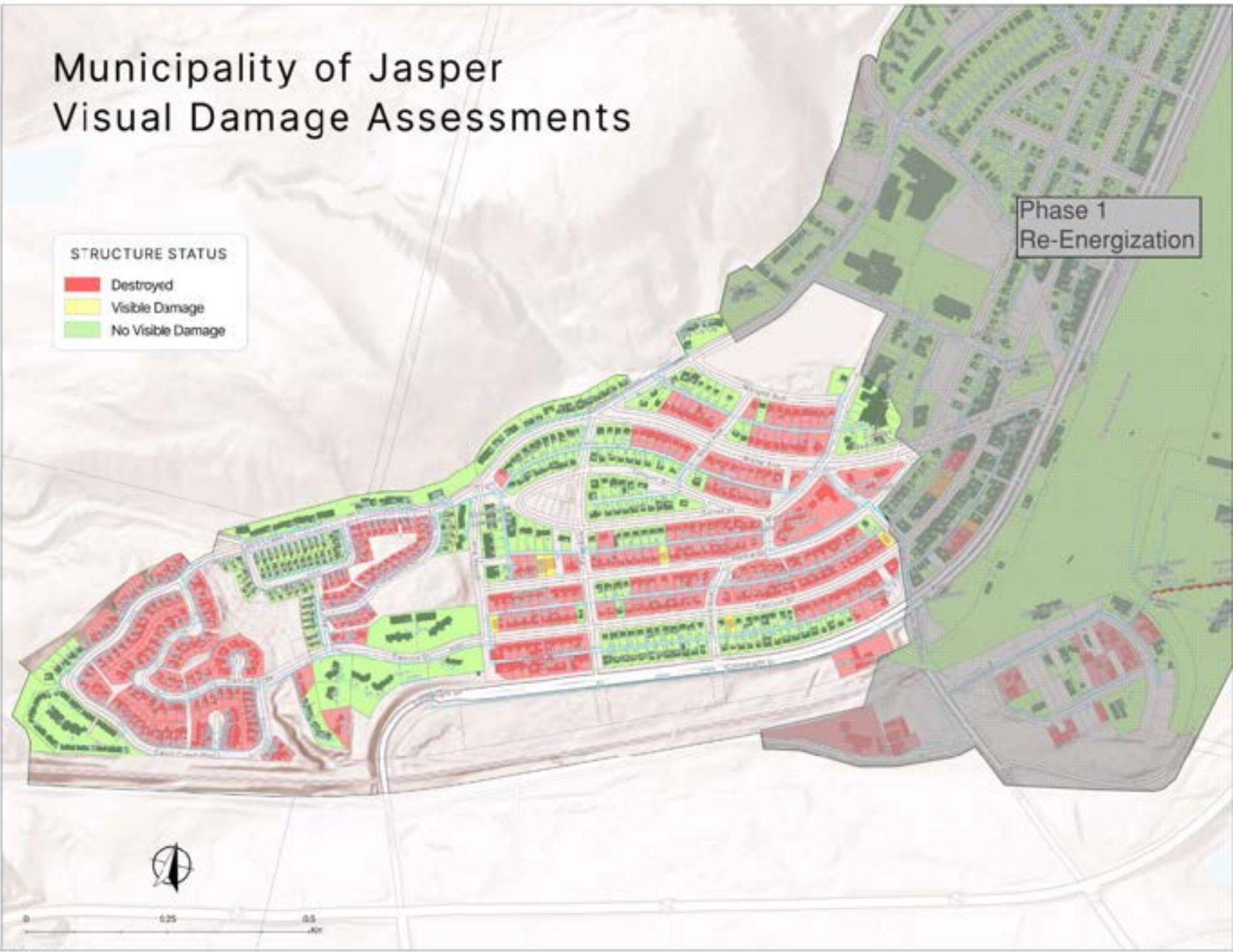
The number of destroyed or damaged houses in phase 2 is much larger than phase 1

Future Planning

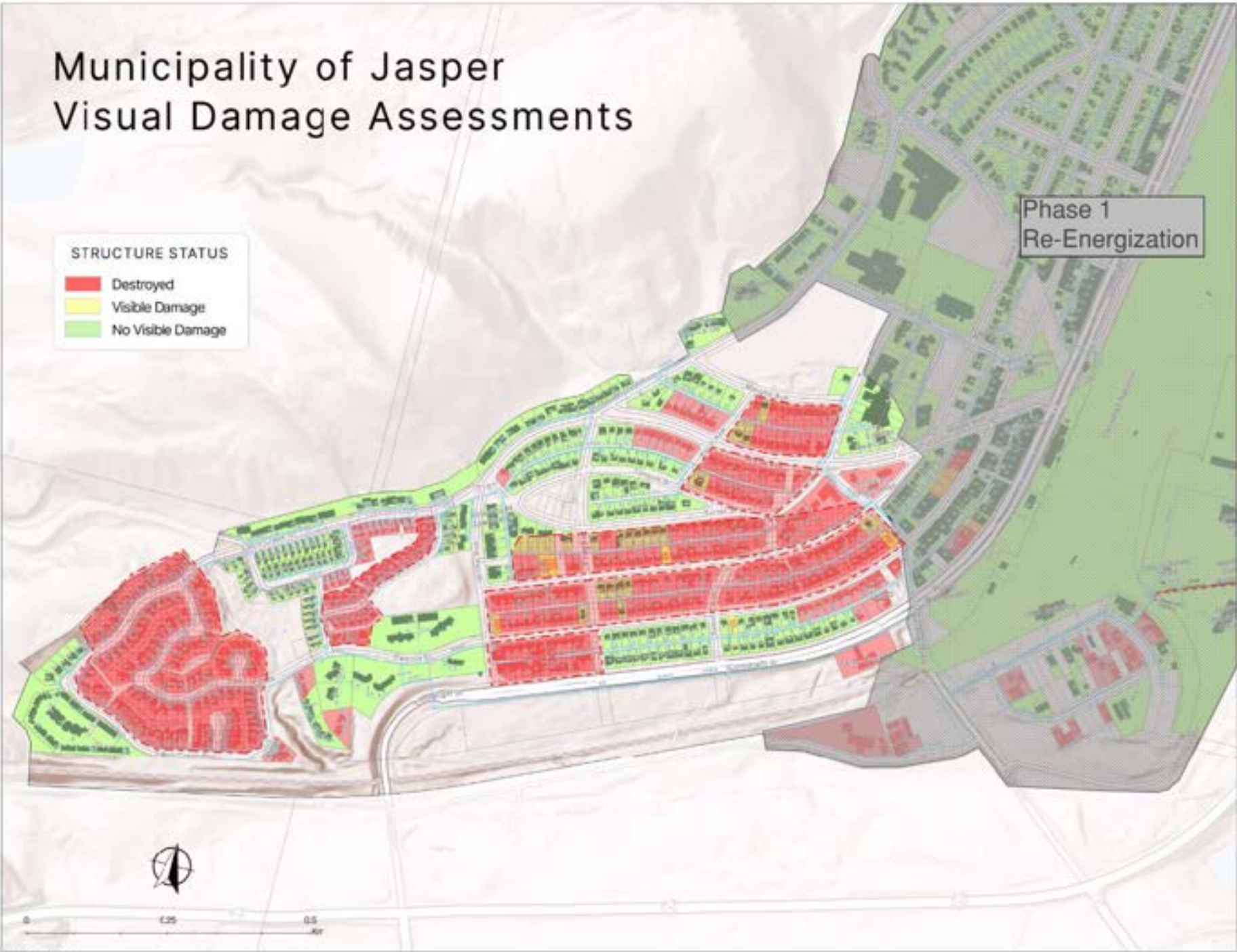


With re-entry approaching we begin considering the long-term plans for the Jasper system

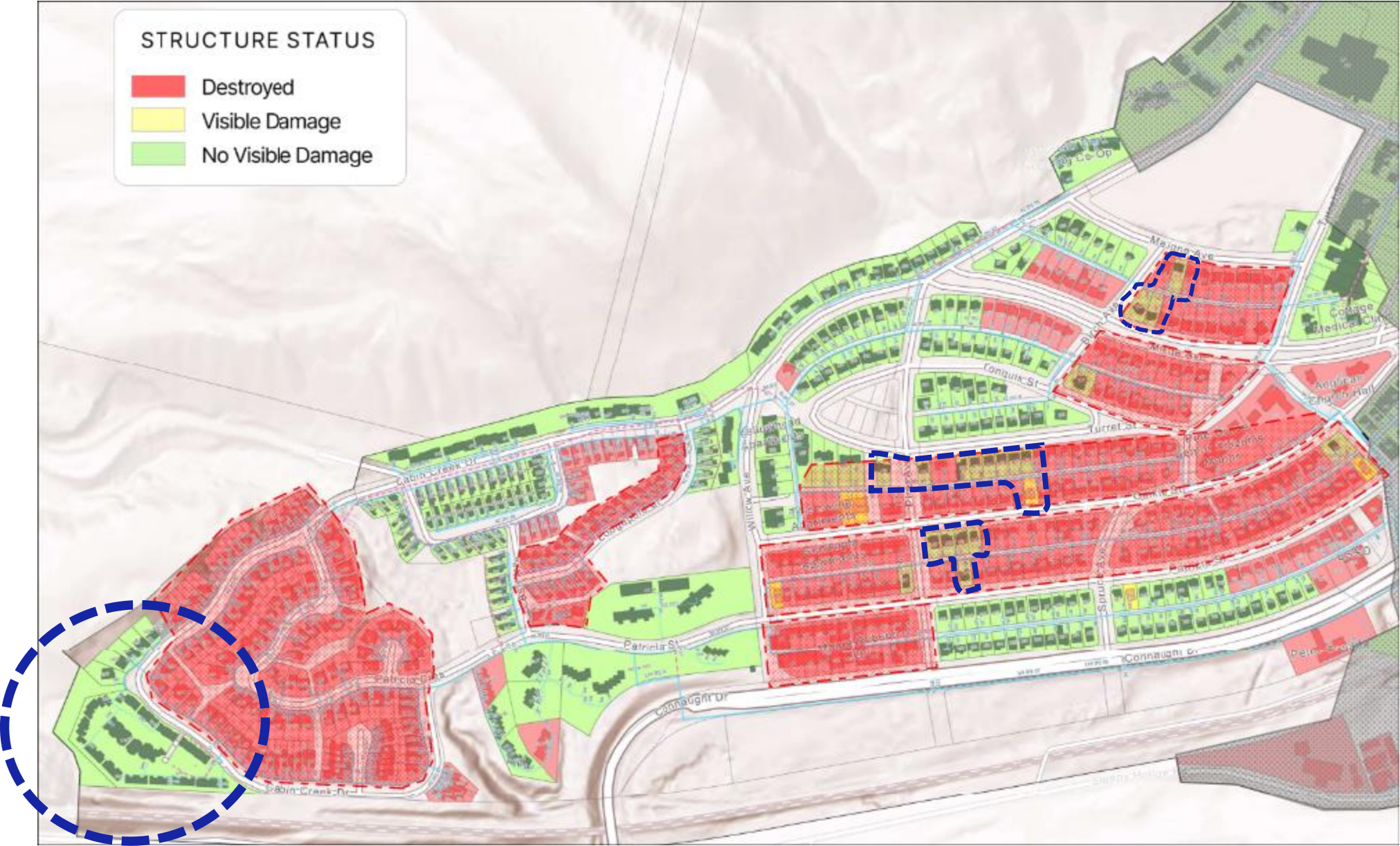
Municipality of Jasper Visual Damage Assessments



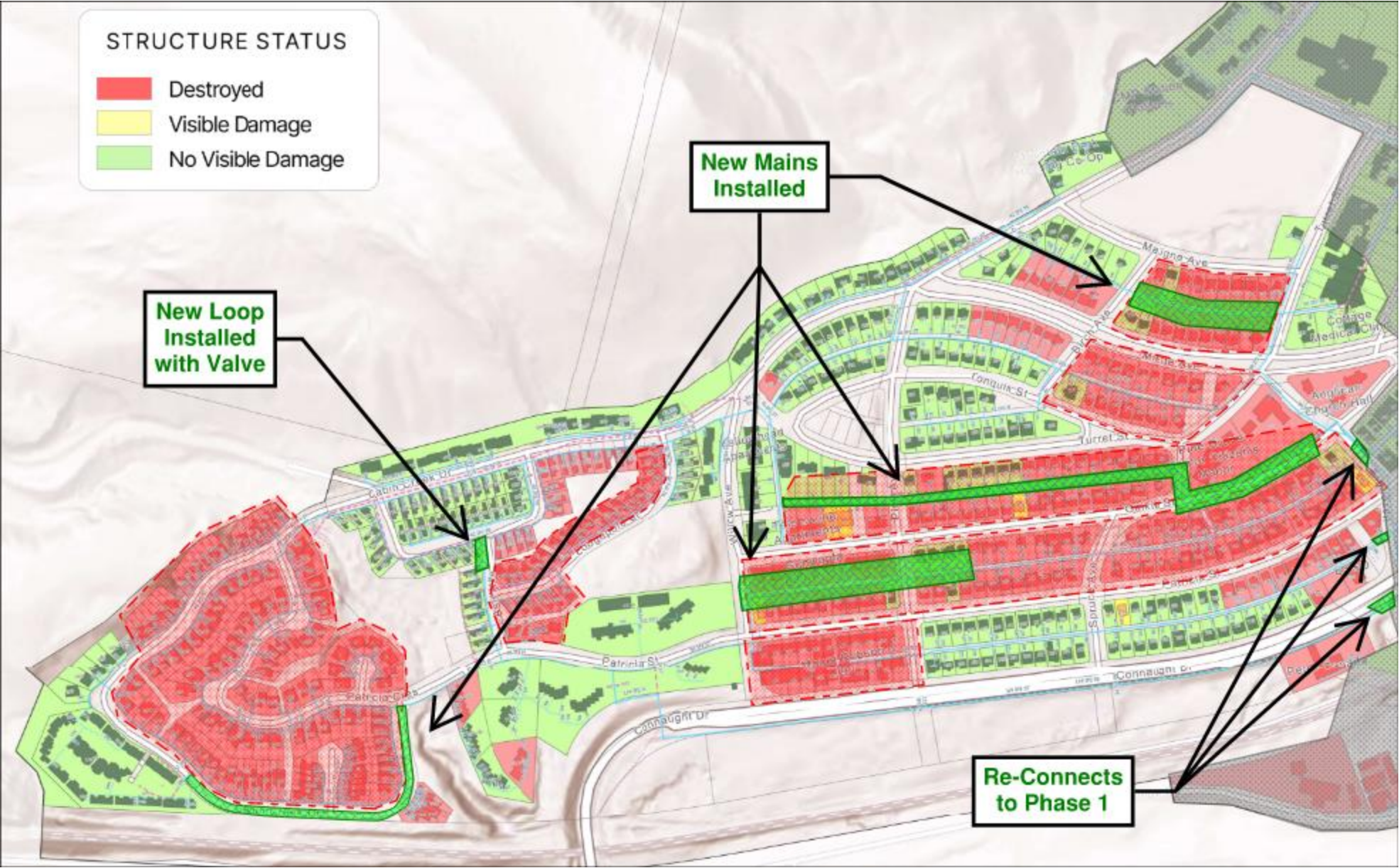
Municipality of Jasper Visual Damage Assessments



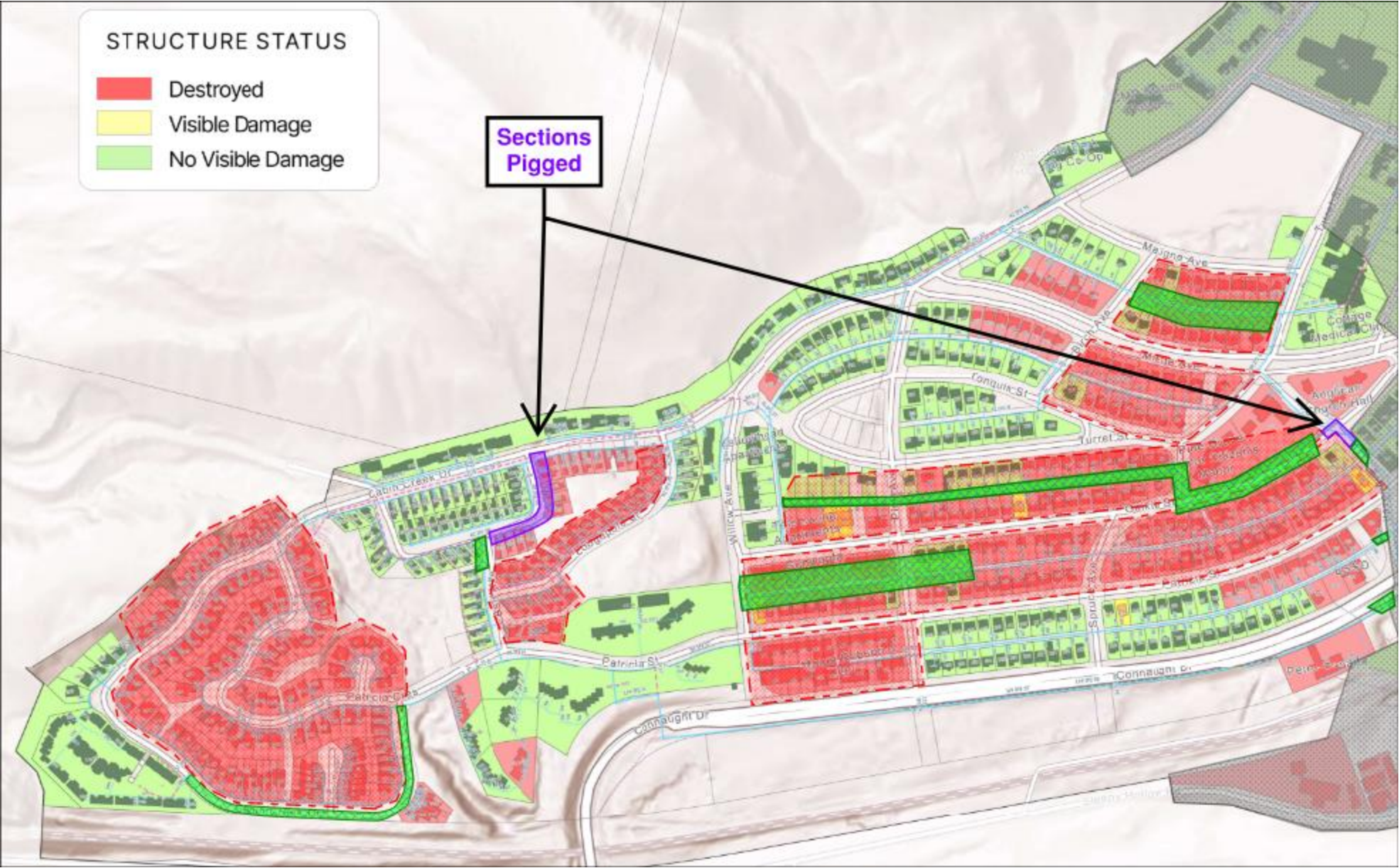
RE-ENERGIZATION



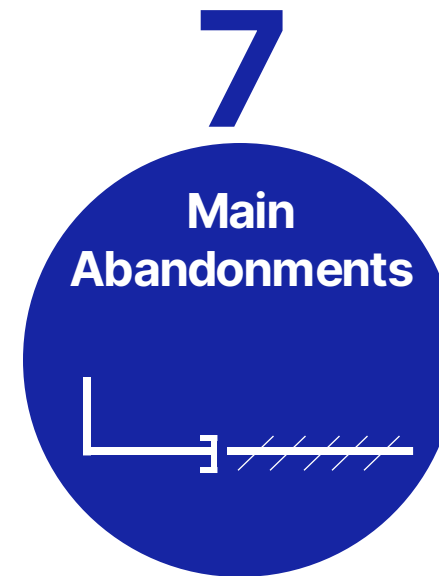
RE-ENERGIZATION



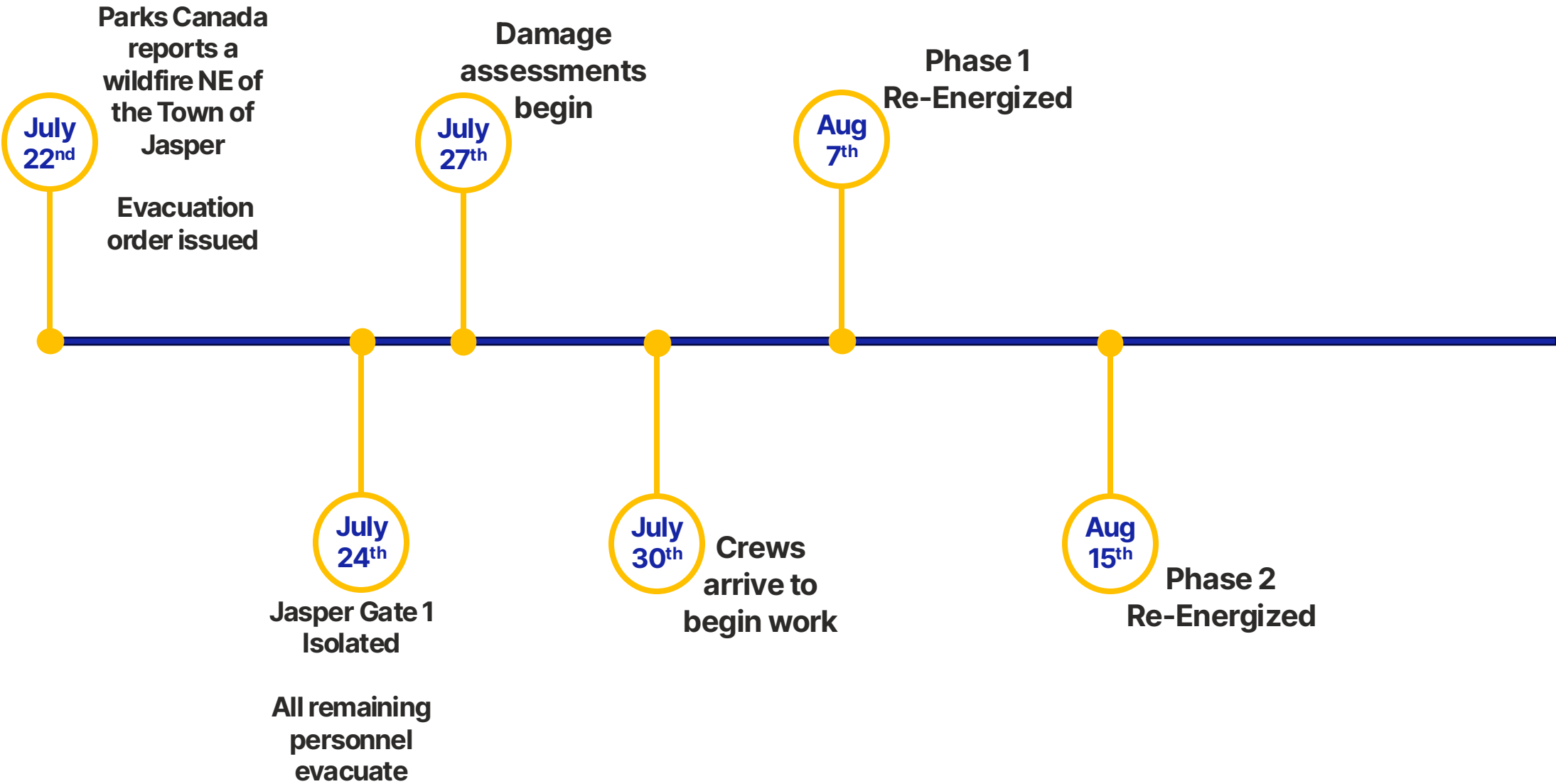
RE-ENERGIZATION



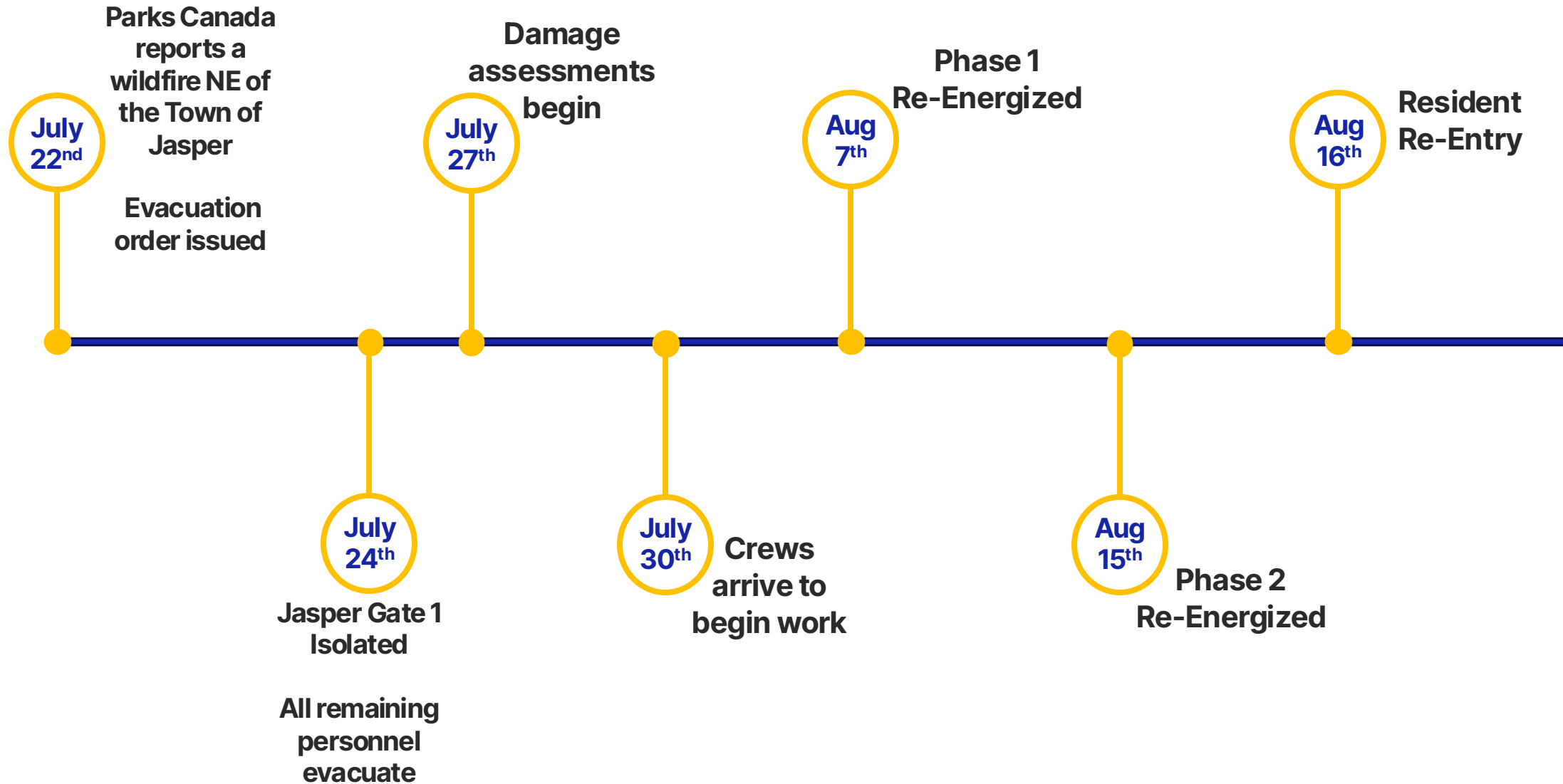
Re-Energization: Phase 2



TIMELINE




TIMELINE





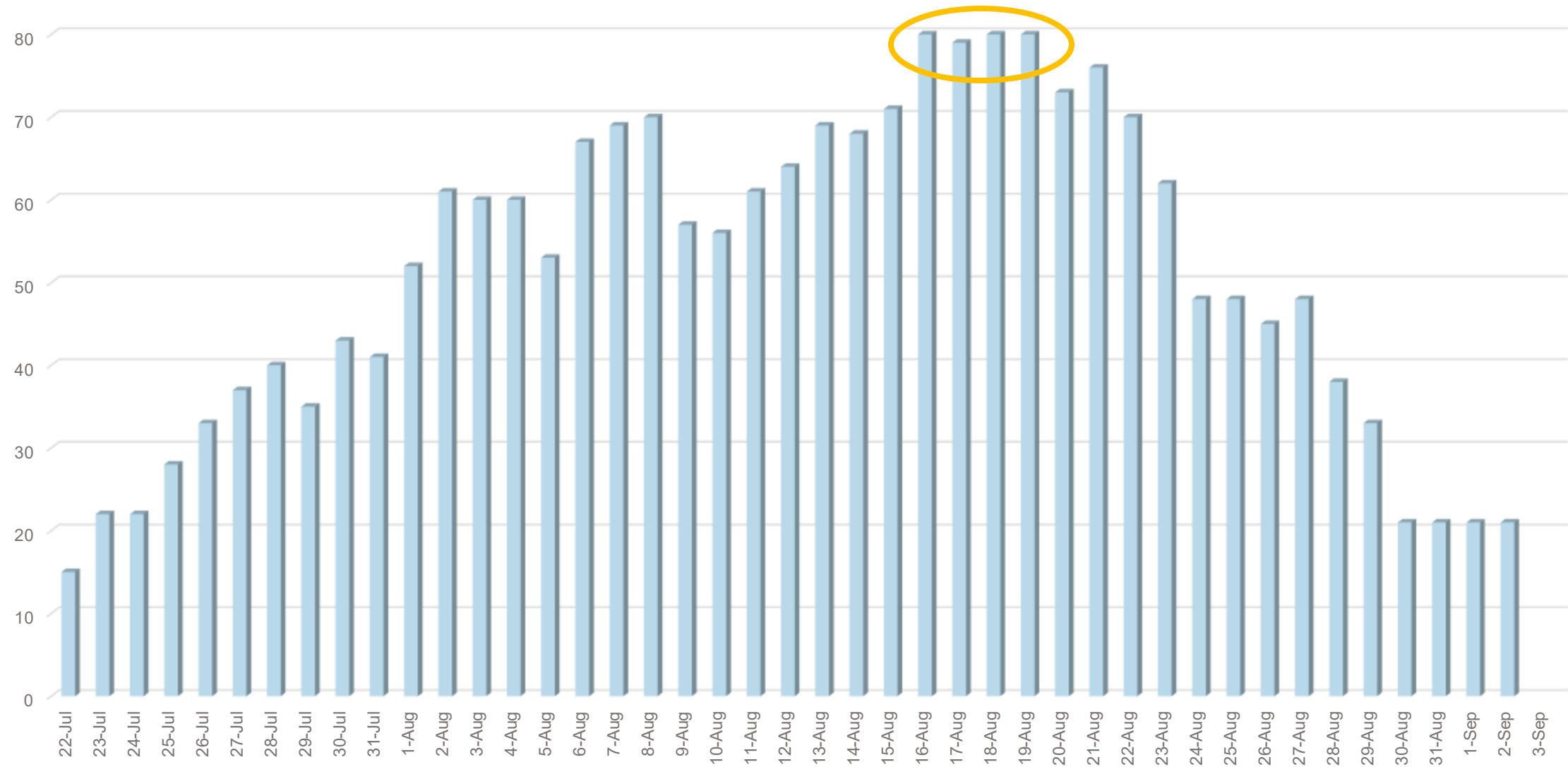
By the Numbers



BY THE NUMBERS

IMT Active – 43 days

Number of People Working on IMT



BY THE NUMBERS

Safety

Total Hazard ID / Near Miss Submissions - 18

0 Safety
Incidents



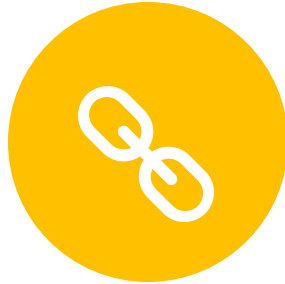
Changes Made As a Result of What We Learned

IMT Rotation



5 IMTs are now in place at ATCO, the teams have a rotating schedule from May to October

Supply Chain and Logistics



This is a heavy lift during prolonged incidents. In the future we will have a dedicated logistics person onsite

Develop Role Sharing Protocols



General Email inbox and phone # for Liaisons

Onsite Amenities and Tools



Develop a tool crib for emergency sites. Have washroom facilities deployed early to evacuation zones

Key Points

- Be Present
- Learn from unique and complex situations
- Teamwork



ATCO Energy Systems

Thank you

