

What's going on for Vandy HEP at CERN?

A brief update on what we are (not?) doing.

What I expected this year to contain

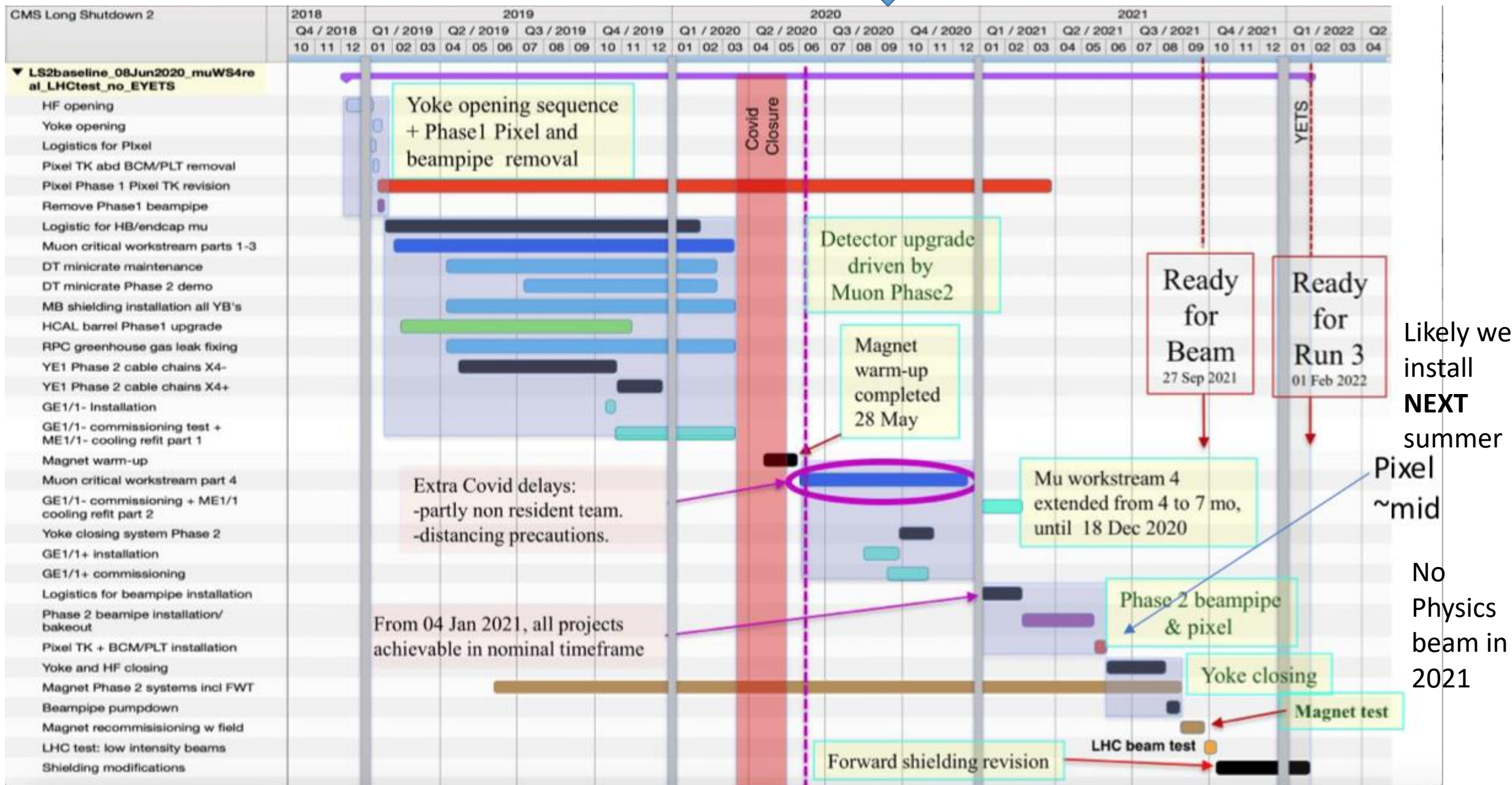
- Finishing of repairs and installation of the Pixel Detectors
 - As usual, going to CERN this summer and work with Dr. Klaas Padeken on repairs and commissioning followed by some temperature calibrations by Brenda Fabela Enriquez and installation in December
- Repair and refurbishment of the Pixel Luminosity Telescope
 - Most of the effort here done by Dr. Francesco Romeo and Brandon Soubasis
 - Making some wholly new detector elements and improving the data acquisition (DAQ)
- Some trips back and forth since the start of the upgrade construction project for the High Luminosity LHC (Phase 2) was starting April 1

The reality with COVID

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The current reality and plan

- Finishing of repairs and installation of the Pixel Detectors
 - Soonest we can do this is in September, may not happen in 2020, not clear I will be allowed to travel due to classes, now installation sometime in 2021
- Repair and refurbishment of the Pixel Luminosity Telescope
 - This can continue since our critical guys are at CERN already, but can't install until after pixel does
- It is clear that the planning for the upgrade construction project will need some revamping. We are continuing as best we can now, but we have encountered something called a *force majeure*, an unforeseen event causing us to be unable to follow our plan. This is a risk on a large project that is usually borne by the funding agency, in our case NSF.
 - Vandy is taking on some extra Circuit board work with the help of Dale Julson