

July 8, 2004

Medicine Hat road to receive \$7 million in improvements

Medicine Hat... A busy Medicine Hat road, 10th Avenue S.W., will see almost \$7 million in improvements to reduce congestion and improve safety thanks to a partnership among the Province, municipalities and local developers.

"Alberta's cities face many transportation pressures because of the province's rapid growth," said Ed Stelmach, Minister of Transportation. "This funding partnership, which encourages private sector involvement, means that larger projects can be undertaken - projects which may have not been otherwise possible."

Improvements to 10th Avenue S.W., from 30th Street S.W. to Gershaw Drive S.W., (Highway 3) include:

- rebuilding the road
- constructing an additional lane (two driving lanes and one two-way turning lane)
- adding turning lanes at key intersections
- constructing a pedestrian sidewalk.

Work is expected to begin in July and be completed by July 2005 and will be administered by the City of Medicine Hat.

"The south-west quadrant of Medicine Hat serves a lot of industrial and commercial traffic," said Lorne Taylor, MLA for Cypress-Medicine Hat. "The improvements will help truck traffic get in and out of the area quicker and will cause less delays for passenger vehicles that use this route."

The Province is providing \$3 million under the Cities Special Transportation Grant program for the 10th Avenue S.W. project. Local developers are providing \$36,000 and the City of Medicine Hat is allocating funds from other cost-shared provincial transportation grants to complete the project.

Cities Special Transportation Grants are part of a cost-shared with Alberta Transportation providing up to 75 per cent for eligible projects (to a maximum of \$3 million) and the city picking up the remaining 25 per cent. The grants are available to Alberta cities, other than Edmonton and Calgary, to address road, transit or airport growth. Edmonton and Calgary have their own grant program based on five cents per litre of "road use" fuel sold in those cities.

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Send us your comments or questions

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