

June 29, 2005

Provincial partnership fuels cities' transportation projects

Edmonton, Calgary together receive \$175 million based on fuel sales

Edmonton... Alberta's two largest cities have received the first installment of this year's provincial fuel sale-based grants for transportation-related projects.

Calgary received \$30 million this month of the \$95 million it can expect in 2005-06 under the City Transportation Fund. Edmonton received \$25 million of its total grant amount of \$80 million. The amounts are based on five cents per litre of road fuel sold within each city's limits. The cities may invest the funds in transportation-related capital projects such as road and bridge construction, light rail transit (LRT) track and station construction, and purchasing LRT cars and transit buses.

"Our two largest cities are facing growth pressures due to the tremendous economic opportunities in Alberta," said Dr. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation. "Both Edmonton and Calgary have significant transportation infrastructure needs that this partnership helps fulfill."

Major projects in Calgary assisted by partnership funds include: further expanding the C-Train system to northeast Calgary; widening 16 Avenue N to six lanes; Glenmore Trail/Elbow Drive/5 Street W interchange construction; and widening Beddington Trail from Stoney Trail to Deerfoot Trail.

Major projects in Edmonton assisted by partnership funds include: Yellowhead Trail/156 Street interchange construction; south LRT extension; Yellowhead Trail/184 Street interchange construction; extending Whitemud Drive from Anthony Henday Drive to 215 Street.

The City Transportation Fund is part of the Alberta Cities Transportation Partnership, which began in 2000 on the recommendation of the Premier's Task Force on Infrastructure. The partnership provides stable, predictable funding to Edmonton and Calgary and invests fuel sale proceeds directly back into transportation infrastructure. During the past five years, the partnership has provided over \$800 million to the two cities.

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