

October 10, 2003

More lanes open to traffic on Highway 43

Mayerthorpe...A 15 kilometre stretch of Highway 43 from east of Green Court to Cottonwood Corner (Highway 658) now has four lanes and is open to traffic.

"This is a great day for motorists," said George VanderBurg, MLA for Whitecourt-Ste. Anne.

"The additional lanes make Highway 43 more safe and efficient. Those who use this route regularly are now looking forward to seeing construction start on the next phase of this project."

The project, which cost approximately \$16 million, got underway in August 2001, and was open to traffic on October 6, 2003. EBA Engineering was the engineering consultant for the project and Carmacks Enterprises and Thompson Bros. Construction were responsible for construction.

The next sections of Highway 43 to be four-laned include a 13 kilometre stretch from Glenevis to west of Cherhill and 18 kilometres from Green Court to Sangudo. Tenders for this work will be awarded this fall and construction is expected to get underway in spring 2004.

Highway 43 is an important route for shippers and receivers and is a significant part of the North-South Trade Corridor, which stretches from the Alberta-Montana border at Coutts to the Alberta-B.C. border west of Grande Prairie.

Approximately 6,000 vehicles per day, of which 20 per cent are trucks, travel Highway 43 between Green Court and Cottonwood Corner.

With the opening of this section of highway, approximately 115 kilometres of Highway 43 remain to be twinned between Grande Prairie and Edmonton.

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