

January 28, 2010

Canada and Alberta announce 33 new infrastructure projects

Stimulus funding will create jobs, stimulate regional economy

Calgary... Rob Merrifield, Minister of State (Transport), and Luke Ouellette, Minister of Alberta Transportation, announced funding for 33 new infrastructure projects across Alberta. These projects will benefit from over \$144 million in joint federal-provincial funding under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, part of Canada's Economic Action Plan.

Projects receiving funding will improve local roads, highways and bridges across Alberta. As a result of these joint federal-provincial infrastructure initiatives, residents and travellers will enjoy better traffic flow and benefit from improvements to road safety for years to come.

"This investment is an example of action that our Government is taking to create jobs for Albertans, while building strong and safe roads, highways and bridges that will ease traffic congestion and increase travelers' safety," said Minister Merrifield. "As we enter the second phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan, our priority will be to continue its rapid implementation with projects such as this. At the same time, we will also look ahead at future challenges, which include restoring balanced budgets once our economy is fully recovered and building a strong foundation for our economic future."

"Continuing to invest in infrastructure is one of the Alberta government's priorities, and this funding for highways will boost Alberta's economy, create jobs and benefit communities," said Minister Ouellette. "The projects will enhance the quality of life of Albertans and help ensure the province is ready for prosperity when economic growth returns. Alberta is pleased to continue to work in co-operation with the federal government on this and other shared funding programs."

This announcement represents a contribution of over \$72 million from the Government of Canada through the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, and over \$72 million from the Government of Alberta.

The federal contribution to the projects comes from the \$4-billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, which provides funding to provincial, territorial and municipal construction-ready infrastructure projects that can be completed by March 31, 2011.

Continuing to invest in public infrastructure is a key part of the Government of Alberta's plan for a strong economic recovery. The Way Forward will bring Alberta back into a surplus position in three years by trimming government spending; using cash reserves to protect key programs; and ensuring that Alberta's industries are competitive and continue to attract investment to provide jobs and prosperity.

To learn more about Canada's Economic Action Plan, visit www.actionplan.gc.ca.

Media inquiries may be directed to:

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This news release is available online at: www.actionplan.gc.ca

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Infrastructure stimulus fund investments in Alberta

Through Canada's Economic Action Plan, the federal government has established a \$4 billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund (ISF) that provides funding to provincial, territorial and municipal construction-ready infrastructure projects.

The total cost of the highway improvements is estimated at \$144 million for 33 infrastructure projects across the province. The investment is a contribution of \$72 million from the Government of Canada through the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, and \$72 million from the province of Alberta.

Including this funding being announced today, the Government of Canada's commitment for projects to be funded through the ISF in Alberta totals almost \$419 million. The latest projects to be funded under the ISF will see major improvements to highways throughout the province, including:

West of Tofield

- Constructing 5.7 km of passing lanes (4 locations) on Highway 14:06, west of Tofield

Loon River - North of 23rd Baseline

- Upgrading a 20.6 km section of currently graveled provincial Highway 88:08 to first stage pavement.

Bear River - South of Fort Vermilion

- 16.9 km of final asphalt pavement on Highway 88 - Bear River to S of Fort Vermilion

West of Milo to Milo

- Grade widening and pavement overlay of 9.1 km of Highway 542:02

Bridge (File 75305) on Highway 36 over Amisk River near Kikino.

- Rehabilitation to the concrete deck overlay and partial curb and pier repairs

Bridge (File 71316) on Highway 892 over Beaver River near Ardmore.

- Rehabilitation to the concrete deck overlay and partial curb and pier repairs

South of Highway 53 to Highway 53

- Constructing 6.5 km of climbing/passing lanes (3 locations) on Highway 22:24.

North of Highway 16 to South of Berland River

- Construction of 11.2 km of climbing lanes (four locations) on Highway 40:30.

Pillsworth Road (Range Rd 115) - Grading, Bridge Culvert

(The municipality of Saddle Hills is also a funding partner)

- Reconstruction of 13 km of roadway from Hwy 681 southerly.

Westview Crescent Loop Infrastructure Replacement (Town of Bowden)

(The Town of Bowden is also a funding partner)

- Full replacement of all underground infrastructure (from Cast Iron & Clay Pipe to PVC Piping) on Westview Crescent Loop which includes 18 Avenue, 23 Street, Howard Crescent, and 21 Street.

Highway 1

- Bridge rehabilitation over 1) east bound lanes and
- 2) west bound lanes of Gershaw Drive Interchange in Medicine Hat

Highway 2

- Deerfoot Trail: Ivor Strong Bridge to South of 17 avenue (North and South Bound lanes)

Highway 9

- 2 km of pavement overlay on Highway 9 - S of Highway 10 to Highway 10 (Northbound lanes and Southbound lanes)

Highway 12

- Concrete overlay on overpass on Highway 12 at Alix

Highway 21

- Replacement of asphalt concrete pavement and deck membrane repairs on Battle River bridge near Ervick

Highway 22

- Full Depth Reclamation and Overlay on Highway 22:24 - Highway 11 to Highway 53

Highway 41

- Concrete deck overlay on the North Saskatchewan River Bridge on Highway 41, 4 km South of Elk Point

Highway 43

- 41.3 km of pavement overlay on Highway 43 - North of Town of Fox Creek to East of Highway 947 (West Bound Lane selective)

Highway 58

- Highway improvements for approximately 15 km, from south of Negus River to West of High Level

Highway 62

- Pavement rehabilitation will restore pavement serviceability by improving ride quality and providing new water-proof surface (North of US Border - South of Jensen Reservoir)

Highway 88

- 16 - South of Tall Cree Indian Reserve to South of Jackpine Creek
- 16 - South of Jackpine Creek to Bear River

Highway 575

- 18.8 km of pavement overlay on Highway 575 - East of Highway 836 to Town of Drumheller

Highway 581

- Highway improvements east of Highway 2 - Highway 791

Highway 616

- Highway improvements from County Boundary to Highway 21.

Highway 661

- 10 km of pavement overlay on Highway 661 - West of Highway 63 to Highway 831

Highway 682

- Asphalt deck replacement on Hines Creek Bridge on Highway 682, 18 km west of Fairview

Highway 831

- 7.9 km of pavement overlay on Highway 831 - South of Waskatenau to Waskatenau

Highway 836

- Highway improvements from Highway 575 to Highway 27

Highway 837

- Highway improvements from Highway 575 to Highway 838

Highway 855

- 16.4 km of pavement overlay on Highway 855 - Highway 28 to North of Town of Smoky Lake

Highway 879

- Maintenance (includes Bearing Repairs, Deck Joints) on South Saskatchewan River Bridge On Highway 879, 8 km northwest Of Bow Island

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