

March 2, 2011

Final northeast leg of Anthony Henday moves forward

Government issues Request for Qualifications for major P3 project

Edmonton... The Alberta government is moving forward on the final leg of Edmonton's ring road - Anthony Henday Drive Northeast, finalizing a key piece of transportation infrastructure for the Capital region.

"The vision to build the Edmonton Ring Road began more than 40 years ago," said Premier Ed Stelmach. "We committed to finishing this very important piece of highway infrastructure, and that's exactly what we're doing. This is about making the strategic infrastructure investments now that will support this region and this province's growth into the future."

Government will use its public-private partnership (P3) model to build this segment of Anthony Henday Drive from Manning Drive to Whitemud Drive (east). A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) has been issued - the model's first step. The RFQ process takes approximately three months.

"Investing in our provincial highway network supports thousands of jobs today, lays the foundation for future economic growth, and supports our communities," said Luke Ouellette, Minister of Transportation. "This final leg of the Edmonton ring road will be Alberta's single largest highway construction project to date. It is a key part of our province's world-class transportation network as we continue to invest to support the safe and efficient movement of people and goods."

The project involves 27 kilometres of six- and eight-lane divided roadway, eight interchanges, nine flyovers, two river structures, and 47 total bridge structures. Using the P3 process, the road will be finished three years earlier than through conventional delivery.

The successful P3 contractor would be responsible for the project's design, construction, financing, and operation for 30 years. The successful contractor would start construction in summer 2012 and finish by fall 2016. To ensure a fair, competitive bidding process, government will not release cost estimates until proposals are received. Visit www.transportation.alberta.ca/1701.htm for more information on the Edmonton ring road.

The Alberta government is working to build a better Alberta by fostering economic growth, strengthening our health and education systems, investing in infrastructure, supporting safe and strong communities and ensuring a clean and healthy environment.

Backgrounders: Map and more information on P3s

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Map of Anthony Henday Drive Northeast



Project Feature:

- 27 kilometres of six- and eight-lane divided roadway (9 kilometres of new highway construction and 18 kilometres of highway reconstruction)
- eight interchanges
- nine flyovers
- two river structures
- 47 total bridge structures

Interchanges locations:

- Manning Drive (partly completed with the Northwest Anthony Henday Drive project)
- 153 Avenue
- 130 Avenue
- Highway 16 (Yellowhead Trail)
- Broadmoor Boulevard at Highway 16
- Sherwood Drive at Highway 16
- Baseline Road
- Sherwood Park Freeway/Wye Road
- 17 Street at Sherwood Park Freeway

Flyover locations:

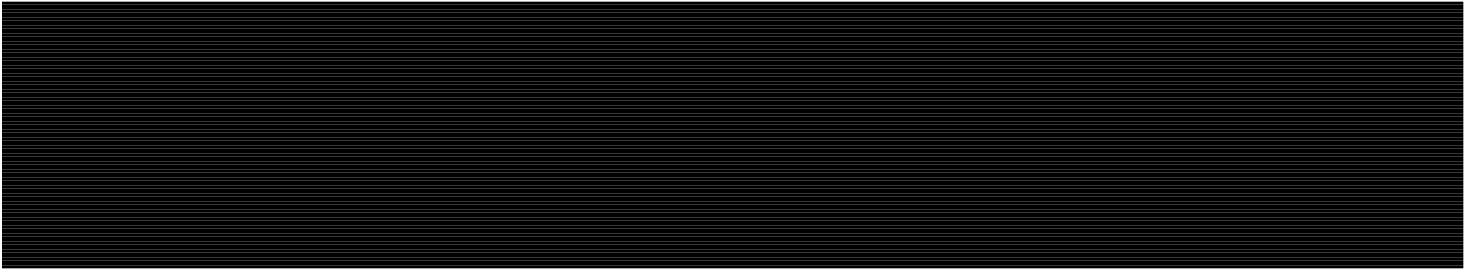
- CNR/CPR Rail Crossings
- Victoria Trail Flyover
- Petroleum Way Flyover

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Alberta's public-private partnerships for highways

Design, Build, Finance, Operate (P3) Process

- Under this process, a private-sector partner is responsible for the design, construction, financing, and operation of a roadway for 30 years. Once the road opens to traffic, government makes monthly payments to the partner over 30 years. Government may advance funds during construction to lower the monthly payments.
- Government is guaranteed a fixed price and delivery date for the road. The private contractor assumes risks such as inflation and weather-related delays. The contractor can be penalized for late delivery.
- Government also receives a 30-year warranty on the work. Under traditional delivery, warranties are usually only one to two years.
- Part of the process includes a comprehensive evaluation of a project's suitability for a P3. P3s are used only when there are clear benefits to government and taxpayers.
- Previous P3 projects have included the southeast and northwest legs of the Edmonton Ring Road and the northeast and southeast legs of the Calgary Ring Road.

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

- The RFQ determines potential partners' qualifications and short-lists potential partners to three proponents. RFQs usually take up to three months to prepare, submit, and review.
- Potential partners may be headquartered or operate in any part of the world.
- Potential partners are usually consortia of engineering, construction, financing, and road maintenance companies.

Request for Proposals (RFP)

- The three potential partners identified by the RFQ are invited to submit proposals for the project. Three bidders are optimal because the competitors have a reasonable chance of success and the process remains competitive should one of the bidders withdraw.
- Preparation, submission, and review of proposals take approximately 11 months.
- Proposals are evaluated to determine if they represent good value. A proposal's net present value, or its value in today's dollars, is used to compare the proposals with each other and with the traditional delivery estimate. If all proposals exceed the upper limit of the traditional delivery estimate, the project does not proceed as a P3.

Final Contract Award

- Government awards the contract to the qualified proposal with the lowest net present value.
- The successful proponent enters into an agreement with government.

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