

BACKGROUND: WEEKLY PROVINCIAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Thursday, July 30, 2009

NEW WORK

Highway 11 twinning between Prince Albert and Saskatoon: Construction began on July 25 on 14 km of new lanes from south of Rosthern to north of Rosthern. Motorists should be aware of blowing dust from this grading work. The cost of this portion of the project is about \$3 million. This construction is in addition to the Highway 11 twinning work listed below under Ongoing Work.

Highway 32 from the junction of Highway 1 northwest: Construction is underway on a 23 km portion of Highway 32 between the junction of Highway 1 and Success. Traffic is reduced to one lane. This work is worth about \$6 million. Work began on July 22. Motorists will be able to drive on a newly paved surface, once work is expected to complete sometime in August.

Highway 106 north of Smeaton: About 9 km of construction work worth about \$3 million is now taking place on Highway 106 from about 19 km north of its junction with Highway 55 at Smeaton to about 29 km north of the junction. Traffic maybe reduced to one lane through the area. Construction began during the week of July 27 and will include the application of gravel on about 2 km of the project. Motorists will travel on a newly paved surface, after the work is expected to be completed in late September.

Highway 303 east of Lloydminster: Construction is expected to begin later this week on 45 km of Highway 303, east of Lloydminster to the junction of Highway 21. This portion of the upgrade is worth about \$15 million. Motorists should expect delays and traffic potentially reduced to one lane through the work area. Motorists will travel on a newly paved surface, once the work is expected to be completed sometime this fall.

ONGOING WORK

Highway 1 between access to Webb and west of Swift Current: Construction is underway on a 24 km portion of Highway 1 between the access to Webb and west of Swift Current. Traffic is reduced to one lane. This work is worth about \$6 million. Work began on July 12. Motorists will be able to drive on a newly paved surface, once work is expected to complete sometime in August.

Highway 1 near Maple Creek: About 30 km of construction work worth about \$7 million is now taking place on Highway 1 near Maple Creek. Traffic potentially reduced to one lane through the area. This season's construction began during the week of July 13 and work will include surfacing. Motorists will be able to travel on a newly paved surface, after the work is expected to be completed at the end of September.

Highway 3 near Turtleford: Construction is underway on 18 km from the junction of Highway 26 at Turtleford to 18 km east. This project is worth about \$11 million. Traffic may be reduced to one lane through the area. Work for the season began the week of May 11 and will include grading, along with the application of sand and gravel. After the work is expected to be complete in October, motorists will be able to travel on a new paved surface.

Highway 3 west of Melfort (bridge repairs): Construction began the week of May 25 on a bridge that crosses Thatch Creek about 5 km west of Melfort. The project, worth about \$600,000, is tentatively planned to be open to traffic on July 30, depending on weather. If the weather is unfavourable, the bridge is expected to open sometime after the August long weekend. Highways 368 and 41 will be used as detours for the duration of the project.

Highway 6 south of Choiceland: About 7 kilometres of construction work worth about \$2 million is now taking place on sections of Highway 6 from 8 km south of its junction with Highway 55 at Choiceland to 22 km south of the junction. Traffic may be reduced to one lane through the area. Construction began during the week of June 15 and will include surface strengthening and shaping. Motorists will travel on an upgraded, dust-free surface, after the work is expected to be completed in early August.

Highway 8 near Redvers: About 18 km of construction work worth about \$7 million is now taking place on Highway 8, from Redvers north towards Fairlight. Traffic will be potentially reduced to one lane through the area. This season's construction began May 21 and work will include grading, along with the application of sand and gravel. Motorists will travel on a new paved surface, after the work is expected to be completed in July.

Highway 8 near Fairlight: About 16 kilometres of construction work worth roughly \$6 million is now taking place on Highway 8 from Fairlight south towards Redvers. Traffic will potentially be reduced to one lane through the area. This season's construction began during the week of June 1 and work will include grading, along with the application of sand and gravel. Motorists will be able to travel on a new paved surface, after the work is expected to be completed in October.

Highway 11 twinning between Prince Albert and Saskatoon: Construction resumed on Highway 11 north of Saskatoon in early May. Crews are currently working on 12 km of new northbound lanes from north of Hague to south of Rosthern. Motorists should be aware of blowing dust from this grading work. The cost of this portion of the project is about \$5 million.

Highway 13 near Forget: About 11 kilometres of construction work worth about \$1.25 million is now taking place on Highway 13 from Forget to Stoughton. Travellers are advised to be cautious through the work zone. Traffic is potentially reduced to one lane. This season's construction began during the week of June 22. Motorists will be able to travel on a newly paved surface, after the work is expected to be completed at the end of July.

Highway 26 near St. Walburg: Construction is underway on 15 km from 14 km north of St. Walburg, continuing north. This project is worth about \$9 million. Traffic will potentially be reduced to one lane through the area. Work for the season began the week of May 4 and will include grading, along with the application of sand and gravel. After the work is expected to be complete in August, motorists will travel on a new paved surface.

Highway 32 near Abbey: Construction is underway on 21 km from east of Abbey to Lancer. This project is worth about \$12 million. Travellers are advised to be cautious through the work zone with traffic potentially reduced to one lane through the area. Work for the season began the week of May 4 and will include grading, along with the application of sand and gravel. Motorists will travel on a new paved surface once work is expected to be complete in 2010.

Highways 33 and 35 near Francis: About 21 kms of construction work worth about \$5 million is underway on Highways 33 and 35. One 17-km long segment of the construction area stretches from northwest of Sedley to Francis on Highway 33. The other 4-km segment on Highway 35 starts about 1 km north of Francis and heads south of the community for 3 km. This season's construction on these segments began during the week of June 15. Motorists will be able to travel on a newly paved surface, after the work is expected to be completed at the end of July.

Highway 47 near Stoughton: About 33 km of construction work worth about \$7 million is now taking place from the Junction of Highway 47 and 361 to Stoughton. Travellers are advised to be cautious through the work zone. Traffic is potentially reduced to one lane. This season's construction began during the week of June 22. Motorists will be able to travel on a newly paved surface, after the work is expected to be completed at the end of July.

Highway 55 near Red Earth: About 17 km of construction worth about \$4 million is now taking place on Highway 55 from about 10 km east of its junction with the Red Earth access road to about 7 km west of the junction. Traffic will potentially be reduced to one lane through the area. Construction began the week of May 18 and work will include the placement of sand and gravel over the existing surface. Motorists will travel on an upgraded, dust-free surface after the work is expected to be completed in 2010.

Red Earth Access Road near Highway 55: Construction is underway on the Red Earth Access Road from its junction with Highway 55 to 14 km north. This project is worth about \$4 million. Traffic may be reduced to one lane through the area. Work for the season began the week of June 22 and will include grading, along with the application of sand and gravel. After the work is expected to be complete in late September, motorists will be able to travel on an upgraded, dust-free surface.

Highway 106 near Smeaton: About 11 km of construction work worth approximately \$3 million is now taking place on Highway 106 from its junction with Highway 55 at Smeaton to 11 km north. Traffic may be reduced to one lane through the area. This season's construction began during the week of May 25 and work will include the application of sand and gravel. Motorists will travel on a newly paved surface, after the work is expected to be completed in August.

Highway 271 near Maple Creek (bridge construction): Demolition of the existing concrete arch bridge and construction of a new bridge that crosses Maple Creek began June 22. The project is worth about \$430,000. A temporary bridge near the work zone will be used as a detour. Work is expected to be complete in July.

Highway 310 near Balcarres: About 8 km of construction work worth about \$2 million is now taking place on Highway 310, from Balcarres north towards Ituna. Traffic may be reduced to one lane through the area. This season's construction began during the week of July 6 and work will include surface mixing, along with the application of sand and a seal. Motorists will be able to travel on a newly sealed surface, after the work is expected to be completed in the middle of August.

Highway 368 from south of Lake Lenore to south of St. Brieux: Construction is underway on 10 km of Highway 368 from south of Lake Lenore to north of Lake Lenore. This portion of the upgrade is around \$7 million. Motorists should expect delays, blowing dust and traffic potentially reduced to one lane through the work area. Work for the season began the week of May 11. Motorists will travel a new paved surface once work is completed, which is expected in late August. Meanwhile, about 25 km of construction work between Lake Lenore and St. Brieux on Highway 368 worth about \$16 million began for the first time during the week of June 15. Traffic in this area may be restricted to one lane through the work zone and detours are also in place as work is underway on the subgrade and surface structure. Motorists will be able to travel on a new paved surface once the work has been completed, which is expected in the spring of 2010, after wet weather has caused construction delays.

Wascana Parkway Bridge that crosses Highway 1 (Ring Road) in Regina: One westbound lane, the sidewalk and one eastbound lane are currently closed on the Wascana Parkway Bridge, as repairs are made to the structure's concrete traffic barriers. Pedestrians will still be able cross the overpass during construction. Motorists are reminded to slow to 40 km/h. The project began April 6 and is expected to be finished in July. It is valued at \$250,000.

Highways 6 and 11 junction in Regina (overpass repairs): Driving lanes are reduced at the junction of Highways 11 and 6 in Regina, in light of \$800,000 in overpass repairs that started on July 21. Throughout the project, which is expected to be complete this fall, Highway 6's two northbound lanes and two southbound lanes will each be restricted to one lane of traffic. Traffic traveling in both directions of Highway 6 may also be occasionally stopped for short periods. Traffic in the area on Highway 11,

which is the overpass on top of Highway 6, will have its lane width reduced. (The Highway 11 overpass goes from accommodating a single lane to two lanes of traffic as motorists travel northbound.) Northbound Highway 11 traffic near this junction may also be stopped occasionally for short periods. Over dimension loads will be restricted to 3.5 metres wide on both the northbound and southbound directions of travel on Highway 6, but only on the northbound direction of travel on Highway 11. Traffic southbound on Highway 11 near this junction will be unaffected by these repairs.

NOTE: Construction work is subject to weather conditions and contractor progress. Motorists can also get important travel information on the Summer Road Conditions and Road Conditions Map sections of the Highway Hotline online at www.highways.gov.sk.ca/road-conditions/. Highway Hotline information via telephone is as follows: Regina and area at 306-787-7623; Saskatoon and area at 306-933-8333; on the SaskTel Cellular Network at *ROAD; and now throughout Canada at 1-888-335-7623.