



## **52 Avenue Underground Infrastructure Replacement and Roadwork Nearing Completion**

*(August 16, 2019 – Ponoka, Alberta)* – The infrastructure renewal project on 52 Avenue (between 50 Street and 51 Street) is progressing well and nearing completion. To date, the following work has been completed along that section of 52 Avenue:

- The underground infrastructure has been replaced with a new sanitary sewer main, a new water main, new service connections and the realignment of the existing infrastructure.
- Existing concrete curbs, gutters and sidewalks along much of the street have been replaced with new curbs, gutters and sidewalks which are currently in the process of curing and hardening.
- Crews have been grading and compacting the new road base.

Crews plan to return to the site within the next week or two (weather depending) to begin final grading and compaction of the roadway on 52 Avenue, after which calcium chloride will be applied to control dust. Once the roadwork is completed, crews will pave the patches of asphalt that were removed at both ends of 52 Avenue on 50 Street and 51 Street to access the water mains on those streets. At the same time, site cleanup and landscaping will take place on the boulevards and other grassed areas affected by the construction on 52 Avenue.

### **52 Avenue Expected to Reopen to Traffic in September (Weather Dependent)**

Upon completion of the roadwork, which is dependent on weather and is expected to wrap up in September, 52 Avenue will reopen to traffic. The street currently remains closed to traffic, with the exception of local traffic to the Tamarack Court underground parking garage. The remaining affected properties on 52 Avenue have back alley access available.

The paving of the new roadway on 52 Avenue will take place early in the 2020 construction season to allow time for the roadway to settle following the excavation work this summer, in keeping with recommended best engineering practices for this type of roadway construction project.

“The infrastructure renewal along this portion of 52 Avenue will allow residents to enjoy significantly increased reliability of the infrastructure that’s now in place and a much more attractive street environment,” says Albert Frootman, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the Town of Ponoka. “I would like to thank all of the residents and occupants on the affected block of 52 Avenue for their patience during this construction project,” adds Frootman.

The Town of Ponoka Asset Management Plan identified this block of 52 Avenue as a priority and the project was approved by Town Council in the 2019 Capital Budget. The existing underground infrastructure on that portion



of 52 Avenue had reached the end of its lifespan and was replaced with new PVC pipes that are estimated to renew the infrastructure lifecycle on that street for more than 50 years.

The 52 Avenue infrastructure renewal project supports the Town of Ponoka's Strategic Plan objective of continuing to develop and implement the Town's Asset Management Plan and to keep Ponoka's roadways and sidewalks in good repair and safe for motorists, pedestrians and residents year-round.

Numerous other paving repairs and concrete replacement projects are also happening throughout Ponoka this summer and fall as part of the Town's annual Paving and Concrete Improvement Program.

### **Drive with Caution in Construction Zones**

The Town thanks citizens for their patience and understanding as work on these infrastructure renewal projects is completed over the coming months. Motorists are reminded to drive with caution in construction zones and observe road signs and traffic safety personnel.

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