



52 Avenue Underground Infrastructure Replacement Set to Begin June 3

(May 31, 2019 – Ponoka, Alberta) – Work is set to begin on Monday, June 3 to replace the underground and surface infrastructure on 52 Avenue (between 50 Street and 51 Street). The project will include the complete replacement and realignment of the existing infrastructure on that section of 52 Ave. with new sanitary sewer mains, a new water main, storm main, new service connections, new sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and a new roadway.

Underground improvements on the street will be completed first, followed by surface improvements. The paving of the new roadway will occur in 2020 to allow time for the roadway to settle following the excavation work, in keeping with recommended best engineering practices for this type of roadway construction project. In the interim, the road base will be stabilized and hardened in 2019 and the surface will be treated to eliminate dust.

The Town of Ponoka Asset Management Plan identified this block of 52 Ave. 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 Ave. has reached the end of its lifespan and will be replaced with new PVC pipes that are estimated to renew the infrastructure lifecycle on that street for more than 50 years.

A Complete Rebuild of the Street

“This infrastructure renewal project is basically a complete rebuild of the street, which will significantly increase service levels for residents and occupants of the affected properties,” says Tim Schmidt, General Manager of Planning and Infrastructure for the Town of Ponoka. “I would like to thank all of the residents and occupants on the affected block of 52 Ave. for their patience during this construction project,” adds Schmidt.

Occupants and owners of the affected properties have been contacted door-to-door to notify them about the upcoming construction and to identify and address any questions or concerns. “We will continue communicating and working with everyone along that street throughout the project in order to minimize the impact of the construction on affected properties as much as possible,” says Schmidt.

He notes that affected properties along the street will be temporarily connected to water mains on 50 St. and 51 St. during the replacement of the 52 Ave. water main. The street will be closed to traffic with the exception of local traffic to the Tamarack Court underground parking garage. The remaining properties have back alley access available.

Work will begin at the east end of 52 Ave. and continue west. Work will continue throughout the summer until it is completed. Construction on 52 Ave. will pause during the Ponoka Stampede week and resume



immediately after.

The 52 Ave. 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.

Updates on Other Planned Infrastructure Renewal Projects in Ponoka

Dust control measures began last week on 54 St. near Poplar Grove Mobile Home Village. Road maintenance and dust abatement will continue throughout the summer on that roadway with the application of calcium chloride to harden the road surface and reduce dust. Council approved the dust control and road maintenance project on 54 St. in the 2019 Town of Ponoka Budget.

Roadway rehabilitation and repairs on 64 St. at the south end of the Froman Business Park between 42 and 44 Ave. will begin in July. Affected property owners have been notified about the project and the Town will continue to communicate with property owners and occupants in the area about the upcoming road work.

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

The Town thanks citizens for their patience and understanding as work on these infrastructure renewal projects is completed over the coming months.

Temporary Lane Closure on 50 Street Next Week

As the work begins on 52 Ave. next week, there will be a temporary lane closure on 50 Street between 51 Ave. and 53 Ave. Motorists are reminded to drive with caution in construction zones and observe road signs and traffic safety personnel.

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