



Release

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FLOODWAY AUTHORITY ISSUES FIRST BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION TENDER

Construction To Begin Late This Fall on the PTH 59 South Bridge

Winnipeg, MB – The Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) has advertised the first bridge construction tender as part of the Red River Floodway Expansion Project. The tender is for the replacement of two bridges over the Red River Floodway on the northbound and southbound lanes of the PTH 59 South Bridge, including related roadworks and channel excavation.

“The PTH 59 South Bridge is an important transportation link for the residents of the area and those people traveling to and from the city on a daily basis in the south,” said Reg Alcock, President of the Treasury Board and Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. “Raising the bridge will ensure that the bridge is protected during a major flood event.”

“Floodway expansion provides an important opportunity to modernize our transportation infrastructure as we improve flood protection,” said Steve Ashton, Minister of Water Stewardship. “While ensuring that the bridge is secured during a major flood, this investment helps to support the growth and prosperity of communities in the area.”

The major components of the work include:

- Demolition of two existing 2 lane, 250.7 meter long, reinforced concrete bridge structures;
- Construction of two new 2 lane, 304.5 meter long bridge structures, consisting of reinforced concrete piers and abutments, NU girders and reinforced concrete deck and concrete barriers;
- 1500 lineal meters of roadway reconstruction (approximately 170,000 cubic meters of borrow and common excavation);
- 450 lineal meters of channel excavation; and
- Erosion and Sediment Control.

Work on the project is scheduled to begin late this fall and will be completed in November 2007.

It is estimated that over 60,000 people use the six highway bridges to cross the floodway every day. The MFA is committed to ensuring minimal traffic disruptions during bridge construction at all locations by utilizing existing bridges during the construction of new bridge crossings.

“Bridge construction is a significant component of the overall floodway project,” said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the MFA. “Not only will we be building bridges to handle increased traffic and flood capacity, these improvements will also enhance traffic safety.”

For more information on tender requirements, please visit the MERX electronic tendering service at www.merx.com. For all floodway expansion tenders, digital bid documents are being distributed **only** through MERX. Contractors are advised to monitor MERX on an ongoing basis as the floodway project proceeds. The deadline for bids in response to this tender is 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 13, 2005.

As part of the floodway expansion project, six highway bridge crossings that cross the floodway channel will be replaced at the following locations:

- PTH 59 south
- Trans Canada Highway East
- St. Mary’s Road, PR 200
- PTH 15
- PTH 59 north
- PTH 44

A tender for the replacement of the Trans-Canada Highway East Bridge is anticipated in the upcoming weeks. The estimated value of the tenders to be issued in the first year of the five year program is \$90 million.

The Red River Floodway Expansion Project will divert more water around Winnipeg during major floods by more than doubling the capacity of the floodway channel. By improving flood protection to 1 in 700 year level of protection, floodway expansion will protect more than 450,000 Manitobans, over 140,000 homes, over 8,000 businesses and prevent more than \$12 billion in damages to the provincial economy.

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