



Release

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MAJOR BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION TENDER ISSUED AS PART OF FLOODWAY EXPANSION PROJECT

Construction To Ensure National Highway Protected during a Major Flood Event

Winnipeg, MB – The Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) has advertised the tender of the replacement of the existing bridge over the Red River Floodway on the Trans-Canada Highway 1 East with two new bridges, including related roadworks and channel excavation, and the construction of an overpass structure over the CN Sprague Subdivision on PTH 100.

“While improving flood protection through increased capacity of the floodway, the floodway project also ensures that local residents are linked to the rest of the country during a major flood event,” said Steve Ashton, Minister of Water Stewardship. “By ensuring that this vital national transportation link remains usable during a major flood, this work provides security for local residents, complements emergency preparedness plans and protects the local and national economies.”

“The Trans-Canada Highway links our country together and facilitates business opportunities within Manitoba and throughout the country,” said Reg Alcock, President of Treasury Board and Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. “The replacement and modernization of this bridge will improve safety while ensuring that the bridge remains above flood water level.”

The major components of the work include:

- Construction of two new 3-lane, 8-span, 349.2 meter long bridge structures across the floodway, consisting of reinforced concrete piers and abutments, NU girders and reinforced concrete deck and concrete barriers;
- Construction of a 1-span, 18.5 meter long railway overpass structure consisting of reinforced concrete abutment walls, retaining walls, precast concrete box girders, concrete barriers, and asphalt overlay;
- Approximately 5500 lineal meters of roadway construction involving approximately 350,000 cubic metres of borrow and common excavation;
- Approximately 320 lineal meters of channel excavation involving approximately 100,000 cubic metres of excavation;
- Demolition of the existing 4-lane, 250.6 meter long, reinforced concrete bridge structure;
- Erosion and Sediment Control

The two new bridges and associated roadworks on the Trans-Canada Highway East are to be completed in the fall of 2006. The overpass structure, and associated roadworks, channel excavation and demolition of the existing bridge are scheduled for completion in the fall of 2007.

It is estimated that over 60,000 people use the six highway bridges to cross the floodway every day, including approximately 17,000 who use the Trans-Canada Highway East.

“Floodway expansion means an upgrade of all of the highway bridges that cross the floodway,” said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the MFA. “For the public this means greater public safety on our bridges.” Gilroy indicated that 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.

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

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

To date, bridge tenders have been issued for the PTH 59 South Bridge and the Trans-Canada Highway East Bridge. The estimated value of the tenders to be issued in the first year of the five year program is \$90 million.

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 October 4, 2005.

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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