

News Release

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206 lane km of roadway improvements & 20 km of sidewalk replacements in 2018

The Building Better Roads program is aiming to improve another 206 lane kilometres of roadway and replace more than 20 kilometers of sidewalk during the 2018 construction season. Since the establishment of a dedicated road levy in 2014, 876 lane kilometers of roadway have been improved and 36 kilometers of sidewalk have been replaced under the program.

“Now that a funding base has been built up, we have an annual funding level of \$61 million to cover road construction, road repair, pothole patching, sidewalk rehabilitation, back lane upgrades, street sweeping, and snow and ice management for the year,” says Angela Gardiner, Acting General Manager of Transportation and Utilities. “Various projects are scheduled in 2018 - everything from resurfacing to total rehabilitations. This season also includes the completion of some major projects that will alleviate congestion and improve traffic flow on main arterials.”

Key 2018 Building Better Roads funded projects include:

- Circle Drive over 33rd Street – rehabilitation of northbound overpass
- Arlington Avenue and Taylor Street - intersection improvements
- Victoria Avenue - rehabilitation
- Idylwyld Drive North - resurfacing
- Water and sewer improvements (i.e. Idylwyld Drive, City Park)

Gardiner says residents will continue to see 24-hour work in various construction zones to allow the projects to be completed timely and effectively, while reducing the impact to drivers, residents and businesses.

“This is shaping up to be another busy construction season so we would like to remind drivers about the importance of respecting work zones, for their safety and for the safety of the people working in them.

“Day or night, when you see lights, reflective cones and work zone signage, slow down, obey signage, and pay attention, even when construction work may appear halted or complete.”

In addition to Building Better Roads funded projects, traffic flow on the east side of Saskatoon will vastly improve this fall with the opening of the North Commuter Parkway and a new interchange at McOrmond Drive and College Drive.

“The North Commuter Parkway will connect commuters from neighbourhoods in the northeast to the Marquis Industrial area, alleviating congestion on Attridge Drive and Circle Drive,” says Gardiner. “The new interchange at McOrmond Drive and College Drive will not only cut down on traffic congestion, but also serve as a safe pedestrian connection between the Willowgrove and Arbor Creek neighbourhoods to Brighton.”

Downtown, a new wider and taller Traffic Bridge will also open this fall, once again providing a convenient link for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists crossing the South Saskatchewan River.

Facts and Resources:

When the 2018 construction season is complete, the Building Better Roads program will have rehabilitated 1,085 lane kilometres of roadway! That’s roughly the one-way distance from City Hall to Salmon Arm, BC. The 56 kilometers of sidewalk replaced would create a path the distance from City Hall to Borden.

Saskatoon.ca/betterroads (construction, street sweeping, *Report a Pothole* map)
Saskatoon.ca/interchanges (McOrmond/College & Boychuk/Highway 16 interchanges)
Saskatoon.ca/bridging (North Commuter Parkway and Traffic Bridge)

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Media, for more information:

Angela Gardiner
Acting General Manager Transportation & Utilities
306-975-1467