

Provincial Highways

12/17/19: Alberta Transportation has informed the Town that streetlight installation along Highway 779 (48 Street) is underway. TB Traffic will be working on streetlight bases along the east side of Highway 779, from Genesis Lake Boulevard to Highway 628 (79 Avenue) for the next few weeks. Crews will be working on the shoulder of the road but will ensure that there is one full lane in each direction open to traffic at all times. All work will take place between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

11/07/19: Alberta Transportation has completed all repairs and clean up of the Highway 779 construction zone and shut down for the winter. There are two lanes in each direction open from 57 Avenue to Willow Park Road (north entrance), where it transitions from four lanes to two lanes to the south. The multi-use trail is paved from 57 Avenue to Highway 628 (79 Avenue) on the east side of the road and from Highway 628 to Genesis Lake Blvd on the west side of the road. The grading around the trail north of Highway 628 is not complete and there is a sharp drop on either side of the trail. Residents are urged to use caution when using the trail. All lane lines have been painted and the traffic signals are fully operational. Streetlight installation will occur in late November along both sides of the highway up to 57 Avenue. Work will continue over the winter, with occasional single lane closures between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to accommodate the streetlight installations. Road widening will resume in the spring.

10/30/19: Alberta Transportation has informed the Town that weather conditions have halted operations on Highway 779 for 2019 construction season. There will be some final work completed this week including sign installation, line painting between Willow Park Road South and 57 Ave, and pot hole repair before the site is cleaned up. TB Traffic will be installing streetlights beginning mid-November along both sides of the highway between Highway 628 (79 Avenue) and 57 Avenue. Any lane closures or traffic disruptions to accommodate this work will be limited to Monday through Friday and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Road construction is anticipated to resume again in May 2020.

10/08/19: Council was given an update on the Highway 779 rehabilitation project at Monday (Oct. 7th) night's Governance and Priorities meeting. A representative with Alberta Transportation (AT), Jeff Zhang, announced the two year project is 70% complete, and will be going into a third year. Construction on Hwy 779 is in its second year, and is now projected to finish in the fall of 2020.

When asked by Council why the project is delayed, Zhang responded by saying, "Inclement weather has been a major factor along with, utility delays, geotechnical site conditions, traffic accommodation, detours and road closure, and winter construction and maintenance."

Scope of work includes:

- Grade widening and repaving of Hwy 779, south of Hwy 16A to South of Hwy 628
- Replacement of bridge file (culverts under Hwy 779)

- Addition of lanes, pavement resurfacing
- Access consolidation (creating common entrance and exits, reducing existing commercial crossings)
- Relocation of driveways and back alley improvements
- Intersection improvements
- Installation of new curb and gutter
- Storm water retention pond construction and drainage improvements
- Illumination
- New signals
- Pedestrian trail and concrete sidewalk
- Cost sharing agreement with the Town of Stony Plain (Town is paying for sidewalks, trails, and burial of overhead power)
- Signalization at Hwy 779/628 intersection vs. roundabout
- Extension of reconstruction work to south of Hwy 628 up till the Town boundary
- Pedestrian trail along Hwy 628
- Median improvements and modifications
- Additional right of way for storm water pond and intersection improvement
- St. John Paul II access road
- Speed amendment

It is AT's expectation that the bulk of the construction south of 57th Avenue will be complete this construction season and that work will resume as weather permits around the May long weekend of 2020. All construction timelines are weather dependent.

Town Manager Tom Goulden says, "While it's disappointing the project is going to take longer than originally planned, the Town appreciates Alberta Transportation coming to Council Monday night and being open and transparent with Council and our residents."

Residents can keep up to date on the Hwy 779 project by subscribing to the www.stonyplain.com/construction page and receive construction news emails.

09/26/19: Alberta Transportation has opened the south entrance of Willow Park Road at Highway 779.

09/16/19: Alberta Transportation has opened Highway 779 south of Willow Park Road.

AT has now closed the south entrance of Willow Park Road for approximately 5 days. Willow Park residents will not be able to exit or access Highway 779 at the south entrance and will need to detour via the north entrance of Willow Park Road or Willow Way. The closure is required to regrade the intersection at the road widening to make a smoother transition and maintain proper drainage through the area. All construction schedules are weather dependent.

08/22/19: The detour for the Highway 779 Road Closure from Highway 628 to Willow Park Road (south entrance) is now in effect.

Willow Park Road is a residential area and not part of the detour route. Local Traffic Only signs are posted in the construction zone. Local traffic only includes Willow Park residents.

All other traffic including residents from Westerra and Genesis should detour via Golf Course Road. Do not use Willow Park Road/Willow Way to detour the construction zone.

08/19/19: Alberta Transportation (AT) has informed the Town that they will be closing Provincial Hwy 779 (48 Street) between Hwy 628 (79 Avenue) and Willow Park Road (South entrance) for approximately three weeks, beginning Tuesday, August 20.

Traffic will be detoured East on Hwy 628 to Golf Course Road, North on Golf Course Road to 49 Avenue and then West on 49 Avenue back to Hwy 779. To ensure safety, access to Willow Way and Willow Park Road (North and South entrances) will be restricted to local traffic only during the road closure.

Traffic heading both east and westbound through the intersection at Hwy 628 and Hwy 779 will not be affected.

For more information regarding the closure, contact [Alberta Transportation](#) at 780 310 0000 or [Alberta 511](#).

Alberta Transportation reaffirms the closure is in the interest of public safety and to reduce the long-term disruption and inconvenience to the travelling public. For the road to remain open to traffic during construction, traffic would be reduced to one lane of alternating traffic controlled by flag people during the day and temporary traffic signals at night. The gravel surfaced lane would have a reduced width with a sharp drop off on the sides of up to 1.5 m. During the day there would be heavy construction traffic working next to and at times crossing the single lane. AT estimates closing the roadway and safely detouring traffic around the construction will reduce the work timeline by half, from six to three weeks.



08/09/19: Alberta Transportation has just notified the Town that they will not be closing Highway 779 (48 Street) to Willow Park Road (South entrance) this coming Monday, August 12.

08/06/19: Alberta Transportation (AT) has informed the Town that they will be closing Provincial Hwy 779 (48 Street) between Hwy 628 (79 Avenue) and Willow Park Road (South entrance) beginning Monday, August 12 at 7:00 a.m. to accommodate construction. This section of roadway is being realigned and lowered. In addition, curb, gutter and an underground storm sewer system is being installed to improve drainage. Traffic heading both east and westbound through the intersection at Hwy 628 and Hwy 779 will not be affected.

The closure is in the interest of public safety and to reduce the long-term disruption and inconvenience to the travelling public. For the road to remain open to traffic during construction, traffic would be reduced to one lane of alternating traffic controlled by flag people during the day and temporary traffic signals at night. The gravel surfaced lane would have a reduced width with a sharp drop off on the sides

of up to 1.5 m. During the day there would be heavy construction traffic working next to and at times crossing the single lane. AT estimates closing the roadway and safely detouring traffic around the construction will reduce the work timeline by half, from six to three weeks.

During the road closure a detour will be set up heading East on Hwy 628 to Golf Course Road, North on Golf Course Road to 49 Avenue and then West on 49 Avenue back to Hwy 779. Access to Willow Way and Willow Park Road (North and South entrances) will be restricted to local traffic (Willow Park Residents) only during the road closure.

07/29/19: Alberta Transportation has advised they will be paving portions of the intersection at Provincial Highway 779 (48 Street) and Highway 628 (79 Avenue) beginning today resulting in single lane, alternating traffic during the day. Temporary lane closures will take place along Highway 628 to accommodate construction of curb and gutter and the new channelized right turn lane.

Additionally, three new catch basins will be installed on the northbound lane of Highway 779, between 57 and 55 Avenue resulting in the closure of the outside, northbound lane while the work is completed.

Work will continue on the bridge file replacement through the St. John Paul II School parking lot for the next three weeks. During this time access to the school parking lot will be restricted to the south access only.

Construction will be temporarily shut down starting Saturday August 3rd, with no work taking place over the August long weekend. Construction operations will resume Tuesday morning, August 6th.

07/12/19: Alberta Transportation (AT) has informed the Town, the intersection of Hwy 628 (79 Ave) and Hwy 779 (48 St) will be down to one lane of alternating traffic on Monday July 15th and Tuesday July 16th. The underground crew is continuing work on the storm line at that intersection. Flag people will be in place controlling the intersection as the storm line is installed across Hwy 628. Once the storm line crossing is complete, work will continue on widening the intersection to get it finished and ready for paving. The contractor will also be hauling fill material to the East ditch between Hwy 628 and Willow Park Road (North entrance) next week. This will build it up for the new multi-use trail which will extend down to Hwy 628 and then proceed East to Willow Way. AT has also started on replacing the large bridge size culvert through the St. John Paul II School parking lot, and will continue through to late August.

06/14/19: Alberta Transportation (AT) has informed the Town they will be paving the southern portion of Hwy 779 from the Town limits to just south of Hwy 628 (79 Ave). Traffic will be reduced to one way for most of the day. As well, new curbs and gutters will be poured on the SW and NW corners of Hwy 628.

Early next week, AT will start constructing the concrete medians on Hwy 779 south of Hwy 628. The grading and under ground crews will also be back onsite next week back filling the east ditch between Willow Park Road and Hwy 628 and completing the storm line up to and across Hwy 628. The channelized right turn lane at Hwy 628 is now closed and will remain closed until the new channelized right turn lane is constructed.

05/17/19: Alberta Transportation is still on track to start work up again on Hwy 779 on Tuesday, May 21st. However, AT has informed the Town the scheduled has changed slightly from the previous update on May 13th. AT will only be working on the storm line along the east side of Hwy 779 from Willow Park Road south to Hwy 628, and on the widening on the east side of Hwy 779, south of Hwy 628. Due

to some utility conflicts that are still being resolved they won't be starting on the widening along the west side of Hwy 779, north of 57 Ave, for a week or two. ATCO Gas is expected to be doing some utility relocations starting Tuesday also just north of 57 Ave and between 50 Ave and 49 Ave as well.

The work ATCO will be doing is as follows:

- Move a gas valve from the west side of Hwy 779 to the east side down by 56 Ave
- Lower a gas line crossing just north of 50 Ave
- Abandoning a gas line which crosses Hwy 779 just south of 49 Ave, crosses 49 Ave and then goes west down the north side of 49 Ave to the Co-op. A new line will then be brought into the Co-op from the west.
- Relocating the gas main from the east side of Hwy 779 to the back alley to the east.
- Lowering the gas lines in the back alleys on both sides of the Hwy, between 56 Ave and 53 Ave.

Work on the first three items is expected to start next week and the work relocating the gas main and lowering the gas lines in the back alleys will be done soon, but there is no schedule for that work as of yet.

Details on possible road or access closures from ATCO has not been released at this time. It's possible they may need to do an occasional, temporary closure of one of the lanes along Hwy 779 to accommodate their work. ATCO will coordinate any closures with AT and the prime contractor. Once ATCO is finished with locates possible road closure information will become available.

The Town will continue to update residents as information becomes available from AT.

05/13/19: Alberta Transportation has informed the Town that construction on Highway 779 should recommence on approximately May 21. The work will begin with widening on the West side of the road at 57 Avenue and continue north. The underground contractor is expected to start at the same time at the storm main just South of Willow Park Road and work South to Hwy 628 (79 Ave). They will then move East on Hwy 628 for about 50 m. This construction season should see the completion of the Province's commitment to reconstruct Highway 779.

03/13/19: Street light installation is continuing along the east side of Highway 779 between 57th and 49th Avenue. Installation is expected to be complete by mid to late April. At that point, streetlights on the west side of Highway 779 will be removed and utilities will be relocated in anticipation of the road widening. Traffic signals at 55th Avenue, 57th Avenue and Willow Park Road North will be flash mode by mid-March. Road construction is tentatively scheduled to recommence mid to late May.

01/24/19: The Alberta Government released plans for the reconstruction of Secondary Highway 628 today in Council Chambers at Town Hall. Mayor Choy welcomed MLA Erin Babcock, Mayor Stuart Houston of Spruce Grove, and Mayor Rod Shaigec of Parkland County to celebrate the announcement.

01/21/19: The traffic signals at the Highway 779 Ave and Highway 628 intersection were put into operation this morning. The signals at 57 Ave are currently being installed and should be put in flash mode later this week or early next week. They will be made operational the following week.

Once those signals are operational, the contractor will install signals at Willow Park Road. These will likely be operational in early to mid-February. The signals at 55 Ave and at 52 Ave likely won't be operational until the spring or summer.

Once all of the traffic signals have been installed and activated, the contractor will start installing new street lights along the east side of 48 Street.

01/14/19: Traffic signals have been installed at the intersection of Highway 779 and Highway 628 and are in flash mode. The lights are flashing yellow on Highway 779 and red on Highway 628. They will remain in flash mode for 10 days before being fully activated. The overhead lights at the intersection and south of Hwy 628 are also operational. The overhead light on the northwest corner is not fully functioning and will be repaired this week. Bags have been placed on the extra signal heads and signs to avoid driver confusion.