# Consulting Engineers of Alberta Transportation Connects Alberta Conference

Paul Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister Capital Planning, Grants and Engineering Services Transportation and Economic Corridors



#### Agenda

- Budget 2025
- Consulting Work 2024-25
- Proposed Improvements to Contract Process
- Technical Standards Innovation and Updates



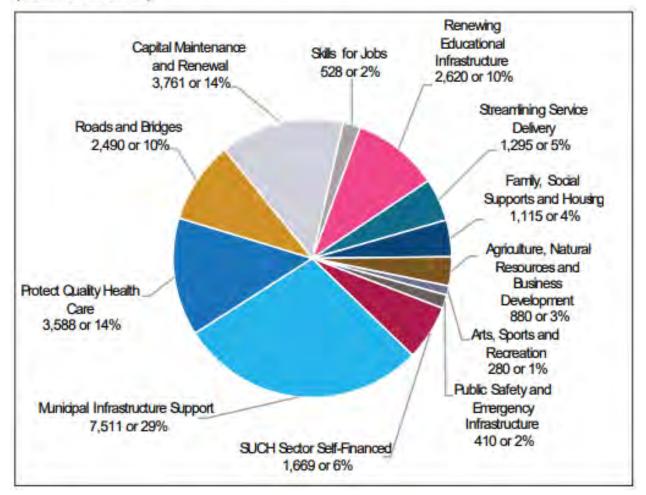
### Budget 2025



#### Budget 2025 – Capital Plan

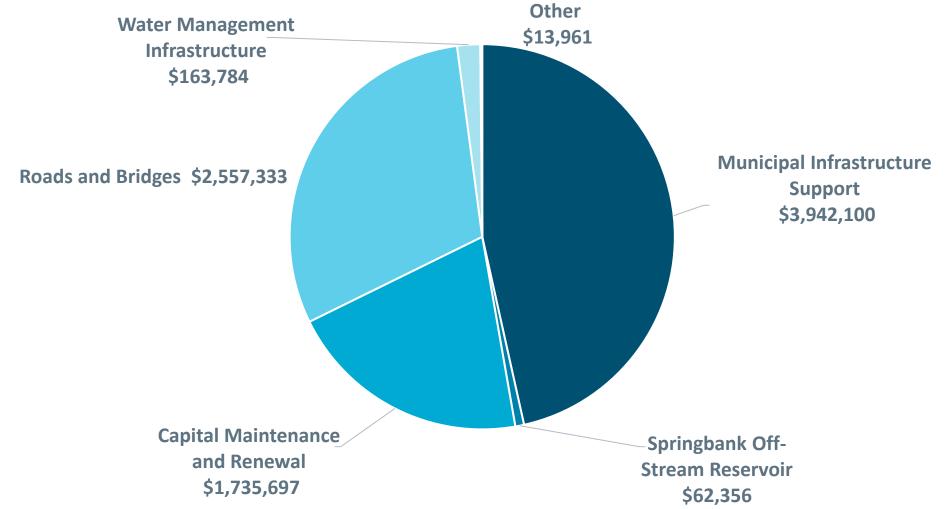
#### Budget 2025 - Capital Plan Envelopes

(millions of dollars)



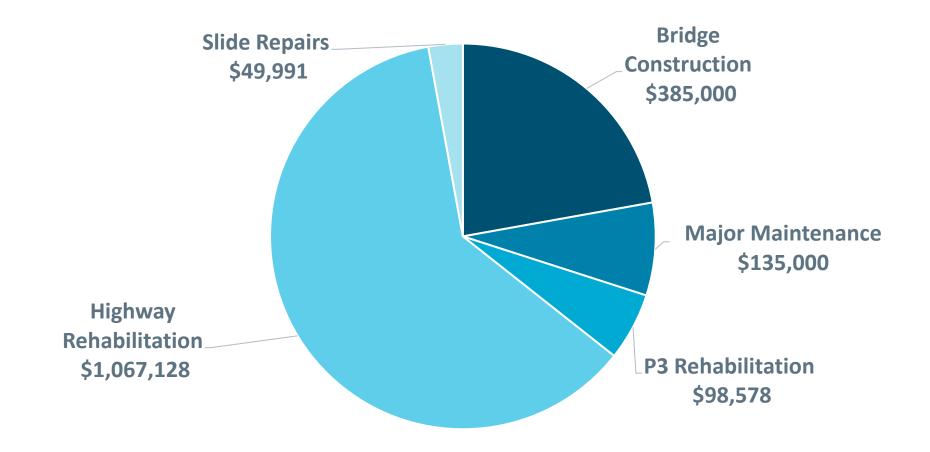


#### Budget 2025 – TEC Budget Breakdown





#### Budget 2025 – Capital Maintenance and Renewal





#### **Economic Corridors**



We see key economic corridors as critical parts of bringing goods to market and supporting economic growth by providing safe and efficient highway connections.



The department made significant capital investments in economic corridors in Budget 2025.

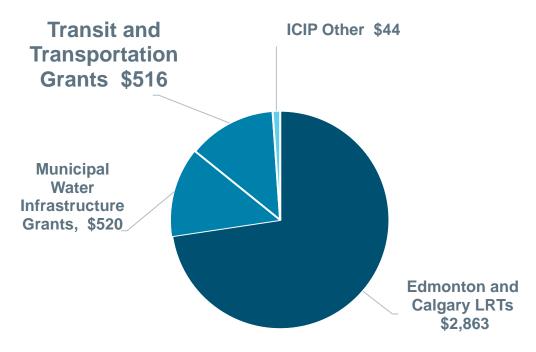


The 2025-28 Business Plan targets 75% of the capital plan allocation to economic corridors, which make up 45% of the highway network, to recognize the importance of economic corridors.



#### Budget 2025 – Capital Grants

(millions of dollars)



- Budget 2025 allocates \$3.9 billion over three years:
  - o \$1.2 billion in 2025-26
  - \$1.5 billion in 2026-27
  - \$1.3 billion in 2027-28
- Supporting Calgary and Edmonton LRT projects, including Calgary's Blue Line Extension.
- Funding for Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP) to aid smaller municipalities in improving transportation infrastructure.
- Ensuring all Albertans have reliable access to clean drinking water and effective wastewater services.

### Consulting Work 2024-25



#### 2024-25 Consulting Contracts

- Contracts executed\* = 112
- Total Contract value = \$231 million
  - 4 of the 112 contracts sum up to \$74 million.
    - Hwy 11:10/12 Twinning
    - Hwy 686
    - Hwy 2:24
    - Hwy 3X:3 Coleman Bypass



<sup>\*</sup>Contracts executed from April 1, 2024 to February 21, 2025.

#### **Historical Consulting Award Amounts**

Fiscal Year	Number of Contracts	Total Awarded
2024-25	112*	\$231,000,000
2023-24	82	\$97,000,000
2022-23	76	\$82,000,000
2021-22	81	\$89,000,000
2020-21	86	\$72,500,000
2019-20	13	\$6,000,000

<sup>\*</sup>Contracts executed from April 1, 2024 to February 21, 2025.



### 2024 Ranking Lists

	Major Bridges	Culverts & Standard Bridges	ACP (incl. GBC)	Grading	Planning
# of Bundles on Ranking List (Individual Projects)	24 <i>(45)</i>	16 <i>(56)</i>	14 (20)	8 <i>(11)</i>	6
# of Consulting Firms Submissions	19	20	19	18	10



#### Consultant-Supported Tenders

Fiscal Year	Tenders Designed by Consultants	Total Contract Dollars Managed by Consultants
2024-25	94	\$586 Million
2023-24	80	\$585 Million
2022-23	84	\$712 Million
2021-22	93	\$832 Million
2020-21	138	\$703 Million



# Proposed Improvements to Contract Process



#### Proposed Improvements to Contract Process

- New Modernized Dispute Resolution Process (MDRP)
  - The new MDRP includes adjudication, arbitration and complex arbitration as options to resolve disputes.
  - Implementation is expected in spring 2025.
- Extending Prompt Payment to Public Works Act (PWA)
  - The main changes include Invoicing Requirements, Payment Timelines, and Adjudication of Disputes.
  - Department is working actively to reflect changes to General Specifications for the upcoming tenders.



#### Proposed Improvements to Contract Process

- PWA (continued):
  - Will apply to construction tenders advertised on or after April 1, 2025.
  - Highway maintenance contracts and P3 contracts are exempt.



## Technical Standards - Updates and Innovations



### Standard Specifications for Highway Construction (SSHC) Update

- CEA input is appreciated and valued
- CEA Representatives on the Operations Committee compile comments for a single CEA comments log submission
- CEA Representatives on the Operations Committee;
   Warren McKay

Fred Greenhough

Russell Pinchak

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STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS
FOR
HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

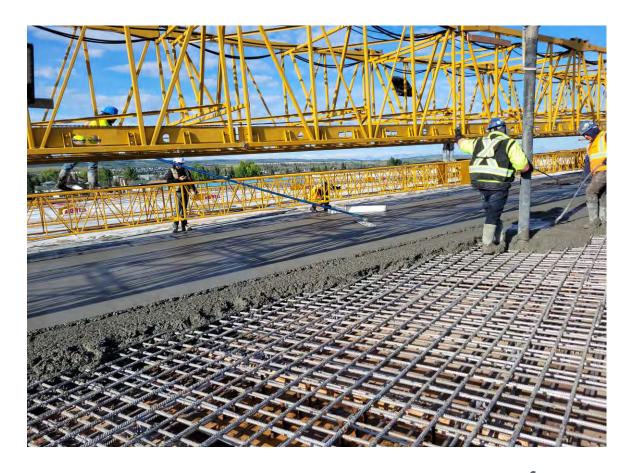


EDITION 16 2019



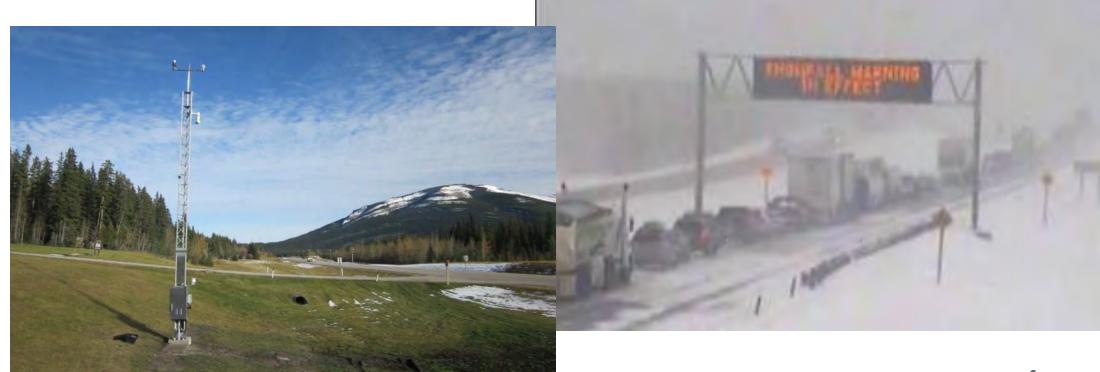
#### Bridges







#### Maintenance





#### **Pavements**

- High RAP
- Reflective cracking
- Asphalt mix performance testing

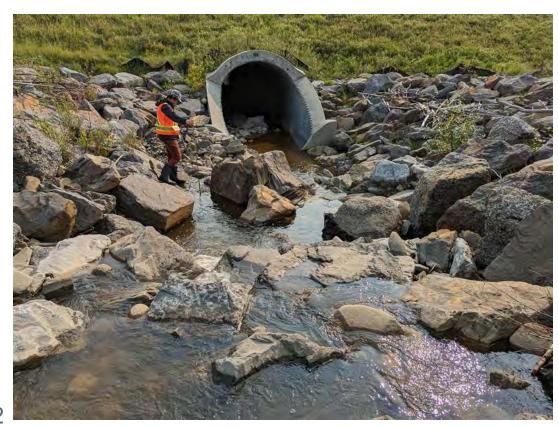




Highway 16 high strain crack relief interlayer trial project



#### Environmental





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#### Landslide Monitoring and Early-Warning

 Hwy 49 Little Smoky River crossing - landslide monitoring using differential global navigation satellite systems







#### TEC's Recognized Products List

 Use of 'Potential' and 'Trial' products is encouraged on smaller projects or in limited quantities to enhance adoption and performance testing of 'new' and innovative products.

PROVEN PRODUCTS	TRIAL PRODUCTS	POTENTIAL PRODUCTS
Type A:		
North American Green: S75		AEC Curlex I CL (Expiry Date: April 2025)
North American Green S150BN	BMP-BDNS Biodegradable Straw 100% (Double Jute Netting) (Expiry Date: October 2025)	AEC Premier Straw Single Net / FibreNet (Expiry Date: April 2025)
North American Green C SC150BN		

