

CEA Transportation Conference

Planning, Procurement & Technical Standards Division Update

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Alberta Transportation &
Consulting Engineers of Alberta



Agenda

- Budget 2021 – Recap
- Budget 2022
- Procurement Updates
- Cost Escalation
- Procurement and Project Delivery Review
- TSB Potential Innovations & Process Changes
- Grants Update

Budget 2021 - Recap

2021-22 Consulting Work

- Contracts executed = 75
- Total Contract value = \$84 million

- Ranking Lists Issued = 6
 - Included 51 project bundles

Historical Consulting Award Amounts (>\$75,000)

Fiscal Year	Number of Contracts	Total Awarded
2021-22	75	\$83,000,000
2020-21	86	\$72,500,000
2019-20	13	\$6,000,000
2018-19	107	\$81,500,000
2017-18	137	\$128,500,000
2016-17	144	\$118,500,000

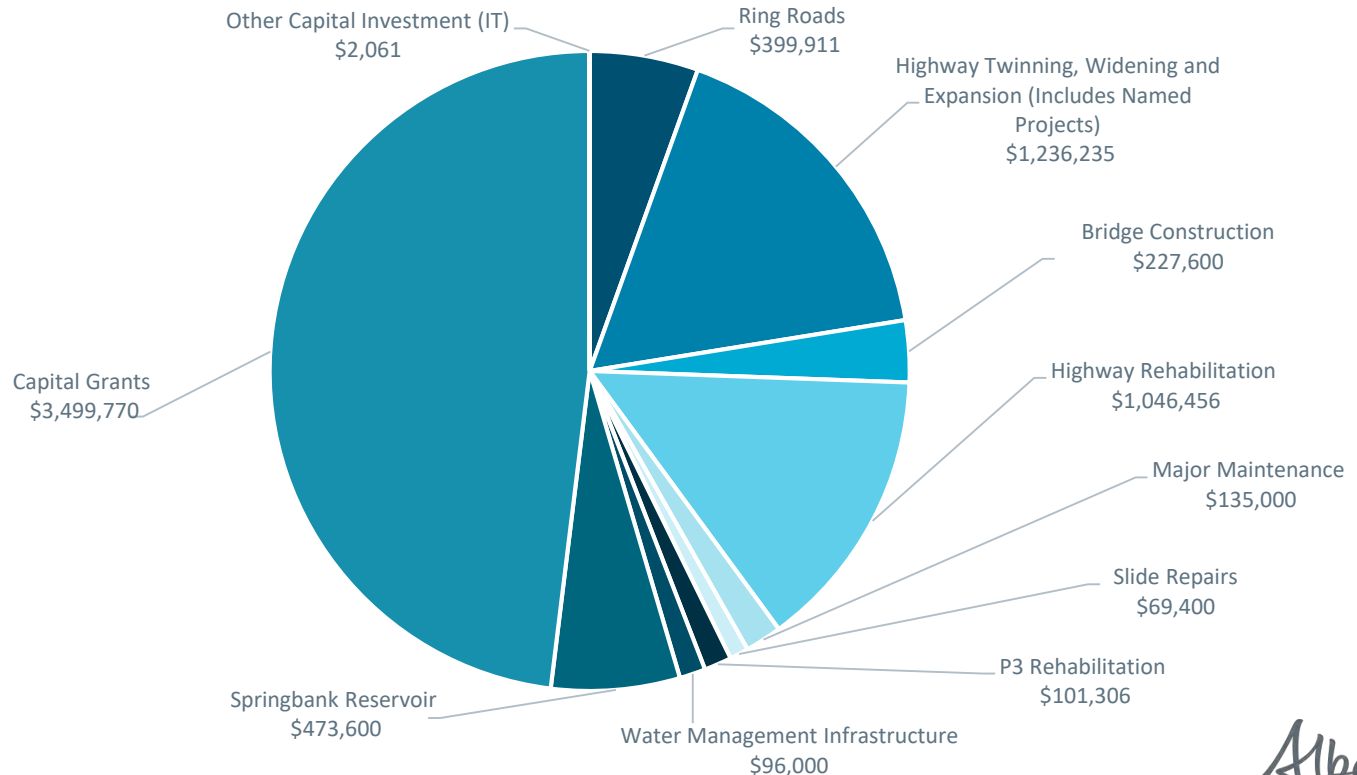
The average annual awarded amount over the last 6 years is \$82 million.

Budget 2022

Management of Construction Program

- **Goal:**
 - To deliver the department's Capital Construction Program within budget targets.
- **Achieving the Goal:**
 - Achieved through early engagement of engineering consultants to ensure timely delivery of construction tenders, with utility issues, land acquisition, environmental permits, etc. in place as well as construction tender scheduling and monitoring.
 - Various factors (such as tender award price, emergencies, and environmental compensations) may affect overall spending and remaining tendering.

Alberta Transportation 3-Year Capital Plan Allocation (\$000s)



2022 3-Year Construction Program Remaining Engineering Services Projects

Project Type	Total
Bridge Construction	27
Highway Rehabilitation	46
Slide Repair	7
Planning Studies	4
Total	84*

*Note that multiple projects may be bundled in a single RFP.

Procurement Updates

Changes in 2021

- Introduced submission of tenders by email.
- Updated the standard language in our RFPs related to the Project Comprehension evaluation criteria.
- Updated the planning pre-qualification category to align with changes made to the highway and bridge categories
- COVID-19 Advisory Panel term ended May 1, 2022. This was to provide the department recommendations on how to address COVID-19 related contract issues.

Looking Ahead

- Procurement Planning:
 - Looking ahead to ensure engineering services are engaged with have enough time to ensure project delivery
 - Anticipate a number of ranking lists will be issued in the coming weeks
- Consultant Pre-Qualification
 - Review of water management pre-qualification categories
- Re-Tendering of Highway Maintenance Contracts
 - We anticipate advertising 7 highway maintenance contracts this summer

Looking Ahead (cont'd)

- QBS:
 - Continuing to evaluate pilot projects
 - Review upcoming projects that may suit the QBS procurement model
 - Review results of study completed by the U of A
- Alternative procurement models:
 - CCGC
 - Design/Build for Highway 3 Twinning
- Consultant Performance Evaluations (ongoing):
 - One evaluation per year/ agreement
- Other red tape reductions:
 - *Public Works Act* claims are now accepted by email
 - Completed Statutory Declaration documents are accepted by email

Cost Escalation

Increasing Costs

- Department is aware of concerns about increasing costs, in particular related to steel and asphalt pricing.
- We are looking into this issue to see how cost increases may impact delivery of our construction program.
- We are working with contractors on possible design exceptions if supply of materials becomes an issue.
- Our contracts do include a risk sharing mechanism for diesel fuel costs on projects with significant grading and asphalt quantities.
- The Department has posted updated average unit pricing on our website to more accurately reflect and keep informed of current pricing trends.

Government Procurement and Project Delivery Practices Review

Procurement and Project Delivery Review

- In early 2021, the Government of Alberta initiated a procurement and project delivery review. Alberta Infrastructure is the lead with Transportation and other ministries supporting.
- The consultant has issued their final report and the opportunities presented around alternative structures, organization, and delivery are under review.
- CEA has requested additional consultation prior to implementation of any recommendations.
- AT is aware of CEA concerns and has raised them with Infrastructure.

Technical Standards - Potential Innovations and Process Changes

TSB - Innovations and Updates

Innovation and Process	Description
Engineering Consultant Guidelines Update	Started January. New drafts will go through AT process committees late spring. OPS/CEA review late summer/fall.
Bridge Construction & Fabrication Inspection Training Course	Training conducted April 5 to 8 th for 30 attendees
Portland Limestone Concrete Pilot	Lower emission concrete – bridge project pilot using Portland Limestone Cement going to Construction 2022
Bridge Construction Change Process	Undertaking new process on trial projects for 2022
Managing Deteriorated Bridges	Developing guidelines with a risk management perspective
Bridge Structures Design Criteria	Version 9.0 published in January 2022
Alternative Bridge Design Guide	Currently reviewing BPG2 Alternate Design for steel and concrete.
Alberta Wildlife Watch (AWW) MOU with Northwest Territories	System and knowledge sharing agreement for enhancing driver safety and reduce impacts to wildlife

TSB - Innovations and Updates

Innovation and Process	Description
Artificial Intelligence Enhancement of the AWW system	Testing the feasibility of AI to predict animal-vehicle collision locations on the network.
Geometric Design Guide Updates	Chapter A, C and Drawing updates (Design Bulletin 99)
Barrier and HTCB	Update to practices coming and in-service reviews in 2022
Asphalt Mixes	3.50 Spec Amendment, continued trials on improving mix durability (air void regression designs, etc.)
Wide Spread Tandem Axle Study	AT with U of A, conducting an assessment of the impact to pavements of increasing axle weight allowance
Line Paint Durability	Testing alternative line paint options for durability in 2022
Maintenance Contract Retender	Updated Specs and stakeholder engagement ongoing. Re-tender expected summer 2022.
Enhanced 511 System	Adding cameras and Digital Messaging Signs in 2022, RFP currently being advertised

Grants

Grants

- Budget 2022 allocates \$268.7 million over 3 years to Alberta's Municipal Infrastructure Grants Programs which include the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership, Water for Life and First Nations Water Tie-In.
 - It also includes a commitment for \$7.5 million for the Sundre Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- \$85 million is also allocated 3 years under the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP). This includes new funding of \$25 million in 2024-25.
- \$206.7 million is also allocated to the City of Edmonton's Yellowhead Trail, 50th Street and Terwillegar Drive road projects.
- \$1.1 billion will also flow to Calgary and Edmonton's LRT expansion projects.

Questions or Comments?

