Routes: Trade & Commerce

Online public engagement Spring 2021



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Purpose of Online Engagement

- The purpose of this online public engagement is to inform the public and industry and get their input on priorities for proposed upgrades to the provincial highway network as we expand the network of Trade & Commerce routes built to support RTAC loading.
- RTAC loading = 'Roads and Transportation Association of Canada' loading, based on a national standard for highway truck weights; RTAC is Manitoba's heaviest regulated loading classification.



Purpose of Online Engagement

- This engagement
 - Outlines the need for a grid of Trade & Commerce highways
 - Presents the strategic highways identified as Trade & Commerce routes
 - Gathers public input on the proposed grid of Trade & Commerce highways and identifies public priorities for network upgrades



Routes: Trade & Commerce

- Manitoba is planning to improve trade and commerce transport across the province by identifying a grid of Trade & Commerce routes that are designed to support RTAC loading.
 - Trade routes support interprovincial or international goods movement.
 - Commerce routes support goods movement within the province.



Highway Loading and Goods Movement

- RTAC loading on our highways supports businesses by reducing the number of trips it takes to transport goods, but also requires a greater investment to build and maintain stronger roads, bridges, and culverts.
- Manitoba's current Truck Weight Limit Map and Information Guide is available online: <u>https://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/mcd/resources/twlm.html</u>



Highway Loading and Goods Movement

- Expanding the existing grid of RTAC loading highways will ensure Manitobans have reliable highways that best support goods movement and our provincial economy.
- Manitoba has made recent advancements to support goods movements in the province, including
 - Identifying the International Trade Hub (i.e. PTH 75, the Perimeter Highway, and PTH 1 East and West) that forms the heart of Manitoba's RTAC network.
 - Improving safety on the Perimeter Highway through median closures and access rationalization.



Why is a grid of Trade & Commerce routes needed?

- The Trade & Commerce grid will expand the network of strategic highways and allow the Manitoba government to:
 - Expand its interconnected grid of key north-south and eastwest corridors that support RTAC loading.
 - Continue to build and maintain a robust highway network that supports the economy by enabling access to interprovincial and international markets.
 - Identify alternative RTAC routes where existing RTAC highways are vulnerable to the effects of climate change.
 - Prioritize highway investments that best support Manitoba's economy.
 - Improve climate performance through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions as a result of fewer trips.



Proposed Routes: Trade & Commerce

- The following slides contain maps that show the proposed *Routes: Trade & Commerce* grid.
- Trade routes (green) and Commerce routes (teal) form the proposed grid.
 - The proposed grid encompasses 7,112 km of provincial roads.
 - 5,989 km of the grid already support RTAC loading.
 - The remaining 1,123 km are red to show where loading upgrades are proposed.
- When completed, the grid of Trade & Commerce routes will represent 36.5% of Manitoba's all-weather provincial road network.



Proposed Trade & Commerce Routes – Manitoba Key Map





Proposed Trade & Commerce Routes – Capital Region



Proposed Trade & Commerce Routes – East portion of Southern MB







Proposed Trade & Commerce Routes – East portion of Central MB





Proposed Upgrades PTH 1A PTH 3 PTH 5 PTH 21 PTH 23 PTH 34 PTH 34 PTH 42 PTH 83 PR 240 PR 240 PR 244 PR 305 PR 256



Proposed Trade & Commerce Routes – West portion of Central

Proposed Upgrades

MB

Proposed upgrades for Central Manitoba (West) are shown with the map for the West portion of Southern Manitoba on Slide 12





Proposed Trade & Commerce Routes – South portion of Northern MB

Proposed Upgrades

Highways in Northern Manitoba have seen significant investment in recent years as part of Manitoba's Look North strategy to enable economic development in the region.

All of the proposed Trade & Commerce routes in the South portion of Northern Manitoba already support RTAC loading





Proposed Trade & Commerce Routes – Central portion of Northern MB

Proposed Upgrades

PR 283





Proposed Trade & Commerce Routes – North portion of Northern

MB

Proposed Upgrades

All of the proposed Trade & Commerce routes in the North portion of Northern Manitoba already support RTAC loading





What's next

- Provide your feedback on the Routes: Trade & Commerce grid through an online questionnaire on the EngageMB website
- Results from the online public engagement will be posted on the EngageMB website
- We will:
 - Review public input for the Trade & Commerce routes
 - Meet with directly impacted stakeholders and municipalities
 - Finalize the Routes: Trade & Commerce grid and continue to prioritize future upgrades to complete the network



Thank You!