



Ministry Highways and Infrastructure

Design

#18 – 3603 Millar Ave

Saskatoon, Canada S7P 0B2

Phone: 306-933-5966

April 19, 2023

Jay Magus, P.Eng.  
Director of Transportation  
City of Saskatoon  
2223 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North  
Saskatoon SK S7K 0J5

Dear Jay Magus,

**Subject:** Saskatoon Freeway Functional Planning Study Phase 2 Draft Report Comments

Thank you for providing comments on the Draft report for the Phase 2 functional planning study. The Ministry is pleased to provide the following responses to each comment below:

**Stakeholder Engagement & Communications**

Section 3.1.2: This section was updated to remove reference to the Northeast Swale Watchers participating in an “unofficial capacity”.

**Transportation Planning and Utilities**

Section 5.8:

- This section has been updated to include wording that Active Transportation should be accommodated on interchanges with city streets in the detailed design stage.

Section 9.1.1 Central Avenue:

- It has been confirmed that an Urban four-lane cross-section collector with 3.0m multi-use pathways on both sides can be constructed in the planned Right-of-Way.

Section 9.1.2: Highway 41/Blackley Road:

- It has been confirmed that an Urban four-lane cross-section collector with 3.0m multi-use pathways on both sides can be constructed in the planned Right-of-Way.

Section 9.1.4 8th Street:

- It has been confirmed that an Urban six-lane cross-section collector with 3.0m multi-use pathways on both sides can be constructed in the planned Right-of-Way.

Section 9.1.6 Zimmerman Road:

- The existing rail crossing at Patience Lake Road will be closed and relocated to the new crossing, the next closest crossing (Zimmerman Road) is approximately 750m away. Details of the Patience Lake Road within city limits will be finalized in the detailed design stage.
- Zimmerman Road interchange has been updated to incorporate four lanes as planned in the South East Concept Plan. The Right-of-Way plan will be updated.

Section 9.1.1 Sound:

- The section number will be updated.
- The 65 dB contour will not be restricted to the project right-of-way. If existing residences as of the final report, fall within the 65dB limit, the Ministry will provide sound mitigation during the detail design stage.

Section 9.5 Access Management Plan:

- The roll plan in Appendix E will be updated to show all access roads and new cul-del-sacs created due to the freeway.

**Drainage**

- The Ministry would request a copy of the Green Network Phase 2 Study for our records.
- The high water level in the Northeast Swale was used at 497.78m, we have noted that it should be adjust to 497.6m.
- During detail design the Ministry will finalize flow paths and ensure design flows are handled appropriately.
- The Ministry of Highways have different design standards and requirements for hydraulic design then the city. The Ministry will meet or exceed these requirements in consultation with the City and surrounding municipality during the detailed design stage.
- The comment on erosion via minor outfalls is noted and will be considered at detailed design.
- All components of the Saskatoon Freeway will be owned, operated, and maintained by the Ministry of Highways. The freeway will operate as a Provincial highway even as the city boundary expands past the freeway.

**Environmental and Heritage**

The comments are noted. The Ministry will follow all regulator's requirements as the project progresses.

**Internal Planning and Development**

The South East Concept Plan will be incorporated into the Phase 3 update to the Transportation Demand Model.

The Ministry has updated the draft report for Phase 2 with the above noted comments and will be submitting it for senior Ministry review. Once reviewed by the Ministry, it will be forwarded to the various municipalities for endorsement. We anticipate this to be done in summer 2023.

Thank-you for your continued effort on this project.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Meinert, P.Eng.  
Senior Project Manager

Enclosure



**Ministry Highways and Infrastructure**

Design

#18 – 3603 Millar Ave  
Saskatoon, Canada S7P 0B2

Phone: 306-933-5966

