



HIGHWAY BYPASS

CHAMBER POSITION

The Chamber of Commerce does not support any effort to re-route traffic around Fort Saskatchewan as this would have a large negative impact on local businesses.

The Chamber does support exploring all options that would allow highway traffic to flow freely through the city, such as widening the highway corridor, synchronizing traffic lights or expanding the North Saskatchewan River bridge.

BACKGROUND

Due to expected growth in Alberta's Industrial Heartland, a highway bypassing Fort Saskatchewan has been proposed to re-route traffic south of the city through Strathcona County. The bypass would connect Highway 15 east of the city's eastern boundary with Highway 21 south of the city's southern boundary, running in a southwest/northeasterly direction through rural farmland in Strathcona County.

Although such a highway may alleviate some traffic congestion, it is expected to significantly re-route consumer traffic away from the highway commercial areas along the Highway 15/21 corridor. That commercial corridor – which is less than a decade old – draws consumers from 100 km northeast of the city, some of whom also travel into downtown to shop.

For additional information, contact:

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