

NEWS RELEASE

Highway 11 Corridor Study

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sylvan Lake, August 23, 2005 - At the regular Council meeting of August 22, 2005, Sylvan Lake Town Council heard a presentation from Dillon Consulting, contracted by Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, to author the "*Highway 11 Corridor Management Study*".

The study identifies required improvements and proposed interchange locations which would result in Highway 11 being designated a "freeway" in accordance with Alberta Transportation's "*Best Practices for Planning and Design of Freeway Facilities*".

The Town of Sylvan Lake, the County of Red Deer and the County of Lacombe were identified as major stakeholders in the proposed conversion and as such are represented on the Technical Review Committee formed to assist Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, and Dillon Consulting, in the study process. Assistant CAO, Myron Thompson, represents the Town of Sylvan Lake's interests in this matter.

The study component that has drawn the most interest, and concern, from the Town of Sylvan Council, Administration, and area residents, is the determination of the interchange locations that were established by the consultant in the study.

The study has identified four areas for interchanges would provide access on to, and off of, the proposed Highway 11 freeway:

- Intersection of Range Road 283 and Highway 11
- Intersection of Highway 20 and Highway 11
- Intersection of Range Road 21 and Highway 11
- Intersection of Secondary Highway 786 and Highway 11

Sylvan Lake Council and Administration are very concerned that the one interchange location designated for Sylvan Lake is not sufficient for access to the community, given the Town's unprecedented growth rate and unique resort status in Central Alberta. It is Council and Administration's strong belief that the interchange location identified at Range Road 21, 3.2 km west of the Town of Sylvan Lake's current boundary, would be better placed at Range Road 15.

Previous planning and consultations with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation has led the

Contact: Myron Thompson
Asst. Chief Administrative Officer
Phone: (403) 887-2141
Fax: (403) 887-3660

4926 - 50 Avenue
Sylvan Lake, AB
T4S 1A1
www.sylvanlake.ca

TOWN OF SYLVAN LAKE
A Town For All Seasons

PRESS RELEASE

Highway 11 Corridor Study

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

community to construct, and plan for, major improvements to that roadway over the past number of years on the joint consensus that this roadway would be a future link to Highway 11. Not placing an interchange at the intersection of Range Road 15 and Highway 11 will place the heavy burden on the Town of Sylvan Lake of providing a much broader traffic network to support the newly designated Highway 11 freeway. This requirement for improved roadways and broadened traffic corridors would not only be a significant financial undertaking for the Town of Sylvan Lake and its taxpayers, but would jeopardize future development in areas adjacent to these roadways, areas which have, based on previous planning, been designated for future residential growth.

Though the "*Highway 11 Corridor Management Study*" contains planning timelines of 15 to 20 years, decisions made now will have a profound effect on residents of Sylvan Lake and area, and will certainly affect future development taking place in Sylvan Lake.

The final report from Dillon Consulting is scheduled to be delivered to Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation by September 1, 2005. The municipalities and counties involved in the study have been requested to provide "Letters of Endorsement" to be included in the report.

Copies of the draft report on the "*Highway 11 Corridor Management Study*" prepared by Dillon Consulting are available from Assistant CAO Myron Thompson for review by concerned area residents. Contact information for both Dillon Consulting and Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation are also available.

For more information, please contact:

Myron Thompson
Assistant CAO
Town of Sylvan Lake
4926 - 50 Avenue
Sylvan Lake, AB
T4S 1A1

Phone: 403.887.2141 Fax: 403.887.3660 mthompson@sylvanlake.ca

August 23, 2005

Town of Sylvan Lake