

Office of the Minister MLA, Grande Prairie-Wapiti



AR63541

November 24, 2014

Ms. Helen Rice President Alberta Urban Municipalities Association 300, 8616 51 Avenue Edmonton, AB T6E 6E6

Dear Ms. Rice:

Thank you for forwarding your association's resolution regarding my department's input in developments adjacent to provincial highways. As Minister of Transportation, I am pleased to respond.

Alberta Transportation has a long standing policy of requiring municipalities to take responsibility for addressing impacts on provincial highway systems resulting from land use decisions and development approvals. This is because municipalities are the land use approving authorities for new developments within their boundaries.

Different developments generate different types and volumes of traffic, and the impact on the provincial highway varies. We strive to work alongside municipalities and developers to identify all impacts on provincial highways and ensure they are accounted for during initial development planning. Identifying and accounting for impacts can be challenging, particularly when developments occur in phases over several years. As details are finalized regarding successive phases of a development, the cumulative impacts of the development often need to be reassessed.

Our mandate is to ensure the safety of the public traveling on provincial highways. This means all access onto provincial highways must meet safety standards. We are currently reviewing our roadside development processes and will seek input from municipalities to ensure municipal needs are addressed. I have forwarded your concerns with this process to department staff as input for this review.

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324 Legislature Building, 10800 - 97 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada Telephone 780-427-2080 Fax 780-422-2722 100, Junction Point Village, 9814 - 97 Street, Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 8H5 Canada Telephone 780-538-1800 Fax 780-538-1802 Ms. Helen Rice Page Two

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns.

Sincerely,

Sincerely, Waye Deckley

Wayne Drysdale Minister