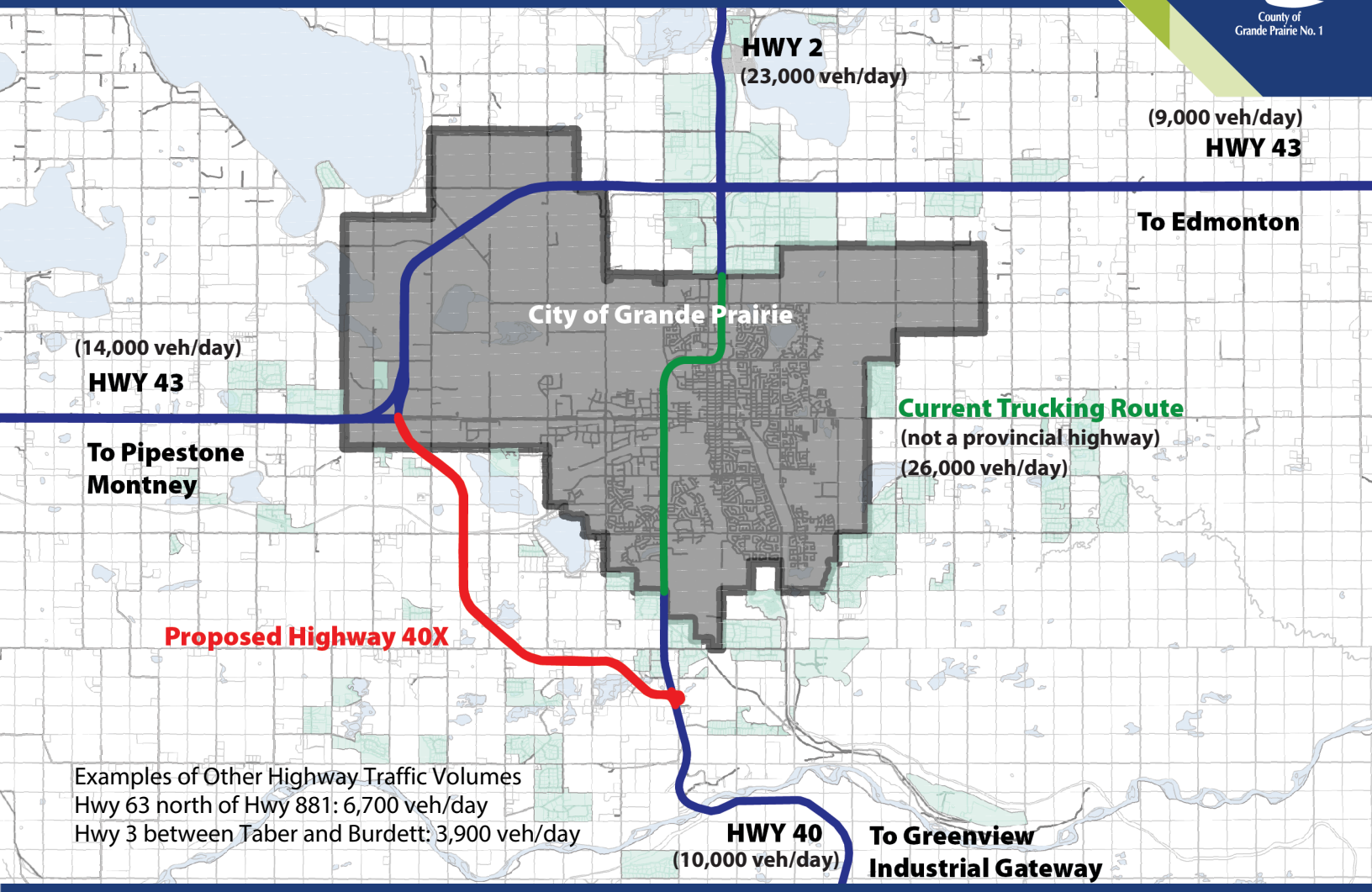
Highway 40X Proposal



Highway 40X

Highway 40X will be a crucial addition to the transportation network, serving as a vital economic corridor connecting the two major existing highways to build on the region's economic growth potential and improve traffic safety. Over 20 letters of support have been received from municipalities, industry, and school divisions.

Highway 43 is part of the CANAMEX/North-South Trade Corridor that links Canada to Mexico through the United States.

Highway 40 serves several existing industrial developments which have increased resource-based activities in the area.

The Highway 43 and 40 system services significant existing industrial development and provides critical access to the region, supporting extensive economic development opportunities for the Province of Alberta.

There is approximately $7 billion in announced projects through the Alberta Major Projects Map, that could be positively impacted by the Highway 43 and 40 network.

This private investment will have a significant positive impact on provincial government revenue streams.

Benefits

Alberta's economy has bounced back, and this recovery is driven by commercial activity. This recovery has also resulted in an increase in commercial traffic to levels not seen since early 2020.

The Grande Prairie region has proven its resiliency in the face of economic challenges.

Nevertheless, our local economy cannot reach its full potential without the transportation infrastructure it needs. Highway 40X will provide crucial support to the economic growth of the region and the province.

The Grande Prairie area has a population of approximately 100,000 residents and serves a trade area of over 290,000 people. Some of the benefits of investing in the Highway 40X project include:

INCREASED PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE STREAM

Significant private investment in the area will increase provincial government revenue streams. An efficient road network further drives private investment.

HIGHWAY CONNECTIVITY

Currently, Highways 40 and 43 are not connected. This is the only location left in the province where primary highways do not connect and drivers must drive through an urban roadway network to access another primary highway.

SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCY

The project will reduce bottlenecks while supporting and enhancing the economic and environmental resiliency of the Province and its infrastructure.

INCREASING AND PROMOTING ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Capacity delays to the highway network threaten further capital investment in the region. The region misses out on job creation the longer the highway network waits for improvement.

IMPROVED SAFETY

Increased high volumes of traffic, specifically heavy trucks, raises the probability of accidents and serious incidents. Every day, about 26,000 vehicles pass through the City of Grande Prairie, including 3,000 heavy trucks, navigating residential areas, parks, schools, pedestrian trails, and a cemetery. The negative impact of industrial traffic on local populations will escalate with increasing industrial activity.

REDUCED TRAFFIC DELAYS FOR INDUSTRIAL USERS, TOURISTS AND THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC

Creating a connected highway network will provide substantial efficiencies for industrial users, reducing overall congestion and accidents.

JOB CREATION

A project of this magnitude will create immediate direct jobs and ongoing indirect jobs associated with increased economic activity that this project will support.

Requested Action

Functional planning for the Highway 40X project was completed in 2010. The highway corridor is defined and Budget 2023 included funds for land acquisition and design engineering.

Allocation and identification of the project in the 2027 capital plan and allocation of construction funding is requested to be part of the 2027 budget cycle so construction can begin in 2027/2028. Given the impact this project will have on the economy and traffic safety, it should be prioritized to proceed during capital planning.

County of Grande Prairie No. 1 10001 - 84 Avenue, Clairmont, AB T8X 5B2 Canada
Administration Building: 780-532-9722 | **Community Services Building:** 780-532-9727 | **Fax:** 780-539-9880