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May 5, 2017

The Honorable Brian Mason
Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation
Office of the Minister
Infrastructure
320 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5K 286

Email to: infrastructure.minister@gov.ab.ca

Subject: Highway 15 Twinning and Pedestrian Bridge

Minister Mason:

It was my pleasure to join you, Premier Notley, and your cabinet colleagues in Fort Saskatchewan on March 23rd for the announcement of the twinning of the Highway 15 Bridge into Fort Saskatchewan. As you are aware, this project will improve safety and congestion issues, and will enable further regional economic development through the Industrial Heartland, which is positive for both Alberta and Canada. Sturgeon County appreciates the Government's investment in this initiative!

Sturgeon County has developed a great working relationship with the Government of Alberta. As this project progresses through the engineering design phases, I would encourage your team to work closely with ours, as well as with important stakeholders, like the River Valley Alliance. Recently, we have seen great successes with infrastructure investments in the Heartland when Council and the Provincial Government maintains open lines of communication and works together in a collaborative manner towards our mutually shared outcomes.

Consistent with the River Valley Alliance's request, Sturgeon County also sees the Highway 15 project as an excellent opportunity to leverage economies of scale through the incorporation of a pedestrian bridge. Doing so reduces design and construction costs overall, and will lead to increased trail connectivity and recreation opportunities, while enabling the safe and efficient transportation of people (i.e. pedestrians and cyclists) and goods.

On behalf of Sturgeon County Council, I appreciate your Ministry's consideration on this specific matter, and remain thankful for the Government's continued commitment to infrastructure investments that contribute to economic diversification, safety, and well-being.

VIA EMAIL

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Best Regards,

Tom Flynn – Mayor Sturgeon County

CC.

Barry Day, Deputy Minister Alberta Transportation MLA Jessica Littlewood, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville MLA Colin Piquette, Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater Mayor Gale Katchur, City of Fort Saskatchewan Sturgeon County Council Peter Tarnawsky, County Commissioner-CAO Larry Wall, Executive Director, River Valley Alliance Athabasca Landing Trail Committee