

# Integrated Regional Transportation Master Plan (IRTMP)



A future-focused plan for efficient regional mobility - connecting our communities, moving people and goods, and growing our economy.

The IRTMP is a 25-year regional transportation vision that provides an interconnected roadmap for planning regional transportation infrastructure. It supports the growth and livability of our Region by informing and identifying investment priorities that will ensure our Region's connectivity. It also highlights opportunities to use existing transportation infrastructure more efficiently before expanding roads or investing in new infrastructure and places new emphasis on alternate modes of transportation.

The IRTMP is about:

- **creating the conditions for the effective movement of people and goods by:** integrating regional and multi-modal transportation systems to enhance our global competitiveness and improve quality of life.
- **working smarter and better together by:** reducing redundancy in capital planning, prioritizing transportation infrastructure needs, and ensuring funding is maximized to bring the greatest benefit to our Region and lessen the burden on taxpayers.
- **fostering relationships to grow our economy by:** engaging a wide variety of stakeholders and gaining insight into transportation needs of our Region that will foster investment and advance our economic prosperity.

Our municipalities had over 100 years to build the services and infrastructure needed to house, move, and keep a million of us safe. We have only 25 years to plan for the next million residents.

The Edmonton International Airport (EIA) is a key regional asset: it is the 5th busiest airport in Canada in terms of passenger traffic and a major cargo entry point into North America, handling more than 46,000 metric tons of cargo in 2020.

## Why is this work important?

Because ...

- our regional prosperity depends on the effective movement of people and goods today and for generations to come.
- we're one interconnected Region of diverse urban and rural communities with diverse needs.
- there are complex challenges associated with doubling our regional population and the costs to support future growth can be significant.
- new trends in industry, global trade, and technology will reshape the economic and regional landscape.
- success requires foresight, strategic investments, collaboration, and new strategies.
- climate change requires an ambitious and coordinated effort to create more resilient and sustainable infrastructure.
- our communities continue to evolve increasing the need for a range of transportation choices that are safe, affordable, and equitable for residents.

**1.4m** Home to more than 1.4 million people and generating \$105 billion in GDP.

**5th** Canada's fifth largest economy, and the fastest growing region.

**25.9** Residents in our Region have an average commute time of 25.9 minutes, which is one minute faster than the national average.



How do we mitigate increased maintenance and lifecycle costs of different transportation systems?

## Deliberate and strategic work

As one of the youngest and fastest growing regions in Canada, we are continually creating conditions to increase economic and social advantage, to attract some of the best and brightest talent.

## Regional Transportation Successes

- Our Region's position as a major entry point for cargo incited Amazon to announce it would establish its first robotics warehouse in Alberta in Parkland County. It is expected to create 1,000 full- and part-time jobs at the facility, which is expected to open in 2022.
- The new IRTMP includes a greater focus on transit options and connectivity. Our vision for transit is informed by the work of the Edmonton Metropolitan Transit Services Commission.



The first regional plan to address the need for active transportation choices to connect our Region.



## Building our future today

- We need to act quickly to build a more efficient and sustainable future for generations to come.
- We need to keep up with technological advances and ensure future generations will benefit from transportation disruptors.

## Innovative work

Regional collaboration builds relationships. Working together fosters information sharing and creative thinking, allowing our Region to problem solve together and plan without boundaries. The work:

- evolved from a largely road-centric plan to one that implements the growth plan's multi-modal vision.
- emphasizes efficient land-use and environmental awareness in transportation planning.
- uses a modelling platform built with the input of our member municipalities, focusing on evidence and data-driven decisions.
- introduces mobility hubs and intermodal hubs, that more effectively moves people and goods.
- identifies our Region's highest transportation priorities through an annual capital prioritization review, where all 13 municipalities collectively select our Region's priorities, producing a package of recommendations for provincial, and federal funding.

Planning for the Anthony Henday, the first freeway to surround a major Canadian city, began in the 1960s. It is a great example of regional vision and collaboration and is one of the busiest highways in Western Canada, carrying over 108,000 vehicles per day (2019).



**This is the work of the EMRB**  
where efficiency, innovation,  
and sustainability intersect.