

# Best Practice

## Municipal Co-operation

### CONTACT

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Project Date: 1998 (ongoing)

### THE PRACTICE

The project was initiated to provide a primary highway to service the area. The municipalities believe that a primary weight corridor is essential to remaining regionally competitive. For this reason, meetings were called between the four adjoining rural municipalities and the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure to provide a primary link between highway #39 at Midale and highway #9 south of Alameda.

### THE PROCESS

This practice involved consultation with ratepayers from all participating RMs in the area. Meetings were held with major stakeholders to gauge their feelings on the proposal. Formal agreement between the municipalities and provincial government were made for the construction, upgrading and maintenance of the corridor.

The RMs also had several meetings with oil companies in the area who agreed to supply trucks and labour to improve the roadway which included sub base and the commencement of a hot mix overlay. As of July 2006, the Government of Saskatchewan established a 10 month primary weight road on highway #361 between highway #9 and highway #47. As a result, this allowed the RM of Benson and RM of Cymri to allow primary weights on PG 702 to establish the corridor between highway #47 and highway #39.

### THE RESULTS

Improved road maintenance and traffic flow are having extremely beneficial effects in the region. Having a primary weight road to our urban communities opens opportunities for expansion and revitalization of the area. Because of our efforts, business' that require primary weight have already begun expanding to our region. The relationship between all parties has been exceptional and continues to evolve as the process expands.

### LESSONS LEARNED

The lessons learned over the years are that co-operation is required to compete in the world today. This project would not have occurred had the municipalities worked individually. The practice of working together to complete a project will benefit all municipalities involved and will provide a much need economic boost to the region.