

May 26, 2023

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill Ministry of Highways Room 322, 2405 Legislative Drive Regina, SK S4S 0B3

Dear Honorable Minister Cockrill,

RE: Condition of Highways 44 and 30

The Town of Eston Council is writing to voice concerns about the hazardous conditions on Highways 44 and 30. The condition of these highways are very treacherous and are a threat to traffic, including emergency vehicles, who travel these roads.

The deteriorating state of Highways 44 (Glidden to Eston) and 30 (Eston Riverside Regional Park to Brock), potholes, broken and uneven pavement, pose a risk to the safety of drivers and increases the likelihood of accidents. Additionally, the narrow width of the road further exacerbates the risks, especially at night or in adverse weather conditions.

These hazardous conditions not only threaten the lives of regular travellers but also impacts the response time of emergency services. Timely arrival at emergencies is crucial for police, fire, and ambulance personnel, and the compromised state of these highways hinders their ability to provide timely assistance.

This has hit Eston economically as well, there are many cases but one I would like to address is a person going to buy a home in Eston and operate a business has decided against Eston due to the road and moved to Brock.

Moreover, these conditions have also inflicted economic repercussions on Eston. One illustrative case involves an individual who intended to purchase a home and establish a business in Eston but, due to the poor road conditions, decided against it and relocated to another community instead.

We request that the Department of Highways effectively assess the risks associated with the current state of Highways 44 and 30, and improve the safety of all road users enabling emergency responders to fulfill their duties without unnecessary obstacles.

We kindly request that you keep us unformed as to the progress made in addressing these concerns and the steps taken to improve the safety conditions on Highways 44 and 30. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we trust that prompt action will be taken to ensure the safety of the citizens of Saskatchewan.

Respectfully,

Chief Administrative Officer on behalf of Council