

Springfield News and Views

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Planning Department

It has been a busy year for Springfield's Planning Department with 115 new single family dwelling building permits issued in 2006. This is an increase of 11% over 2005. The total number of all permits issued was 1051. These permits include building, water & sewer connections, development, plumbing, demolition, lot grades, driveway access and civic addressing. They represent 127 million dollars in new construction in the municipality. The 2006 permits generated \$179,892.61 to the municipality treasury.

Anola 100th Anniversary

An anniversary committee has been formed to organize and plan the 100 year celebration event on June 1, 2, and 3rd 2007. The committee is represented by various clubs and associations, from the Anola area. Thus far the event will include a parade, fireworks, dance, entertainment, sporting events and children activities.

Provincial Highway # 15 Bridge

Floodway officials confirmed that the existing PTH 15 Bridge would withstand a one-in-700 year flood and this would mean uninterrupted access for area residents during a major flood. In this context, Manitoba Floodway Authority had been designing the PTH 15 Bridge as a twinned structure for construction in 2009, not for any specific flood protection purpose but, rather, in response to requests for transportation improvements by area residents. Recently, however, as construction cost challenges began to impact the project, the governments of Canada and Manitoba directed the MFA to review the entire project to ensure the project remained on budget by focusing resources on flood protection improvements. Subsequently, an engineering analysis of all the bridges was undertaken and confirmed that six bridges were not required to provide a one-in-700 year level of flood protection. As a result, MFA made a decision not to replace any of the six bridges, including the PTH 15 bridge. I recently have had discussions and meetings with both our MLA Ron Schuler and our MP Vic Toews regarding this issue and expressed that the residents of Springfield are quite troubled with the decision to cancel the new twin bridges at highway #15. Once again the residents of Springfield are being shortchanged on any highway infrastructure projects and it is their obligation that transportation improvements on Highway #15 be their priority.

