# Highway 104 Twinning Taylors Road to Paqtnkek

The Nova Scotia Department of Public Works (NSDPW) is currently in the planning stages for the twinning of Highway 104 from Taylors Road to Paqtnkek interchange. Environmental screening studies and engineering planning work is underway.

### **BACKGROUND**

The existing two-lane highway will be twinned to a four-lane controlled-access highway with a wide median. The existing intersections along Highway 104 will be removed, allowing traffic to use the new grade-separated interchange. Trunk 4 will be reconnected to access destinations throughout the surrounding communities.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project will include twinned highway lanes continuing easterly from the existing twinned highway to east of the Paqtnkek interchange. A new grade separated interchange will include a diamond ramp configuration with roundabouts at the new ramp intersections. The interchange will be located between Exit 35, Lower South River and Exit 36B, Paqtnkek.

Trunk 4 will be re-established to provide access to existing properties and reconnect the secondary road system. This will include a new structure over the highway near Dagger Woods Road. All existing at-grade highway intersections and driveways will be removed. Access will be provided on new Local or Trunk roads. Opportunities for active transportation are being explored along the reconnection of Trunk 4.

The current project area can be seen in the map.

Careful planning and design measures along with accepted construction techniques will ensure that environmental impacts from road construction activities are minimized.

# **PROJECT STATUS**

Planning work is underway for the project. Land requirements for the project are still under review and property acquisition is expected to begin in the Fall of 2023.

As part of DPW's planning efforts, non-invasive environmental and archaeological field studies have begun and will continue throughout 2023 and 2024.

The next phase of the project requires detailed design for the roadways, interchange, and structures, along with acquisition of the land and environmental mitigation plans. The Department is continuing with pre-construction activities to ensure the project can proceed to construction when appropriate approvals are in place.

The project is currently programmed to begin in 2024-2025 as a major construction project on the Five- Year Highway Improvement Plan.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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