

DISASTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE *Facts*

Answering your questions about the DFA program

19.0 Re-opening Infrastructure

(for local authorities)

During a disaster event, a local authority may be faced with a large amount of damaged infrastructure. Local authorities may be under pressure to re-open certain roads and crossings as residents may need to access homes, businesses and to meet certain agricultural deadlines.

Ultimately, local authorities are responsible for maintaining their infrastructure in a manner which is safe for public use. They are also responsible for deciding if and when their infrastructure needs to be closed or re-opened.

⇒ If a site is damaged and it requires a non-engineered solution before re-opening:

- The local authority is responsible for determining whether the infrastructure is safe for public use, and taking appropriate measures to close the infrastructure if necessary.
- Damages to the site should be documented with photos before repair, and the damaged infrastructure should be assigned a site number.
- The local authority may proceed with repairs, either as a temporary fix to allow public access or as a permanent solution as they see fit.

⇒ If a site is damaged and it requires an engineered solution before re-opening:

- The local authority is responsible for determining whether the infrastructure is safe for public use, and taking appropriate measures to close the infrastructure if necessary.
- If the local authority cannot determine if the structure is safe because an engineer is required to make the assessment, they are encouraged to **contact Manitoba EMO immediately**. Manitoba EMO can deploy its third-party engineering consultant on short notice, often within 24 hours.
- Damages to the site should be documented with photos before repair, and the damaged infrastructure should be assigned a site number.
- The local authority may proceed with repairs, either as a temporary fix to allow public access or as a permanent solution as they see fit.