

COUNTY SUPPORT PROVIDED BY NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ROADS
NDOR Government Affairs Office
August, 2008

Notes:

- Federal Aid programs are Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) programs unless otherwise indicated –
- Counties are required to adhere to FHWA or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) guidelines for all Federal-Aid transportation projects –
- NDOR oversees, and provides start-to-finish technical assistance on, local Federal Aid projects, generally including oversight of, and assistance with eligibility, purpose and need, environmental compliance, design and construction. –
- “On-System” and “Off-System” refer to the Federal-Aid System. On-System includes county roads functionally classified as Major Collector or higher (National Functional Classification System). In the context of this presentation, On-System does NOT mean “on the State Highway System” –
- NDOR administering Divisions/Districts & contact persons are shown in italics –
- Many of the referenced items, as well as additional information, are available through NDOR's website: www.transportation.nebraska.gov. To locate an item, type the key words into the search box on the NDOR main page.

State Aid, Federal Aid, and Program Support to Counties

- Distribution of State Highway Allocation funds. This State-funded, formula-based, entitlement program provided \$101.3 million to all counties collectively in FY-08. It is supported by the State Motor Fuel Tax, the State Sales Tax applied to sales of motor vehicles, and the State Motor Vehicle Registration Fee, through the State Highway Trust Fund. Counties receive a monthly allocation, which may be used for construction and maintenance of roads and appurtenances, and for road program administration. A 25% annual local match must be provided, and all funds (including match) must be spent on the road program. *Local Projects Section (LeMoyne Schulz – program features & requirements), Controller Division (Terri Oglesby – formula factors & allocation amounts).*

- Distribution of Motor Vehicle Fee proceeds. These replace the former Personal Property Tax on motor vehicles. Distribution is made quarterly through the Highway Allocation formula. Motor Vehicle Fee receipts must be used for the road or street program. They count toward the local match of Highway Allocation funds. (MV Fees constitute approximately one-third of local match of Highway Allocation funds overall). *Local Projects Section (LeMoyne Schulz) & Controller Division (Terri Oglesby).*

- Disbursement of Federal Aid for County projects. Only documented and approved services qualify for payment. The county pays for the work directly, and NDOR reimburses the county with Federal or State funds. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel).*

- Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. NDOR, county and municipal projects on the Federal-Aid System (“On-System”) are eligible for these federal funds. A 20% local match required. NDOR reserves a portion of Nebraska's rural STP funds for counties, and makes those funds available to each county (and to municipalities < 5,000 population through their county) through a formula that takes into account population, registered vehicles and road miles. Total STP funds available annually to Nebraska counties and municipalities < 5,000 under the SAFETEA-LU Act: approximately \$7 million. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel).*

- Federal Bridge Program (BR) funds. These funds go to counties (and municipalities < 5,000 through the county) for bridge projects (On-System & Off-System) entailing replacement, rehabilitation or systematic preventive maintenance. A 15%* local match is required for bridge projects managed by counties (*NDOR, in effect, reduces the Federally-required 20% match to 15% for counties by supplying 5% from State Aid Bridge funds). Total Federal bridge funds available annually to Nebraska counties (and to municipalities < 5,000 through their county) under the SAFETEA-LU Act: \$10-\$12 million. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel).*

- State Aid Bridge Program funds. Nebraska provides \$768,000 annually through the State Highway Trust Fund to county bridges, as prioritized and approved by the Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards. This State program predates the Federal Bridge Program; Nebraska now uses it to leverage Federal bridge funds, thereby reducing the county match for bridge projects by 5%. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel & LeMoyne Schulz)*.
- Federal Soft-Match Bridge Program. Allows qualifying county-funded bridge projects (Off-System only) to count as a credit, offsetting the county match on future Federal bridge projects. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel)*.
- Boring and design for bridge foundations. With sufficient advance notice and as feasible, NDOR undertakes soil exploration and foundation design for county bridge projects. *Materials & Research Division, Geotechnical Section (Omar Oudus)*.
- Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds. For qualifying projects (On-System & Off-System) as prioritized by the NDOR Safety Committee. Includes High Risk Rural Roads, a sub-program to address accident-prone roadways). *Traffic Engineering Division (Dan Waddle), Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel), NE LTAP (Dan Cady)*.
- Federal & State Grade Crossing Safety / Grade Separation Program funds. State funding comes from the Train-Mile Tax on railroads and from \$30,000 per month from the sales tax on motor vehicles, passing through the State Highway Trust Fund to the Grade Crossing Protection Fund. Projects are prioritized by NDOR under Federal and State criteria. *Rail & Public Transportation Division (Ellis Tompkins)*.
- State Recreation Roads Program funds. For county roads serving Nebraska Game and Parks Commission facilities, as certified by NGPC. Funding comes from State motor vehicle registration fees, through the State Highway Trust Fund. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel)*.
- State Incentive Funds. A county qualifies if it designates a licensed person as its County Highway Superintendent and if that Superintendent is involved in the full road program. The Incentive is doubled if the Superintendent holds a Class A License. This small program provided \$783,125 to all counties collectively for CY 07 (Feb 08 distribution), from the County share of the State Highway Trust Fund. *Local Projects Section (LeMoyne Schulz)*.
- Federal Emergency Relief (ER) Program funds. For county roads and structures (On-System only) under a disaster declaration. NOTE: This pertains to FHWA ER funds, not FEMA funds. (FEMA funds go directly to counties and are not administered through NDOR.) *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel)*.
- Federal Public Lands Highway Program funds. For county roads leading to Federal lands, including Indian Reservations. As the lead state agency for this program, NDOR keeps a list of qualified projects and documents them for possible earmarking by Nebraska's Congressional delegation in the annual Federal Transportation Appropriations Bill. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel)*.
- Equipment purchase. Counties can purchase equipment on the State purchase contract. *Operations Division (Kay Benson)*.
- Technology distribution. Occasionally counties will receive devices through Discretionary Funds grants to NDOR by the FHWA Nebraska Division Office. Such occasional grants to the State have provided one-time distribution of GPS receivers, digital cameras, color printers, and laptop computers to county road departments. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel)*.
- Federal Enhancement Program funds. For trails and other pedestrian and bicycle facilities, scenic easements and sites, welcome centers and other transportation-related facilities and activities. Projects are prioritized annually by an interagency committee chaired by NDOR. *Local Projects Section (Jim Pearson)*.
- National Scenic Byway funds for marketing and infrastructure along Nebraska's nine Byways. *Local Projects Section (Jim Pearson)*.
- Federal Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS – Safe Routes Nebraska) funds. For engineering solutions and safety awareness to make walking and pedaling to school safer. *Safe Routes Nebraska (Kelly Morgan, Sinclair Hille Architects) & Local Projects Section (Jim Pearson)*.
- Federal & State Public Transportation Program funds. For rural transit operations and equipment (including buses). State funds are appropriated by the Legislature from the NDOR Highway Cash Fund. Annual federal funds available are in excess of \$5.5 million per year, from Federal Transit Administration (FTA) programs. *Rail & Public Transportation Division (Jerry Wray)*.

Training / Technical Support to Counties

- Funding for the Nebraska Local Technical Assistance Program (NE LTAP). Located at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of Cooperative Extension Services, NE LTAP provides transportation workforce training and the transfer of transportation technology to county road and highway safety departments. NDOR provides the 50% State match (and additional funding as available) for this Federal program. *NE LTAP (Dan Cady)*.
- Technical assistance on State standards, relaxations of standards (design exceptions), Federal Aid requirements, and project management techniques & procedures. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel and LeMoyne Schulz)*.
- Technical assistance on filing county reports. Filing of One- & Six-Year Plan ("Six-Year Plan" = Plan for five years beyond, plus the One-Year Plan) and County Annual Road Program Report, to the Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards (NDOR staffs / provides administrative support to the Board). *Local Projects Section (LeMoyne Schulz)*.
- County Highway Superintendent training & licensing. Nebraska's unique licensing program is governed by the Board of Examiners for County Highway and City Street Superintendents (NDOR staffs the board and provides its administrative office). Twice a year, NDOR provides a 3-day Examination Preparation Workshop covering the basic duties of a County Highway Superintendent, assisted by NE LTAP. *Local Projects Section (LeMoyne Schulz)*.
- Right of Way acquisition assistance. NDOR's Right of Way Acquisition Guide for Local Public Agencies outlines the process for right of way on county projects, including securing a Right of Way Certificate. The Local Public Agency ROW Coordinator is available to assist and advise counties. *Right of Way Division (Roxanne Sullivan)*.
- Environmental compliance assistance. Due to increased complexity of environmental requirements, NDOR will make available, on a reimbursable basis, the services of a consultant environmental program manager. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel)*.
- Engineering services procurement assistance. NDOR coordinates Preliminary Engineering (PE) and Construction Engineering (CE) procurement requirements for Federal and State-funded projects. *Local Projects Section (for PE – LeRoy Juengel); Planning & Project Development Division (for CE and PE/CE combined – Dawn Knott)*.
- Contract letting. NDOR Assists counties to ensure that all federal requirements are met throughout the letting, bid opening and awarding process. *Construction Division – Contracts Section (Liz Wunderlich)*.
- Construction administration. NDOR assists counties with the help of consultants in the administration of federal aid projects to insure that all federal requirements are met from start of construction through final payment. – *Construction Division (Steve Bartos)*.
- Trns•port (SiteManager). NDOR provides technical support to the counties and their consultants for NDOR's contract administration software (Site-Manager). *Construction Division (Jim Ferguson)*.
- Bridge Inspector training & certification. NDOR administers this Federally mandated program in cooperation with the FHWA Nebraska Division and the Nebraska LTAP. Courses include: Bridge Inspector (offered every other year), Bridge Inspector Refresher, and Fracture Critical Inspection. *Bridge Division (Terry Holman), NE LTAP (Dan Cady)*.
- Bridge inventory and ratings. NDOR maintains the software, inventory and database for the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) in Nebraska. Through contracts with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and with consultants, NDOR is coordinating the re-rating of all local system bridges. *Bridge Division (Steve Andersen)*.
- Classification of county roads. NDOR determines, and maintains a database of, the functional classification (State and National functional classification systems) of all local roads and streets. *Materials & Research Division (Dave Brokaw)*.
- Inventory of county roads. NDOR maintains a database of county road miles ("centerline" miles). *Materials & Research Division (Ron Disney)*.
- Maps of county roads. A full range of county road maps is maintained electronically. Individual maps can be transferred electronically and some also are available on paper. *Business Technology Support Division (Michael Niedermeyer – for electronic maps); Communication Division (Craig Harrington – for printed maps)*.
- CoNECTAR / Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technical assistance. CoNECTAR, a version of NDOR's web-based GIS tool, NECTAR (Nebraska Enterprise Centerline Transportation Attribute Resource), is under development for use by local jurisdictions. It provides user-friendly access to current local agency transportation related information. *Business Technology Support Division (Michael Niedermeyer or Rose Braun), NE LTAP (Dan Cady)*.
- Research on topics of interest to local road and street programs. Throughout the year, NDOR solicits and receives ideas for new research projects. Localities are encouraged to submit requests, in areas ranging from materials/pavement/maintenance/construction, structural/geotechnical, roadway/hydraulics/environmental, to traffic/safety/planning/

transit/ITS. Counties and municipalities are represented on the Nebraska Transportation Research Council, which evaluates the requests and prioritizes the most worthy ones for next year's research projects. FHWA research funds support the research projects, which are conducted by the University of Nebraska. *Materials and Research Division (Amy Starr)*.

- Central point of contact for local permit programs for Oversize / Over-dimensional Vehicles & Loads. NDOR refers inquiries and applicants to the appropriate county and municipal permit offices. *Rail & Public Transportation Division (Ron Kontos)*.

- Administration of Nebraska's Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) funds. This Federal Transit Administration (FTA) program provides training and technical assistance to rural transit programs and provides support to the Nebraska Association of Transportation Providers (NATP). *Rail & Public Transportation Division (Jerry Wray)*.

- Emergency Preparedness training. NDOR provides Level One Terrorism Awareness training to counties through the National Highway Watch Program. *NE LTAP (Dan Cady), Operations Division (Jim Schmailzl)*.

Coordination with / Outreach to Counties

- Annual distribution of Nebraska Surface Transportation Program Book. Distributed (hard-copy, also available on website) to every county, this presents NDOR's One-Year and Five-Year Programs and constitutes NDOR's statutory One- and Six-Year Plan. *Communication Division (Mary Jo Oie)*.

- Annual District Surface Transportation Program Meetings. NDOR publicizes these widely and seeks broad input from local officials and the public. *Communication Division*.

- Coordination of Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Counties are partners in the state's SHSP, a component of the federal Highway Safety Improvement Program. *Traffic Engineering Division (Dan Waddle)*.

- Federal Aid/State Liaison Committee (formerly Federal Aid Standing Committee). Consisting of representatives from the counties and NDOR, this committee meets whenever the partners feel the need to discuss important items regarding Federal Aid funding on county projects (about once a year). *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel)*.

- Coordination with counties by NDOR District Offices. For major NDOR construction and maintenance projects and other issues of mutual interest. *Districts*.

- Coordination with FHWA on county issues & projects, and coordination with counties on FHWA issues. *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel); Districts*.

- On-going coordination with statewide local associations. Primarily the Nebraska Association of County Officials, and its affiliate, the Nebraska Association of County Engineers, Highway Superintendents and Surveyors ("Nebraska Highway Superintendents Association"). Includes attendance and presentations at their summer and winter state meetings, and their spring and fall district meetings (5 districts). *Local Projects Section (LeRoy Juengel), Government Affairs Office (Larry Shafer), NE LTAP (Dan Cady)*.

- Local road & street program workshops. Includes County & Municipal Road and Street Program Management & Reporting Requirements Workshops (regional briefings) every other year, in conjunction with NE LTAP. *Local Projects Section (LeMoyne Schulz)*.

- Board of Public Roads Classifications & Standards' Annual Outstate meeting. NDOR coordinates this outreach activity of the Board, which also showcases the host community, county and region's road & street programs. *Local Projects Section (LeMoyne Schulz)*.

- FHWA-sponsored regional & national county road conferences. NDOR attends and usually presents at these national or multi-state events. They include: MINK (Missouri/Iowa/Nebraska/Kansas, in St. Joseph, MO), Western County Road Advisors (in Rapid City, SD), and (periodically) National LTAP Conference. *Local Projects Section/others as appropriate*.

- Internal technical assistance. NDOR Local Projects Section helps orient and sensitize NDOR management and staff to characteristics, circumstances and issues of county road programs. NDOR strives for open and on-going communication with county road officials. *Local Projects Section (Jim Wilkinson, LeRoy Juengel & LeMoyne Schulz), NE LTAP (Dan Cady)*.

CONTACTS for Counties (as cited above) –

NDOR WEB SITE www.transportation.nebraska.gov

NDOR DIVISIONS (Area code 402, 479- ; NDOR Central Headquarters 1500 Nebraska Hwy. 2, P.O. Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509; unless otherwise indicated)

- Bridge Division
 - Steve Andersen, 4705 (steve.andersen@nebraska.gov)
 - Terry Holman, 3720 (terry.holman@nebraska.gov)
- Business Technology Support Division
 - Rose Braun, 3696 (rose.braun@nebraska.gov)
 - Michael Niedermeyer, 3872 (michael.niedermeyer@nebraska.gov)
- Communication Division
 - Mary Jo Oie, 4512 (maryjo.oie@nebraska.gov)
 - Craig Harrington, 4503 (craig.harrington@nebraska.gov)
- Construction Division
 - Steve Bartos, 4455 (steve.bartos@nebraska.gov)
 - Jim Ferguson, 4454 (jim.ferguson@nebraska.gov)
 - Liz Wunderlich, 4528 (liz.wunderlich@nebraska.gov)
- Controller Division
 - Terri Oglesby, 3939 (terri.oglesby@nebraska.gov)
- Government Affairs Office
 - Larry Shafer, 4615 (larry.shafer@nebraska.gov)
- Local Projects Section
 - Jim Wilkinson, 4607 (jim.wilkinson@nebraska.gov)
 - LeRoy Juengel, 4437 (leroy.juengel@nebraska.gov)
 - Jim Pearson, 4881 (james.pearson@nebraska.gov)
 - LeMoyné Schulz, 4436 (lemoyne.schulz@nebraska.gov)
- Materials & Research Division
 - Dave Brokaw, 4896 (dave.brokaw@nebraska.gov)
 - Ron Disney, 4521 (ron.disney@nebraska.gov)
 - Omar Qudus, 4394 (omar.qudus@nebraska.gov)
 - Amy Starr, 3687 (amy.starr@nebraska.gov)
- Operations Division (5001 So. 14th St., P.O. Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509)
 - Kay Benson, 4340 (kay.benson@nebraska.gov)
 - Jim Schmailzl, 4787 (jim.schmailzl@nebraska.gov)
- Planning & Project Development Division
 - Dawn Knott, 4778 (dawn.knott@nebraska.gov)
- Rail & Public Transportation Division
 - Ron Kontos, 4536 (ron.kontos@nebraska.gov)
 - Ellis Tompkins, 3797 (ellis.tompkins@nebraska.gov)
 - Jerry Wray, 4694 (jerry.wray@nebraska.gov)
- Right of Way Division
 - Roxanne Sullivan, 4490 (roxanne.sullivan@nebraska.gov)
- Traffic Engineering Division
 - Dan Waddle, 4594 (dan.waddle@nebraska.gov)

NDOR DISTRICTS (see Web Site or separate flyer for listings for the 8 district headquarters)

- Each District
 - District Engineer
 - District Operations & Maintenance Manager
 - District Construction Engineer

BOARD OF PUBLIC ROADS CLASSIFICATIONS & STANDARDS

- PO Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509 (staffed by NDOR Local Projects Section)
 - LeMoyné Schulz, 402-479-4607 (lemoyne.schulz@nebraska.gov)

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR COUNTY HIGHWAY & CITY STREET SUPERINTENDENTS

- PO Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509 (staffed by NDOR Local Projects Section)
 - LeMoyné Schulz, 402-479-4607 (lemoyne.schulz@nebraska.gov)

NEBRASKA LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NE-LTAP)

- PO Box 880560, Lincoln, NE 68588-0560; Training Facility: 3921 W. Crow St., Lincoln, NE 68524
Dan Cady, 402-472-1226 (dcady1@unl.edu)

SAFE ROUTES NEBRASKA (Safe Routes to School Program)

- 700 Q St., Lincoln, NE 68508
 - Kelly Morgan, 402-476-7331 (kmorgan@sinclairhille.com)