

# Some Facts and Figures

## from the Nebraska Department of Roads

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- ◆ The Nebraska Department of Roads is responsible for the planning, development, design, construction, maintenance and administration of the state highway system. Preserving the billions of dollars Nebraskans have invested in their state highway system, making the highways safe and efficient, and accomplishing this in a timely and cost-effective manner are the goals of the State Department of Roads.
- ◆ There are approximately **9,949 miles of highways on the state system** including ...
  - 482 miles of Interstate (*175 miles concrete and 307 miles asphalt*)
  - 1,177 miles of concrete pavement
  - 8,249 miles of asphalt pavement
  - 37 miles of gravel
  - 3,505 bridges (*includes railroad and pedestrian overpasses and underpasses*)

Totals may vary from year to year as small segments are added or deleted from the system.

- ◆ The expenditures per fiscal year which begins July 1 are:
  - > **Maintenance Program.** There are more than 70 types of routine maintenance activities (i.e. mowing, snow removal, minor repairs, etc.) involved in this program, with a total budget of approximately \$125 million.
  - > **Construction Program (*preservation/construction/reconstruction/resurfacing*).** Between \$450 and \$500 million are expended every year, including federal and local matching funds.
  - > **Support Services and Administration** throughout the state are budgeted at approximately \$56 million.
  - > **Other Programs.** The department also provides funding for Public Transportation Assistance, Rail Planning, Capital Facilities, Highway Safety, and highway planning and research totaling approximately \$35 million.
- ◆ Nebraska's state highway system is paid for totally by highway user taxes and fees. The **three major sources of revenue** are the motor fuel tax, motor vehicle registrations and related fees, and the sales tax on motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers. It is important to remember that Nebraska's major highway user **revenue is shared** between the state, counties and cities.
  - > Motor fuel receipts are shared on the following basis:
    - 10.3¢ tax is distributed 7.5¢ to the Department of Roads and 2.8¢ to the cities and counties.
    - 5% wholesale tax, as applied to the average wholesale price of gasoline and adjusted semi-annually, is distributed 66% to the Department of Roads and 17% each to the cities and counties.
    - Variable fuel tax, as adjusted semi-annually, is distributed 100% to the Department of Roads.
  - > Other principal sources of revenue, motor vehicle registration fees and sales tax on vehicle purchases, is shared on the basis of 53⅓ percent to the Department of Roads and 23⅓ percent each to the cities and counties.

- ◆ A code agency of state government, the Department of Roads is under the supervision of the Governor. The Department of Roads is headed by Director– State Engineer Monty Fredrickson with assistance from Deputy Directors John “Jake” Jacobsen and Randy Peters.
- ◆ The highway department has eight field districts, each headed by a district engineer responsible for the administration, maintenance and construction of state highways within their district. District engineers and their headquarters are:

<b>District 1</b> Lincoln Thomas Goodbarn 402-471-0850	<b>District 2</b> Omaha Tim Weander 402-595-2534	<b>District 3</b> Norfolk Kevin Domogalla 402-370-3470	<b>District 4</b> Grand Island Wesley Wahlgren 308-385-6265
<b>District 5</b> Gering Craig Lind 308-436-6587	<b>District 6</b> North Platte Gary Thayer 308-535-8031	<b>District 7</b> McCook Kurt Vosburg 308-345-8490	<b>District 8</b> Ainsworth Mark Kovar 402-387-2471

- ◆ The Department of Roads has been using a Pavement Management System for several years to evaluate state highway pavements. A “Nebraska serviceability index” of between 0 and 100 is given to each section of state highway. This index (*score*) is then used to determine the need for resurfacing, repair or replacement. Each section of highway is reinspected periodically and a new Nebraska serviceability index determined.
- ◆ The state highway system carries 63.8 percent of all the vehicle miles of travel in the state, while the vast mileage of county roads carries 13.8 percent of the travel. Municipal streets carry the remaining 22.4 percent. About 85.5 percent of the heavy truck travel in Nebraska is on the state highway system.
- ◆ Experience shows that pavements have a life ranging from 15 to 30 years, depending on the area of the state and how much traffic they carry. To keep our pavement in good condition, we will have to resurface 500 miles, or about five percent, of our system each year.
- ◆ There are 65 public transit systems in Nebraska.
- ◆ There are 23 Interstate 80 rest areas in Nebraska, one scenic overlook (near Chappell), and one rest area on Highway 6/34 east of McCook.
- ◆ Nebraska was the first state in the nation to complete its mainline Interstate System at a cost of \$435 million. Work began in 1957 and the final link was dedicated October 19, 1974.

# Fact Sheet

from the Nebraska Department of Roads  
Communication Division

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## The Interstate in Nebraska

- Official work on I-80 began in 1957, south of Gretna.
- The dedication of Nebraska's I-80 on October 19, 1974, (six miles west of Sidney a 6" brass link was embedded in I-80) marked the first state in the nation to complete its *mainline* interstate system.
- The total length of I-80 in Nebraska is 455.32 miles.

### Additional Interstate Route Lengths

- I-80 (in Lincoln) 3.18 miles
  - I-480 (in Omaha) 4.23 miles
  - I-680 (in Omaha) 13.32 miles
  - I-76 (to Colorado) 2.48 miles
  - I-129 (in South Sioux City) 3.21 miles
- The estimated total cost of I-80 in Nebraska was \$435 million, for an average per mile cost of about \$950,000.
  - Normally, federal interstate funding for construction is 90 percent federal funds and 10 percent state funds.
  - There are 80 interchanges along I-80 in Nebraska
  - There are 442 bridges on or over I-80 in Nebraska.
  - There are 23 rest areas and one scenic overlook (near Chappell) along Nebraska's I-80.
  - There are 28 types of grasses and forbs (herbs other than grasses), 31 types of shrubs, 12 kinds of coniferous trees, and 39 types of deciduous trees planted on the right-of-way of I-80 in Nebraska.
  - There are about 570 informational and directional signs on Nebraska's I-80.
  - As completed, I-80 stretches from New Jersey to San Francisco—over 2,900 miles of safe, uninterrupted roadway.
  - The 1991 Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) provided for designating the nationwide 45,493 miles of interstate highway system the "Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways."