

April 1, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National GIS Leaders To Meet in Lincoln

The Eighteenth Annual “Geospatial Information Systems for Transportation” workshops and symposium will be held at the Lincoln Cornhusker Hotel, April 3-6, hosted by the Nebraska Department of Roads.

This year’s GIS-T symposium will emphasize the migration of GIS and highlight the many uses of geospatial technologies relating to the transportation industry.

Guests will be welcomed to the symposium by Lincoln Mayor Coleen Seng, Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman and Nebraska Department of Roads’ Director John Craig.

A wide variety of presentations and state-of-the-art demonstrations in technology hall will be available for transportation professionals, industry executives and for public and private GIS professionals throughout the four days.

#NDOR#

For additional information contact:
Dick Genrich, GIS Mgr., (402) 479-4550.

April 4, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Work-Zone Safety Awareness Week April 3-9

April 3-9 is National Work-Zone Safety Awareness Week, an effort to heighten public awareness of work-zone safety, for the driver as well as the highway worker. Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman signed a proclamation designating the week as Nebraska Highway Work-Zone Safety Awareness Week.

The Nebraska Department of Roads and their transportation partners, the United States Department of Transportation/Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Nebraska State Patrol, and the Associated General Contractors of Nebraska are dedicated to enhancing work-zone safety for both the worker and the traveling public. They believe that increased worker training and enhanced awareness on the part of motorists and highway workers will lead to a reduction of fatalities and injuries for both. This year's national focus is on enforcement.

On average there is a work zone for every 50 miles traveled on U.S. roads. More than 1,000 people were killed and more than 40,000 injured nationwide in construction work zones in 2003. Nine of those deaths were in Nebraska.

The key reason for most work-zone crashes continues to be drivers' failure to pay attention, according to law enforcement officers' reports. Drivers often contribute to construction-zone accidents by speeding, running off the road or crossing into the wrong lane.

More motorists are injured in work-zone crashes than highway workers. Therefore, drivers need to stay alert when driving near highway construction sites any time of day. Drivers should observe lower speed limits, heed posted warning signs and be alert for variations of the roadway in work zones. Drivers and their passengers are urged to wear seat belts at all times. Motorists are also reminded to avoid distractions while driving, including the use of cell phones.

The importance of law enforcement in monitoring highway work zones will be stressed with increased staff at the Nebraska State Patrol this year.

It is important to remember that highway work zones are much more than a temporary inconvenience. Work zones are essential to building safer, smoother, improved roads that may ultimately save lives. **Remember: when you're in the driver's seat, you make the difference. Drive safely in work zones.**

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For additional information, visit the NDOR website at www.nebraskatransportation.org.

April 4, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Work on Hallam Spur to Begin April 18

Work is scheduled to begin April 18 on the Hallam Spur (S55H), according to the Nebraska Department of Roads.

Pavers, Inc. of Lincoln has the \$798,715 contract for milling, asphalt surfacing, and shoulder work. The project begins at the junction of Highway 77 and the Hallam Spur and runs 4 miles west to Hallam. There will be a 10' width limit in the work area. Work is anticipated to be completed in late May.

The Department's manager for this project is Paul Dodson of Lincoln.

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For additional information contact:

District Construction Engineer Mike Sklenar in Lincoln, 471-0850, ext. 1069, or Paul Dodson in Lincoln, 471-0850, ext. 1071.
RD-S55H(1016)

nr784

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April 6, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Roads Standards Board to Meet

The Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards will meet at 9:00 a.m. on April 15, 2005, in the Nebraska Department of Roads' Central Building Auditorium at 1500 Highway 2 in Lincoln.

The agenda includes:

- ◆ Addition of projects to the Gage, Fillmore and Wayne Counties of One- and Six-Year Road and Street Improvement Plans.
- ◆ State-Aid Bridge Fund applications from Dodge, Frontier and Wheeler Counties.
- ◆ Informal hearings:
 - 9:30 a.m. Buffalo County request for Relaxation of Standards for replacement of a wood structure with culverts on a Minimum Maintenance Road;
 - 9:40 a.m. Custer County request for Relaxation of Standards for placement of an auto gate on a Minimum Maintenance Road.

The meeting is open to the public.

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Detailed agenda as of April 6, 2005 enclosed

For additional information contact:
LeMoyne D. Schulz (402) 479-4436.

LDS/NR780

