

# Comprehensive Plan Assistance Program



**July 1, 2003**





**Purpose:** To provide financial and technical assistance to mid-sized Nebraska communities to help initiate or update a comprehensive plan for their area. The comprehensive plan shall include a long range transportation plan, a traffic assignment network, and data (e.g. air service, land use, economic development, and greenspace) in a GIS format to help both the community and the Nebraska Department of Roads better plan for future transportation improvements.

**Goal:** NDOR wishes to coordinate better with communities in regard to matching the state's priorities and community's future transportation needs. To this end, NDOR will partner with communities and provide funding assistance to help them create or update their comprehensive plans and determine their long-range transportation planning needs.

**Who Qualifies:** The program will initially be open to cities with populations between 5,000 and 50,000 (based on 2000 census). Communities that are currently in a Transportation Management Area (TMA) or Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) area (e.g. MAPA, SIMPCO, or the Lincoln/Lancaster area) are excluded because they already receive planning funds and are required to do Comprehensive Planning. The selection of communities will be based on priority criteria developed by the NDOR (See Priority Selection Criteria Section).

**Who Administers:** The program will be administered through NDOR's Planning & Project Development Division.

**Funding & Agreement:** The money will be supplied from Federal Funds. Funding splits will be on an 80% maximum federal share, and a 20% minimum local share. Maximum federal funding per city will be \$75,000. A funding agreement will be negotiated between the community and NDOR. Payments will be made to the communities on a reimbursement basis. Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) will be allocated to this program every year. The agreement for this program will be between the Department of Roads and the Local Community. The city will supply a copy of the scope of services when the consultant contract is finalized.

**Who Should Do The Study:** Communities that apply and qualify for this program should make use of consultant firms with expertise in this area and who are certified with the NDOR. The community will be responsible for selecting the consultant, with input from NDOR, and contracting with the consultant.

**Main Products:** The information gathered using this program: will provide better regional and statewide future traffic forecasts, especially in or adjacent to the communities across the state. It will build on Nebraska's GIS database by including information on land use and environmentally sensitive areas that previously have only been available in the large metropolitan areas. In addition, each recipient community will be required to coordinate with the Nebraska Department of Aeronautics to determine if their airport plan is consistent with community needs, or if an update is needed.

**Main Requirements:** Develop a Comprehensive Plan with a Long Range Transportation Plan Element that has a traffic assignment network, and land use information in a compatible GIS database to help both the community and the Department better plan for future transportation improvements.



### Priority Selection Criteria:

- The established need for an updated or new Comprehensive Plan.
- If a comprehensive plan has recently been completed, does it need a Long Range Transportation Plan element, or land use information put in a GIS data base?
- When is the community planning to do a new or updated Comprehensive Plan and how soon will they start?
- What is the size of the community? (proposed annexations?)
- What is the community's financial commitment? (Will local matching funds be greater than 20%?)
- Are there any current capacity problems at any state highway connection?
- What is the community's rate of growth and are there proposed or committed developments?
- The order of applications will be given some priority as an incentive to have communities ready to start when funds are available.
- Related Transportation Issues or proposed highway projects in the area that might benefit from a Comprehensive Plan.

**Application Deadlines:** Applications will be accepted any time. Prior to January 1st and July 1st. NDOR will review the applications received and will select the next recipients based on funds available. Applications that are qualified, but not selected, will be reconsidered at the next selection period.

**Application Forms:** Complete the attached Comprehensive Plan Assistance Program "Intent-to-Apply Form". They will also be available on our web site at <http://www.dor.state.ne.us>  
Send Applications to:

**Nebraska Department of Roads  
Comprehensive Plan Assistance Program  
Planning & Project Development Division  
PO Box 94759  
Lincoln NE 68509-4759**

### Who To Contact:

**Ron Schlautman (402)479-4338  
Email: [rschlaut@dor.state.ne.us](mailto:rschlaut@dor.state.ne.us)**

Nebraska Department of Roads  
Comprehensive Planning Assistance Program  
Intent-to-Apply Form

Government Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Government: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a current Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan)?  Yes  No What is the date of your current Comp Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the forecast year or horizon year? \_\_\_\_\_ What area did the Comp Plan include? \_\_\_\_\_

Does it have a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) element, a traffic assignment network, and is there a GIS database available for land use information?

\_\_\_\_\_

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When are you planning to begin a new (or updated) Comp Plan? \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Cost? \_\_\_\_\_ Horizon Year? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any proposed or committed developments in your area, or any current or anticipated highway or street capacity problems? \_\_\_\_\_

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Describe briefly what your new or updated Comprehensive Plan will contain. \_\_\_\_\_

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