

# Way to Go

## A TAX BREAK

NDOT Customer Services Manager **Ed Wilson** was recently recognized for saving Nevada taxpayers more than \$2 million by overseeing NDOT's litter removal and highway logo signage programs. At no taxpayer cost, the Adopt-a-Highway litter removal program provides accountable, consistent roadside litter removal, while NDOT's logo sign program has generated half a million in new revenue for public travel information.

*"Ed's programs are a model of government entities utilizing innovative public/private partnerships to better their constituent's environment," the nomination for the Nevada Taxpayer's Association Cashman Good Government Award read.*

## ONE FOR WILDLIFE

**District 3 staff** recently received a thank you for removing a right-of-way fence on Pequop Summit.

*"Removing this fence that was no longer needed will help the deer better negotiate the traffic, and improve the safety of Nevada's roadways for motorists," Nevada Department of Wildlife's Kari Martin said in a thank you letter.*

## FREEWAY SERVICE PATROL

When motorists are in need alongside Las Vegas and Reno freeways, **NDOT's Freeway Service Patrol** is a welcome sight indeed.

*"Glenn Salazar helped out my elderly mother with a flat tire in Henderson, and made her feel safe in a time of need," Steven Bird recently wrote.*

## PERMITS IS CUSTOMER-APPROVED!

NDOT's helpful permits staff ensure accurate, accountable and detailed permit information by assisting applicants with the process.

*"From first contact through permit approval, we received very professional and courteous service from NDOT staff," said Nichols Consulting Engineers' Jack Norberg of District 2's Janet Reck, Steven Smith and Bob Newberg and Carson City Engineer Technician Bill Bowman. "The entire process was completed 30 days quicker than expected."*

*"He is very helpful, friendly and patient. He has helped me on numerous occasions and is an asset to your staff," Cyndee Miller of G.C. Wallace Companies said of District 1 permits pro Rudy Lucero.*

## HIGH-FLYING PRAISE

Improvement of the Plumb Lane intersection in front of the Reno-Tahoe International Airport into a single point urban interchange recently received high-flying praise in a letter to the Reno Gazette-Journal newspaper.

*"We want to thank the Nevada Department of Transportation, the Regional Transportation Commission (of Washoe County), the City of Reno and all the planners, engineers and construction crews involved," Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority Chairman Laurence Martin wrote. "Thank you to everyone involved in this great project that improves the gateway to the Reno-Tahoe region."*

## Greetings

Keith Beall, *Tonopah*  
Shawn Burhus, *Las Vegas*  
Joseph Carsto, *Las Vegas*  
Gail Dublanc, *Carson City*  
Roberto Funcion, *Las Vegas*  
Sabra Gilbert-Young, *Carson City*  
Doroteo Gumarang, *Las Vegas*  
Karen Hartney, *Las Vegas*  
Janeen Hilyard, *Elko*  
Leonard Milligan, *Carson City*  
Jeffrey Pavlik, *Carson City*  
Derrick Ragazzo, *Las Vegas*  
Ryan Sandoval, *Ely*  
Moises Vega, *Elko*

## Thanks for Serving!

Cindy Bostic, 29 years, *Carson City*  
Robert Dimmick, 29 years, *Carson City*  
Ray Holly, 31 years, *Elko*  
Jennifer Kile, 17 years, *Carson City*  
Roy Neal, 22 years, *Mt. Charleston*  
Cecil Lang, 30 years, *Tonopah*



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## PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS MAY PAVE WAY TO BETTER TRANSPORTATION

research PPP alternatives and feasibility, including:

- Alternatives and options available for PPPs
- The experience of other states which have utilized PPPs
- What corridors/highways would be viable candidates for PPPs
- Criteria for selecting a PPP firm
- Cost estimates
- Organizational structure for program management
- Program administration processes
- Final recommendations

In addition, NDOT is leading the creation and coordination of a western states coalition to advance a regional system for consideration in the federal Corridors of the Future Program. NDOT also submitted a formal Expression of Interest on Tolling and Pricing Options to the Federal Highway Administration for the I-15 corridor and the Boulder City Bypass.

### Public-Private Partnership Advisory Panel Members:

- Kirk Clausen, *Wells Fargo Bank – Chair*
- State Treasurer Kate Marshall
- Senator John Lee
- Senator Dennis Nolan
- Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson
- Assemblyman Joe Hardy
- Clark County Commissioner Chip Maxfield
- Mayor Mike Montandon, *City of North Las Vegas*
- Rod Cooper, *Granite Construction*
- Pat Lundvall, *McDonald Carano Wilson*
- Lesley Pittman, *Station Casinos*
- Carole Vilardo, *Nevada Taxpayers Association*

With a \$3.8 billion transportation funding deficit expected over the next eight years, Governor Jim Gibbons has named a 12-member Public-Private Partnership Advisory Panel to review and possibly assist the use of public-private partnerships (PPPs) as a tool to address anticipated funding shortfalls in the nation's second-fastest growing state.

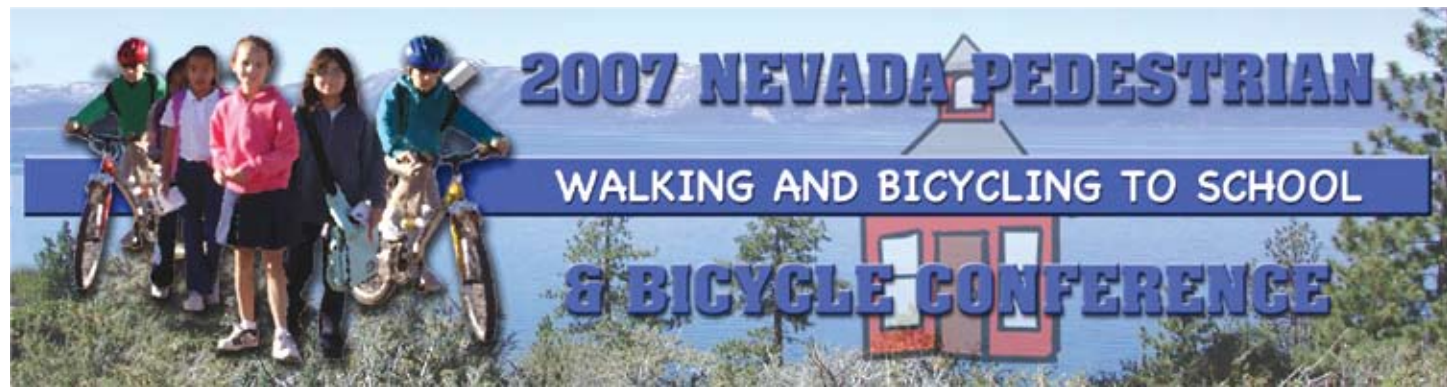
The panel's first meeting was held in mid-May. The public panel will continue to meet quarterly to develop recommendations to be brought to the Transportation Board of Directors, chaired by Governor Gibbons, for final approval and subsequent action.

"The public-private partnership can take many forms," NDOT Director Susan Martinovich explained. "Many people immediately think of tolling, but that's just one application. We are committed to finding what works best for Nevadans through any creative funding involving private industry."

Other than direct tolling, public-private partnerships can also take the form of shadow tolling, in which a private company builds the road and is repaid over a period of time by the state based on the amount of vehicles traveling the road. Among the other possibilities is high occupancy toll, or HOT, lanes. To encourage car-pooling, HOT lanes can be traveled for free by vehicles with a certain amount of occupants, while single-occupant vehicles can pay to use the lane.

Governor Gibbons proposed the use of public-private partnerships in his State of the State address. Since then, NDOT has taken the lead by researching proposed legislation to allow the partnerships, and retaining engineering firm Carter & Burgess to





## FROM WHEELS TO WALKING: BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN CONFERENCE

NDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Office recently brought nearly 150 participants together at Lake Tahoe to discuss pedestrian and bicycle transportation during the sixth annual Pedestrian and Bicycle Conference.

Developed to enhance statewide bike and walking resources, the conference offered topics from pedestrian and bicycle route planning, design, maintenance, publicity, events, safety and education to Safe Routes to School and Americans with Disabilities

Act information. In honor of NDOT's new Safe Routes to School initiative, the conference theme was walking and bicycling to school.

"Every year, this conference makes great strides to improve the needs of the bicycling and walking public in Nevada and neighboring states," NDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Program Manager Eric Glick explained.

## LEADING NDOT INTO THE FUTURE

With up to 40 percent of NDOT employees reaching retirement in the next 10 years, new NDOT professionals will soon take the management reins. And all NDOT employees can learn leadership and management skills to meet Nevada's future transportation needs with an upcoming NDOT Leadership Academy.

Each five-month training course will demonstrate effective organizational communication and production measurements. NDOT-specific topics include departmental and state budget processes and legislative, federal and community interaction. Coaching and 360-degree review processes, as well as a project aimed at helping

new NDOT managers further develop management and leadership skills, will also be taught.

"This is so much more than your average training session," Training Manager Penny Silver explains. "It's a way for us all to develop leadership skills to help further improve NDOT."

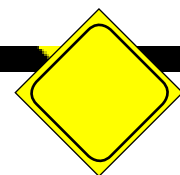
The academy begins in January with five-month sessions of two days of training each month offered for up to 20 management and non-management participants from all NDOT divisions and districts. Further information will be available soon at all districts, and general questions can be directed to (775) 888-7805.



## NEW CHIEF LOCATION ENGINEER

Russ Law has been promoted to Chief Location Engineer. With over 20 years of NDOT expertise, Law most recently served as Chief Operations Analysis Engineer where he oversaw value analysis that saved the department tens of millions of dollars and assisted in strategic planning and motor-transport initiatives. He also developed guidelines for changing the ownership of state highways and local roads and advised the Nevada Legislature and Blue Ribbon Task Force with detailed reports used to develop proposed transportation tax changes. As Chief Location Engineer, Law will now oversee vital location activities, from NDOT surveying and imaging to mapping.

"I'm honored to be working with the great people in the Location Division, and I'm looking forward to modeling the land of Nevada," Law said.



## SAFETY SIGNS

### Think Before Acting.

Avoid accidents by carefully thinking about all consequences before acting.

## DIAL "SATELLITE" FOR SECURITY



District 3's Bill Hance makes good use of a new satellite phone.

NDOT is calling on new satellite phones to maintain clear communication in potential emergencies. The Department recently purchased 16 Qualcomm satellite phones, with four phones for each district and four for headquarters, to share vital road and safety information between NDOT staff during potential mass emergencies when land-line and cell phone systems aren't working.

In District 3, the phones are already proving useful for more than emergencies. District 3 communication staff created user manuals to be kept near the phones for easy reference. When establishing communication towers to relay information through rural northeast Nevada, such as a recent installation on remote Trident Peak, the communication staff use the phones. Not only does the periodic use make the most of the prepaid 60 minutes of airtime every month, it ensures that the phones are charged and operational.

"Out here, they're very useful," District 3 Communications Supervisor Ken Wiley said. "If we do run into a situation, we've done our very best to be prepared, and that's what it's all about."

NDOT secured a federal Homeland Security grant to pay the nearly \$20,000 price of the phones, including one year of service.

## DISTRICT 2 MAKES A CLEAN SUCCESS

NDOT District 2 is taking another step to keep Nevada freeways clean. The district recently partnered in the Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows' neighborhood clean-up day by designating safe areas from which juvenile community service crews could clean and remove roadway trash.

Following the clean-up, District 2 Administrative Services Officer Mark Evans, Office Manager Marlene Revera and Maintenance Supervisor Tom Lumpkin handed out NDOT information and children's coloring books and giveaways from an NDOT booth.



District 2's Tom Lumpkin (pictured on left) and Marlene Revera have a fun time helping at the clean-up event.

## A TASTE OF FUN AT PICNIC



More than 160 District 1 team members recently converged at Las Vegas' Freedom Park for the third annual family picnic. Deputy Director Rudy Malfabon kicked off the festivities that included a barbecue feast, raffles, children's pony rides, three-legged race, balloon toss, watermelon-eating contest and more.

## IN MEMORY OF OUR OWN

NDOT's own Dyroen Uutela, better known as "Ute" or "Pops," recently passed away after a medical emergency at work.

Beginning as an NDOT Construction Aide in 1993, Dyroen served with Elko Crew 351 before recently transferring to Striping Crew 340, where he often heralded a cheerful start to the day's work with his famous phrase, "Let's get going." Ute was a close friend to all those he so readily shared his expertise and sense of humor with, and will be missed by all.

