

Way to Go

LAWMAKERS' VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

When Nevada lawmakers travel to their Carson City Legislative session, area weather such as a recent weekday snowstorm can be difficult to navigate. But, not with expert snow removal from NDOT crews.

"With the amount of snow that fell, it seemed like a daunting task, but as usual, the DOT tackled it in a timely manner," Senator John J. Lee wrote in a recent thank you letter.

"To all those state and city road workers, I say thank you, thank you, thank you," Las Vegas Assemblyman Morse Arberry said to applause of fellow Assembly members.

A FRIENDLY FACE ON THE LONELIEST ROAD



It's been called the Loneliest Highway, and U.S. 50 was particularly lonely for Karen Walsh, whose state motor pool vehicle stranded her between Eureka and Austin. Luckily, the state employee found a friendly face in NDOT Supervisor I **Joe Ramos** of Austin.

"He gave me gasoline, told me where to fill up when I reached Austin and followed me to make sure the truck was running. I will never forget how he lifted my spirits and made me feel safe."

RESIDENT ENGINEER MEETING



NDOT's annual Resident Engineer Meeting, held March 13-15 in Henderson, brought nearly 50 NDOT professionals together to chart new project management improvements.

Following an introduction and thank you from NDOT Director Susan Martinovich, various presentations offered information on legal project documentation, Federal Highway Administration responsibilities and NDOT divisional activities. Resident engineers went on to share project experiences and discuss techniques and processes to further improve projects, while construction and district administration did the same.

Welcome to NDOT

Jeremy Fitzgerald – Carson
 Christopher Hansen – Las Vegas
 Michael Hryczyk – Carson
 Nathan Morian – Carson
 Andy Overson – Ely
 Glenn Rogers – Las Vegas
 Zachary Dillon – Carson
 Medardo Herrera – Reno

Thanks for Serving!

Ginger Capra, 26 years, Carson
 Sohila Bemanian, 26 years, Carson
 Ben Grissom, 31 years, Carson
 Thomas Wilson, 30 years, Tonopah
 James Yroz, 30 years, Elko
 Cecil Lang, 30 years, Tonopah



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BUILDING BRIDGES

HOOVER DAM CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES



Following a September crane collapse, the federal Hoover Dam improvement project continues with the Nevada Department of Transportation as a valuable partner.

Now expected to be complete in 2010, construction on the project slowed when two 280-foot cranes collapsed during high winds. No one was hurt and, following the collapse, workers stayed busy cleaning debris and constructing bridge sections not requiring crane use. The project, from environmental impact studies to approach freeways, was on schedule at time of the contractor's crane failure.

"Work will continue in an aggressive manner," Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) project manager Dave Zanetell said, promising a re-planning of the project. "We are proud to work with the multi-agency stakeholder team. Nevada's commitment as exemplified by former directors Stephens and Fontaine, and now championed by Director Susan Martinovich and Scott Rawlins, has been vital to completing the project."

The FHWA project will build the 1,900-foot Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge just 1,600 feet downstream of the Hoover Dam. As a North American Free Trade Agreement route vital for trade, the current U.S. 93 highway across the dam can no longer accommodate the nearly 15,000 average daily vehicles that it now sees. The winding two-lane road will be replaced by a more direct, four-lane freeway that will speed interstate commerce and traffic as well as help secure the dam from accidents or threats.

Nevada has been a vital partner in the multi-agency improvement project, with a 2.2-mile freeway approach graded on Nevada land. Final HACP and open-grade surfacing of the entire bypass is planned for late 2009 or early 2010, with consideration being given to completing a large portion of the work immediately to further reduce costs and delays. Once complete, maintenance of the new Nevada road will be the responsibility of NDOT. A similar approach freeway was built on the Arizona side of the bridge.



Near the Hoover Dam, the Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge is being built to span the Colorado River.

NEVADA APPROACH HIGHWAY

- 2.2 miles of four-lane road
- Traffic interchange
- Six bridges
- 50,000 square feet of retaining wall
- Drainage, trail and wildlife improvements
- 1.6 million cubic feet of earthwork



PUTTING IT ON THE MAP

From glittering tourism capital Las Vegas to rural mining frontiers, Nevada highways and attractions can all be found on NDOT's new 2007-2008 official state highway map.

One and a half million of the free maps have been printed, ready to send to airports, parks and other tourist centers across the nation and abroad. The 35- by 22-inch map details Nevada travel information, from state roads and rest stops to nearly 20 new BLM wilderness areas. Four enlarged areas provide detail of Las Vegas, Reno, Carson City and Lake Tahoe roads, while Nevada Commission on Tourism tourist information makes it a one-stop resource for Nevada travelers.

The map was created by NDOT Cartographer Jeff Dunn, who devoted nearly 200 hours incorporating updates to the map using Macromedia Freehand 10. The nearly 15-cent per map printing and labor costs, almost half of which is federally funded, is shared with the Nevada Commission on Tourism, which also designed the map cover.

The map is available at NDOT headquarters room 206, under 'Travel Information' at www.nevadadot.com or by calling (775) 888-7627.

Dating back to 1919, the Nevada Department of Transportation has distributed state highway maps to Nevada visitors and residents alike.



WORK ZONE SAFETY:

OUR LIVES DEPEND ON IT

More than 1,000 people were killed in highway work zones crashes nationwide in 2005, including four here in Nevada. Governor Jim Gibbons and NDOT Director Susan Martinovich commemorated the Federal Highway Administration's National Work Zone Awareness Week, held April 2-6, in a media event that introduced Nevada's new Strategic Highway Safety Plan and raised awareness of safe work zone driving.

Now, be sure to do your part to keep our work zones safe and protect yourself by following these important safety precautions outlined in the NDOT Safety Manual:

- Always wear approved safety vests and hats when in the right-of-way as specified in T.P. 1-7-4.
- Never assume that safety is guaranteed because proper signs are posted.
- Always stay inside barricaded lanes.
- Work in one lane only, unless traffic is being regulated for short periods.
- Stop and look both ways before crossing roadways. Do not depend upon hearing alone.
- Use flaggers when working around curves or in heavy traffic.
- Nighttime or dusk/dawn work requires lights and flashlights and additional reflective clothing.
- Keep equipment and vehicles in the clear and protect them from equipment and contractor operations.
- Follow the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.



Governor Jim Gibbons stands at center, with NDOT Director Susan Martinovich to the left and Nevada Department of Public Safety Director Phil Galeoto at right, to introduce roadway safety initiatives during National Work Zone Awareness Week.

- Most importantly, remember to always stay alert, and always keep an eye out for yourself and your fellow co-workers!
See the NDOT safety manual for further vital ways to protect your safety, or log on to www.t2.unr.edu.

AVIATION ART CONTEST:

EDUCATION TAKES FLIGHT

NDOT's Aviation Planning Division recently named seven Nevada school children as state winners in the 2007 International Aviation Art Contest.

Aviation's Bill Thompson, Paige Allison and Tim Mueller presented first- through third-place plaques to winners from Douglas County and Pahrump.

When 11-year-old Tim Hanifan of Carson City was presented his plaque, a shout of congratulations went up from his classmates. The appreciative children even requested autographs from the NDOT Aviation professionals.

Nevada contest winners go on to compete in a national competition. Sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration and others, the international contest strives to inspire young people to learn more about aviation and aeronautics.



Aviation contest entry from Julie Pozun.

NEVADA'S CORRIDORS OF THE FUTURE



I-15 in southern Nevada

Southern Nevada's Interstate 15 and Interstate 80 in northern Nevada are vital in moving Nevada's drivers and economy.

Now, the U.S. Department of Transportation has selected the Nevada/California I-15 and I-80 corridors as two of 14 nationwide semi-finalists in their Corridors of the Future Program.

Five corridor finalists, selected by the U.S. Department of Transportation this coming summer, will be eligible for accelerated permitting, new financing options and innovative project delivery methods for possible expansions and improvements.

THE GREAT WALL

In District 1 main offices, Crew 153 joined in an architectural project to build a new retaining wall near building A.

Using 2,000-pound Redi-Rock modular blocks, the crew, with the help of Crew 160 construction aides, excavated area for, backfilled and built the over 165-foot long wall to make room for a new IS office building.

"We saved time and money by not having to contract the work out, and we appreciate them taking the time. They did an excellent job," Construction Project Coordinator DJ Chandler said.

James Gutierrez, Gary Carrigan, Tom Northouse, Tom Yanuzis, Hector Villalobos, Lawrence Gordon, Amber DeWitt, Dan Green, Lavica Gilbert, Maria Sandoval, Bianca Jacobo, Dale Tomlin and Marc Smith, along with Crew Supervisor Charles Campbell (pictured lower right), helped build the wall.

