

## Way to Go

### BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY



#### NDOT Las Vegas right-of-way professionals line up with their guests of honor during Bring Your Child to Work Day.

Young children received an inside view of the important transportation work that makes the state move when NDOT employees brought their children to work for the recent national Bring Your Child to Work Day.

In Las Vegas, NDOT right-of-way employees brought four young guests of honor, while many other children learned as their hard-working elders worked to advance southern Nevada transportation. NDOT Carson City headquarters also filled with children, as did Elko area offices and maintenance stations.

Meanwhile, in Reno, NDOT employees Kenny Lee, Wayne Miller and other shop and equipment experts treated the young ones to an educational tour complete with demonstrations of NDOT District 2 sign, metal and equipment shops.

"My sons now want to be an astronaut, a surgeon or an NDOT employee," NDOT Assistant District 2 Engineer for Construction Dave Titzel said after the informative tour.

### SWEEPING UP THE PRAISE

After winter storms end, NDOT maintenance crews are out in force sweeping the salt and sand left while anti-icing and plowing.

After **Crew 351** did just that on State Route 227 through the Spring Creek area, the important work improved comfort and safety for all users of the scenic Elko-area road.

*"As a cyclist, I just wanted to say thanks for sweeping the Spring Creek bike path and breakdown lanes of SR 227," Elko resident Jeff White wrote.*

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

NDOT Carson City employees are bringing smiles to the needy thanks to their contributions to Food for Thought, a grassroots program that provides food to homeless children in Carson City.

In total, 100 pounds of non-perishable food, two large barrels of stuffed toys and clothing and \$245 cash were given in December, followed by \$1,200 in cash donations in a March charity drive.

*"Together, we gave over 350 homeless children a beautiful soft stuffed animal, a warm hat and gloves," wrote Lori Bellis, Food for Thought charity drive organizer and NDOT Environmental Division employee, of the toy and clothing donations.*

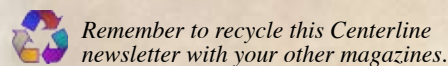


### Welcome

James Geary, Carson City  
Boniface Njoroge, Carson City  
Zachariah Pierce, Tonopah  
Christopher Rowden, Carson City  
Gary Sallee, Las Vegas  
Kelina Wong, Reno

### Thanks for Serving!

Ted Bridie, 28 years, Reno  
Mary Luster, 30 years, Carson City  
Ken Swift, 30 years, Carson City  
Roseanna Wigle, 30 years, Winnemucca



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### NDOT PROJECT WINS COLD IN-PLACE RECYCLING AWARD

*The cold in-place recycling method used on NDOT's Pequop Summit project has received recognition for pavement management.*



On Interstate 80 in northeast Nevada, NDOT's energy-efficient and cost-effective answer to resurfacing a cracking interstate surface has received recognition for innovative use of cold in-place pavement recycling.

The recycling award from Roads and Bridges magazine and the Asphalt Recycling and Reclaiming Association recognizes NDOT's use of the innovative road reclamation technique to maximize the project's monetary value while upkeeping the vital interstate corridor.

The two-year paving project, begun last year, resurfaces nearly 20 miles of I-80 east of Wells between the Moor and Oasis exits using cold in-place recycling. The technique reuses the existing pavement surface and smoothes it back down as improved roadway. A three-piece "recycling train" of milling, mixing and rolling equipment removes the existing three-and-a-half inches of cracked pavement, reprocesses it with additives and lays it back down as recycled roadway. Approximately four inches of dense and open grade paving top off and smooth the road. Using existing road material not only saves the cost of new material, but also minimizes waste. While NDOT has often used the technique on lower-volume roads, this marks only the second time cold in-place recycling has been used on a high-volume Nevada interstate, where important interstate truck traffic must be accommodated while pavement cures. The project also includes drainage and bridge improvements, as well as a three-and-a-half-mile median concrete barrier rail.

"Ultimately, the project will allow us to protect this important interstate corridor by making improvements before major, and more expensive, rehabilitation is necessary," NDOT Resident Engineer Todd Scott explained.

Scott and NDOT Construction Crew 918 have overseen the project since its start last year. With more than 225 combined years of construction experience, the crew says that one particularly rewarding challenge presented by the project was construction of a constant slope median barrier rail to account for an elevation difference between the east and westbound travel lanes.

The road improvements have resumed this spring with final paving, installation of the median concrete barrier rail and drop inlets for improved drainage. When completed this fall, the nearly \$32 million in improvements, made by contractor Road and Highway Builders and cold in-place recycling subcontractor Valentine Surfacing, will provide a smoother and safer drive for the more than 5,000 vehicles which travel the stretch of road daily.

The improvement project is part of NDOT's pavement rehabilitation program which in the past has saved Nevada taxpayers up to \$42 million every year by repaving roadways before more costly repairs are needed.



## RECOGNIZING NDOT'S HEROES



*Photo on left: John Kohot, Governor Jim Gibbons, Kirk Shandrew and Dave Swallow (from left to right) smile as the Governor recognizes the NDOT employees' bravery (not pictured: Merlin Gonzales).*

*Photo on right: Governor Gibbons, at left, thanks NDOT employee George Lewis.*

"I saw the driver hit the car in front of him, and I ran toward the car to help," NDOT Crew 151 team member George Lewis says of a tragic scene that took place on Interstate 15 in December.

Lewis, as well as a group of dedicated District 3 maintenance experts, were recently recognized for heroism by Governor Jim Gibbons during the State Transportation Board's spring meeting. The recognition followed annual recognition awards presented to the employees in NDOT's Employee Recognition Program (ERP) ceremony.

George Lewis' recognition followed a tragic car crash in December 2007. NDOT maintenance crews responded to the accident on Interstate 15 south of Las Vegas. After lane closures were set up, a drunken driver sped into the area, lost control of his vehicle and hit the car in front of him, pushing that vehicle into the back of an NDOT truck.

Tragically, the driver of the vehicle that was pushed into the NDOT truck was killed. Lewis rendered aid to the injured female passenger in that vehicle, keeping her calm as her husband lay in the driver's seat. The NDOT hero continued to keep the passenger focused and safe as they waited for her to be transported to a hospital where she quickly recovered from her injuries.

Elko-area employees provided the same expertise and compassion during another tragic event. In spring 2007, NDOT maintenance employee Dyroen Uutela, known as "Ute," suffered a fatal medical emergency while working on Interstate 80 in Eureka County.

NDOT co-workers were quickly there to call for medical assistance and render aid. Merlin Gonzales and Kirk Shandrew of Crew 340 helped keep Ute comfortable and assisted the Eureka County Sheriff's Department in performing CPR. Former NDOT facilities supervisor and recent retiree Dave Swallow provided calm assistance over the radio. Meanwhile, Maintenance Supervisor John Kohot provided traffic control and kept the location safe from passing traffic.

"NDOT wishes to express its appreciation to these employees for doing their best to deal with the toughest type of situation that can occur in the workplace," said the ERP recognition submitted by District 3 Engineer Kevin Lee, Assistant Engineer Mike Murphy and now-retired Maintenance Manager Mickey Dugger. "Their sound judgment and support during a colleague's tragic medical emergency is commendable."

The ERP program allows NDOT employees to recognize colleagues who go above and beyond. Letters of appreciation and certificates of recognition are given each quarter, along with quarterly recognition for top nominees. Annual recognition is also given every year to exemplary ERP recipients who go above and beyond or are an example of the professionalism and dignity with which NDOT team members assist with the most tragic of situations.

"This shows how NDOT employees truly go above and beyond, even while also performing the important work of engineering and maintaining highways," Governor Gibbons said in thanking the heroes.



## SAFETY SIGNS

*We are all responsible for preventing spills: make sure containers are intact and handle them carefully.*

## NEW STRIPES BRING MORE LANES TO U.S. 95



*Widened new blacktop near Ann Road is just one benefit of NDOT's recent U.S. 95 restriping project.*

A cost-effective and timely NDOT road project has given new stripes, and two additional travel lanes, to an important northern Las Vegas freeway corridor.

The recently-completed project adds an additional travel lane in each direction along approximately three miles of U.S. 95 between West Craig Road and Centennial Parkway. By restriping existing pavement, NDOT provided the additional lanes without need for extensive new pavement or construction. Outside shoulders were reduced to a four foot width, and inside shoulders to two feet, leaving room for three 11-foot-wide travel lanes in each direction. Another important element of the project, microsurfacing, placed an

asphalt coating over the existing roadway to improve and preserve the road surface.

"There was an immediate need," NDOT Project Manager Jenica Finnerty explained. "This project was a proactive and cost-effective way to improve transportation in this growing area."

The project also enhanced safety with construction of two accident investigation areas where motorists and law enforcement can safely stop and exchange information or investigate accidents. Routes were expanded for NDOT's Freeway Service Patrol as well. The service vans, which provide free motorist assistance on freeways, now cover the newly restriped area to Centennial Parkway.

Following an expedited design schedule by the NDOT Design Division, Construction Crew 902 oversaw the \$2.5 million project by contractor Las Vegas Paving. Much of the work was completed at night to avoid traffic disruptions in the corridor that more than 100,000 vehicles travel daily.

Just south of the restriped lanes, the recent completion of a seven-year widening project has also improved travel and capacity on U.S. 95 between Craig Road and Martin Luther King Boulevard. Over the next few years, several U.S. 95 northwest widening projects are scheduled to add lanes and interchanges from Washington Avenue north to Kyle Canyon Road, taking NDOT's U.S. 95 improvements north into ever-expanding northern Las Vegas suburbs.

## CHANGING HOURS, CHANGING SIGNS

NDOT has changed the hours of Nevada's first high occupancy vehicle, or HOV, lanes.

Hours for Las Vegas' U.S. 95 HOV lanes have changed from 24 hours a day to 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

During the new hours, the lanes can only be used by vehicles with two or more occupants, as well as motorcycles and buses. All drivers can use the lanes during other, non-peak hours thanks to the change, approved by the Federal Highway Administration.

Even when in use only by high occupancy vehicles, the lanes assist travel by diverting high occupancy vehicles from general purpose lanes and providing less traffic on the general lanes.



*NDOT Traffic Crew 140 members Kenneth Sanderock, Keith Wroblewski, Steve Beus and Efren Magana (pictured from lower left to top right) change U.S. 95 HOV hours signs in April.*