



January 2009

THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# CENTERLINE

A Monthly Newsletter for the Employees of NDOT

SAFE  
ROUTES  
TO  
SCHOOL

## MOVING THE YOUNGER GENERATION



NDOT is moving the younger generation by kicking off the second round of funding for the Safe Routes to School program.

Safe Routes to School is a federal funding program aimed at reducing childhood obesity by increasing the number of elementary and middle-school children who walk or bicycle to school. To provide more appealing bicycle/walk alternatives, the program, overseen by NDOT, reimburses local government-associated bicycle/walk programs with federal funding.

In 2007/2008, its first funding cycle, the program pledged over \$1.6 million for 11 different programs across the state, from Clark and Washoe counties to Lincoln County and other areas. Programs funded range from improved bicycle/walk paths and 800 lit school crossing-guard paddles to public education initiatives such as walking safety Web sites and drivers education billboards.

“NDOT could have implemented similar projects and programs on our own,” NDOT Safe Routes to School Coordinator Bill Story explained. “But, instead, we want local communities to be able to designate those Safe Routes projects that are most important to their communities.”

Now, the program has begun its second round of funding



by inviting local agencies to take part in training. Led by nationally-certified Safe Routes to School instructors, the recent training gave insight on how to develop easier, safer school walking and bicycling programs and infrastructure.

“When I was in school, the percentage of kids bicycling or walking to school was over three times higher than it is today,” Story said. “It is rewarding to be a part of this program and see all that is being done to help the younger generation be more physically active and healthy.”

Further information is available on-line at [www.walknevada.com](http://www.walknevada.com).



# NDOT PROJECT SUBMITTAL PROGRAM TURNS PROPOSALS INTO PROJECTS

*March 1 is annual deadline for project proposals*



*This photo illustration of a wildlife crossing to improve safety on U.S. 93 was one of the road improvements approved last year through NDOT's project submittal program.*

“The risk of injury or fatality is substantial to motorists in the area, and the project is projected to improve driver and wildlife safety,” NDOT Operations Analysis Chief Reed Gibby explained.

Gibby is discussing a planned U.S. 93 wildlife crossing bridge, a project idea he submitted through NDOT's project submittal program.

Overseen by NDOT Program Development, the project submittal program invites government agencies, tribal governments and private non-profits to submit applications for road improvements of up to \$4 million on functionally-classified public or tribal roads. The projects can improve safety, relieve congestion, repair or replace a bridge, address new development or involve other enhancements such as community welcome or information signs. NDOT employees can also submit project ideas.

After being evaluated by a ten-member NDOT evaluation committee, highly-ranked projects are reviewed for cost projections and constructability, then given to NDOT's director for potential funding approval. Approved projects with funding become part of the next fiscal year's Annual Work Program, ready to be built. Projects without immediate funding become part of NDOT's long-range planning.

Each year, NDOT programs over \$430 million dollars

in federal, state and local funding for road projects across the state.

“We allocate those resources in the most equitable, efficient and responsible manner possible,” said NDOT Local Government Programs Manager Sandi Stanio, who oversees the project submittal program. “The project submittal program is one way we work with partner agencies and NDOT districts and personnel to fund important transportation projects that may not otherwise be funded.”

Vital projects that are not selected through the project submittal program may still be eligible as an NDOT safety, maintenance, landscape/aesthetics, betterment or capacity project.

“We are very happy to assist, whether in developing a project submittal application or championing important road improvements through other funding mechanisms,” Stanio explained.

One project proposal approved through the project submittal program last year was Reed Gibby's wildlife crossing bridge. Currently under design, the project has already galvanized wildlife and outdoor groups who plan to contribute funds toward the wildlife crossing that will improve driver safety by reducing the nearly 300 vehicle-animal collisions seen in a recent four-year period on U.S. 93 north of Wells.

“This program can be very successful in generating project ideas that will benefit different areas throughout Nevada,” Gibby said.

## Submitting a Project

*This year's project proposals must be submitted before March 1.*

- Click on “Project Submittal Application Packet” under “Forms Download” on the “Doing Business with NDOT” page of [www.nevadadot.com](http://www.nevadadot.com).
- Free project proposal training sessions and other information/assistance available. Call (775) 888-7122.



## SAFETY SIGNS

**Awareness Keeps You Safe**  
*Don't let routine lull you into complacency.  
Always be alert, and always think safety first!*



# A WHITE CHRISTMAS

*Throughout Nevada, the last two weeks of December brought a shower of snow that wrapped up a memorable end to 2008.*

*NDOT maintenance professionals across the state were out in force, keeping winter roads safe during a snow-white holiday season.*



*An NDOT snow plow performs winter maintenance on State Route 431. The highway's 9,000-foot Mt. Rose Summit is the highest Sierra pass to stay open throughout winter.*



*Snow blankets the Las Vegas area.*

## **District 1 Las Vegas, Tonopah**

As Las Vegas' largest snowstorm in nearly 30 years fell on December 17, District 1 crews mobilized to remove the approximately three to 10 inches of snow seen throughout southern Nevada. With ice and record-breaking snow, many state roads were temporarily closed to protect motorist safety.

**Person Hours Spent in Snow and Ice Removal  
Dec. 15- Dec. 31: 5,160**

## **District 3 Elko, Winnemucca, Ely**

Three inches to two feet of snow fell in the Elko area around the holidays, sending District 3 staff from West Wendover and Wells to Contact and other areas out in force to plow and de-ice winter roads. Meanwhile, Winnemucca-area crews also worked efficiently to protect important Nevada roads, including the heart of the state's I-80 corridor. And, along U.S. 50, NDOT crew members from Austin, Eureka and Ely each averaged 40-plus hours of snow removal overtime during the last two weeks of the month.

**Person Hours Spent in Snow and Ice Removal  
Dec. 15- Dec. 31: 12,135**

## **District 2 Reno, Lake Tahoe, Carson City, Fallon**

After a pre-Christmas week of snow covered northwestern Nevada, a Christmas Day storm brought between four inches and two feet of snow to Reno and Lake Tahoe. The holiday storms found many hard-working District 2 maintainers expertly removing roadway snow for safer travel.

**Person Hours Spent in Snow and Ice Removal  
Dec. 15- Dec. 31: 13,493**



*Pictured above, Elko crew 351 helps ensure motorist safety by plowing snow on Interstate 80 east of Elko. Pictured directly above, NDOT North Fork crew 327 was there to remove the debris after freezing and thawing winter weather loosened hillsides and brought some boulders onto State Route 225.*



# NEVADA DOT In Memory

NDOT marked the passing of three valued friends and co-workers over the last month. We will remember each of them with fondness.

## Bob Calloway

Robert "Bob" Calloway passed away in December. A member of the NDOT family for 19 years, Bob worked in the Traffic/Safety Division for 16 years as a Staff II and Supervisor III employee. Many worked closely with Bob in his job developing contract plans for NDOT work zone operations. Bob will be deeply missed by all of his NDOT friends and family.

## Ron Scott

Beginning with NDOT in 1977 as engineering student aide, Ron Scott soon became a highway maintenance worker. Later, many had the chance to work with Ron in his position as highway maintenance manager, where he oversaw management functions for Alamo, Panaca, Glendale and Mt. Charleston maintenance crews, as well as four Las Vegas crews. A sports enthusiast, Ron will leave cherished memories to his two sons, family, friends and NDOT co-workers.

## Michael Aguayo

Michael Aguayo began his NDOT career in 1984 as a highway maintenance worker. Mike used welding skills learned in the steel industry to work up to supervisor of the NDOT Las Vegas sign shop. There, he fulfilled freeway signage demands during one of Nevada's most explosive growth periods. A passionate horse and ranching enthusiast whose retirement was only months away, Mike's one-of-a-kind personality and many years of acquired expertise will be missed.

## Welcome

Todd Barclay, *Reno*  
 Evan Barto, *Reno*  
 Linwood Brown, *Carson*  
 Richard Filbert, *Las Vegas*  
 James Gonzales, *Las Vegas*  
 Franklin Guinn, *Las Vegas*  
 Daniel Heath, *Carson City*  
 Helga Hussey, *Eureka*  
 Glenn Johnson, *Mina*  
 Tim Moses, *Reno*  
 Anthony Muniz, *Reno*  
 Michael Pypkowski, *Carson*  
 Mark Rincon, *Carson*  
 David Rosenberg, *Reno*  
 Sondra Rosenberg, *Carson*  
 Susan Seminerio, *Carson*  
 Yathi Yatheepan, *Carson*

## Thanks for Serving

Juan Apeceche, 17 years, *Ely*  
 Barbara Eiche, 30 years, *Carson*  
 Oscar Henderson, 27 years, *Glendale*  
 Herb Horner, 20 years, *Carson*  
 Larry Hough, 19 years, *Carson*  
 Jim Mallery, 30 years, *Carson*  
 Gino Rupert, 30 years, *Carson*  
 Debra Trakas, 23 years, *Winnemucca*



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