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THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CENTERLINE

A Monthly Newsletter for the Employees of NDOT



COMMITTED TO SAVING LIVES IN 2011 AND BEYOND

Nevada traffic fatalities rose in 2010 to 256, up from 243 Nevada traffic deaths in 2009. But, even with the rise in fatalities, NDOT and partners continue a commitment to save lives and reduce injury on Nevada roads.

“Any rise in fatalities is truly tragic, and the loss and toll on individuals and families across the state is something no one should have to endure,” said Traci Pearl, Administrator of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety. “Although these numbers are lower than Nevada’s high of 434 roadway deaths in 2006, we as transportation and safety professionals will continue working every day to make roads as safe as possible with engineering, enforcement, education, and emergency medical solutions.”

“One death on our roads is too many,” NDOT Director Susan Martinovich stated. “That is why we’re asking all Nevadans to drive carefully, and that’s why we are unveiling a new ‘Zero Fatalities’ traffic safety goal in 2011.”

The Zero Fatalities goal will guide future traffic safety enhancements across the state such as potentially enhanced DUI checkpoints, further

use of roundabouts and more. The goal will also be incorporated into a new traffic safety public awareness campaign declaring that one death on Nevada roads is too many, and giving motorists tips on how to drive more safely.

Excluding 2010, Nevada traffic fatalities have declined every year since reaching a high of 434 traffic deaths in 2006.

NDOT and partners have already implemented many safety strategies on Nevada roads, including more than 2,000 miles of centerline rumble strips, road safety audits to enhance traffic safety, continuing installation of pedestrian walking countdown timers at approximately 120 crosswalks throughout northern Nevada and more. Many of the traffic safety initiatives are part of the Nevada Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), which was adopted in 2006. Overseen by NDOT, the SHSP brings Nevada traffic and safety agencies together to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries, and includes new initiatives to move Nevada toward the zero fatality goal in 2011 and beyond.

To learn more about Nevada traffic safety, log on to www.drivesafenv.com.

KAREN WILLIFORD RETIRES

NDOT Records Supervisor Karen Williford recorded the end of a successful 40 plus-year NDOT career with her recent retirement.

Man had just landed on the moon in 1969 when Karen landed her job as NDOT files and records supervisor. Karen's first assignment was to help establish centralized records at the Department. The monumental business change took approximately two years to put in place, marking an improvement in NDOT practices.

"It was a big change for the Department to go to centralized records instead of decentralized," she explains. "Before centralized records, you had to go to several different places to find any records or documents."

Karen's career saw the second monumental change when computers were adopted into the workplace. Computers allowed the centralized records division to create databases and indexes from which to better track files. But, the computers' effects weren't all positive.

"Supposedly, computers were to make less paper," she laughingly explains. "But I think it has made more. People just seem to be making more copies from e-mails."

The computers and centralized database enacted during Karen's career mean that all major records and documents go to the records division.

On a daily basis, NDOT's project, contract, agreement, accounting and division-specific files come in to the records office. Some are retained for limited periods of time. Others are microfilmed as permanent records based on NDOT's record retention schedule.

Karen had help logging all of these documents from NDOT's other dedicated records employees and her own staff of two records administrators and one microfilm operator. Two mailroom employees under Karen's supervision also offer invaluable support by delivering current documents across NDOT headquarters.

Throughout Karen's career of documenting important NDOT business, she has seen some major changes. There have also been those things that have, thankfully, stayed the same.

"The atmosphere at NDOT has always been excellent," Karen says. "Yes, people change and things become different, but the atmosphere is wonderful. I've loved working here."

"Karen's loyal service to the people of Nevada and NDOT staff is an inspiration to all of us in public service," said Jeff Richter, Administrative Services Officer II and Karen's supervisor. "She has worked diligently and unselfishly behind the scenes to make NDOT and each of us more successful. It will be very hard to replace her."

In retirement, Karen says that she will miss the co-workers who made NDOT such an enjoyable place to work for her nearly 41-year career, but she won't miss traveling to work on cold winter mornings.





Photo courtesy of the Manhard Consulting team.

Past meets present as the newly-resurrected V&T Railway crosses over U.S. 50.

V&T RAILWAY CARSON CITY FREEWAY

Two NDOT projects have been named projects of the year by the American Public Works Association Nevada chapter.

The Carson City Freeway Phase 2A was named best project over \$20 million, while the V&T Railway phases 2C and 3A won the \$10 to \$20 million category.

The \$45 million Carson Freeway Phase 2A project, built by Road and Highway Builders with oversight by NDOT Crew 907, began in fall 2007 and completed in September 2009. The project constructed a two mile, four-lane divided freeway from Williams Street to Fairview Drive and included the Fifth Street overpass, major drainage and water treatment facilities, a wetland site and completion of a bike path. As part of a three-phase project to bypass through traffic around downtown Carson City, the section of road now carries approximately 23,000 vehicles daily.

The V&T Railway project resurrects the historic Virginia and Truckee Railroad, which first rolled in 1870 through some of America's steepest and curviest rail lines, from near the Gold Hill Depot to the current depot in Carson City. The project was administered by the Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V&T Railway and overseen by NDOT

APWA AWARDS: TWO NDOT PROJECTS NAMED BEST



Hundreds came to take part in a fun run to ceremonially open the Carson City Freeway Phase 2A.

as a local public agency stewardship project. Q & D Construction and Granite Construction constructed the project with design by Manhard Consulting.

The project included installing a refurbished bridge, originally used to transport traffic over I-15 in Las Vegas, to carry the railroad over U.S. 50 in Mound House.

"The reuse and restoration of the bridge is another example of forward thinking toward transportation sustainability for all of our Nevada transportation needs," NDOT Roadway Design Engineer John Bradshaw explained.

"I'm really proud of the two projects that won," NDOT Director Susan Martinovich said. "Completing the Carson Freeway is one of NDOT's top northern Nevada projects, while the V&T is a great tourist attraction to help the economy in Storey, Lyon and Carson counties."

The APWA awards recognize projects that are intricate in design, valuable to the public, challenging to construct, aesthetically pleasing and more. The honors were presented during the APWA's fall conference.

More Project Information
Carson City Freeway ~ www.ccfreeway.com
V&T Railway ~ www.vtrailway.com

KudosKorner

PROTECTING THE MOUNTAIN



Thirty miles northwest of the Las Vegas Strip, and towering up to 12,000 feet in elevation, Mt. Charleston is a wilderness getaway and community to be protected. And, that's just what numerous NDOT employees do.

NDOT District 1 Engineer Mary Martini helps protect the mountain as a member of the Metro Volunteer Program. Known as MVPs, volunteers man mountain checkpoints and provide visitor information and other assistance.

NDOT has also supported the MVPs with such improvements as signs, clearing areas for check points and road betterments. All of the NDOT support was recently recognized by Las Vegas Metro Police with a plaque presented to Mary Martini, pictured above, reading "in appreciation for contributing to a safer mountain and community."

Also always on the ready to protect mountain state roadways is Mt. Charleston Crew 129, who dedicated 8,468 man hours just last year on area roads. And it's not just state roadways they protect. Maintenance Supervisor Dean Mosher went into action when fire began engulfing the mountain community last July. For his work going door to door to help evacuate residents, Dean recently received a commendation from Las Vegas Metro Police.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER CROSSES BRIDGE TO RETIREMENT



After nearly 12 years representing the Department, NDOT southern Nevada Public Information Officer Bob McKenzie has retired. Bob was well known throughout the district as he joined with NDOT executives to represent NDOT through the media and provide Department information

throughout southern Nevada. The public relations personality could often be found responding to a media inquiry, assisting at public meetings and sharing updates with the public on the dedicated work and important projects of District 1 staff.

Welcome

Amber Arnold, Reno
Michael Biers, Elko
Brian Blodgett, Carson
James Cross, Reno
Marc Cutler, Elko
Tommy Dick, North Fork
Melody Duley, Carson
Sheri Gardner, Reno
Maria Belen Jimenez de Lozano,
Las Vegas
Caroline Mayberry, Las Vegas
Wendy Mercado-Montes, Las Vegas
Clint Miller, Carson
Thomas Phenix, Winnemucca
Travis Phillips, Carson
Timothy Ralston, Reno
Bjorn Randall, Elko
Roman Roberts, Battle Mountain
Aaron Sam, North Fork
William Smiraglia, Carson
Kathleen Stich, Elko
Veronica Tarquinio, Reno
Sharon Thompson, Las Vegas
John Victorino, Reno
Joel Warwick, Las Vegas
Kevin Willis, Austin
Michael Yates, Elko

Thanks for Serving

Kent Cooper, 25 years, Carson
Fred Drees, 30 years, Carson
Craig Kelly, 28 years, Reno
Kevin Leany, 32 years, Las Vegas
Bob McKenzie, 11 years, Las Vegas
Butch Piscovich, 33 years, Ely

State Transportation Board:

Governor Brian Sandoval
Transportation Board Chairman

Members:

Brian K. Krolicki, Lieutenant Governor
Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General
Kim Wallin, State Controller



Tom Fransway
Frank Martin



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