

CENTERLINE



Monthly Newsletter for NDOT Employees

April 2012

Zero Fatalities



Nevada traffic deaths dropped in 2011. Initial numbers show that 245 fatalities occurred on Nevada roads in 2011 compared to 257 Nevada traffic deaths in 2010. The reduced fatalities follow a general trend of traffic deaths dropping from an all-time high of 432 in 2006.

“But, one death on Nevada roads is too many, and we are working together to reach Zero Fatalities,” NDOT Director Susan Martinovich explained. “Last year, Nevada publicly launched our Zero Fatalities goal. As part of Zero Fatalities, traffic safety stakeholders across the state are using updated strategies to save lives.”

The traffic safety strategies are part of the Nevada Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). Overseen by NDOT’s traffic safety group, the SHSP brings Nevada traffic and safety agencies and advocates together to reduce the yearly traffic fatality average by 62 by 2015, with the ultimate goal of zero traffic deaths on Nevada roads.

Zero Fatalities®
Drive Safe Nevada

The Zero Fatalities goal defines nearly 80 traffic safety enhancements across the state, whether engineering, law enforcement, emergency medical service or education. NDOT and partners have already implemented many safety engineering

strategies on Nevada roads, including nearly 3,000 miles of centerline rumble strips, road safety audits to enhance traffic safety, continuing installation of pedestrian crossing countdown timers at approximately 120 crosswalks throughout northern Nevada and much more.

Another centerpiece of the Zero Fatalities goal is a 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.

“NDOT and our partners are out there every day to enhance safety, but safety ultimately relies on everyone using the road,” NDOT Chief Safety Engineer Chuck Reider explained.

“Join the Zero Fatalities community by not driving impaired, buckling up, stopping on red at intersections, being pedestrian safe and not letting distractions cause you

to run off the road. It just might save your life or the life of someone you care about.”

To learn more about Nevada traffic safety, visit www.zerofatalitiesnv.com.



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Susan Martinovich, P.E.
NDOT Director

Brian Sandoval
Governor

www.nevadadot.com



Recognizing Excellence



Day in and day out, many NDOT team members are leading the way in improving Nevada transportation.

NDOT's Employee Recognition Program, or ERP, has been elevated into a tiered system to celebrate the most deserving of employees.

You Make the Difference Awards are given every month to NDOT employees recognized as outstanding in helping fulfill one or more of NDOT's core values or other criteria.

"Integrity, honesty, respect, commitment and accountability are our core values," NDOT Director Susan Martinovich explained. "The make the difference award is a way to recognize those employees who may have stepped in to assist while a co-worker was out or went out of their way to assist or show commitment or dedication."

You Make the Difference Award recipients receive a letter of appreciation and an ERP recognition gift.

The second tier is the Above and Beyond category. The award is given to employees who consistently perform distinctive, exceptional work and to those who are committed to providing superior customer service to co-workers and

others.

"The keys to these two criteria are exceptional and consistent," explained ERP Committee Chairman Thresa Zylstra. "This is not a one-time action. The employees who receive this award must show this exceptional work ethic time and time again and really stand out."

Creatively improving a work procedure or method to save time or money with measurable results, whether routinely or as a one-time accomplishment, is another criteria for which employees may be recognized for Above and Beyond.

Above and Beyond Awards are given every quarter, and recipients receive \$25 cash, a framed photo and a recognition prize and certificate.

Quarterly and annual recognitions will also be chosen from among the most outstanding Above and Beyond Award recipients, with up to \$500 in cash awarded to annual recognition recipients.

"NDOT employees do so much for our transportation system every day," Martinovich said. "I believe NDOT is the best team, period. And I think it is so important for us to recognize one another for all of the truly extraordinary things we do."

Employees can log onto NDOT's SharePoint website and select the "Employee Recognition Program" link on the homepage to nominate a co-worker.



Employee Recognition Awards

You Make the Difference Award - Monthly awards for an outstanding action demonstrating one or more of NDOT's core values

- Recipients receive a letter of appreciation and ERP recognition gift

Above and Beyond Award - Quarterly awards for continually producing exceptional work, and/or providing exceptional service or a one-time achievement of creatively developing a cost or time-saving procedure

- Recipients receive \$25 cash, framed photo, ERP recognition gift and certificate

Quarterly and Annual Recognition also given to recognize top Above and Beyond recipients

Nevada's First Bridge Slide

- Bridge Slide Before -



- Bridge Slide After -



- Bridge Slide During -



Two Interstate 15 bridges were demolished and replacement bridges slid in place as part of the first bridge slide in state history, and cornerstone of an NDOT project to improve the I-15 interchange 120 in Mesquite.

The bridge improvements, part of the I-15 West Mesquite Interchange Design-Build Project, used innovative accelerated bridge construction (ABC) techniques which have been successfully utilized in several other states. New I-15 bridges were constructed on temporary foundations adjacent to the existing bridges. Each existing bridge was then demolished, and the new bridges slid into place overnight using hydraulic jacks, Teflon pads and liquid dish soap for lubrication.

“For each bridge, it’s a matter of moving more than 1,000 tons of concrete with hydraulic jacks and sliding on steel beams,” said NDOT Resident Engineer Marty Strganac. “The bridge slides about three feet at a time, and the bridge was moved into place in less than an hour and a half!”

During bridge demolition and replacement, I-15 traffic was diverted using interstate on- and off-ramps. Because interstate traffic kept flowing on the ramps throughout the entire bridge slide, inconvenience to the traveling public was greatly reduced. In total, the innovative technique reduced bridge construction time by six months compared to typical construction schedules and decreased total project cost by roughly 19 percent.

The innovative bridge construction garnered the attention of the public and transportation officials nationwide. The public was able to view video of the bridge demolition and move on-line, or in person as part of a public viewing event. Among those in attendance were Federal Highway Administrator Victor Mendez and NDOT Director Susan Martinovich, along with other Federal Highway Administration officials.

“We worked closely with the City of Mesquite and Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada to make this the best project for local needs,” NDOT Assistant Director of Engineering Bill Hoffman explained. “But, our great partnership with the FHWA also cannot be overstated. This project was highlighted as part of an FHWA technical showcase, something of which all of Nevada can be proud.”

In addition to the reconstructed bridges, the project will also upgrade the current diamond configuration of the I-15 interchange 120 to a roundabout, improve ramps and widen Falcon Ridge Parkway to increase access, safety and traffic flow. Drainage, lighting and landscape and aesthetics will also be enhanced. The approximately \$14.5 million in improvements, built by the design-build contract team of W.W. Clyde and Horrocks Engineers and overseen by NDOT Project Manager Adam Searcy and crew 915, are scheduled to be substantially complete in May 2012.

Kudos Korner



Wildfires

The Reno area was hit hard with the November Caughlin Fire and the Washoe Drive Fire in January. Both times, NDOT staff was there to assist first responders and protect the public and state roads, both during and after the fire.

Washoe Drive Fire

"I live just a mile south of Mt. Rose Highway. My 93-year-old parents live with us. I was in Carson City when the fire started, and I was concerned it might reach our house before I could get my parents out. I told them to get in their vehicle and leave.

That evening, I was reluctant to take them to a hotel as they did not even have their medications with them. We decided to drive to the (closed) Mt. Rose intersection to see if we could get through. I saw an NDOT employee (Jason Peard) and explained our plight. The fire had already moved quite a way to the west.....and he was aware that the area of concern on the highway was much further south. He thought for a moment and then said that he would escort us to our home. (My parents) were so grateful to get their medications and be able to sleep in their own beds."

Scott Young, Legislative Council Bureau

Caughlin Fire

NDOT loaned 1,800 feet of concrete barrier rail for Washoe County to use in preventing and containing soil erosion following the Caughlin Fire.

"Thanks so much for your cooperation and assistance."

Kimble Corbridge, Washoe County Public Works

The Holiday Spirit

Across the state this past holiday season, NDOT employees donated generously. Food and clothing was donated to Whitney Elementary School students, a Las Vegas school whose student population is largely homeless. In Elko, Winnemucca and Ely, NDOT employees donated 350 pounds of food. In Carson City and Reno areas, charity donations were made to worthy causes such as Food for Thought.

"Thank you for your recent donation of 23 pounds of food. Food donations such as yours allow Food for Thought to provide a bag of food each weekend to local schoolchildren who might otherwise go hungry,"
Food for Thought Executive Director Stephanie Gardner said.

Welcome

Lyle Doto, Elko
Michael Ehrsam, Las Vegas
Loyd Fonda, Elko
Arlene Gloriani, Las Vegas
Harley Maughan, Tonopah
Tricia Maughan, Tonopah
Steven Milton, Las Vegas
Justin Norfleet, Las Vegas
Chaitali Pawadi, Carson
Yvonne Schuman, Las Vegas
Sean Sever, Carson
Michelle Thung, Las Vegas

Thanks for Serving

Shelia Bustamante, 22 years, Las Vegas
Michial Dalluge, 30 years, Fallon
Warren Goodale, 34 years, Winnemucca
Evan Jones, 30 years, Las Vegas
Gerald Maio, 32 years, Las Vegas
Jean Popichak, 30 years, Carson
Billy Rowton, 20 years, Carson
Joseph Smaltz, 18 years, Gardnerville

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Learn About.....

How are NDOT and our traffic safety partners across the state helping to save lives? Learn about the state's Zero Fatalities traffic safety goal.....www.zerofatalitiesnv.com

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