



# PLANNING NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Planning Division

1st Quarter, 2010

## WELCOME



*Tracy Larkin-Thomason*

Welcome to the first edition of the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) Planning Newsletter. This first edition showcases what each of the six planning sections do. Please distribute the newsletter freely. We hope you enjoy this newsletter and learn a little more about what planning is all about!

Sincerely,



Tracy Larkin-Thomason, P.E.  
NDOT Assistant Director of Planning



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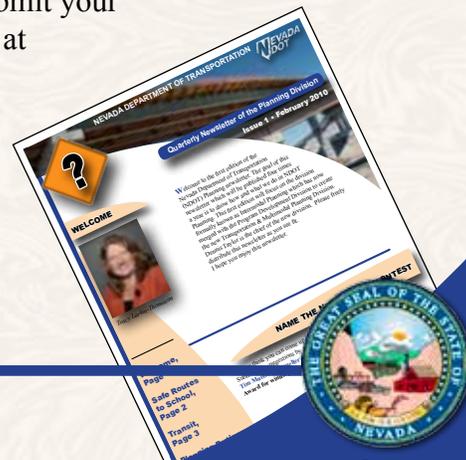
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## NAME THE NEWSLETTER CONTEST

We are looking for a new, creative, attention getting name for the Planning Newsletter. Please submit your suggestion by June 11, 2010 to Tim Mueller at [tmueller@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:tmueller@dot.state.nv.us)

The person submitting the winning entry will receive a \$25 gift card to Paul Schat's Bakery



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**NDOT Planning is comprised of six sections: Federal Programs, Performance Analysis, Research, Roadway Systems, Traffic Information and Transportation/Multimodal Planning.**

**Traffic Information Section**

The Traffic Information Section is responsible for collecting traffic volume, truck classification and truck weights along Nevada’s roadway system. This data is collected at 4,000 annual traffic count sites, 100 continuous countsites and 8 continuous truck count sites in Nevada. Without this traffic data, the NDOT would not receive federal funding that finances transportation projects throughout the state.

In addition, Traffic Information conducts special traffic studies including: signal warrant studies, speed studies, turning movement analysis and data collection for traffic signal timing. The primary requestors of this analysis are the NDOT Design, Operations/Maintenance, Roadway Systems and Safety Divisions. The Section also reviews traffic modeling results as requested by the RTCs and MPOs in Nevada offering suggestions and verifying base traffic numbers.



*Randy Travis*

*For additional information please contact Randy Travis at [rtravis@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:rtravis@dot.state.nv.us) or 775-888-7158.*

**Performance Analysis Section**

The Performance Analysis Section conducts benefit cost analyses on projects, collects, prepares, and reports fuel-tax statistics to the FHWA for use in allocating funds to the state of Nevada. The division also develops the annual value engineering reports, and develops reports for the State Legislature and Federal Highway Administration, develops the Highway Preservation Program Report for submittal to the FHWA, and conducts cost allocation studies.

The Section also develops, tracks, and reports system performance measure reports to ensure investment accountability by linking system performance measures to the mission and core values of the department for a performance-driven transportation system.

*For additional information please contact Alauddin Khan, P.E. at [akhan@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:akhan@dot.state.nv.us) or at 775-888-7192.*



*Alauddin Khan*

## Research Section

The NDOT Research Section coordinates the research needs of the department by the following mission statement:

“The goals of NDOT’s research program are to improve operational efficiency and increase serviceability of the transportation system and its support organizations through better understanding and usage of materials, methods, design, and the environments in which they are used.”

The Research Section has a product evaluation function to facilitate evaluations so effective products are included on the Qualified Products List (QPL), coordinates traditional research, and oversees training and research conducted through the University of Nevada, Reno T2 Center. Research also works closely with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Transportation Research Center, and maintains a research library that houses 15,000 volumes of resources that are available to any NDOT employee in the state. Current research projects range from optimizing pedestrian safety in crosswalks to evaluating alternatives for trucks on urban freeways and everything in between.



*Ken Chambers*

*For additional information please contact Ken Chambers at [kchambers@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:kchambers@dot.state.nv.us) or at 775-888-7220.*

The NDOT Roadway Systems Section is responsible for mile posting, inventory of the State Maintained System of roadways, Interstate\US and state maintained route designations, Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) administration and reporting, Federal Functional Classification of roadways statewide and Urbanized Boundary determination, “Roadview” Photolog, Annual Certification of Public Road Miles, annual reporting and auditing of “County Fuel Tax Allocation” mileage, No-Passing sight-distance studies, and the Historic Marker program.

Near-term goals and projects are the collection of Photolog data for all Federal Aid eligible (Functionally Classified higher than local) roadways that are not on the State Maintained System, continued work toward changes required by the new HPMS 2010+ reassessment including GIS implementation, and cooperative outreach with NDOT and other public entities for identification of sources of required data. Publication of the vastly improved 2010 Nevada’s State Maintained Highways, Descriptions, Index and Maps report, continued efforts to correct and improve the NDOT milepost system both administratively and in the field are additional priorities.

*For additional information please contact Dave Manning at [dmanning@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:dmanning@dot.state.nv.us) or 775-888-7675.*



*Dave Manning*

## Roadway Systems Section

## Federal Programs Section

The NDOT Federal Programs Section is responsible for multi-state coordination and corridor planning, federal policy analysis, identification of funding opportunities, and intra/inter-agency coordination regarding NDOT Planning efforts (i.e. planning and environmental linkages and planning for operations.) Major projects currently underway include the I-15 System Master Plan and the development of a planning and environment linkages guidance document.



*Sondra Rosenberg*

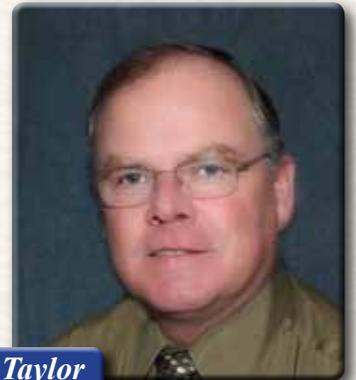
*For additional information please contact Sondra Rosenberg at [srosenberg@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:srosenberg@dot.state.nv.us) or at 775-888-7241.*

## Transportation/Multimodal Planning

### NDOT Transportation & Multimodal

Planning is a new section comprised of the former Intermodal and Program Development divisions. Planning work underway includes: Aviation Planning, Apex Mesquite-Moapa Valley Corridor Study, Connecting Nevada: Planning Our Transportation Future Study, State Rail Plan Update, 2010 County Tours, Safe Routes to School Program, updating and programming of the Transportation System Projects (TSP) which contains the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Annual Work Program, Short Range Element and Long Range Element. Transportation Enhancement and Scenic Byway programs as well as the monitoring and reporting on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for transit round out section activities. The section also coordinates local planning with Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), cities, counties and tribes.

Significant effort within this section is exerted to develop and enhance the various transportation modes including, aviation, bike/pedestrian, rail and transit. It is anticipated that once the new Federal Transportation Bill has been legislated that it will contain an element that is focused on advancing multimodal transportation options as well as performance measures for project delivery.



*Dennis Taylor*

*For additional information please contact Dennis Taylor at [dtaylor@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:dtaylor@dot.state.nv.us) or at 775-888-7120*

### KEY DATES

**Draft Annual Traffic Report May 14, 2010 • Bike to Work Week May 17-21, 2010**  
**Product Evaluation Committee Meeting June 1, 2010, Carson City**  
**County Consultations will be conducted June 1, 2010 through July 21, 2010**

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