

## **NDDOT planning efforts work on future transportation needs**

### ***Local Planning Efforts***

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) supports local jurisdictions in sound planning to achieve quality jurisdictions, as well as safe and efficient state and local transportation systems. The NDDOT has been engaged in a variety of planning efforts to address challenges the state and local jurisdictions are addressing and goals they seek to attain.

Across the state the NDDOT has participated with local partners, in a variety of local planning efforts. Some of the communities we are currently working with on a variety of plans and studies include: Dickinson, Jamestown, Minot, Ray, Valley City, Watford City, and Williston.

Additionally, the NDDOT is working on an integrated state and local transportation study in the four county area of Dunn, McKenzie, Mountrail, and Williams counties. Staff from the NDDOT, Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, as well as staff and county officials from the four county area are working cooperatively to identify a safe and efficient integrated transportation network between the local and state transportation systems.

### ***Statewide Planning Efforts***

The NDDOT and Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute have developed a variety of studies to identify resources necessary to adequately address existing and projected demand on the states multimodal transportation system. A statewide needs analysis is being finalized to assess the State's roadway network, as well as surveying infrastructure for North Dakota's urban areas. A short-line rail needs study was conducted to evaluate the 1,085 miles of in-service rail line operated by the State's three largest short-line railroads. Additionally, a statewide transit study was developed to assess the existing and projected capital needs of the rural and urban transit providers.

## **2014 construction season completes record amount of projects**

The North Dakota Department of Transportation has been busy working with our county, city, township and tribal agency partners to deliver two of the largest construction programs in state history, which included over \$800 million a year in 2013 and 2014.

The state is investing approximately \$409 million to cover all costs for the construction of truck bypass routes in western North Dakota. This year we completed and made substantial progress on those projects. We completed bypass and truck reliever routes in Alexander, Watford City and New Town as well as an interim bypass in Dickinson. The Williston truck reliever route project made great progress and is expected to be completed in 2015. Other major projects we completed around the state include, phase two of the US 85 four-laning project between Watford City and Williston, US 2 between Bethold and Surrey, I-29 from Buxton to south of ND Highway 15, Washington Street in Grand Forks, 25<sup>th</sup> Street reconstruction in Fargo, East Divide Avenue reconstruction in Bismarck and I-94 Regional Development Corridor/7<sup>th</sup> Street SE in Valley City.

The Department has projects planned for the future, dependent on funding. A few of these upcoming projects are Killdeer Bypass, New Town Main Street reconstruction, I-94 concrete overlay in the Valley City area, Bismarck north Washington Street, West Fargo Main Avenue, Grand Forks Kennedy Bridge and environmental work on US 85 four-lane from Watford City to I-94 including the Long-X Bridge.



## **Local Roads Safety Program receives national recognition**

The NDDOT was selected as the recipient of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation President's Transportation Award in Highway Traffic Safety for our Local Roads Safety Program (LRSP).

The NDDOT program works with a diverse group of stakeholders including 12 major cities, all 53 counties, four reservations and one national park. The goal of the program is to reduce the statewide 3-year average for traffic fatalities to 100 or fewer by 2020 using a systematic approach.

The program uses a geographic system (GIS) based approach to manage data from severe crashes and create a comprehensive statewide dataset for the NDDOT.