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**DALRYMPLE, OFFICIALS CELEBRATE COMPLETION OF  
NEW TOWN TRUCK RELIEVER ROUTE  
State Provides Nearly \$36 Million to Enhance Traffic Movement,  
Roadway Safety in New Town**

BISMARCK, N.D. - Gov. Jack Dalrymple today joined North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) Director Grant Levi and other state, tribal and local officials to celebrate the completion of the New Town Truck Reliever Route, a project that will reduce truck traffic through the community and enhance roadway safety in the region.

The state has provided nearly \$36 million for road projects in the New Town area this year, including \$25 million to build the truck reliever route and nearly \$11 million to complete construction on ND Highway 1804 through New Town.

“This truck reliever route is an important infrastructure investment for New Town and the region, taking trucks off the community’s Main Street and enhancing traffic movement and safety,” said Dalrymple. “This is the fourth reliever route or bypass to open this fall in western North Dakota, underscoring the state’s commitment to address the impacts of rapid growth and enhance the safety of our roadways.”

The \$25 million, 3.2 mile New Town Truck Reliever Route will divert ND 23 truck traffic from New Town’s Main Street to northwest of the city. The two-lane roadway includes turn lanes and asphalt with concrete at the intersections. Construction work began on the project this past spring.

“The truck route and Highway 1804 projects are the first phase of work that needs to be completed to enhance traffic movement in the area,” said Levi. “We are using a multiple approach to address traffic movement, which includes work on other New Town projects in the future.”

In addition to the truck reliever route, construction on Highway 1804 through New Town has also been completed. The nearly \$11 million project includes a three-lane roadway with concrete that will enhance traffic improvement and safety in the region. A Main Street construction project is also planned for next year.

The 2013 and 2014 construction seasons represent the largest road construction programs in state history, with more than \$1.6 billion in bids for roadway projects alone. The state is investing \$409 million to cover all costs for the construction of truck bypass routes in western North Dakota. New Town is the fourth truck reliever route or bypass to open this fall. Last month, the Watford City Southeast and Southwest Bypasses were opened

to traffic, as well as the Alexander Bypass. Additional permanent bypass projects are underway in Dickinson and Williston.

The NDDOT completed the building of an interim bypass route for Dickinson this construction season and has begun planning and design work on permanent bypass routes for Dickinson and Killdeer. Construction work also continues on the four-lane project on US 85 between Williston and Watford City. The first two phases have been completed this year and construction has begun on the third phase, which involves four-laning US 85 from north of Alexander to Williston and construction of a new Lewis and Clark Bridge.

In all, the state will invest about \$2.7 billion to support the state's oil and gas region during the current biennium. The state commitment – more than twice the amount of the previous, two-year funding package – includes funding for highway, county and township road improvements; water supply and water treatment projects and the development of affordable housing. Other state commitments include grants for local law enforcement agencies and emergency medical responders; stationing more Highway Patrol troopers in western North Dakota; enhancements to the region's court system and funding for dust suppression projects.