



Connecting the DOTs

July 2024

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SDDOT Email Signature Guidelines

The following information provides the steps for updating your Outlook email signature.

All SDDOT staff should use the branded signature look and logo for your official SDDOT account.



First Name Last Name
Job Title | SDDOT
Better Lives Through Better Transportation
(Replace with your office location) 700 E. Broadway Ave., Pierre, SD 57501
O: 605-XXX-XXXX | C: XXX-XXX-XXXX
<https://dot.sd.gov> <https://sd511.org>

Find all branding information on the **Intranet** within the **SDDOT Branding** tab, located at the top of the page.

[Intranet.https://intranetdot.sd.gov/SDDOT_Branding.aspx](https://intranetdot.sd.gov/SDDOT_Branding.aspx)

Click this link for step-by-step instructions on how to update your email signature.

[Email Signature Template](#)

The template opens in Microsoft Word. Edit the template with your info, then copy and paste it into the email signature editor in Microsoft Outlook.

Need to update your Teams Profile image?
All SDDOT Employees should use either a headshot or the new logo.



1. Click on the circle image at the top right of Teams.
2. After the drop-down opens, hover over your profile image and click to change/add your profile image.



The Secretary's Corner



Looking Ahead . . .
 Our statewide employee meetings will be held in September and October! Details will soon be shared in my *Information Interchange* emails.

FY24 Winter Maintenance Recap

The final FY24 winter maintenance costs were \$18.6 million compared to a budget of \$23.2 million. Once inventories were filled for salt, cutting edges, and other materials; there remained budget authority from the regions' operating budget around \$2.5 million. This authority was used in the purchase of 13 snow plow chassis, one loader mounted snow blower, and six trailers. By using this FY24 budget authority to purchase equipment in the current fiscal year it will free up \$2.5 million in the FY25 equipment budget.

Operations Support will be working with the region shop foremen to prioritize the equipment that will now be purchased in FY25 over the next year. This is an annual process to review and ensure we are being efficient with our budget and maintaining our equipment fleet. The graphics below demonstrate the FY24 budget; as well as the FY23 budget and actual expenditures for comparison.

1.4 BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR 2024

DESCRIPTION	BUDGETED AMOUNT DOT FORCES
Snow and Ice Control	\$23,227,840.00
Contract Snow Removal	\$39,000.00
TOTAL	\$23,266,840.00

FISCAL YEAR 2023

DESCRIPTION	BUDGETED AMOUNT DOT FORCES	ACTUAL USED AMOUNT
Snow and Ice Control	\$20,514,159.00	\$40,491,099.09
Contract Snow Removal	\$ 39,000.00	\$493,094.63
TOTAL	\$20,553,159.00	\$40,984,193.72



On the next page is information about SDDOT involvement in the WASHTO organization. The WASHTO organization exists to serve its member departments by helping us all improve our agencies, as well to provide opportunities for our employees to expand their knowledge and skills to enhance how we serve our citizens and visitors.

SDDOT is actively involved in WASHTO with the goal to build relationships and work side-by-side with our sister state DOTs through collaborative efforts and peer exchanges. This collaborative nature ultimately helps us all improve and reduces the need to reinvent the wheel. It has been my honor to serve in a leadership role for WASHTO. I also want to extend a special thank you to **Kari Kroll** who did a great job of serving as WASHTO Secretary over the past year and a half to assist me in my role.



An Opportunity to “show off” South Dakota as WASHTO President

On July 10, 2024, Secretary Jundt’s reign as WASHTO President came to an end and the gavel was passed to Director Ed Sniffen of Hawaii, the current WASHTO Vice President.

The gavel is an important part of the WASHTO presidential procedure and was formally passed during the closing session of the WASHTO Annual meeting held in Omaha, NE.

The gavel is pictured to the side. It comes in a large ornamental wooden box where it sits on its perch on display. Since spring of 2023 when it arrived from Nevada, it’s been displayed in the Secretary’s Office in Pierre.

As WASHTO President, one of Secretary Jundt’s duties was to add something to the gavel that represents South Dakota before he passed it on. In true South Dakota symbolism, a Black Hills gold pheasant pendant was added to the handle.



Sec. Jundt represented our State beautifully throughout his leadership. He brought back the CEO retreat which hadn’t happened since 2019. The retreat brought leaders from 13 of the 18 states plus the Executive Director of AASHTO to the Black Hills last fall to discuss common issues in transportation.

As part of building relationships with our sister states, the CEOs were treated to some great South Dakota hospitality and experienced what South Dakota has to offer. Sec. Jundt invited the state leaders to eat at the historic Alpine Inn in Hill City as well as get a fantastic view of a fully lit Mount Rushmore.

A special thank you to Kari Kroll who organized the CEO retreat!

CEO Retreat Guests - Pictured left to right:

Jim Tymon (AASHTO), Darin Westby (WY), Joel Jundt, Tracy Larkins Thomason (NV), Tim Gatz (OK), Mack Long (MT) Roger Millar (WA), Carlos Braceras (UT), Tony Tavares (CA) and Dan McElhinney (ID).



Pictures from WASHTO Conference held in Omaha, NE in July:

Find SDDOT’s winning ATA for the LaCrosse Street DDI at: [\(Award Press Release\)](#)



Secretary Jundt presented over the WASHTO annual meeting in his final official act as President. He then passed the ceremonial gavel to Director Ed Sniffen of Hawaii.



Directors Mike Behm and Craig Smith accepted the **ATA Award** for the Rapid City DDI project.

2025 - 2028 Tentative Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

In July, the SDDOT offered various virtually based public engagement options for the **Tentative 2025-2028 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)**.

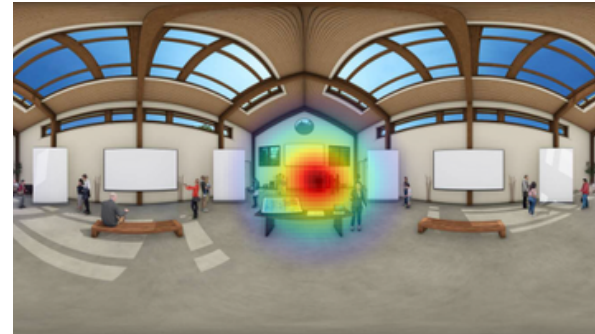


All **Tentative 2025-2028 STIP** information is being provided through an innovative, highly interactive, virtual meeting room on the SDDOT website at <https://dot.sd.gov/projects-studies/planning/tentative-statewide-transportation-improvement-program-stip>.

The virtual meeting room gave users the ability to interactively navigate meeting materials at their own speed while providing the same detailed information that attendees could traditionally find at an in-person STIP meeting. In addition to the features of the virtual room, there were two live presentations that users were able to attend via Zoom. Both meetings included statewide project information.

Tentative STIP Engagement Stats:

- From June 28, 2024 - July 18, 2024, there were **821** unique visitors to the Tentative STIP web page.
- The virtual room had **137** unique visitors.
- There were **66** Zoom meeting participants on July 16, 2024; with additional people on-site in Aberdeen.
- There were **28** participants on the July 18, 2024 Zoom call.



Above image shows stations with the most user engagement

The Tentative STIP page is accepting written comments through Friday, Aug. 2, 2024.

41st Street DDI Ribbon Cutting in Sioux Falls [SDDOT Press Release](#) and [News Stories](#)



2024 Fallen Hero Bridge Dedications

In 2019, Governor Kristi Noem and the South Dakota Departments of Veterans Affairs, Military, and Transportation launched the Fallen Heroes Bridge Dedication Program.

This program dedicates state bridges to South Dakotans who were killed in action while serving their country or classified as missing in action. Naming South Dakota bridges in honor of our fallen gives us the opportunity of remembrance, reflection, and respect—to honor the men and women who gave their lives in service to this nation.

The Fallen Heroes Bridge Dedication Committee meets annually in April and selects heroes to honor and the bridges to dedicate that year.

Below is the information (and photos) from dedication ceremonies held to date.

SGT. Lelund Kahler

The U.S. Highway 85 Bridge over the Belle Fourche River
July 3, 2024 - Belle Fourche, SD



SGT. Fred Harms and LT. Donald Harms

U.S. Highway 18 bridge three miles west of S.D. Highway 37
June 29, 2024 - Tripp, SD



T/5 Harald Haraldsen

U.S. Highway 85 Bridge over South Fork Grand River
July 10, 2024 - Buffalo, SD



CPL Russell N. Ferdig

Interstate 29 under exit 15 bridge
July 19, 2024 - Elk Point, SD

Section of U.S. Highway 18 Designated as Sicangu Lakota Code Talker Memorial Highway

Nearly 106 miles of U.S. Highway 18 will now feature signage designating it as the **Sicangu Lakota Code Talker Memorial Highway**. The highway designation will run through Todd, Tripp, and Gregory counties, along with the Rosebud Indian Reservation. The Code Talker designation on Highway 18 will be from just east of the Todd-Bennett county line to the Fort Randall Dam near Pickstown running through the communities of Bonesteel, Burke, Gregory, Colome, Winner, and Mission.

The memorial highway application was submitted by **Senator Shawn Bordeaux, who represents District 26** in South Dakota. Applications are reviewed and approved by the Transportation Commission.

“The Sicangu Lakota Code Talkers are one of many tribal veterans who were integral to victory over the Germans in World War II,” stated **Senator Bordeaux** in the memorial highway application. “In 2008, the Code Talkers Recognition Act was passed by the U.S. Congress to honor all Native Americans who used their native language to aid communications in World War II.”

The phrase "Code Talker" refers to the Indigenous military members who used their native languages to pass secret communications during World War I and World War II, while also keeping those messages out of enemy hands. It's believed that as many as 200 tribal members from South Dakota served as Code Talkers during the world wars.

Dedication Ceremonies:

An important day for the relationship between the SDDOT, our tribal neighbors, and families of the Code Talkers took place on Friday, July 12, 2024, with the dedication of the Sicangu Lakota Code Talker Highway in Upper Cut Meat and Milk's Camp.



Pictured: Sicangu Lakota Warriors Color Guard



Pictured: Senator Shawn Bordeaux



West End of Highway



East End of Highway



July Mentoring Minute

Based upon the article: “Overcoming Mid-Career Blahs”
by Victoria Mlynko

Edited by: Brad Norrid and Kellie Beck

A Lesson from a coaching/mentoring session; career boredom causes stress.

Hold up, isn't boredom the opposite of stress?

Not really, it seems.

Driven, ambitious, and productive people build their careers by overcoming obstacles and making things happen. In the early part of our working lives, the opportunity to do the work is plentiful – everywhere we go, there's a chance to create an impression, build a network, or start something new. As time passes, and we're 10, 15, or more years into our careers, the work shifts. Now we need to maintain credentials, relationships, and productivity levels. The need for this maintenance work increases and proportionally, it can feel like we're maintaining WAY more than we're creating. Over time we can get a type of complacency or comfort in jobs that we do every day which can lead to boredom or being “autopilot.” And maintenance, though rewarding in the long-term, can feel undeniably monotonous (that is, BORING).

Does this sound familiar to you? Then here are three ideas that may help.

1. **A change is as good as a break.** When performed for long enough, the same daily routine can become a drudge, even when you like your career. Consider transferring your skills and experience to help another project, role, or department. Even a simple environment change (like a new desk, or office layout) can change your routine and promote new thought patterns, a critical part of shaking up those neural pathways and feeling reinvigorated.
2. **Take on a mentee.** We hear a lot about the benefits of receiving mentorship, but how about the benefits of actually doing the mentoring? We're social animals, and it can be very rewarding to invest in someone else's learning and growth. Interestingly, learning often goes both ways in these relationships, particularly if you choose a mentee with a very different background or skillset from your own. Perhaps you should consider SDDOT's mentoring program that you can get involved with (new session starting this Fall), or you can check out the local chapter of a relevant professional association or networking group.
3. **Seek and risk failure.** This may sound uncomfortable, but if you've reached a level of competence in your career where challenges are just not possible, things can get real boring real quick. Set a stretch goal that seems impossible, or impossible improvement challenge, and learn how to fix or improve it. Stay humble and focus on your learning process, not the outcome. We learn more from effort and failure than we do with immediate success.

If you've been through this and lived to tell the tale, what helped you overcome your career blahs?

2024-2025 Mentoring Program registration coming in September!

SDDOT's First Female Highway Maintenance Worker Retires with 42 Years of Service

By: Doug Sherman, Winner Area Engineer

On June 7, 1982, Kathy Brown began work in the Kadoka Shop as a Highway Maintenance Worker (HMW). Human Resource records indicate that Kathy was the first-ever female HMW for the South Dakota Department of Transportation. The fact that she stepped into a male-dominated career over 40 years ago and has worked in that world ever since is a great accomplishment. However, there is more to the story.

Throughout Kathy's life, she also had to deal with a hearing impairment that made normal hearing very difficult for her. For the first several years of her career, she had to read lips when communicating with co-workers. Having to do this never got in her way though and most around her barely noticed she had a hearing issue. Never once in her entire career did Kathy use her hearing issues as an excuse. She just worked harder and it made her even more determined to "out-work" those around her! Fortunately, Kathy eventually received a cochlear implant that greatly helped her ability to communicate with others.

Doug Sherman, Winner Area Engineer noted, "Kathy has had a stellar career with SDDOT. She is widely respected and the one crew members go to for advice and assistance on a regular basis. Kathy does an incredible job coaching others on how to do the job right and how to do it safely. For the last 42 years, she has been a pleasure to work with. She shows up to work each and every morning with a smile on her face as Kathy has always chosen to have a good attitude about everything."

Kathy is most famous for all the belt buckles she has won at the SDDOT Rodeos throughout the years. Overall, she has won two first-place buckles and one third-place buckle. She has also qualified for the State Finals nine times which by itself is a monumental accomplishment.

Kathy, thank you for your dedicated public service over the past forty-two years. Enjoy your much-earned retirement! It has been our privilege to call you a co-worker and friend!



Pictured from left to right is the Kodoka Team: Beau Walker, Highway Maintenance Worker; Kathy Brown, Highway Maintenance Worker; Jim Lolley, Highway Maintenance Supervisor; Carl Brown, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker; and Aaron Richardson, Highway Maintenance Worker.

TRAINING UPDATE

Learn ~ Engage ~ Improve
July 2024 (Upcoming Trainings)

**WORKFORCE**

**Assessment of Safe Work Indicators in Transportation
Construction Using Personal Monitoring Systems (MPC 24-520)**

Aug. 8 | 10 – 11 a.m. | Zoom



Lead HMW 2 HCP

SD DANR Underground Tank Operator Training

Oct. 15 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Rapid City

Oct. 16 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Sioux Falls

*Anyone who took this before 2019, should take the course again as there have been updates.



CDL EDLT Class A & B Theory

Aug. 19-21 | 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Sioux Falls

Sept. 16-18 | 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Pierre

Oct. 21-23 | 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Rapid City

Dec. 9-11 | 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Sioux Falls

Lead HMW 2 HCP

CDL EDLT Train the Trainer

Aug. 22 | 12:30 – 5 p.m. | Sioux Falls

Sept. 19 | 12:30 – 5 p.m. | Pierre

Oct. 24 | 12:30 – 5 p.m. | Rapid City

Dec. 12 | 12:30 – 5 p.m. | Sioux Falls

CDL Learners Permit

Aug. 22 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Sioux Falls

Sept. 19 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Pierre

Oct. 24 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Rapid City

Dec. 12 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Sioux Falls

AGC Hazardous Materials Endorsement

Aug. 23 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Sioux Falls

Sept. 20 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Pierre

Oct. 25 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Rapid City

Dec. 13 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Sioux Falls



AGC SOUTH DAKOTA
HIGHWAY-HEAVY-UTILITIES CHAPTER
"THE CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION"

TRAINING UPDATE

Learn ~ Engage ~ Improve
July 2024 (Upcoming Trainings)

Leadership

Advancing Performance Excellence: Baldrige 201

Sept. 12 & 19 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Webinar



Performance • Excellence • Network
A Catalyst for Success Since 1987

Leadership

DOT Leadership Summit

Aug. 21-22 | 1 p.m. – 12 p.m. | Pierre

BHR Leadership Conference

Sept. 5 | 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Pierre

NEPA Course – FHWA

Aug. 6-7 | 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Pierre



Hazard Recognition

Take just one minute to watch this video designing for the health and safety of all SDDOT employees.

*Today I will... make safety **my** priority.*

<https://sdlearn.csod.com/ui/lms-learning-details/app/course/542420cf-ffdd-4d19-b871-8ce3935a579e>

Intra-Agency Collaboration

Aberdeen Maintenance Increases Safety Around State Radio Tower

By: Todd Hertel, Aberdeen Region Engineer Manager

Over the past few years, it was pointed out that the “guy wire” protection for the State Radio Tower in the Aberdeen Region Complex was no longer effective. The posts were rotting at the ground line, and in several locations, the posts were no longer present. In 2022 SDDOT staff wanted to improve the safety of the area. Since then, our legal office has developed legal agreements to define responsibilities for State Radio located on State DOT properties. After the agreements were established, it was determined that State Radio was to maintain and protect its infrastructure.

State Radio then reached out to the SDDOT, and we partnered with them to produce a quick cost-effective solution. Below are pictures of the before and after conditions for the north tower leg.

SDDOT presented a solution to State Radio and decided that if they purchased the materials, the SDDOT would prep the ground and set the blocks. The crew from Aberdeen Maintenance Shop 158 made short order of getting the job done.

Before



After



Pictured from left to right: Robert Heupel, Highway Maintenance Worker, Bradley Reecy, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker, Caleb Huettl, Highway Maintenance Worker, and Chaz Shuff, Highway Maintenance Worker. **Not pictured:** Ben Hammer, Highway Maintenance Worker, Daryl Johnson, Highway Maintenance Worker.

Cassidy Schnabel Serving as National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) Member

By: Brace Prouty, Pierre Engineer Manager

Cassidy Schnabel has been the Highway-Rail Safety Engineer for SDDOT since October 2023. Cassidy came to SDDOT with 5 years of traffic design experience which serves her very well in managing the Section 130 Program, which provides Federal funding for the elimination of hazards at public highway-rail crossings. The Section 130 Program or Highway-Rail Crossing Program aims to reduce the number of severe highway crashes and improve safety for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians at existing at-grade railroad crossings.

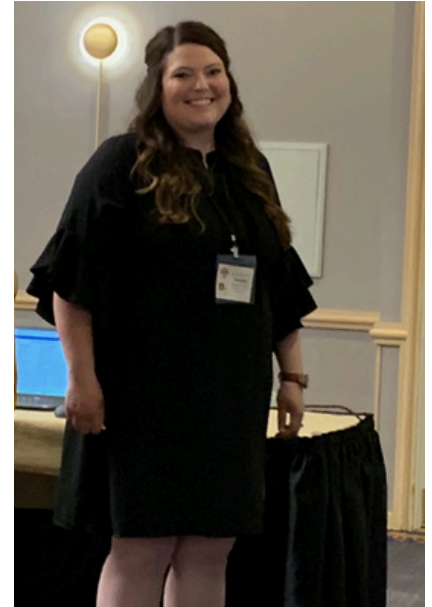
Cassidy works with all state and local road authorities as well as railroads across South Dakota to identify potential safety improvements to public highway-rail crossings. She also manages the Railroad Crossing Improvement Projects category of our STIP. This involves working with State, County, City, and Railroad personnel to analyze crossing characteristics and safety performance to coordinate the delivery of projects involving crossing signals, crossing surfaces, sidewalks/shared-use paths, and advance warning traffic control measures to enhance safety at public crossings.

Cassidy is also the main resource for SDDOT employees when coordinating with all railroads operating in South Dakota on roadway projects with public crossings within project limits.

SDDOT is fortunate to have Cassidy be part of our team for many reasons, one of which is her willingness to serve as a technical committee member on the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD). NCUTCD or "National Committee" is an organization whose purpose is to develop standards, guides, and warrants for traffic control devices and practices to regulate, warn, and guide traffic on streets and highways. The NCUTCD recommends to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and to other appropriate agencies proposed revisions and interpretations to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and other accepted national standards. NCUTCD develops public and professional awareness of the principles of safe traffic control devices and practices and provides a forum for qualified individuals with diverse backgrounds and viewpoints to exchange professional information.

"I became a member of the Railroad and Light Rail Technical Committee of the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The bulk of the work of the National Committee takes place in the different technical committees. Our role is to assist in developing standards, guides, and warrants for traffic control devices and practices used to regulate, warn, and guide traffic at grade crossings with railroads and light rail. Members serve on task forces within their technical committee as well as on joint task forces," said Cassidy.

Cassidy formally became a technical committee member of NCUTCD on June 27, 2024, at the 2024 Midyear meeting in Portland, Maine.



**Cassidy Schnabel, Highway &
Rail Safety Engineer**

Finance Corner



Updates have been made to the [Finance Contact List](#) and the [Accounting Procedures Manual](#). You can find them on the [Intranet](#).

New to the [Finance Contact List](#) is **Becky Hedman** our Fixed Asset Accountant. We have added two new positions in the Division of Finance and Management Accounting office to assist staff during implementation and kick-off of the new accounting system **Project BISON**.

Courtne Ritter and **Carson McClelland** will start on Wednesday, July 24, 2024.

Updates to the [Accounting Procedures Manual](#) include new Intranet snippets of the updated site to help guide you to different locations and updated links.

Other Updates Include:

- Guidelines on employee travel incidentals and how to enter **what is being reimbursed** pages 51-52
- Credit reimbursement coding guidelines page 128
- Memorandum on purchasing guidelines page 144



Hinge Health is now free for all benefit-eligible employees. No copays. No office visits. Reduce your back and joint pain in just 15 minutes a day.

<https://hinge.health/southdakota/>

This month, BHRA announced a partnership with [Hinge Health](#) – a digital exercise clinic for those who suffer from joint or muscle pain. More than exercise therapy, with digital programs that combine gentle exercise with 1-on-1 support to reduce your pain and help you move with confidence. This program is available at no cost to eligible members.

Hinge Health can help you with problems in your knees, back, shoulders, lower back and hips, ankles and feet, women's pelvic health, and more! Ready to get started? [Click here to view the State of South Dakota Hinge Health landing page.](#)

Aeronautics Commission Awards \$10 Million in South Dakota Airport Terminal Program (SDATP) Funds

By Jack Dokken, Office of Air, Rail and Transit Program Manager

Earlier this summer, the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) launched the South Dakota Airport Terminal Program (SDATP) following the successful passage of Senate Bill 144 in the 2024 legislative session. This bill allocated \$10 million in funding to support airport terminal projects across the state, representing a significant investment in enhancing South Dakota's aviation infrastructure.

On Thursday, July 18, 2024, SDATP fund requests were reviewed and awarded during the regularly scheduled Aeronautics Commission meeting. Following is a list of airport facilities that were awarded SDATP funds for terminal projects.

Airport Facility and SDATP Allocation:

Aberdeen: \$1,200,000	Hot Springs: \$27,000	Rapid City: \$3,047,126	Sioux Falls: \$2,561,801
Spearfish: \$1,319,073	Sturgis: \$210,000	Tea: \$735,000	Watertown: \$900,000

The SDATP funds are unique, as they are one-time appropriations distinct from the traditional Aeronautics Commission policies. SDATP funds are designated strictly for construction reimbursement and exclude costs related to project planning, design, and administration. Local community effort and funding were critical components for consideration.

For additional information, please find the press release [here](#).



The SDDOT received a \$1.6 million Low and No Emission Bus and Bus Facilities Grant from the Federal Transit Administration to add propane-powered buses to three local transit agency fleets across the state.

River Cities Public Transit (Pierre), Prairie Hills Transit (Spearfish), and People's Transit (Huron) will be the recipients of the new propane-powered buses that will be used to assist South Dakota citizens in their daily transportation needs in their local communities.

The adoption of propane buses and propane fueling stations is a testament to our transit providers' commitment to innovation and efficiency. Propane-powered buses offer numerous advantages, including lower operating costs, reduced maintenance requirements, and quieter operations.

These benefits translate into a more comfortable and enjoyable experience for passengers and drivers alike, further enhancing the appeal of public transportation in South Dakota.



SDDOT Employee News and Updates

July Longevity:

Kevin Marton, Bridge Hydraulic Engineer Manager – 20 years (Central Office – Bridge Design)
 Bronson Blow, Transportation Utilities Coordinator – 20 years (Central Office – Road Design)
 Jay Lovejoy, Journey Transportation Technician – 20 years (Winner Area)
 Lon Waltman, Highway Maintenance Worker – 20 years (Custer Area)
 Susan Frederick, Purchasing Specialist – 25 years (Central Office – Finance Office)
 Tracy Fuerst, Secretary – 25 years (Central Office – Transportation Inventory Management)
 Chris Vetter, Project Technician – 25 years (Mobridge Area)
 Jay Larson, Region Bridge Engineer – 30 years (Mitchell Region)
 A.J. Hatch, Equipment Shop Foreman – 30 years (Rapid City Region)
 Dennis Maciejewski, Pavement Evaluation Equipment Operator – 35 years (Central Office – Transportation Inventory Management)
 Michele Gabert, Accounting Assistant – 40 years (Rapid City Region)

July New Hires:

Caitlin Beastrom, Wetland Specialist - Pierre
 Kaylee Senger, NEPA Coordinator - Pierre
 Becky Hedman, Accountant I - Pierre
 Tanner Eggert, Highway Maintenance Worker - Aberdeen
 Justin Steele, Journey Transportation Tech - Rapid City
 Blake Meyer, Equipment Technician - Huron
 Alex Mitchell, Parts Room Technician - Aberdeen
 Steve Mattson, Highway Maintenance Worker - Sioux Falls
 Tayden Feist, Highway Maintenance Worker - Herreid
 Joshua Reep, Journey Transportation Tech - Pierre
 Dustin Bergerson, Highway Maintenance Worker - Sioux Falls
 Joshua Gosmire, Highway Maintenance Worker - Sioux Falls
 Ashlee Dikoff, Transportation Project Engineer - Sioux Falls
 Carson McClelland, Accounting Assistant - Pierre
 Tanner Lafferty, Highway Maintenance Worker - Mission

July Promotions & Lateral Position Changes:

Monte Meier, Transportation Specialist I - Pierre
 Taylor Droz, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker - Miller
 Courtne Ritter, Accountant I - Pierre



Mark Peterson, Aberdeen Region Engineer, celebrates his first grandbaby with his wife Lisa. Eloise May Mitzel, was Born July 12, 2024, to his daughter Kelsey and her husband Garrett Mitzel. Eloise was nine pounds.



SDDOT Employee News and Updates

Justin Smith, De Smet Lead Highway Worker, (left) receives his 10th-anniversary pin from Dave Jennings, Highway Maintenance Supervisor.

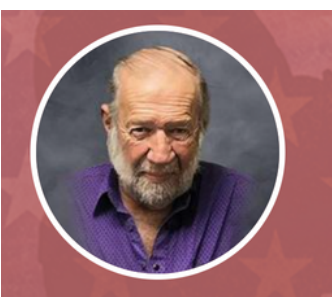


PFC Preston Norrid graduated from the United States Marine Corps; ceremony held at the Marine Corp Recruiting Depot (MCRD) in San Diego, CA. Preston is the son of Brad Norrid, Winner Area Engineering Supervisor. Preston will be continuing his education with the Marine Corp.



Eric Stroeder, Mobridge Engineering Supervisor, attended the Republican National Convention as a South Dakota delegate.

In Sympathy



Sympathy is extended to Jason Stricherz on the recent passing of his father. Jason is a Highway Maintenance Worker in the Faulkton shop.

Carl G. Stricherz passed away on July 10, 2024, at the Faulkton Area Medical Center. A memorial service was held at our Savior Lutheran Church in Faulkton on July 14, 2024, with burial in the Faulkton Cemetery.