

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Journey.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

State Headquarters
1500 Highway 2
PO Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509-4759
Communication Office: 402-479-4512
dot.nebraska.gov



Pete Ricketts, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NDOT Releases 2017 Annual Report

October 31, 2018 (Lincoln, Neb.) — The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) highlights efforts to provide Nebraskans the best possible transportation system in its 2017 Annual Report, which was released this week.

Eight strategic goals guide NDOT and represent the foundation of the agency's values. Goals such as Safety, Fiscal Responsibility, Project Delivery, Mobility, Work Force Development, and Communication and Collaboration compose the diverse priorities and strategies needed to drive an agency that impacts all Nebraskans and touches every corner of the state.

The report's Safety section recounts NDOT's dedication to developing and implementing effective strategies to reduce traffic-related crashes and fatalities on Nebraska's roadways. The state's crash rate of 1.7 per 1 million vehicle miles held steady for the third year and remained below the national average. Meanwhile, the serious injury crash rate dropped to the lowest in three years. The agency is committed to continuous evaluation of safety measures to improve safety and move Toward Zero Deaths. Fatal crashes in the state increased from 2016 to 2017, but they remained below the national average.

Increasing efficiency and effectiveness to improve project reliability were main initiatives of several action groups charged with the goals of Fiscal Responsibility and Project Delivery. The report's related section cited process improvement practices for saving the agency \$1.1 million during the first full year of their implementation. Additionally, NDOT's goal of limiting overhead costs to 10 percent of annual expenditures – something achieved for a decade – was bested by 2017's 5 percent in overhead costs.



The agency challenged itself to reorganize staff dedicated to Project Delivery, creating Super Teams, which are multidisciplinary groups charged with risk assessment, management of change control for scope, cost and schedule; and mitigation of issues as they arise. Another Project Delivery high point was NDOT's on-time completion of 95 percent of projects in its one-year schedule. The performance fell shy of the 100 percent goal, but beat 2016's 87 percent completion rate.

Topics outlined in the Communication, Coordination, Collaboration & Cooperation section touched on NDOT's commitment to customer service. Maintaining traffic flow is key in Omaha and the rest of the state. That means clearing incidents as quickly as possible. Minutes per closure increased less than a percent in Omaha and decreased less than a percent on the remainder of Interstate 80. NDOT missed its goal of reducing by 5 percent the five-year rolling average of minutes per closure in Omaha and on the remainder of Interstate 80.

The ongoing organization of Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Work Groups across the state looks to improve these numbers. TIM groups move to clear roadway emergencies and situations as quickly as possible by engaging multiple agencies and integrating their responses under an umbrella of mutual commitment.

Finally, customer service always is improved when engagement and inclusiveness are stressed, which is the purpose of NDOT's first Public Engagement Manual. The Communication, Coordination, Collaboration & Cooperation section tracks the process to develop guidance and best practices for project-specific and non-project-specific engagement activities. The provision of pertinent information and the proper receipt of feedback are key components in the manual's guidelines, helping to build trust and strengthen partnerships with stakeholders statewide.

The 2017 NDOT Annual Report may be found on the NDOT website at: <https://dot.nebraska.gov/news-media/annual-report>. For more information or to obtain a copy of the Annual Report, call (402) 479-4310.

#NDOT

Contact:

Jeni Campana, (402) 479-4512 or jeni.campana@nebraska.gov