

BUILD NEBRASKA ACT **THE NEXT 10 YEARS**

Build Nebraska Act Regional Meetings Comment Card Input

Collecting Input

As part of the Build Nebraska Act (BNA) regional outreach, NDOR provided opportunities for stakeholders to share their comments through paper comment cards available at each of the regional meetings as well as online at www.roads.nebraska.gov/projects/bna/next10/. More than 450 people shared their comments through one of those two methods. Comment cards were accepted from January 12, 2016 through February 12, 2016. In addition, NDOR received comments via email and letters from nearly 50 people and organizations.

For those who did not attend a regional meeting, the website featured the same informational materials as the regional meetings. The materials explain NDOR's plan to expand the capital improvement project prioritization process to better consider economic impacts and include more stakeholder input. The website also presented an interactive map of candidate projects to be considered for the next round of BNA funding and asked participants if other projects should be considered.

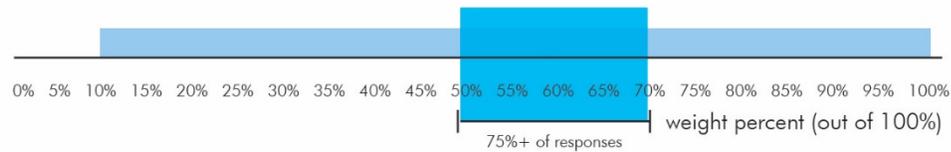
The questions on the comment card were presented in two categories: 1) questions about the proposed project prioritization process; and, 2) questions about adding projects to the candidate project list.

What NDOR Heard About Project Prioritization

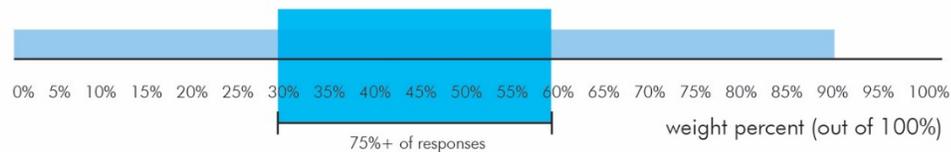
Like the regional meetings in Alliance, Lexington, Columbus, and Ashland, participants expressed support for the concept of expanding the project prioritization process. More than 250 people commented on expanding the prioritization process with more than 90 percent indicating strong support or support for adding economic factors as part of the NDOR's project prioritization process. Likewise, 86 percent indicated their strong support or support for adding stakeholder input to the evaluation process.

When asked about weighting economic factors versus engineering factors, responses from the comment cards suggested more weight ought to be assigned to engineering factors, as demonstrated below.

How would you weight **Engineering Factors**?



How would you weight **Economic Factors**?

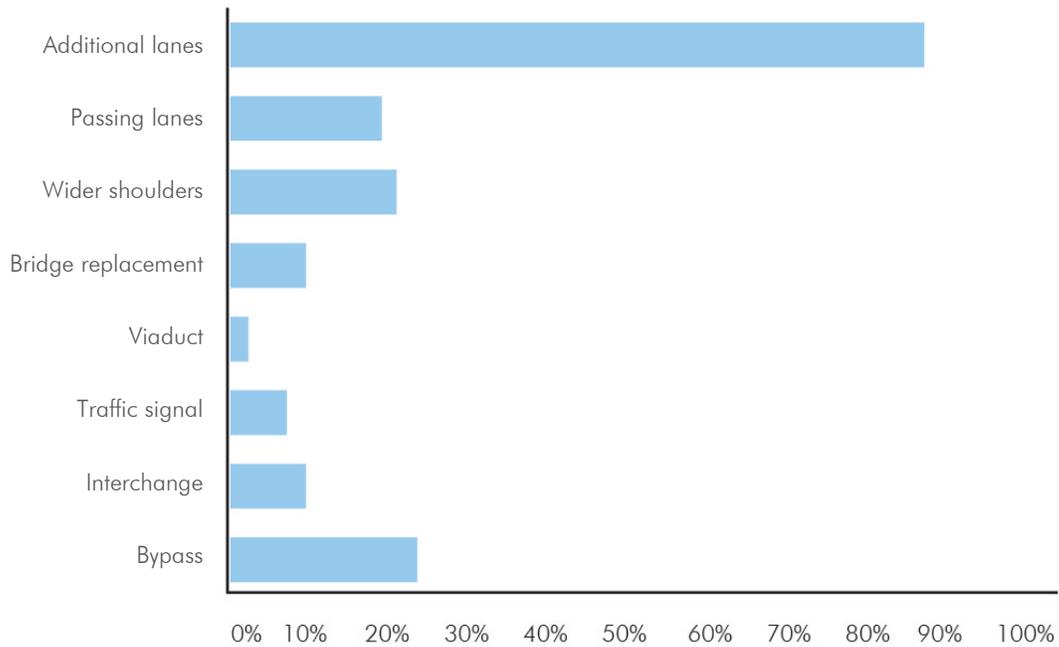


Some overarching themes from the completed comment cards included:

- Multiple people commented on how much they appreciated being asked for their thoughts on the prioritization process, the project list and the opportunity to submit new candidates.
- There were concerns expressed about how economic factors would be quantified, including what constitutes economic performance, what measures would be used, and where the measures would come from. Transparency in the process was encouraged.
- Equity in the process was expressed as one of the greatest concerns as well as how and where safety fits into the prioritization process.
- There were several comments about the need to complete projects previously started or promised.
- Many comments were related to the candidate project list, possible additions to the list and overall statements about the transportation system needs in Nebraska.

About 50 percent of those completing comment cards submitted at least one additional project for consideration on the candidate project list. The projects could be broadly divided into the following improvement categories:

What types of improvements do you think are necessary?



Based on the feedback that was received, NDOR staff is refining the expanded prioritization process and will then begin scoring projects. Additional meetings will be held and online input opportunities will be available in spring/summer 2016 to discuss specific projects. The next round of projects selected for BNA funding will be announced later this year. Summaries of the regional meetings, meeting materials, and information about upcoming meetings can be found at: <http://www.roads.nebraska.gov/projects/bna/next10/>.