

A History of the Principal Executives of the Nebraska State Highway Department

Tenth Edition, 2023



George E. Koster, Planning & Project Development Division, to 2005
Communications & Public Policy Division, 2005-Current
1500 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, NE 68502

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Journey.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Preface

Since employees have always been our most important resource, it is indeed appropriate that we publish a history of the principal executives who guided the department over the years. Unfortunately, time and space did not allow the inclusion of every division or district that ever was. This is also true of a number of executives whose positions were relatively short in duration. In most cases, however, those that were omitted can be found in the Biennial Reports, Blue Books, or other documents.

Of the many persons listed in these pages, I've personally met over half of them dating back to the 1940s. And, to inject a more human touch, nicknames have been added. Also included are engineering license numbers since a preponderance of the department's principal executives have been engineers. Registration of professional engineers by the State of Nebraska began in August 1937 and by the end of 1938, 677 engineers had been licensed. The license numbers included B-1, B-3, B-5, and E-1 through E-679 (less E-140, E-156, E-383, E-442, and E-669).

Many thanks to the following present and former employees for their assistance: Jerry Briggs, John Brinjak, John Broughton, Rick Clevenger, Bill Cooper, Art Dederman, Ron Disney, Harold Easom, Cec Eloe, Lowell Fisk, Steve Gilbert, Jerry Grauer, Harold Grooms, Mary Jo Hall, Jan Havranek, John Hossack, Dave Hughes, Bill Hurst, Jim Jensen, Oliver Johnson, Rusty Jones, Duke Lichty, A. T. Lobdell, Orville Lund, Bob Meyer, Del Motycka, Bob Munger, Andy Necas, Randy Needham, Fred Nelson, Charlie Nutter, Les O'Donnell, Bill Palmer, Jack Pittman, John Porter, Don Robertson, Joe Sorkin, Jerry Strobel, Bob Stutzman, George Swatek, Wayne Teten, E. W. Tupper, Chuck Vyhnalek, Ralph Weihe, and Walt Witt. I am also eternally grateful to Miss Fay Gordon, formerly of Norfolk High School, and to my mother, Jean Marshall Koster, for their instruction and insistence on a reasonable use of the English language. And, of course, I would be totally remiss if I did not thank Judy Kelly and her staff in our Word Processing Center for their patience and good work.

In closing, I hereby dedicate this publication to the late Robert L. "Roy" Cochran, who was Nebraska's State Engineer for 12 years and 4 months (1923-34 and 1959), which is 3 years and 6 months longer than anyone else to date. In addition, he was the first person to serve three consecutive two-year terms as Governor of Nebraska (1935-41). Mr. Cochran was an effective leader, a fine engineer, an ardent sportsman, and a gentleman. He was thrifty with the public purse, promoted pay-as-we-go highways, helped Nebraska become a national leader in the design and development of roads during the 1920s, and gave most of his adult life to the public service. And, in 1937, for his leadership, experience, and insistence upon excellence in the field of civil engineering, then-Governor Cochran was assigned professional registration number E-1 by the Nebraska State Board of Examiners for Professional Engineers and Architects.

George E. "Dutch" Koster

Department History

The Nebraska Department of Roads has evolved from the State Board of Irrigation, the latter being created on April 4, 1895 when Governor Silas A. Holcomb signed H. R. 443 which had the emergency clause. That was over a century ago and since then, there have been many organizational changes.

In 1911, the Legislature changed the board's name to the State Board of Irrigation, Highways, and Drainage. And, the 1919 Legislature changed the board's name to the Department of Public Works. In the same year, the registration of motor vehicles, which was begun by the Secretary of State in 1913, was transferred from that office to the Department of Public Works. The department was then composed of two bureaus and one headquarters division: the Bureau of Roads and Bridges; the Bureau of Irrigation, Water Power, and Drainage; and the Motor Vehicle Records Division.

While the department's field divisions varied from five to ten from 1919-24, they stabilized at eight in 1925 and their headquarters were located as follows: Divisions 1 and 2 (Lincoln), Division 3 (Norfolk), Division 4 (Grand Island), Division 5 (Scottsbluff), Division 6 (McCook), Division 7 (North Platte), and Division 8 (Ainsworth). Although field Division 2 was responsible for 10 counties in the east-central (Omaha) area, its headquarters was in Lincoln.

Although the 1933 Legislature changed the department's name to the Department of Roads and Irrigation, the department was still composed of the same two bureaus: the Bureau of Roads and Bridges and the Bureau of Irrigation, Water Power, and Drainage. The Bureau of Roads and Bridges was subdivided into four headquarters divisions: Road Construction and Maintenance, Maps and Plans, Clerical and Records, and Motor Vehicle Registration. Also in 1933, the field Division 5 headquarters was transferred from Scottsbluff to Bridgeport.

The 1937 Legislature created within the department, the Division of Highway Safety and Patrol, to be known as the Nebraska Safety Patrol. In 1942, the department was composed of the Bureau of Highways; Bureau of Irrigation, Water Power, and Drainage; Motor Vehicle Division; and the Safety Patrol. In 1954, the responsibility for operation of the Scale Section and 12 weighing stations was transferred from the Safety Patrol to the Bureau of Highways.

The 1957 Legislature divided the Department of Roads and Irrigation into three separate state agencies: the Department of Roads, Department of Motor Vehicles, and Department of Water Resources. The Department of Roads was composed of the Bureau of Highways (four headquarters divisions, eight headquarters sections, eight field divisions) and the Safety Patrol. In 1967, the Legislature changed the name of the Nebraska Safety Patrol to the Nebraska State Patrol.

In 1968, the field Division 2 headquarters was transferred from Lincoln to Omaha. Since 1969, field divisions have been called districts. Also in that year, District 6 (McCook) and District 8 (Ainsworth) were made sub-districts of District 7 (North Platte) and District 3 (Norfolk), respectively. At the same time, District 7 (North Platte) was renumbered and became District 6.

The former McCook district was reinstated in 1971 as District 7 and, in 1977, the former Ainsworth district was reinstated as District 8.

The 1981 Legislature made the Nebraska State Patrol a separate state agency and the 1985 Legislature reassigned the Carrier Enforcement Division from the Department of Roads to the patrol. In 1999, the Department of Roads has 17 headquarters divisions and 8 field districts, with support from the Attorney General (Roads Section of the Department of Justice) and advisory assistance from the State Highway Commission. The eight field districts are: District 1 (Lincoln), District 2 (Omaha), District 3 (Norfolk), District 4 (Grand Island), District 5 (Bridgeport), District 6 (North Platte), District 7 (McCook), and District 8 (Ainsworth).

The 2009 Legislature transferred the Office of Highway Safety to the Department of Roads on July 1, 2009.

In 2017, the Legislature changed the name of the Department of Roads to the Department of Transportation.

The 2017 Legislature transferred the Department of Aeronautics to the Department of Transportation on July 1, 2017.

Aeronautics Division

2017-19	Mitchell, Ronnie D.
2019-2023	Richart, Ann B.
2023-	Borell, Jeremy

Note: The 2017 Legislature transferred the Department of Aeronautics to the Department of Transportation on July 1, 2017.

Bridge Division

1923-26	Coff, Charles M. (E-450)
1927-42	Mason, John G. "Glen" (E-12)
1942-53	Schlitt, Henry G. (E-23)
1953-59	Strobel, Gerold C. "Jerry" (E-1088)
1959-68	Dederman, Arthur H. "Art" (E-1530)
1968-72	Porter, John C. (E-1559)
1972-74	Smith, Charles D. "Charlie" (E-1732)
1974-88	Holmes, James R. "Jim" (E-1621)
1988-89	Schmid, George W. (E-1655)
1989-08	Freemon, Lyman D. (E-2005)
2008-22	Traynowicz, Mark (E-8119)
2022-	Barron, Ross (E-14018)

Note: Over the years, the responsibility for bridges was vested in the Bridge Section of the Division of Maps and Plans (1911), Bridge Division (1929), Bridge Section of the Design Division (1937), and the Bridge Division (1968). Prior to 1923, the Biennial Reports do not identify the Bridge Engineer by name. Mr. Schmid served as the acting Bridge Division Engineer during 1988-89.

Business Technology Support Division

1956-68	Welty, George J.
1968-72	Smith, Charles D. "Charlie" (E-1732)
1972-74	Freemon, Lyman D. (E-2005)
1974-97	Hughes, David E. "Dave"
1997-06	Ogden, Jon E.
2006-18	Wehling, William B "Bill" (E-7220)
2018-	Townsend, Devin

Note: The Records and Audits Section began using computers in 1956. When the department was reorganized in 1968, the Records and Audits Section became the Fiscal Management Division (later Controller Division). Assigned to the Fiscal Management Division (1968) and Controller Division (1969), the Data Processing Section became the Data Processing Division (1970), Management Systems Division (1972), Computer Systems Division (1984), and Information Systems Division (1993). In 2003, GIS, mapping, and data collection/digilog was moved from Planning and Project Development. Changed name to Business Technology Support Division in 2006.

Communications & Public Policy Division

1950-53	Palmer, William H. "Bill"
1953-55	Britton, John F.
1955-69	Eloe, Carl C. "Cecil"
1969-74	Nelson, Fred B.
1974-93	Shafer, Larry G.
1993-07	Hall, Mary Jo "M. J."
2007-16	Oie, Mary Jo "M. J."
2016-20	Kramer, Victoria "Vicki"
2021-	Ankeny, Shannon

Note: Mr. Palmer was assigned as the Chief of Information in 1950 and reported directly to the State Engineer, even though the Information Section was not officially created until 1951. The Information Section became a division in 1968 and a section again in 1974. From 1967-69, Mr. Eloe also served as the secretary to the State Highway Commission. The Information Section was a part of the Information, Liaison, and Agreement Services Division (1974-84) and the Information and Office Services Division (1984-93). During those years, the Information Section was headed by Fred B. Nelson (1974-80), Robert L. "Bob" Munger (1980-85), and Mary Jo Hall (1986-93). In 1993, the Information Section was expanded and designated as the Communication Division. Also, in 1993, Mary Jo Hall became the first woman since 1936 (57 years) to head a division of the state highway department (see Controller Division). In 2018, changed name to Communications and Public Policy Division.

Construction Division

(C)	1927-37	Gaddis, Albert M. "Al" (E-64)
(P)	1931-37	Jones, Marshall B. (E-66)
	1937-40	Jones, Marshall B. (E-66)
	1941-52	Bohner, Arthur W. "Art" (E-112)
	1952-67	Graham, Loren O. (E-309)
	1967-68	Johnson, Oliver W. (E-583)
	1968-74	Dederman, Arthur H. "Art" (E-1530)
	1974-86	Gottula, Kenneth J. "Ken" (E-1493)
	1986-88	Jackman, Virgil N. "Virg" (E-1784)
	1988-92	Stutzman, Robert J. "Bob" (E-1584)
	1992-16	Oie, Claude R. (E-3939)
	2016-	Knott, James J. "Jim" (E-6035)

Note: From 1917-26, the department had no Construction Engineer, per se. From 1917-25, the responsibility for construction of the state highway system was vested in the counties, working in cooperation with the state's district engineers, with the state providing the funds. The district engineers received assistance and guidance from the Assistant Chief and Chief of the Bureau of Roads and Bridges. On January 1, 1926, the state became responsible for the construction of the state system, except for those portions within the corporate limits of a municipality having a population over 1,400. In 1927, the Division of Construction and Maintenance was created. A separate Construction Division was created in 1929. From 1931-37, the Construction Engineer (C) and Paving Engineer (P) were "equals" in the Construction Division.

Contract Lettings Section

1926-27	Jones, Marshall B. (E-66)
1927-51	Boyd, Robert J. "Bob" (E-287)
1951-69	Stephens, James M. "Steve" (E-293)
1969-72	Graham, Loren O. (E-309)
1972-00	Vyhnalek, Charles F. "Chuck"
2000	Organization Restructure

Note: From 1926-52, the responsibility for contract lettings was assigned to the Office Engineer, who headed the following divisions: Design, Maps, and Plans (1926-28), Maps and Plans (1928-37), Office Administration (1937-41), and Office Engineering (1941-52). From 1952-68, the contract lettings function was assigned to the Maps and Plans Engineer in the Design Division. The Prequalifications and Lettings Division was created in 1968 and the name was changed to Contracts Division (1970), Contracts and Administration Division (1972), Contract Lettings and Office Services Division (1973), Contract Lettings Division (1984), Contracts and Minority Business Enterprise Section (1993), and Contract Lettings Section (1997). Since 1993, the section has been assigned to the Construction Division.

Controller Division

1915-22	Schultz, B. Luise
1923-24	Ketchum, Earl F. (E-47)
1925-28	Husted, Leo W.
1929-36	Schultz, B. Luise
1937-50	Carnahan, John R. (E-553)
1951-69	Welty, George J.
1969-72	Owens, Harris R.
1972-00	Pittman, Jack F.
2000-12	Maraman, Stephen D. "Steve"
2012-16	Hayes, Marilyn R.
2016-17	Keays, Michael J.
2017-22	Heaton, Lyn
2022	Teachout, Aaron
2022	Kathee, Lily

Note: This division has had a number of titles: Division of Accounts and Records (1919), Division of Records and Control (1937), Records and Audits Section (1950), Fiscal Management Division (1968), and Controller Division (1969). B. Luise Schultz was the first woman to head a division of the state highway department and was in charge of accounting beginning in 1915. The second woman to head a division was Mabel G. Tracy, who was in charge of the Motor Vehicle Division from 1919-36. In 1957, the Legislature redesignated the Motor Vehicle Division as the Department of Motor Vehicles, thus making it a separate state agency.

Director

1895-96	Howell, Robert B.
1896-97	Akers, William R.
1897-00	Wilson, J. Morris
1900-01	Channel, Charles B.
1901-09	Dobson, Adna
1909-11	Simmons, Edward C.
1911-15	Price, Donald D. (E-264)
1915-23	Johnson, George E. (E-114)
1923-34	Cochran, Robert L. "Roy" (E-1)
1934-35	Lobdell, Arthur T. "A. T." (E-65)
1935-41	Tilley, Albert C. "A. C." (E-4)
1941-48	Scott, Wardner G. (E-54)
1948-51	Klietsch, Fred H. (E-110)
1951-53	Aitken, Harold L. "Hal" (E-1156)
1953-59	Ress, Lorenz N. "L. N." (E-126)
1959	Cochran, Robert L. "Roy" (E-1)
1960-68	Hossack, John W. (E-382)
1968-71	Nuernberger, Marvin L. "Marv" (E-778)
1971-77	Doyle, Thomas D. "Tom" (E-1996)
1977-83	Coolidge, David O. "Dave" (E-343)
1983-86	Lamberty, Louis E. "Lou" (E-3786)
1986-87	Hogrefe, Raymond H. "Ray" (E-6205)
1987-91	Strobel, Gerold C. "Jerry" (E-1088)
1991-92	Teten, Walter W. "Wayne" (E-3152)
1992-99	Abbott, Allan L. "Al" (E-7386)
1999-09	Craig, John L.
2009-12	Fredrickson, Monty (E-3641)
2012-15	Peters, Randall D. "Randy" (E-6377)

2015-20	Schneweis, Kyle
2021-23	Selmer, John R.
2023-	Kramer, Victoria "Vicki"

Note: Although 1917 saw the beginning of the state highway system and thus, the state highway department, all State Engineers since day-one are listed. The 1969 Legislature changed the title of the State Engineer to Director-State Engineer, effective December 25, 1969. Messrs. Lobdell (1934-35) and Teten (1991-92) each served as the acting State Engineer for six months. Moe Jamshidi (2015) served as the acting State Engineer for one month. Mr. Cochran served for 12 years and 4 months (1923-34 and 1959), a department record. Title became Director in 2015 when Mr. Schneweis came onboard.

Deputy State Engineer

1895-96	Akers, William R.
1896-97	Youngfelt, Emil T.
1897-01	McCoskey, A. B.
1901-02	Forbes, Burt E.
1902-05	Stevens, J. C.
1905-07	Green, James. A.
1907-09	Bates, George W.
1909-11	Price, Donald D. (E-264)
1911-13	Roberts, H. W.
1913-15	Mason, Cyrus P.
1915-17	Steckelberg, W. D. J.
1917-18	Cochran, Robert L. (E-1)
1918-23	Morey, Eugene H.
1923-26	Noble, Mont C.
1927-40	Lobdell, Arthur T. "A. T." (E-65)
1940-45	Jones, Marshall B. (E-66)
1946-48	Klietsch, Fred H. (E-110)
1948-52	Weller, Raymond F. "Bub" (E-206)
1952-53	Ress, Lorenz N. "L. N." (E-126)
1953-59	Schlitt, Henry G. (E-23)
1960-67	Strobel, Gerold C. "Jerry" (E-1088)

Note: Although 1917 marked the beginning of the state highway system and thus, the state highway department, all Deputy State Engineers since day-one are listed. This position had a number of titles over the years: Assistant Secretary, Assistant State Engineer, Chief of the Bureau, Chief Highway Engineer, and Deputy State Engineer. On January 1, 1968, the single-deputy concept was discontinued, and four new deputy positions were created. See Pages 10 through 12.

Deputy Director – Administration

1968-72	Gardner, Roy E.
1972-79	Reiling, Merle F.
1979-83	Peterson, John W. "Bill" (E-4923)
1983-89	Pearson, Rodney James "Jim"
2001-02	Pittman, Jack F.

Note: From 1968-89, the actual title was Deputy Director-Highway Administration. This position was eliminated on October 26, 1989. In September of 2001, this position was reinstated. This position was eliminated in 2003.

Deputy Director – Engineering

1968	Nuernberger, Marvin L. "Marv" (E-778)
1968-71	Strobel, Gerold C. "Jerry" (E-1088)
1971-84	Nutter, Charles F. "Charlie" (E-1425)
1984-87	Strobel, Gerold C. "Jerry" (E-1088)
1987-92	Teten, Walter W. "Wayne" (E-3152)
1992-09	Fredrickson, Monty W. (E-3641)
2009-12	Peters, Randall D. "Randy" (E-6377)
2012-	Jaber, Khalil E. (E-8272)

Note: The actual title was Deputy State Engineer-Design (1968-72), Deputy State Engineer-Engineering Services (1972-84), and Deputy State Engineer-Engineering (1984 to date). However, since 1984, Deputy Director has been used instead of Deputy State Engineer. Mr. Strobel served as a deputy state engineer or deputy director for 27 years (1960-87), a department record. In fact, he served at or above the equivalent rank of district engineer or division head for 38 years (1953-91), also a department record.

Deputy Director – Operations

1968	Strobel, Gerold C. "Jerry" (E-1088)
1968-72	Johnson, Oliver W. (E-583)
1972-84	Strobel, Gerold C. "Jerry" (E-1088)
1984-86	Nutter, Charles F. "Charlie" (E-1425)
1986-92	Swing, Donald O. "Don" (E-1697)
1992-00	Teten, Walter W. "Wayne" (E-3152)
2000-03	Organization Restructure
2003-11	Jacobsen, John R. "Jake" (E-4222)
2011-	Jamshidi, Mostafa "Moe" (E-6574)

Note: Since 1968, the actual title has been Deputy State Engineer-Operations. Since 1984, however, Deputy Director has been used instead of Deputy State Engineer.

Deputy Director – Policy & Administration

2015-16	Esposito, Mikilin M. (Miki)
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Note: Created in 2015 by the Director. Renamed to Special Assistant to the Director in 2017.

Special Assistant to the Director

2017-18	Rues, Sharon
2018	Position Eliminated

Note: In January of 2017, this position was renamed to Special Assistant to the Director.

Deputy Director – Planning and Administration

1968-71	Gillan, Bruce C. (E-227)
1971-72	Strobel, Gerold C. "Jerry" (E-1088)
1972-84	(position eliminated)
1984-00	Wais, Thomas A. "Tom" (E-2710)
2000-02	Organization Restructure
2002	Position Eliminated

Note: From 1968-71, the actual title was Deputy State Engineer-Planning. From 1971-72, the actual title was Deputy State Engineer-Development. The latter position was eliminated in June 1972 and was reinstated in 1984 with the actual title of Deputy State Engineering-Planning. In 1989, the actual title was changed to Deputy State Engineer-Planning and Administration. Since 1984, however, Deputy Director has been used instead of Deputy State Engineer.

Deputy Director – Technology & Strategic Planning

2018-19	Ingracia, Steve
2019	Position Eliminated

Note: Created in 2018 by the Director.

District 1 Headquarters at Lincoln

1919-21	Mirick, Alfred S.
1921-27	Green, Richard O. (E-52)
1927-35	Klietsch, Fred H. (E-110)
1935-36	Weller, Raymond F. "Bub" (E-206)
1937-41	House, Robert A. "Bob" (E-246)
1941-43	Middleswart, Thomas C. "Tom" (E-46)
1943	House, Robert A. "Bob" (E-246)
1943-60	Smith, Fred C. (E-370)
1961-72	Murphy, James V. "Jim" (E-346)
1972-79	Divis, Ferdinand L. "Ferd" (E-1815)
1979-88	Stutzman, Robert J. "Bob" (E-1584)
1988-10	Ruby, Richard J. "Rich" (E-2856)
2010-	Goodbarn, Thomas W. "Tom" (E-6674)

Note: From 1919-1924, the number of districts varied from five to ten and there were numerous changes of district headquarters and boundaries. In 1925-26, the number of districts was set at eight and the boundaries stabilized. District 1 headquarters has been in Lincoln since 1919.

District 2 Headquarters at Omaha

1921-28	Black, Michael F. "Mike"
1928-60	Olmstead, Edwin "Ed" (E-323)
1960-67	Nuernberger, Marvin L. "Marv" (E-778)
1968	Dederman, Arthur H. "Art" (E-1530)
1968-74	Tupper, Errol W. "Tup" (E-562)
1974-77	Erington, Dermot J. "Sonny" (E-1924)
1977-84	Hattan, Wilbur D. (E-1495)
1984-88	Teten, Walter W. "Wayne" (E-3152)
1988-92	Fredrickson, Monty W. (E-3641)
1992-03	Jacobsen, John R. "Jake" (E-4222)
2003-	Weander, Timothy W. "Tim" (E-6817)

Note: From 1919-1924, the number of districts varied from five to ten and there were numerous changes of district headquarters and boundaries. In 1925-26, the number of districts was set at eight and the boundaries stabilized. The Omaha district was headquartered at Wayne (1921-22), Fremont (1923-24), and Lincoln (1925-68). In late 1968, the headquarters was transferred to Omaha. Mr. Tupper was the first district engineer of the Omaha district to actually reside in Omaha.

District 3 Headquarters at Norfolk

1919-21	Black, Michael F. "Mike"
1921	Kimmell, Willis D.
1922	(no headquarters at Norfolk)
1923-29	Tilley, Albert C. "A. C." (E-4)
1929-30	Marquis, Vance W. (E-397)
1930-45	Martin, Joseph B. "Joe" (E-182)
1945-48	Ress, Lorenz N. "L. N." (E-126)
1948-51	Ayres, Rollin C. "Bill" (E-181)
1951-72	Koster, George E., Jr. "Dutch" (E-445)
1972-96	McCarthy, Thomas P. "Tom" (E-1757)
1997-02	Cook, Donald D. "Don" (E-3027)
2002-11	Winter, Kristine I. "Kris" (E-6526)
2011-	Domogalla, Kevin (E-7973)

Note: From 1919-1924, the number of districts varied from five to ten and there were numerous changes of district headquarters and boundaries. In 1925-26, the number of districts was set at eight and the boundaries stabilized. Norfolk (pronounced "Norfork") was the headquarters for District 2 in 1919-21 and District 7 in 1921. In 1922, there was no district headquarters at Norfolk since the headquarters for District 2 was at Wayne and the headquarters for Districts 7 and 10 were both at Neligh. In 1923, Norfolk was made the headquarters for District 3. Mr. Koster's son (same name) served as the secretary to the State Highway Commission from 1972-75 (see Page 32) and is the author of this history.

District 4 Headquarters at Grand Island

1922-32	Rolls, Fred C.
1932-34	Bauman, William H.
1935-37	Bohner, Arthur W. "Art" (E-112)
1937-68	Jones, Lincoln R. "Rusty" (E-172)
1968-74	Reed, Jack W. (E-1685)
1974-91	Necas, Andrew, Jr. "Andy" (E-1817)
1991-05	McCann, V. Charles "Chuck" (E-3462)
2005-	Wahlgren, Wesley "Wes" (E-6885)

Note: From 1919-1924, the number of districts varied from five to ten and there were numerous changes of district headquarters and boundaries. In 1925-26, the number of districts was set at eight and the boundaries stabilized. Grand Island was the headquarters for District 9 in 1922 and District 4 in 1923-24.

District 5 Headquarters at Gering

1919-21	McLean, James C.
1921-26	Gaddis, Albert M. "Al" (E-64)
1927-41	Middleswart, Thomas C. "Tom" (E-46)
1941-43	House, Robert A. "Bob" (E-246)
1943-64	Middleswart, Thomas C. "Tom" (E-46)
1964-68	Nutter, Charles F. "Charlie" (E-1425)
1968-95	Jensen, James R. "Jim" (E-1920)
1996-03	Weander, Timothy W. "Tim" (E-6817)
2003-14	Lind, Craig R. (E-3922)
2014-	Hoebet, Douglas W. (Doug) (E-10345)

Note: The District 5 headquarters was established at Scottsbluff in 1919 and was transferred to Bridgeport on June 1, 1933. Mr. Middleswart served as a district engineer from 1927-64 (1941-43 in District 1), a total of 37 years. This is the longest tenure of any district engineer or division head in department history. Headquarters transferred from Bridgeport to Gering in July, 2007.

District 6 Headquarters at North Platte

1919-21	Cochran, Robert L. "Roy" (E-1)
1921-23	Tilley, Albert C. "A. C." (E-4)
1923-25	(no headquarters at North Platte)
1925-27	Klietsch, Fred H. (E-110)
1927-34	Eubank, Charles W. (E-426)
1935-46	McMeekin, John E. (E-57)
1946-48	House, Robert A. "Bob" (E-246)
1948-74	Easom, Harold H. (E-775)
1974-05	O'Donnell, Lester D. "Les" (E-3020)
2005-	Thayer, Gary D. (E-7252)

Note: From 1919-1924, the number of districts varied from five to ten and there were numerous changes of district headquarters and boundaries. In 1925-26, the number of districts was set at eight and the boundaries stabilized. North Platte was the headquarters for District 4 from 1919-22 and District 7 from 1925-69. The North Platte headquarters was renumbered from District 7 to 6 in 1969 and has produced more State Engineers (Cochran, Tilley, and Klietsch) than any other division or district.

District 7 Headquarters at McCook

1921-23	Noble, Mont C.
1923-27	Lobdell, Arthur T. "A. T." (E-65)
1927-41	Smith, Fred C. (E-370)
1941-47	Carey, C. Lyle (E-41)
1947-69	Coolidge, David O. "Dave" (E-343)
1969-71	(sub-district of District 6)
1971-77	Coolidge, David O. "Dave" (E-343)
1977-86	Wagner, Virgil D. "Virg" (E-1709)
1986-92	Jacobsen, John R. "Jake" (E-4222)
1992-95	Cammack, Paul M. (E-6107)
1995-04	Knott, James J. (E-6035)
2005-	Vosburg, Kurt (E-8263)

Note: From 1919-1924, the number of districts varied from five to ten and there were numerous changes of district headquarters and boundaries. In 1925-26, the number of districts was set at eight and the boundaries stabilized. McCook was the headquarters for District 6 from 1921-69, when it was made a sub-district of the North Platte district, the latter having been renumbered from District 7 to 6. From 1969-71, Mr. Coolidge remained in charge of the sub-district at McCook. In 1971, the McCook district was reinstated as District 7.

District 8 Headquarters at Ainsworth

1925-27	Porter, Waldo J. B.
1927-32	Bauman, William H.
1932-35	Weller, Raymond F. "Bub" (E-206)
1935-41	Carey, C. Lyle (E-41)
1941-44	Ress, Lorenz N. "L. N." (E-126)
1945-54	Crook, Jack M. (E-175)
1955-62	Murphy, James V. "Jim" (E-346)
1962-64	Nutter, Charles F. "Charlie" (E-1425)
1964-69	MacDonald, James H. "Jim" (E-1084)
1969-71	(sub-district of District 3)
1971-77	(sub-district of District 6)
1977-97	Klatt, John E. (E-2166)
1997-02	Winter, Kristine I. "Kris" (E-6526)
2002-	Kovar, Mark A. (E-8755)

Note: From 1919-1924, the number of districts varied from five to ten and there were numerous changes of district headquarters and boundaries. In 1925-26, the number of districts was set at eight and the boundaries stabilized. Ainsworth was made the headquarters for District 8 in 1925-26. District 8 was made a sub-district of District 3 (Norfolk) in 1969 and of District 6 (North Platte) in 1971. In the fall of 1977, the Ainsworth district was reinstated as District 8. In 1997, Kristine Winter became the first female district engineer and the first female to hold the grade of Engineer 7 in department history.

Government Affairs Office

1951-68	Ayres, Rollin C. "Bill" (E-181)
1968-74	Holmes, James R. "Jim" (E-1621)
1974-92	Motycka, Delmar A. "Del" (E-1824)
1992-08	Shafer, Larry G.
2008	Organization Restructure
2012	Merged with the Director's Office
2018	Merged into Communications & Public Policy Division

Note This division has had a number of names: Secondary Roads Section (1951), Urban and Secondary Roads Division (1968), Secondary Roads Division (1973), Local Liaison Division (1984), Government Affairs Division (2001), and Government Affairs Office (2008).

Governor

1895-99	Holcomb, Silas A.
1899-01	Poynter, William A.
1901-01	Dietrich, Charles H.
1901-03	Savage, Ezra P.
1903-07	Mickey, John H.
1907-09	Sheldon, George L.
1909-11	Shallenberger, Ashton C.
1911-13	Aldrich, Chester H.
1913-17	Morehead, John H.
1917-19	Neville, Keith
1919-23	McKelvie, Samuel R. "Sam"
1923-25	Bryan, Charles W. "Charlie"
1925-29	McMullen, Adam
1929-31	Weaver, Arthur J.
1931-35	Bryan, Charles W. "Charlie"
1935-41	Cochran, Robert L. "Roy" (E-1)
1941-47	Griswold, Dwight P.
1947-53	Peterson, Val F.D.E.
1953-55	Crosby, Robert B. "Bob"
1955-59	Anderson, Victor E. "Vic"
1959-60	Brooks, Ralph G.
1960-61	Burney, Dwight W.
1961-67	Morrison, Frank B.
1967-71	Tiemann, Norbert T. "Nobby"
1971-79	Exon, John J. "Jim"
1979-83	Thone, Charles "Charlie"
1983-87	Kerrey, Joseph R. "Bob"
1987-91	Orr, Kay A.

1991-99	Nelson, Earl B. "Ben"
1999-05	Johanns, Michael O. "Mike"
2005-15	Heineman, David "Dave"
2015-22	Ricketts, Pete
2023-	Pillen, Jim

Highway Safety Division

1972-93 Sieckmeyer, Kenneth L. "Ken"
1993-00 Kohles, Derald S. (E-2877)
2000 Organization Restructure

Note: Created in 1972, the Safety Division became the Highway Safety and Accident Records Division (1976), Highway Safety Division (1984), Highway Safety and Office Services Division (1992), and Highway Safety Division (1996). In 2000, the Highway Safety Division was combined with the Traffic Engineering Division.

Human Resources Division

1941 Lobdell, Arthur T. "A. T." (E-65)
1941-46 Mengel, Waldo H. "John" (E-203)
1946-63 Lobdell, Arthur T. "A. T." (E-65)
1963-76 Fisk, Lowell W.
1976 Grimm, Eugene H. "Gene"
1976-99 Cooper, William C. "Bill"
1999-01 Anderson, Leesa M.
2001-20 Larson, Susan E. "Sue"
2020-22 McIntyre, Barbara "Barb"
2022- Van Cleave, Rachelle

Note: Created in 1941 as the Division of Administration, the name was changed to Personnel Section in 1952 and Personnel Division in 1968. In addition to his regular duties as the Assistant to the Director-State Engineer/Management Services, Mr. Grimm was the acting Personnel Manager from January to November 1976. This division was renamed Human Resources Division in 2000.

Legal Counsel

1951-69	Salter, Harold S. "Harry"
1969-96	Lichty, Warren D., Jr. "Duke"
1997-99	Welch, Gary R.
2000-	Schroeder, Jeffery "Jeff"

Note: Often called the "Legal Division," the correct title is the Roads Section of the Department of Justice. The Chief Counsel and his staff report to the Attorney General, not the Director-State Engineer.

Local Assistance Division

2019-	Gibson, Jodi V.
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Note: Created in 2019. Sections from Materials & Research Division and Strategic Planning Division were merged into this new division.

Local Projects Division

2008-13	Wilkinson, James M.
2013	Merged with Materials & Research Division

Maintenance Division

1927-29	Gaddis, Albert M. "Al" (E-64)
1929-35	Tilley, Albert C. "A. C." (E-4)
1935-46	Kleitsch, Fred H. (E-110)
1946-68	McMeekin, John E. (E-57)
1968-71	Nutter, Charles F. "Charlie" (E-1425)
1971-74	Witt, Walter E. "Walt" (E-1368)
1974-88	Dederman, Arthur H. "Art" (E-1530)
1988-95	Heedum, Roland H. "Rollie"
1995-00	Cammack, Paul M. (E-6107)
2000	Organization Restructure

Note: From 1917-26, the department had no Maintenance Engineer, per se. From 1917-25, the responsibility for maintaining the state highway system was vested in the counties, working in cooperation with the state's district engineers, with the state providing the funds. The district engineers received assistance and guidance from the Assistant Chief and Chief of the Bureau of Roads and Bridges. On January 1, 1926, the state became responsible for maintaining the state system, except for those portions within the corporate limits of a municipality with a population over 1,400. In 1927, the Division of Construction and Maintenance was created. A separate Maintenance Division was created in 1929. In 2000, the Maintenance Division was combined with the Purchasing and Supply Division and named the Logistics Division. In 2001, the Transportation Technology Section was created from a section of the Logistics Division.

Materials & Research Division

(T)	1913-22	Mickey, Clark E. (E-104)
(T)	1922-42	Duff, Carl M. (E-70)
(M)	1932-39	Briggs, Gerald F. "Jerry" (E-297)
(T)	1942-55	Bollen, Ray E. (E-473)
(M)	1939-52	Swatek, George F. (E-129)
(T)	1953-55	Carver, William M. "Bill" (E-251)
	1955-68	Carver, William M. "Bill" (E-251)
	1968-74	Lund, Orville L. (E-635)
	1974-86	Swing, Donald O. "Don" (E-1697)
	1986-99	Orth, Eldon D. "Vern" (E-2156)
	2000-11	Jamshidi, Mostafa "Moe" (E-6574)
	2011-22	Syslo, Mick S. (E-10043)
	2022-	Varilek, Brandon (E-11929)

Note: Originally called the Division of Tests, two separate divisions were created in 1937: the Division of Tests headed by the Testing Engineer (T) and the Division of Materials headed by the Materials Engineer (M). Until May 1942, the Testing Laboratory was located at the University of Nebraska and operated by university employees. The department provided funding. In addition, several commercial testing laboratories were employed by the department to inspect such materials as treated timber and piling, structural steel, etc., at the place of manufacture. From May 1942 until November 1948, the Testing Laboratory remained at the university but was operated by department employees. Space and part of the equipment were leased by the department. After November 1948, testing was accomplished by department employees at the new Testing Laboratory in south Lincoln, completed at a cost of about \$750,000. In the early 1950s, the Division of Tests and Division of Materials were made sections and, in 1955, these two sections were combined into the Materials and Tests Division. In 1993-94, the Testing Laboratory in south Lincoln was modernized and enlarged at a cost of about \$4 million. This division was renamed Materials & Research Division in 2000.

Operational Analysis and Audit Section

1970-71	Motycka, Delmar A. "Del" (E-1824)
1971-96	Weihe, Ralph M.
1996	Organization Restructure

Note: When the department was reorganized in 1968, the Records and Audit Section became the Fiscal Management Division, to which the auditing function was assigned. In 1969, the Fiscal Management Division became the Controller Division. The auditing function was reassigned to the newly-created Internal Review Division in 1970. The Internal Review Division became the Internal Audit Section in 1971, the Operational Analysis and Audit Section in 1975, and was upgraded to division status in 1983. The division again became a section in 1996 and was assigned to the Controller Division.

Operations Division

1968-71	Jones, Lincoln R. "Rusty" (E-172)
1971-82	Barrett, Laurence O. "Larry"
1982-95	Miller, Robert R. "Bob"
1995-05	Dvorak, Dale F.
2005-23	Sands, Thomas B. "Tom"
2023-	Tom Renninger

Note: Until 1968, the purchasing and supply function was administered by the Maintenance Division. Created in 1968, the Property and Equipment Division became the Materiel Division (1970), Materiel Section of the Maintenance Division (1974), Central Supply Division (1976), and Purchasing and Supply Division (1984). Renamed Logistics Division in 2000 when combined with Maintenance Division. Renamed Operations Division in 2005.

Project Development Division

1971-74	Swing, Donald O. "Don" (E-1697)
1974-89	Grauer, Gerald "Jerry" (E-2060)
1989-07	Yonkey, Arthur B. "Art" (E-2522)
2007-09	Peters, Randall D "Randy" (E-6377)
2009-16	Owen, Michael H. "Mike" (E-6515)
2016-	Neemann, Brandie S. (E-11829)

Note: The division was created to meet the requirements of the 1969 Environmental Policy Act and the substantial changes in the way a project was to be developed. The socioeconomic and environmental considerations in the new process were unprecedented. Renamed Planning and Project Development Division in 2001 when combined with sections from the eliminated Transportation Planning Division. In December of 2016, renamed to Project Development Division.

Program Management Division

2008	Program Management Division created.
2008-12	Jaber, Khalil E (E-8272)
2012-	Starr, Amy D (E-11837)

Right of Way Division

1927-54	Williams, A. Glen
1955-58	Gardner, Fred
1959-68	Mengel, Waldo H. "John" (E-203)
1968-71	Witt, Walter E. "Walt" (E-1368)
1971-74	Shafer, Larry G.
1974-95	Brinjak, John G.
1995-07	Needham, Randall F. "Randy"
2007-09	Britton, Gary J.
2009-17	Frickel, Robert D.
2017-	Schmidt, Brendon J. (E-14226)

Note: The 1927 Legislature enacted a law, effective April 23, 1927, which allowed the department to acquire right of way directly from the owner or by condemnation. The Right of Way Division has maintained division status since 1927, except during 1951-59 when it was a section in the Design Division.

Roadway Design Division

1917-18	Black, Michael F. "Mike"
1919-22	Hole, Walter T.
1922-27	Jones, Marshall B. (E-66)
1927-37	Boyd, Robert J. "Bob" (E-287)
1937-48	Gaddis, Albert M. "Al" (E-64)
1948-52	Ress, Lorenz N. "L. N." (E-126)
1952-58	Mengel, Waldo H. "John" (E-203)
1959-60	Strobel, Gerold C. "Jerry" (E-1088)
1960-68	Coffey, Donald C. "Don" (E-637)
1968-74	Gottula, Kenneth J. "Ken" (E-1493)
1974-89	Freemon, Lyman D. (E-2005)
1989-92	Grauer, Gerald "Jerry" (E-2060)
1992-04	Poppe, Eldon D. (E-3464)
2004-16	Knott, James J. "Jim" (E-6035)
2016-21	Owen, Michael H. "Mike" (E-6515)
2022-	Syslo, Mick S. (E-10043)

Note: Until 1937, the design function was under the Office Engineer, who headed the Division of Maps and Plans. A separate Design Division was created in 1937. And, in 1968, the Design Division was re-designated as the Roadway Design Division.

State Highway Commission Commissioners

1953-87	Kingsbury, Merle (Ponca)	1979-81	Bish, Milan D. (Grand Island)
1953-65	Metzger, Christian E. (Cedar Creek)	1979-85	Mohr, Paul C. (Scottsbluff)
1953-55	Coad, Arthur L. "Art" (Omaha)	1981-89	Prostok, Babette T. (Hastings)
1953-55	Albrecht, Arthur C. "Art" (Deshler)	1981-08	Acklie, Duane W. (Lincoln)
1953-55	Attebery, Fred M. (Mitchell)	1982-84	Smith, Roy A. (Omaha)
1953-54	Collett, William O. (North Platte)	1982-99	Miles, George A. "Shorty" (O'Neill)
1953-54	Hanna, Don E. (Brownlee)	1984-89	Landow, Paul M. (Elkhorn)
1954-56	Hanna, Don, Jr. (Brownlee)	1985-99	McLellan, John, Jr. (Gering)
1954-60	Ogier, Ray (North Platte)	1987-93	Malcom, Terrence D. (McCook)
1955-61	Watson, Dr. Claude R. (Mitchell)	1987-96	Kayton, Robert C. (Cedar Rapids)
1955-67	McBride, J. R. "Shep" (Minden)	1989-95	Jensen, Soren S. "Sam" (Omaha)
1956-59	Baker, Ralph A. (Valentine)	1989-11	Wanitschke, Donna M. (Doniphan)
1959-63	Votava, Joseph T. "Joe" (Omaha)	1993-99	Eisenhart, Russell, Jr. (Culbertson)
1959-74	Davis, Thane (Hyannis)	1995-01	Schweikart, Judith A. (Omaha)
1960-71	Mendenhall, Kirk (North Platte)	1995-17	Books, Ronald W. (North Platte)
1961-76	Ramsey, Daniel C. (Scottsbluff)	1996-08	Kingsbury, John F. (Ponca)
1963-71	O'Keefe, Robert E. "Bob" (Omaha)	1999-	Leafgreen, Douglas C. (Gering)
1965-69	Hanks, Ralph H. (Lincoln)	1999-	Fagerland, Jerome A. (Atkinson)
1967-73	Thom, LeRoy W. (Minden)	2001-10	Reiser, Richard S. "Dick" (Omaha)
1969-75	Breslow, David "Dave" (Lincoln)	2002-	Wolford, Greg A. (McCook)
1971-79	Lipton, Joseph "Joe" (Omaha)	2008-15	Vandeberg, Rodney (Falls City)
1971-79	Newberry, Willard D. (North Platte)	2009-	Copple, David (Norfolk)
1973-79	Lillich, Everett A. (Superior)	2010-19	Militti Jr, E. J. (Omaha)
1974-76	Quigley, William B. (Valentine)	2011-	Kindig, James H. (Grand Island)
1975-81	Dickinson, Karl E. (Lincoln)	2015-	Gerdes, Mary K. (Johnson)
1976-79	Huckfeldt, Joe J. (Gering)	2018-	Hawks, Jim (North Platte)
1976-82	Meckel, Dr. Ben R. (Burwell)	2021	Gorynski, Alec (Omaha)
1979-82	Skinner, C. Mickey (Omaha)		
1979-95	Keenan, James D. (North Platte)		

Note: The State Highway Commission was created by the 1953 Legislature. The 1987 Legislature increased the number of commissioners and commission districts from seven to eight, effective August 1987.

State Highway Commission Secretaries

1953-55	Ress, Lorenz N. "L. N." (E-126)
1956-59	Boyles, Owen J., Sr.
1960-62	Finigan, Edwin J. "Ed"
1962-67	Trease, Lyle G.
1967-71	Eloe, Carl C. "Cecil"
1971-72	Reiling, Merle F.
1972-75	Koster, George E. "Dutch"
1975-92	Logan, Bernard G. "Bernie"
1992-09	Schafer, Shirley K.
2009	Merged duties with Communication

Note: Section 39-1107, Nebraska Statutes, effective September 14, 1953, provided that "The State Engineer shall act as secretary of the commission." This law was revised by the 1955 Legislature, effective September 18, 1955, and provides that "The State Highway Commission, subject to the approval of the Governor, shall employ a person who shall act as secretary of the commission." Mr. Koster's father (same name) served as the District 3 Engineer at Norfolk from 1951 until his death in 1972 (see Page 15).

Strategic Planning Division

1997-13 Tompkins, Ellis D. (E-3886)

2013- Huff, Ryan R. (E-11850)

Note: This division was created in September 1997. Originally named Intermodal Transportation Division, it was renamed to Rail and Public Transportation Division in 2001. In December of 2016, renamed to Intermodal Planning Division. In 2019, renamed to Strategic Planning Division.

Traffic Engineering Division

1941-52 Johnston, J. Edward "Ed" (E-221)

1952-71 Meyer, Robert L. "Bob" (E-1492)

1971-72 McCarthy, Thomas P. "Tom" (E-1757)

1972-86 Orth, Eldon D. "Vern" (E-2156)

1986-96 Gottula, Kenneth J. "Ken" (E-1493)

1997-07 Peters, Randall D. "Randy" (E-6377)

2007- Waddle, Daniel J. "Dan" (E-6289)

Note: Created in January 1941 as a section of the Design Division, the Traffic Engineering Section was made a division in 1968. In 2000, the eliminated Highway Safety Division was added to the Traffic Engineering Division. In 2009, the Office of Highway Safety (DMV) was added.

Transportation Planning Division

1935-36	Mengel, Waldo H. "John" (E-203)
1937-42	Fowler, Charles F. (E-234)
1942-46	Hossack, John W. (E-382)
1946-52	Mengel, Waldo H. "John" (E-203)
1952-59	Hossack, John W. (E-382)
1960-67	Gillan, Bruce C. (E-227)
1968-74	Grauer, Gerald "Jerry" (E-2060)
1974-93	Kohles, Derald S. (E-2877)
1993-01	Sieckmeyer, Kenneth L. "Ken"
2001	Organization Restructure

Note: Created in 1935, the Highway Planning Section became the Program and Planning Section in 1951 and the Program and Planning Division in 1968. The Planning Division was created in 1974 when the Program and Planning Division was combined with the Transportation Planning Division. In 1984, the Planning Division became the Transportation Planning Division. In 2001, Transportation Planning Division was eliminated by combining sections of the division with Information Systems or Project Development Division, which was then renamed Planning and Project Development Division.

Appendix

Average Number of Permanent Employees

As of January 1

Year		Year		Year		Year	
1895	6	1926	600	1957	2,034	1988	2,221
1896	6	1927	840	1958	2,076	1989	2,227
1897	13	1928	760	1959	2,141	1990	2,220
1898	13	1929	837	1960	2,207	1991	2,240
1899	10	1930	814	1961	2,365	1992	2,257
1900	10	1931	1,057	1962	2,484	1993	2,266
1901	10	1932	1,018	1963	2,647	1994	2,258
1902	10	1933	1,020	1964	2,627	1995	2,255
1903	10	1934	960	1965	2,612	1996	2,268
1904	10	1935	973	1966	2,601	1997	2,270
1905	11	1936	1,096	1967	2,603	1998	2,269
1906	11	1937	965	1968	2,396	1999	2,271
1907	8	1938	1,044	1969	2,391	2000	2,230
1908	8	1939	1,341	1970	2,460	2001	2,215
1909	10	1940	958	1971	2,637	2002	2,175
1910	10	1941	916	1972	2,604	2003	2,147
1911	27	1942	707	1973	2,598	2004	2,168
1912	27	1943	601	1974	2,617	2005	2,163
1913	26	1944	612	1975	2,486	2006	2,148
1914	26	1945	606	1976	2,512	2007	2,137
1915	29	1946	857	1977	2,441	2008	2,114
1916	29	1947	935	1978	2,466	2009	2,127
1917	54	1948	980	1979	2,424	2010	2,149
1918	96	1949	1,545	1980	2,392	2011	2,122
1919	230	1950	1,813	1981	2,300	2012	2,098
1920	273	1951	1,961	1982	2,216	2013	2,075
1921	250	1952	1,972	1983	2,171	2014	2,097
1922	250	1953	1,889	1984	2,232	2015	2,079
1923	300	1954	2,032	1985	2,258	2016	2,093
1924	350	1955	2,098	1986	2,230	2017	2,062
1925	400	1956	2,085	1987	2,224		Data no longer available

Note: Represents employees of the State Board of Irrigation (1895-1911), State Board of Irrigation, Highways, and Drainage (1911-19), Department of Public Works (1919-33), Department of Roads and Irrigation (1933-57), and Department of Roads (1957-99). Employee totals from 1937-81 exclude the State Patrol. Sources: A. T. Lobdell's history (1895-1964) and the Personnel Division (1965-99).

Annual Routine Maintenance Cost of the State Highway System

Year	Centerline Miles	\$ Cost	\$ Cost Per Mile
1926	6,156	1,817,877	295
1930	6,882	3,043,509	442
1935	8,024	2,738,472	341
1940	9,007	2,280,903	253
1945	9,174	3,509,096	383
1950	9,598	6,227,393	649
1955	9,980	7,669,127	768
1960	9,526	8,830,488	927
1965	9,520	10,243,519	1,076
1970	9,725	12,097,142	1,244
1975	9,866	21,901,568	2,220
1980	9,880	29,997,533	3,036
1985	9,950	44,786,320	4,501
1990	9,948	50,710,234	5,098
1995	9,960	61,219,863	6,147
2000		73,806,042	
2001		69,843,000	
2002		77,375,932	
2003		83,972,458	
2004		90,628,104	
2005		99,018,000	
2006		103,356,000	
2007		111,385,000	
2008		123,991,000	
2009		140,055,000	
2010		121,134,000	
2011	Data no longer available		

Note: Costs are by calendar year.

Executives Who Died While Serving

1926	Noble, Mont C. Deputy State Engineer
1942	Mason, John G. "Glen" (E-12) Bridge Engineer
1951	Boyd, Robert J. "Bob" (E-287) Office Engineer
1954	Hanna, Don E. State Highway Commissioner
1959	Boyles, Owen J., Sr. Secretary, State Highway Commission
1960	Ogier, Ray State Highway Commissioner
1960	Brooks, Ralph G. Governor
1961	Watson, Dr. Claude R. State Highway Commissioner
1962	Smith, Fred C. (E-370) Safety Engineer (former District 1 Engineer)
1972	Koster, George E., Jr. "Dutch" (E-445) District 3 Engineer
1974	Davis, Thane State Highway Commissioner
1979	Lipton, Joseph "Joe" State Highway Commissioner
1979	Divis, Ferdinand L. "Ferd" (E-1815) District 1 Engineer
1982	Meckel, Dr. Ben R. State Highway Commissioner
1988	Holmes, James R. "Jim" (E-1621) Bridge Engineer
1996	Kayton, Robert C. "Bob" State Highway Commissioner
2015	Vandeberg, Rodney State Highway Commissioner

Governors and State Engineers Since 1895

<u>Governor</u>		<u>State Engineer</u>	
Silas Holcomb (F)	1895-99	Robert B. Howell	5/95-4/96
		William R. Akers	4/96-4/97
		J. Morris Wilson	4/97-1/99
William A. Poynter (F)	1899-01	J. Morris Wilson	1/99-4/00
		Clarence B. Channel	4/00-1/01
Charles H. Dietrich (R)	1901-01	Clarence B. Channel	1/01-4/01
Ezra P. Savage (R)	1901-03	Adna Dobson	4/01-1/03
John H. Mickey (R)	1903-07	Adna Dobson	1/03-1/07
George L. Sheldon (R)	1907-09	Adna Dobson	1/07-1/09
Ashton C. Shallenberger (D)	1909-11	Adna Dobson	1/09-4/09
		Edward C. Simmons	4/09-1/11
Chester H. Aldrich (R)	1911-13	Edward C. Simmons	1/11-4/11
		Donald D. Price	4/11-1/13
John H. Morehead (D)	1913-17	Donald D. Price	1/13-3/15
		George E. Johnson	3/15-1/17
Keith Neville (D)	1917-19	George E. Johnson	1/17-1/19
Samuel R. McKelvie (R)	1919-23	George E. Johnson	1/19-1/23
Charles W. Bryan (D)	1923-25	George E. Johnson	1/23-3/23
		Robert L. Cochran	3/23-1/25
Adam McMullen (R)	1925-29	Robert L. Cochran	1/25-1/29
Arthur J. Weaver (R)	1929-31	Robert L. Cochran	1/29-1/31
Charles W. Bryan (D)	1931-35	Robert L. Cochran	1/31-7/34
	*	Arthur T. Lobdell	7/34-1/35
Robert L. Cochran (D)	1935-41	Albert C. Tilley	1/35-1/41
Dwight Griswold (R)	1941-47	Wardner G. Scott	1/41-1/47
Val Peterson (R)	1947-53	Wardner G. Scott	1/47-2/48
		Fred H. Klietsch	2/48-8/51
		Harold L. Aitken	8/51-1/53
Robert B. Crosby (R)	1953-55	Harold L. Aitken	1/53-4/53
		Lorenz N. Ress	4/53-1/55
Victor Anderson (R)	1955-59	Lorenz N. Ress	1/55-1/59

Governor**State Engineer**

Ralph G. Brooks (D)	1959-60	Robert L. Cochran John W. Hossack	1/59-12/59 1/60-9/60
Dwight W. Burney (R)	1960-61	John W. Hossack	9/60-1/61
Frank B. Morrison (D)	1961-67	John W. Hossack	1/61-1/67
Norbert T. Tiemann (R)	1967-71	John W. Hossack Marvin L. Nuernberger	1/67-11/68 11/68-1/71
J. James Exon (D)	1971-79	Thomas D. Doyle David O. Coolidge	1/71-6/77 6/77-1/79
Charles Thone (R)	1979-83	David O. Coolidge	1/79-1/83
J. Robert Kerrey (D)	1983-87	Louis E. Lamberty Raymond H. Hogrefe	2/83-2/86 3/86-1/87
Kay A. Orr (R)	1987-91	Raymond H. Hogrefe Gerold C. Strobel	1/87-10/87 10/87-1/91
E. Benjamin Nelson (D)	1991-99 *	Gerold C. Strobel W. Wayne Teten Allan L. Abbott	1/91-7/91 7/91-1/92 1/92-1/99
Mike Johanns (R)	1999-05	John L. Craig	1/99-1/05
Dave Heineman (R)	2005-15	John L. Craig Monty Fredrickson Randall D. Peters	1/05-6/09 6/09-8/12 8/12-5/15
Pete Ricketts (R)	* 2015-2020 * 2021-	Moe Jamshidi Kyle Schneweis Moe Jamshidi John R. Selmer	5/15-6/15 6/15-11/20 11/20-3/21 3/21-1/23
Jim Pillen (R)	* 2023-	Moe Jamshidi Vicki Kramer	1/23 1/23-

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