

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee. My name is Terra Miller Bowley, and I am the Deputy Director for Administration for the North Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT). I am here to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1021 and NDOT's request for two full-time positions to support DOT's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) devices.

Intelligent Transportation Systems use a combination of electronics, telecommunications, and information technology to make our streets, highways, and transit systems smarter, safer, and more efficient. ITS devices process and share information to ease congestion, improve maintenance and snow operations, provide critical information to travelers, and assist emergency responders. The DOT currently operates the following ITS devices:

Device	Current	Purpose
Pan Tilt Zoom Camera	148	Used to monitor storm events, verify conditions, and assist in decision making.
Environmental Sensor Station (ESS)	41	Used to measure atmospheric and pavement conditions.
Fixed Dynamic Message Sign (DMS)	57	Used to warn, regulate, route, and manage traffic by providing drivers with real-time alerts and safety messages.
Portable Dynamic Message Sign (DMS)	32	Used to warn, regulate, route, and manage traffic by providing drivers with real-time alerts and safety messages.
Vehicle Detection System (VDS)	34	Used to identify and warn height and weight restricted vehicles approaching overhead and other obstacles.
Intersection Collision Warning System (ICWS)	5	Used to warn approaching vehicles at rural intersections that other vehicles are present or approaching.
Fixed Anti-Icing Spray Technology (FAST)	2	Used to predict surface freezing temperatures and deploy anti-icing products to roadways to prevent slippery conditions.
Mobile Road Maintenance Information Systems (MARWIS)	16	Used to record and analyze road conditions using sensors installed directly on fleet vehicles. (Track-A-Plow)
Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR)	82	Used to collect traffic volumes, vehicle classification and other data used in infrastructure strategic planning.
Weigh in Motion (WIM)	16	Used to collect traffic volumes, vehicle classification/weight and other data used in infrastructure strategic planning.
Radio Tower	45	Used to support antennas for communication, including radio communication.
Mobile Radio	1000	Used to facilitate communication during maintenance and snow operations. Installed in trucks, pickups, tractors, and other equipment.

Several software programs are required to manage our ITS devices, NDOT is responsible for ongoing management, maintenance, and updates to these software programs. NDOT is also responsible for inspecting sites in the spring and fall, troubleshooting issues which arise, replacing components when failures occur, and updating firmware.

The DOT continues to expand the number and types of ITS devices installed along the state highway system. Current and future needs surrounding ITS devices will exceed NDIT's current capacity in the next biennium. Currently 65% of the DOT's pending services requests with NDIT are related to ITS devices. The DOT requested additional support from NDIT during the budgeting process for the 23 – 25 biennium, the two positions requested are needed to meet the service levels required by the DOT.

ITS devices provide critical information to the DOT, the public, and other state agencies. These stakeholders rely heavily on the information provided by these ITS devices and expect these devices to be functioning properly. The DOT respectfully requests that the two positions which NDIT has included in their 23 -25 biennium budget to support the DOT's ITS devices be included in the Senate version of House Bill 1012.

Thank you, that concludes my testimony.