

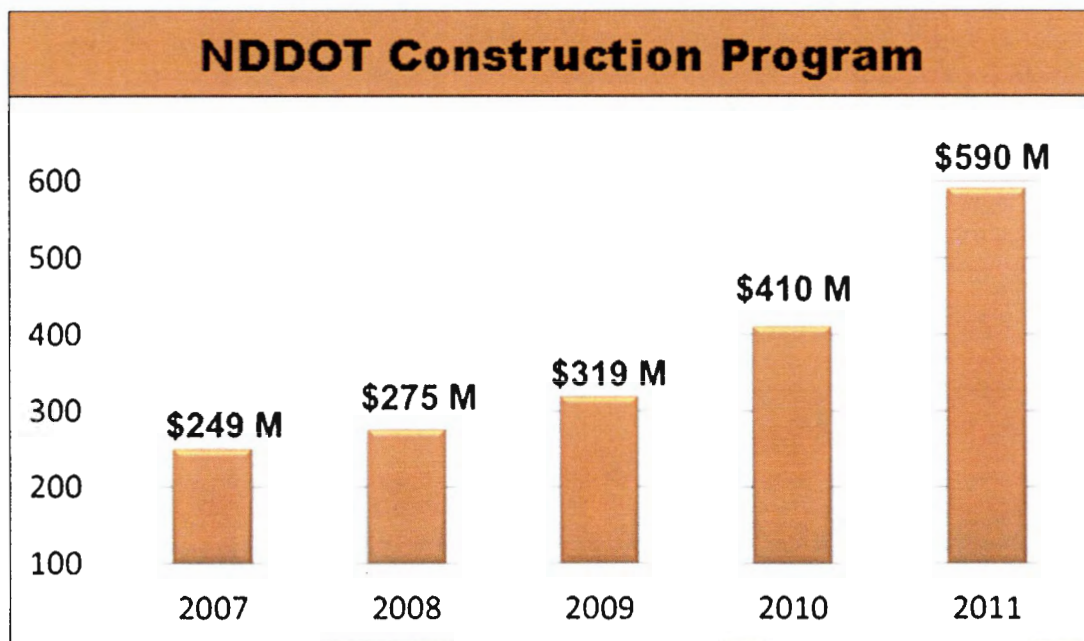
**Energy Development and Transmission Committee
Tuesday, March 20, 2012
1:15 p.m. - Roughrider Room**

**North Dakota Department of Transportation
Francis G. Ziegler, P.E., Director**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I'm Francis Ziegler, Director of the North Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT). Thank you for giving me the opportunity to present information to you today. I will present the following information as it pertains to highway funding and highway projects.

Statewide Construction Program

DOT's statewide construction program has increased tremendously over the past five years from approximately \$249 million in 2007 to \$590 million in 2011.

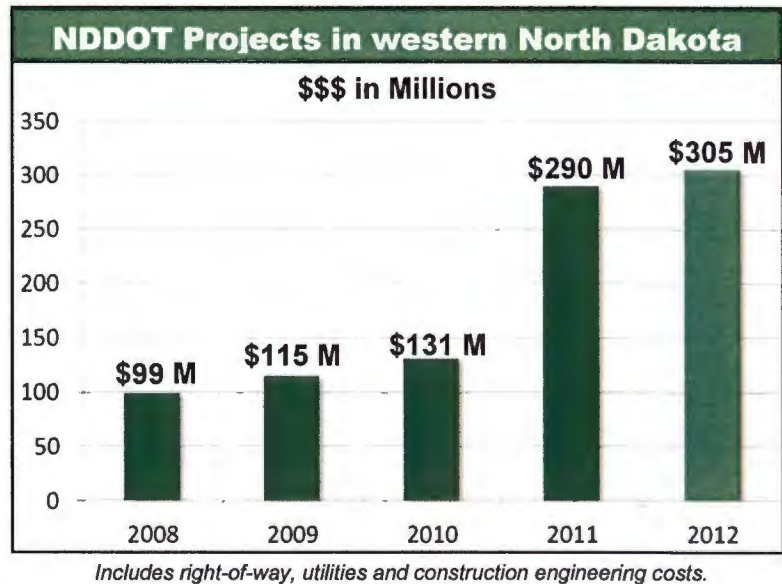


Status of road construction projects in area affected by oil and gas development

DOT is aggressively addressing infrastructure improvements to enhance safety and traffic movement in western North Dakota. The Department invested approximately \$635 million in state projects from 2008-2011 to preserve and improve transportation infrastructure in this area. The state will invest an additional \$305 million in 2012, as well as continue to plan and work on future road projects.

Recent highway improvements completed in 2011 include:

- Super 2 construction on US 85 between Watford City and Williston, providing additional passing and turning lanes.
- Installing traffic signal systems at highway intersections near Tioga, Williston, Watford City and Stanley.
- Completing major construction and widening projects on highways - ND 8, ND 22, ND 23 and US 85.
- Expediting repairs on damaged pavement of several state highways in Williston and Watford City areas.



Transportation Projects planned for 2012 on state highways in oil impact areas:*

- ND Highway 8 - Widening and regrading near Bowbells from Junction of ND 52 to ND 50.
 - ND Highway 23- Widening roadway and adding passing and turning lanes east of New Town to ND 37.
 - ND Highway 22 - Expanding to five lanes in north Dickinson to county line. Adding turn lanes and passing lanes 12 miles north of Killdeer to Lost Bridge. Widening and adding passing/turning lanes from ND 73 to ND 23.
 - US Highway 85- Urban reconstruction in Alexander and possible addition of passing lanes.
- *While these projects may be planned for this year, some work may need to be scaled back due to increased truck traffic damaging US Highway 2 requiring repair work to be completed.

Funding utilized on state, county and township roads

The comprehensive transportation funding package provided by the legislature includes enhancement of state, county, city and township roadways. The table below illustrates the amount of funding utilized in 2011 and the amount that will be spent this year in western North Dakota.

Oil Impact Area \$\$\$ For Transportation Projects		
Funds	2011	2012
State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Federal, state & local match	\$159.0 M	\$123.8 M
Extraordinary State Highway = \$228.6 M	\$ 84.5 M	\$144.1 M
Emergency Relief Funds	\$ 22.7 M	\$ 37.4 M
Federal Tiger Grant and ARRA Funds – Minot	\$ 24.1 M	\$ 0
Sub Total	\$290.3 M	\$305.3 M
County & Township Roads = \$142 M	\$ 19.5 M	\$122.5 M
Total	\$309.8 M	\$427.8 M

Work is progressing on the county and township projects. Please refer to the chart below where we have a list of the allocations and reimbursement each county receives from the \$142 million fund. Several counties have recently bid out numerous projects totaling approximately \$40 million. The recent bid numbers do not show in this chart because the counties have not submitted a request for reimbursement yet.

\$142 Million County and Township Road Fund for Oil Impact Areas

County	Allocations			Reimbursement Requests		
	Paved	Unpaved	Total	Paved	Unpaved	Total
Billings	\$1,204,030	\$773,205	\$1,977,235	\$0	\$773,205	\$773,205
Bottineau	\$4,968,000	\$165,854	\$5,133,854	\$1,477,212	\$136,151	\$1,613,363
Bowman	\$400,000	\$99,128	\$499,128	\$357,318	\$99,128	\$456,446
Burke	\$4,860,000	\$663,415	\$5,523,415	\$0	\$139,862	\$139,862
Divide	\$6,293,430	\$1,948,780	\$8,242,210	\$4,660,835	\$0	\$4,660,835
Dunn	\$7,600,000	\$3,429,860	\$11,029,860	\$0	\$1,538,615	\$1,538,615
Golden Valley	\$1,034,000	\$852,509	\$1,886,509	\$12,677	\$443,936	\$456,612
McHenry	\$0	\$20,732	\$20,732	N/A	\$0	\$0
McKenzie	\$20,004,030	\$3,608,292	\$23,612,322	\$0	\$3,608,292	\$3,608,292
McLean	\$0	\$829,268	\$829,268	N/A	\$9,157	\$9,157
Mercer	\$0	\$39,655	\$39,655	N/A	\$0	\$0
Mountrail	\$38,604,510	\$3,296,341	\$41,900,851	\$5,138,088	\$1,207,347	\$6,345,435
Renville	\$4,932,000	\$100,000	\$5,032,000	\$1,935,193	\$29,586	\$1,964,779
Slope	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	N/A	\$0	\$0
Stark	\$8,500,000	\$1,605,888	\$10,105,888	\$1,290,278	\$108,130	\$1,398,409
Ward	\$6,120,000	\$1,285,366	\$7,405,366	\$0	\$0	\$0
Williams	\$13,680,000	\$4,187,805	\$17,867,805	\$5,051,593	\$0	\$5,051,593
Total	\$118,200,000	\$23,006,098	\$141,206,098	\$19,923,195	\$8,093,409	\$28,016,604

Used all of their allocation

Traffic Increases

The increased traffic volumes, (particularly heavy trucks), has accelerated the deterioration of state highways, county and township roads in the oil impact areas in western North Dakota. The latest traffic count on ND 23 within the city limits of New Town show a range of 8,350 – 10,415 vehicles a day.

Highway	Location	Average AADT 2006	Average AADT 2009/2010	Average AADT 2011
ND 8	ND 23 N to Stanley	611	2,454	2,981
ND 22	Dickinson N to ND 23	1,078	2,573*	3,557
ND 23	Watford City to New Town	1,353	3,356*	4,020
ND 23	New Town to ND 8	3,326	5,608*	6,508
ND 23	ND 8 to US 83	1,351	2,191*	2,680
US 85	West of Watford City to Jct. of US 85 and US 2	2,322	2,828	6,270
US 2	US 85 to Stanley-EB &WB	2,003	3,654	7,270
US 2	Stanley to US 52-EB & WB	2,442	2,914	6,056

*2010 statistics

US Highway 2 - Emergency repair work must be completed due to greatly increased truck traffic. The highway was built in 2004 and designed for a 20 year life cycle. Due to significantly more traffic, the roadway has sustained damage. The DOT must address this damage. Below are photos of damage on US Hwy 2 near Ray.



The photo below shows damage to ND Highway 1804 north of New Town.



Pictures below illustrate recent damage to Long X bridge due to an over height load.



This concludes my testimony, thank you for the opportunity to appear before the committee today.