



Northeast Council Of Governments

(605) 626-2595

April 2015

NECOG IS MOVING

As many of you may already be aware we are currently preparing to move our office space after 17 years in our current location. After looking at a number of possible options the decision was made in January to move and we have been making preparations since. We are tentatively scheduled to move to our new office on May 7th. Our new address will be 416 Production St., Aberdeen, SD 57401. Our new office space will be located within the Aberdeen Development Corporation Smart Center located off of 391st Ave/County Road 14 about ½ north of RDO Equipment/Hwy 12.

We are hoping for a smooth transition and limited downtime of phone and email services around May 7th. After we have moved, feel free to stop in and check out our new space.

COMMUNITY ACCESS/INDUSTRIAL PARK/AGRI-BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM

Community Access Grants are State funds for all Counties and Towns with less than 5,000 in population and are for the construction or reconstruction of major streets in town such as Main Street and roads that lead to elevators, schools, hospitals, and farm-to-market roads. This program provides for 60% of the construction costs of the project, not including engineering or utility work. Grant size is limited to \$200,000 and applications are due July 15.

The Industrial Park and Agri-Business Grant Programs provide funds to assist communities and counties who have a new industry or agri-

business and need new or expanded access to the facilities.

Only applications for new projects will be considered. These two programs accept applications 3 times each year (April, July and October 15). If you have projects that may qualify for this program or you would like more information please contact our office. Additional information is also available through the South Dakota DOT website at: <http://www.sddot.com/business/local/economic/Default.aspx>

DOT TRANSPORTATION STUDIES

The South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) has announced a Small Community Transportation Planning Program to allow small communities, with populations under 5,000, access to SDDOT staff and assistance to complete community transportation plans. The SDDOT will be dedicating a portion of its FY2016 Statewide Planning & Research (SPR) program funding to aid small communities, outside the Metropolitan Planning Areas, in their transportation planning efforts.

This program allows South Dakota's small communities to have a transportation planning study completed with the assistance of SDDOT staff through the use of these SPR funds. In turn, the community agrees to contribute City staff time, meeting rooms and related study expenses as local match. In order for the transportation planning process to be successful, community-wide participation in the planning process will also be encouraged.

The program will operate under an application & award basis. Applications for this year's program are due April 15, 2015.

The SDDOT hopes this program will generate interest in a transportation planning process that will guide future community growth and development and assist communities in applying for other transportation related funds. It is the SDDOT's intent to continue this program as an annual opportunity for small communities to study and improve their local transportation system.

The program's guidelines and an application form to participate in this year's program can be downloaded from the SDDOT webpage www.sddot.com/transportation/highways/planning/specialstudies/SPR/default.aspx by clicking on the Guidelines and Application link under Small Community Transportation Planning Program in the middle of the page.

Feel free to contact Nancy Surprenant if you have any questions at (605) 773-4912 or via email at nancy.surprenant@state.sd.us.

OFFICIAL DOT STIP MEETINGS

The official DOT Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) meeting for our region will be held in Aberdeen on July 13 at the Ramada Convention Center. Other meetings will also be held in Rapid City, Pierre and Sioux Falls.

The Aberdeen meeting will be held at 7:00pm. The STIP document lists the projects that South Dakota Department of Transportation has scheduled in the Federal Fiscal Years 2016 through 2019.

DOT staff will also be presenting a preliminary review of the "Tentative" STIP information at NECOG's June meeting. That meeting has been scheduled for June 24, 2015 at 7:00pm at the NECOG offices. Anyone is welcome to attend, but we ask that you RSVP in advance if you plan on attending.

NECOG COUNCIL MEETING

The next NECOG meeting will be held on June 24th at 7:00 pm at our new office location.

DOT will be the guest speaker at this meeting. They will furnish a tentative STIP to be reviewed and discussed prior to the official public meetings listed in the previous section. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and state your concerns about particular projects.

SMALL COMMUNITY PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

The Small Community Planning Grant through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources is a grant program that allows communities to hire an engineer to complete a system wide water or wastewater study. This study will prepare a water or wastewater report which will identify problems or needs that might exist within the water or wastewater systems.

This grant will pay for 80% or \$8,000 (whichever is less) on water or wastewater engineering studies. Wastewater related studies may receive reimbursement up to \$10,000 if activities related to infiltration and inflow (I/I) analysis are conducted.

Only communities with a population of 2,500 or less are eligible. The project sponsor must be an entity of government (county, municipality, or township), or a special purpose district with the authority to construct a water or wastewater project (sanitary, water user, watershed, or water project). Nonprofit organizations are also eligible provided they were formed for the primary purpose of supplying water or sanitary service.

CONTACT US AT:

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