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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Nebraska Department of Roads to Launch Innovation Task Force

The Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) Director Kyle Schneweis announced today the formation of the Innovation Task Force for Transportation. The task force will focus on transportation issues in Nebraska and how those issues can be brought together for the benefit of the Nebraska economy. The task force will focus on ways that the public and private sectors can work together, provide opportunities to use new technologies and discuss how transportation investments can help Grow Nebraska.

Schneweis looks forward to working with the task force, pointing out, “As we explore less familiar areas, such as the economic impacts of our transportation investments and innovative funding, finance and project delivery, we need to look at these issues from all sides before we can decide which of these ideas make the most sense here in Nebraska. Our partners can help us to do that.”

Schneweis is eager to build upon transportation’s positive momentum in Nebraska through this task force. Following the recent announcement that the State is returning more than \$3 million to local governments due to project streamlining, Schneweis is ready to look for more ways to innovate at NDOR.

Governor Pete Ricketts encourages the creativity of a special task force while reminding them that fiscal responsibility continues to be the guiding principle. “Building a 21<sup>st</sup> century infrastructure is an important part of growing Nebraska. Good roads are important for public safety because they provide safe transportation corridors for our families commuting to work, dropping their kids off at school, and making a trip to the grocery store. As we continue to invest in building new infrastructure, we must continue to rely on the same fiscally-responsible financing principles that Nebraskans live by every day.”

The announcement of the task force comes as Schneweis wraps up a tour of the state where he talked with hundreds of stakeholders and NDOR employees about transportation in Nebraska. The task force will help identify ways to achieve Governor Ricketts’ and Schneweis’ goals to modernize NDOR’s business practices, increase transparency, encourage stakeholder engagement in transportation issues, and empower NDOR employees to make decisions that increase efficiency.

#NDOR#

**Contact:**

Mary Jo Oie, (402) 479-4512 or [maryjo.oie@nebraska.gov](mailto:maryjo.oie@nebraska.gov)

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Attached: Innovation Task Force Members



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