

North Dakota Western North Dakota Transportation Liaison Program Proposal and Scope of Work

The North Dakota Department of Transportation and Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute are advancing transportation technical support to western North Dakota over the next 5 years. The objectives of this effort are to expand the level of multi-jurisdictional transportation planning, programming and operations to create a new model for inter-jurisdictional transportation management. Seamless and coordinated service across county lines would be the ultimate outcome. Early identification of transportation issues and potential solutions, processes or training is also an objective of this program.

Main Objectives of the Western North Dakota Transportation Liaison Program (WNDTLP)

The program will serve many purposes. The fundamental objectives are to:

1. Advance transportation planning, project scheduling, asset management, and operations-based technology-transfer concepts.
2. Promote uniform transportation level-of-service concepts for local road networks.
3. Identify multi-jurisdictional transportation issues at the earliest point in time.
4. Monitor transportation issue development within the 4 largest oil producing counties and the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.
5. Coordinate initial transportation issue resolution discussions with the state, county, city, township and/or tribal entities to determine logical resolution steps and strategies.
6. Enhance the current UGPTI Tribal Liaison Program by providing travel reduction opportunities.
7. Identify training and technology training needs for the jurisdictions and coordinate the delivery with the appropriate state or university provider.

Proposed Approach by UGPTI and NDDOT:

NDDOT will provide office space for 2 UGPTI (WNDTLP) staff at its Williston District office. NDDOT will provide funding for staff time, travel and office equipment for 1 UGPTI FTE and one UGPTI part-time staff for the program.

UGPTI will supply 1 FTE and one part-time staff for the program. The UGPTI team would regularly attend appropriate county commission and city commission meetings in order to hear current transportation concerns that can be relayed to NDDOT, if applicable, or to help identify potential solutions for the jurisdiction's road superintendent or engineer. The team would enhance the current UGPTI Tribal Liaison program by representing in a face-to-face manner with the western ND reservations, the concepts and products of the Fargo-based Liaison. The UGPTI team would also interact with the

WDEA and NDDOT and UGPTI GRIT operations to communicate and expand coordinated road closure and opening concepts. UGPTI would recruit the program staff with an understanding of transportation asset management, safety, traffic operations, freight movements, and maintenance. The team would be directed and supported by the UGPTI Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) to enhance coordination and reduce duplication. UGPTI would support the team with the specialized skills from other UGPTI program areas such as transit, asset management, traffic analysis, freight modeling, truck size and weight and safety analysis.

It is not the intent of the WNDTLP to duplicate or compete with current private sector engineering or consultant services in the area, but instead to help accelerate transportation solutions that will likely be engineered by the private sector or state DOT.

The program is intended to run from the date of authorization until December 31, 2024 with an annual program review with the NDDOT Office of Transportation Programs to determine if any scope changes are necessary.