

Nebraska Transit Trends

LEGISLATIVE EVENT

Another successful Legislative Event was held on March 8 and 9 in Lincoln. The first day consisted of an afternoon of presentations.

The first panel included Amber Hansen (Community Action), Judy Vohland (Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation), Michael Stuhr (Immanuel Services) and Richard Schmeling (Citizens for Improved Transit). Some panelists explained that transportation will need to continue to improve in order to meet their clients' needs. Vohland explained that it can be difficult to get her clients to work because transportation isn't always available during some work shifts. Many need to be trained on how to use transportation. Schmeling pointed out that there are many people on the roads who shouldn't be driving. He has also seen an increase in younger people utilizing public transportation because of the cost savings. He is working to change the terrible stereotype that is often associated with people who use public transportation.



The panel agreed that the demand for transportation will continue to grow. They would like to see more accessible transportation with more routes, make transportation more appealing and educate Nebraskans to encourage them to utilize transportation options. All understood that funding is a huge obstacle when it comes to meeting transportation needs.

The second panel featured current and former elected officials including Bill Avery (current Lancaster County Commissioner, former Senator), Dave Landis (City of Lincoln Urban Development Director and former Senator),

and Russ Karpisek (Legislative Liaison for State Auditor, former Senator). All panelists agreed that transportation is important in Nebraska. It does well for the resources that it receives. The one hindrance that was agreed upon was the perception that transit is only for the elderly, disabled or poor. Many Nebraskans don't view transit as "theirs" but as a charitable commitment to those who need it. When discussing transportation at the government level, we need to reach out to those beyond our primary users because their voices aren't always heard. We need others to speak up in order to be influential.

When it comes to speaking with an elected official, most of the panelists preferred face-to-face communication. It is important to develop a relationship when they are

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NATP PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings to all,

Well, this is it folks! The end of June wraps up another fiscal year for transit

agencies and NATP. The Board of Directors has been preparing the 2017 fiscal year work plan and budget at the past few meetings. We would love to hear from all members concerning any new ideas, goals or projects that you feel NATP should pursue, as well as any that you want us to continue or improve upon.

For example, I received very positive feedback in regard to NATP's Legislative Day event. Those attending have expressed that the one-on-one

time spent with Senators over breakfast is far more effective than only visiting their offices to present fact sheets and other materials – too often leaving the information with office staff. Also, the proclamation signing creates a great springboard for Public Transit Week as a newsworthy piece for local newspapers, providing agencies a platform to address the public on other planned events to celebrate the week.

So if there is something NATP is doing that could be tweaked or further improved, please present your suggestions.

Our next opportunity for a full membership meeting is just around the corner. If you haven't already, you need to register for the Transit Midwest Conference being held in

Kansas City on August 14 – 16. This conference is held every third year in lieu of the Nebraska Managers Workshop. Once registered, you will have the opportunity to hear from top executives of national transit organizations, select from a variety of sessions to learn best practices, network, be informed of NDOR priorities, programs and funding opportunities and attend the NATP annual meeting. Free transportation to and from Kansas City will be available. Any Kansas City Royals fan can see that the only way you can strike out here is by not registering!

Hope to see you in Kansas City. Until then, safe travels everyone.

Scott Bartels
NATP President

NATIONAL CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Would you like to learn more about public transportation and expand your knowledge as a manager?

NATP and NDOR are sponsoring scholarships for managers to attend national conferences.

Scholarships are available for the 2016 National Conference on Rural Public & Intercity Bus Transportation which will take place October 2-5 in Asheville, North Carolina. The deadline for this scholarship is July 11. The application is available on the website.

NATP BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The NATP will have three board positions open in 2016. Positions include the Western, Eastern and At-Large positions. If you are interested in serving or would like to nominate someone, please contact the NATP office.

CTAA NEBRASKA STATE DELEGATE UPDATE

Congratulations to all of the drivers who participated in the CTAA Roadeo in Portland. It was great to see a good representation from Nebraska.

CTAA will be focusing its efforts this year on membership and services those members can use. You will receive some information from me shortly about membership and the benefits associated

with membership in CTAA.

CTAA has a new Executive Director who wants to renew partnerships in both the private and public areas. At our state delegate meeting we discussed the importance of the changes we will all face with the FAST legislation, particularly the Safety and Security, along with Asset Management. As a delegate,

I emphasized the importance of assistance from CTAA with these tools, and also the areas of bus capital and employment concerns. If you have any ideas that CTAA could help you as a transit manager, or your agency operating transit, please contact me. I would love to hear any ideas that you have.

Charles McGraw

2016 TRANSIT MIDWEST CONFERENCE

The four-state Transit Midwest/State Public Transit Partnership Conference is right around the corner this summer August 14-16 in Kansas City, MO at the Westin at Crown Center. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to hear from transit industry experts on the FAST ACT and mobility on demand, check out the new Kansas City Streetcar and learn about national trends in transit from AASHTO, APTA, and CTAA.

Invited speakers and events include:

- Matt Welbes, Executive Director, Federal Transit Administration (Invited)
- Flora Castillo, Vice President of Community and Strategic Engagement, United Healthcare
- Ream Lazaro, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

- Tours of the Kansas City Streetcar Facilities
- Kansas City Area Transit Authority tours
- Reception at the World War II Museum & Memorial

In order to positively represent the association and our state, it is important that Nebraska has a large number of members in attendance.

The plan is to have a charter bus pick up managers at designated locations along I-80 and drive everyone to the conference. This will help keep travel costs down.

Mileage to the designated areas will be reimbursed through RTAP.

A block of rooms has been reserved for conference attendees. NATP members are

encouraged to share rooms if possible to help alleviate some of the costs. To book your reservation, call the Westin at (888) 627-8538. The group rate is \$139 per night.

You can now register for the conference online. Also scroll down to register for the Monday Night Social Event which is free with your paid registration.

This will be a great opportunity for everyone. Please mark your calendars!

<http://www.cabllc.com/TransitMidwest/general.htm>

2016-2017

MEMBERSHIP

RENEWALS

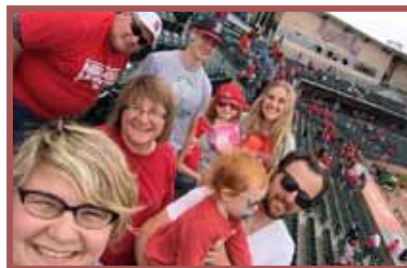
NATP membership renewals were sent in May for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Thank you to those who have submitted dues. If you need a copy of your membership invoice, contact the office.

The NATP Board continues to develop new goals for the association as well as continue to attend events that promote NATP members and the services they provide.

If you would like to be more involved in your association by serving on the board or a committee, please contact the NATP office.

MEMBERS HAVE A BALL AT APPRECIATION EVENT

Member appreciation events were held across the state during the 2016 fiscal year, including an event at the Nebraska Baseball game on May 15 in Lincoln. Stay tuned for upcoming events.



Left: Gwen Maxwell's family enjoys the game.

Above: Lois Grof-McClintock's family takes time for a selfie.

Below: Huskers defeat Penn State 8-1.



CTAA EXPO & ROADEO

Kily Gortmaker My experience this trip was very different than the one last year. I enjoyed my time at the Roadeo and banquet. I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to take the trip, but my vast learning was not from my actual Roadeo time.

I left early and came home later than the Roadeo event. During my extra days I spent a large amount of time in an airplane seat and in the back seat of a car. In a sense I was in the exact same position as my everyday clients. I had no real control of where I was being taken or the time it would take to get me there. This was such an eye opener! I had moments that I was uncomfortable, irritable, and sometimes angry. I complained, grumbled, and at one point, even cried. These feelings are not ok for my passengers. I thought I was a fairly compassionate driver. I thought I was doing my very best for each and every person I serve. I realized though, I don't always ask if they are comfortable. I don't always take into account that they may be irritable or angry because of other things going on in their day, or maybe it is because of ME, yikes! I am humbled by this experience. I will do more to better the service I provide to all that choose to ride with me. Thank you again for this very awakening opportunity!



Larry Vortherms, Kily Gortmaker, Diane Schaepe & Carol Graham

Mary Delka As the Manager of Webster County Public Transportation, I was honored to have my driver, Kily Gortmaker, compete in the National Roadeo Competition in Portland, Oregon. I was fortunate to be able to also attend. I had never been to Portland before this trip, so it was an adventure and learning experience for me. I rode on one of the public transit options, which was a very economical way to travel.

In addition to being a judge at the Roadeo, I was able to do some great networking, not only with transit directors and drivers from Nebraska, but also from many other states. Through the competing drivers' narratives read at the Roadeo and from the speakers at the Award's Banquet, I was reminded of the positive impact public transportation can have on peoples' lives, for both the driver and the client!

Jill Cammack Carol Graham, Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging driver, won a trip to the national Roadeo in Portland, Oregon - and got to take me along! Portland weather is cloudy and there is always a chance of rain. The people in Portland are friendly and helpful to visitors, and there is a wonderful public transportation system. Portland has passenger rail, street cars, and buses that were easy and affordable to use.

I was a judge for the minivan section of the Roadeo. There were only 18 minivan drivers and the rain held off until after we finished judging. The body-on-chassis judges weren't as lucky.

I enjoyed the Expo General session on Wednesday morning. Our speaker was

Linda Bernardi. She is the former chief innovation officer for IBM, and spoke about how technology is altering the way we do business as transportation providers. She spoke about how technology is rapidly changing, encouraged everyone to research new technologies, and find ways to use the new technologies to link with our customers. She spoke about needing to continually disrupt and update how we provide our services, and include more technology in our business.

The trip to Portland was enjoyable and I learned some new things. I appreciate the opportunity to be part of this trip.

Carol Graham I had a great time at the Roadeo. It's always fun to go and compete and cheer on all of the Nebraska drivers. Although I placed 43rd out of 76 drivers, I hope I get a chance to try again! Thank you for this opportunity.

Cindy Sanders First off, I want to thank NDOR and NATP for the scholarship. In my 14 years in transit, I had never attended the National Roadeo. Friendships were made between drivers and judges. It is always great to see the vehicles and products available at the Expo.

The workshops that I attended were based on recognizing and adapting to the continually changing needs of transit. Measuring data, listening to customers and being mindful of technology are important phases of this.

Networking with others is always the best form of education relating to our daily lives.

Jeff Baker I would like to thank NDOR and NATP for

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CTAA EXPO & ROADEO

the opportunity to attend the CTAA Roadeo and Expo held in Portland, Oregon May 21 – 27. The National competition and training a few weeks ago was a great opportunity for Diane and I to network with fellow transit-minded individuals who shared our passion for transportation and for those we serve. I feel that we came back to Seward with great ideas that we can implement into making our local program better that have already been tested from other parts of the country. We can also share these ideas with our friends and neighbors here in Nebraska.

Sitting in one of the great sessions during the week, I participated in a roundtable discussion with other “rural” transit providers. I learned that a lot of different agencies and states have struggled on subjects that are very familiar here in Nebraska including Title VI, Drug and Alcohol, Reasonable Accommodation, and Driver Training just to name a few. During this discussion I realized how fortunate we are in Nebraska and the resources that we have been given to do our job. We have a great team at NDOR (Abe Anshasi, Kari Ruse, Frank Faughn, Teddy Pika, Wayne Masek, George Gallardo, and Connie Trautwein) and an awesome NATP Director (Tiffany Fougeron), all of whom have worked very hard to ensure that the problems that other states are having regarding compliance on these subjects does not happen here in Nebraska.

I really appreciate knowing that we lead on so many of the major transportation issues here in Nebraska in comparison to other states, and I would like to encourage everyone to consider attending the CTAA EXPO to be held in Detroit, Michigan next June.

Thank you for the opportunity

for Diane and me to travel to Portland and represent Nebraska. I look forward to seeing everyone in Kansas City in August.



*Cindy Sanders and Denise Smith
test out the Toyota van.*

Diane Schaepe On the Roadeo day as we proceeded though the course, our lead person was more than helpful and made us feel right at home in a stressful environment.

We were the “Blue Sharks” and it was a fun group all pulling for one another. Our group leader of the Sharks was from Portland, and I felt that helped us learn more about Portland and its history, which made this quite an enjoyable time.

After the competition was over the banquet was a time of great food and getting to know other drivers from across America and how they do things in their states.

I appreciate the opportunity to participate in this nationwide event and represent the great state of Nebraska again.

Beth Siegfried Thank you NATP for another wonderful learning experience. The CTAA Expo and Roadeo was a great experience. I was fortunate enough to be able to judge in the van division. I rode in the van and timed each contestant. My fellow judges were interesting. One is the current president of CTAA from Michigan and the other was from Portland. The lady from Michigan told

us about her experience of having to rebuild her bus barn and offices after a fire that destroyed her facility and ten buses. They are also starting up a bus route for kayakers which was interesting to hear about.

Transit in Portland was amazing. The Max-Rail from the airport to the hotel and many other points in the city were great. We also tried out the street cars. It was an easy city to get around. We logged between 18,000 to 22,000 steps a day. The scenery in and around Portland was beautiful. It rains often; the ferns there grow like weeds here in Nebraska. There is moss everywhere, even hanging off the tree branches. The scenery was a lot like the scenery in the Twilight movies.

The Expo had many great displays. We saw a Toyota van that had a seat that projects out of the side door and then transports the passenger inside the van. It was very interesting. The best class I took was titled, “Community-Driven Transit.” It had great ideas about putting together an advisory board for community transit needs and then took it further by giving examples of outcome measurements and output measurements. I am putting this on my to-do list.

Our Nebraska group had a great time. It’s always nice to be able to have the time to visit and get new ideas and ask questions on how others are doing things. We experienced Voodoo Doughnuts. One of the favorites was a maple-frosted long john with bacon and another with Captain Crunch on it. We also experienced oysters on the half shell. Some of us enjoyed this experience more than others!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE



Thanks everyone who submitted information to include in the newsletter. Please continue to send information, updates, fun and exciting things that are happening in your system, etc. Thank you to those who provided media from Public Transit Week. I look forward to this event growing each year.

I recently returned from the CTAA Expo in Portland and it was a real eye opener. I enjoyed my time as a judge and cheerleader for our great drivers who competed. I also enjoyed the time spent with the drivers and managers who were able to attend. This is always a great opportunity for our Nebraska members to get to know each other better. It is also a great opportunity to meet with our counterparts from other states, discuss ideas and problems, and develop a large network of resources. CTAA did a superb job of providing great learning and networking opportunities.

Our state association meeting had the highest attendance in a long time. It was nice to put a face to the voices I hear on our monthly phone calls. CTAA's new executive director, Scott Bogren, is excited to move the association into the future. I look forward to his leadership with CTAA and the new opportunities that will be available to NATP through this relationship.

This opportunity also opened my eyes to the poverty that was prevalent in the city. Homeless people lined the sidewalks and bus stops at night. As much as my heart went out to these people, it sometimes made me feel uneasy about traveling by myself.

I also discovered that getting to a destination isn't always as easy as using Google Maps. I found myself traveling on the wrong bus a time or two. It was a learning experience!

This made me realize how reliant I am on my own vehicle to get where I need to go. Many of the passengers that NATP members serve don't have that luxury and must rely on you to get them to where they need to go. For those who haven't used public transportation before, it can be scary. That's why it's so important to make things as easy as possible, have a great staff and provide the best service as possible. You all do an amazing job at this!

The NATP Board of Directors is always working on ways to promote transportation across the state and the great services that our members provide. We will continue to reach out by having a booth at the Nebraska State Fair, Nebraska Association of County Officials annual meeting, National Federation of the Blind of Nebraska and

more. We are also developing new relationships with the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and seeking new advertising opportunities with the Nebraska Health Care Association and Nebraska Educational Telecommunications.

I am also working with Nebraska DMVs to place NATP brochures in their licensing offices. This could potentially reach those who recently lost their licenses due to age, medical or other reasons.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for NATP, please give me a call.

Also - be sure to register for the Transit Midwest Conference. We need a great showing from Nebraska and I want to see you there! I am working on arranging transportation to and from the event. The first event in 2013 was a wonderful way to network with others, learn from nationally known speakers and transportation representatives and have a great time in Kansas City. Please let me know if you have any questions about the event.

Tiffany Fougeron
Executive Director



Group photo from the CTAA Rodeo Awards Banquet.

LEGISLATIVE EVENT (CONTINUED)

campaigning, not just when you need something. It's also important to know a little about them and relate your cause to them as much as possible. Be truthful and don't exaggerate your issues.

When it comes to testifying in front of a committee, place a human story behind the bill. Pie charts and numbers are good but not the deciding factors. Meet with other groups/individuals who are testifying (in your favor) and develop a story to tell. This ensures that the same story isn't told over and over. The Senators want to make peoples' lives better - be sure to highlight human impact and provide a first-person perspective. Also remember to be respectful, hold your temper and do not lecture. If you're providing a report, be sure to have a one page summary on the front. Sometimes that's all they have time to read.



David Babcock

The next speaker was David Babcock, attorney for the Nebraska State Patrol. Babcock presented on the concealed carry law and how that impacts public transportation employees.



Coletta Clouse, Beth Siegfried, Joyce Deaver and Marilee Hyde enjoy the dinner.



Transit agencies can adopt a policy against serving customers with a concealed handgun permit. It was suggested to involve the county attorney in developing this policy and post a conspicuous notice. Managers can also prevent employees and others from bringing concealed handguns into their buildings. Babcock pointed out that there are strict guidelines to receiving a concealed handgun permit. Criminal activity doesn't usually happen with those who have this permit because of the regulations.

Following this presentation, Bill Troe of SRF and Kari Ruse from NDOR provided members with information on the progress of the Nebraska Mobility Management Program and Coordinated Transportation Plan. Bill asked the attendees what they believed would be challenges to coordinated transportation.

He also discussed needs and gaps in current models. Regional committees have been developed with roles of localizing structures, providing feedback, expanding and applying strategies and organizing local commitment.

The training closed with a demonstration of how to use NATP's new website and blog.

Attendees then celebrated NATP's 35th Anniversary at Lazlo's restaurant in the Haymarket. Special guests included Abe Anshasi, Kari Ruse, Jerry Wray and Marlene Gakle. Newsletters and photos from past years were on display and prize drawings were held.

The next morning, NATP hosted a breakfast at the Ferguson House near the Capitol. All Senators were invited and many were able to attend and have great conversations with NATP members.

Following the breakfast, attendees witnessed Governor Pete Ricketts sign a proclamation declaring the second week in April as Public Transit Week.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. If you have any ideas for future Legislative Events, please contact the NATP office.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FOR PROGRESS

WRITTEN BY ROBERT PORE

This article is being reprinted from the Grand Island Independent with permission.

No age limit, no other restrictions. Everybody can ride Hall County Public Transportation. On a typical weekday afternoon, a Hall County Public Transportation bus picked up Charlie Exstrum and Yesenia Govea-Deleon and took them home.

Exstrum is 20, and Govea-Deleon is 19. They were efficiently delivered to their doors by driver Joe Williams. That service demonstrates a fact that Hall County Public Transportation would like to emphasize. You don't need to be elderly or disabled to ride the bus in Hall County.

"We hear that almost every day: 'What do I have to do to ride the bus?' Or 'Is there a form I have to fill out?'" said Dustin Butler of Hall County Public Transportation. "Well, you've just got to tell me where you want to go and pay your \$2, and I can get you there."

The system, which some still refer to as the Handi Bus, initially served senior citizens. Service was later expanded to include people with disabilities. "Now anyone can ride it," said Hall County Supervisor Pam Lancaster, who is the board liaison to public transportation.

A trip aboard Hall County Public Transportation costs \$2. For that price, you can go anywhere in Hall County. A round trip costs \$4. The system is demand-responsive, which means it does not have a fixed route. To set up a ride, call (308) 385-5324. Service is offered from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Twenty-four hour notice is requested from those needing service.

The transportation system is operated by Senior Citizens Industries. The majority of Hall County Public Transportation customers use the service to go to medical appointments. Other patrons need a ride to work or to go shopping. Lots of riders need a lift to go to dialysis appointments, which are often early in the morning. Those people are picked up as early as 6:15 a.m. The people at Hall County Public Transportation are good at their jobs, Lancaster said.

"Our drivers are amazing," Lancaster said. Drivers often take passengers under their wings to help them, she said. Not all counties have a transportation program. Rather than turn the program over to someone else, Hall County has chosen to stay in the transportation business "because we think that our people get the best service that way," Lancaster said. If not for the county's support, "we wouldn't have a system," said Theresa Engelhardt, executive director of Senior Citizens Industries.

People usually become aware of Hall County Public Transportation when they need it, such as when they become senior citizens. Other than that, "people hardly notice that we're around," Lancaster said.

Public transportation handles 150 trips a day. The system operates 12 vehicles. Nine of those are 14-passenger buses equipped with wheelchair lifts. The fleet also includes one 12-passenger van and two minivans. The latter have floors that are lower to the ground than most Dodge Caravans.

Lancaster chairs the board of the Midland Area Agency on Aging. That organization, based in Hastings, serves eight counties and is affiliated with Senior Citizens Industries. Engelhardt would like to see public transportation expand into the evening hours. There is demand for it, she said, noting that people who work retail jobs often need a ride home. A change is coming in local transportation, and Engelhardt hopes that change will include funding for longer hours. Grand Island's status as a metropolitan area is prompting the change.

It won't be long before city government is responsible for public transportation within Grand Island's city limits. County government will continue to provide for service outside the city.

"One would hope that the public doesn't see anything different than what's taking place now," except that the service would be expanded, Lancaster said. Hall County Public Transportation offers a variety of services for the community. For instance, a special deal is offered to families. If a mother has four kids, "that's an expensive trip" to Wal-Mart, Engelhardt said. So the mother and the first child are charged \$2 each, but the rest of the kids are free. In other words, if a mother needs to take one child to the doctor but the other kids have to come along, the total price is only \$4 each way.

Continued on Page 9

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FOR PROGRESS CONTINUED

Hall County Public Transportation is assisting the YMCA's after-school program until the Y finds a bus driver, Engelhardt said.

When Centennial Towers caught fire last fall, public transportation drivers jumped in to help transport residents. Calls went out on a Saturday during a Husker football game, and the drivers responded, Butler said. Public transportation has good relationships with many local organizations, Engelhardt said. "We try to be involved in the community as much as we can," she said.

The Hall County system is unique in that the cost to ride is the same anywhere in the county. Many systems charge out-of-town rates, Butler said. One service the system provides has nothing to do with buses, but it does have to do with transportation.

Public transportation obtains 15,000 reduced cab tickets each year from the state. There is great demand for those tickets, which cost \$4.50 each. A ticket covers the cost of a taxi ride until the meter hits \$12.

LOCAL SENIOR CENTER OBSERVES PUBLIC TRANSIT WEEK APRIL 10-16

This article is being reprinted from The Phonograph-Herald with permission.

As a way of celebrating Nebraska's second annual Public Transit Week (April 10-16) the St. Paul Community Senior Center delivered paper goods, laundry soap, new toothbrushes, tooth paste, shampoo, conditioner, dish soap, hand soap, Kleenex, paper towels and other household items to the Food Pantry in St. Paul on Friday.

All the items were donated by passengers of the bus, seniors attending the noon lunch, staff of the Senior Center, the Incorporation Board members and volunteers. The Senior Center held a "Stuff the Bus" event during the week, as well as providing free rides to the public and giving away insulated coffee mugs to the riders of the bus and minivan.



Left, Donetta Nye, Bob Schenck and Theda VanHorn unload items donated to the Food Pantry in St. Paul, which were collected during the St. Paul Senior Center's "Stuff the Bus" event.

"We decided to ask for household items rather than food items, as the pantry seems to receive food items, but not the household items," explained Senior Center Director Donetta Nye.

Nye and bus driver Bob Schenck delivered the items to volunteer Theda VanHorn at the Food Pantry. Nye expressed her appreciation to everyone who participated in the "Stuff the Bus" event.

Bob Schenck, who has driven the buses for four years, and Paul Scarborough, who has driven for five years as of June 1st, were presented gift certificates for their support and good driving records. "We hope that the events of the past week also will provide awareness of the public transportation program at the Senior Center," said Nye. "The buses are available for everyone, regardless of age."

NATP 2015-2016 LEADERSHIP

BOARD MEMBERS

Western Region
Carol Prince
1825 10th Street
Gering, NE 69341

West Central Region
Charles McGraw
PO Box 2288
Kearney, NE 68848-2288

East Central Region
Jeff Baker, Treasurer
320 S 14th Street
Seward, NE 68434

Eastern Region
Scott Bartels, President
Box 412
Western, NE 68464

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tiffany Fougeron
tfougeron@youraam.com

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Marilee Hyde
1520 North Jeffers
North Platte, NE 69101

Jonnie Kusek
816 Flack Ave.
Alliance, NE 69301

Omaha Metro
Curt Simon
222 Cuming Street
Omaha, NE 68102

City of Lincoln - STARTRAN
Mike Davis
710 "J" Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

NATP OFFICE

521 First Street, PO Box 10
Milford, NE 68405

Phone: 402-761-2216
Fax: 402.761.2224
www.neatp.org



Next newsletter deadline is
September 23, 2016

Please send your articles and pictures for the Nebraska Transit Trends newsletter to the NATP office by **September 23, 2016**.

We want to know what all of our members are doing throughout the state. Also, if you see something newsworthy, be sure to let the office know. Submit your typed articles via email (as a word document) to the NATP office at **tfougeron@youraam.com**. You may include pictures if you like, but be sure to save them as a .jpeg file or they may not be included in the newsletter. Documents received after the deadline will appear in the next newsletter.

Visit Us On The Web!
www.neatp.org

Dates To Remember

July

- 1 - Membership Renewals Due
- 11 - TRB Scholarship Deadline

August

- 14-16 - Transit Midwest Conference
Kansas City, MO

- 31 - Nebraska State Fair
Older Nebraskans Day

September

- 20-21 - Drivers Training & Rodeo
Kearney

October

- 2-5 - TRB Conference
Asheville, NC

FTA ANNOUNCES 2017 TRANSPORTATION PLANNING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

To spotlight the best work in transportation planning across the country, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the opening of the 2017 Transportation Planning Excellence Awards Program. The biennial awards program

provides a unique opportunity to recognize and celebrate the outstanding transportation planning practices performed by planners and decision-makers in communities across the country. Any individuals or organizations that have received federal FHWA and/or FTA funding to

develop a plan, project, or planning process are eligible. Nominations must be submitted by July 1, 2016. Learn more about the program, categories and eligibility by visiting <https://planning.dot.gov/tpea/default.asp>. Questions? Contact TPEA@dot.gov.