



NACO E-News

www.nacone.org

March 20, 2009

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Upcoming Events

[Southeast District Meeting](#) ✓
Mahoney Park, March 23, 2009

[NWCA Spring Training](#) ✓
Hastings, March 24-25, 2009

[Nebraska Highway Safety Summit](#) ✓
Kearney, April 8, 2009

[Counties Legislative Day](#) ✓
State Capitol, Lincoln, April 16, 2009

NAEM Conference
Grand Island, April 17-19, 2009

County Board of Equalization Workshop
Kearney, May 14, 2009

County Engineers, Highway Superintendents &
Surveyors Summer Conference
Valentine, June 9-11, 2009

Stimulus Funding Priorities for Road Projects

With all of the information being publicized, I felt it important to notify all of our E-News readers of the details for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) as it relates to road funding. Nebraska counties will receive \$9,990,332 in stimulus funds for road and bridge improvements. This money will be distributed based on prioritization established by NACO's Executive Branch Committee for projects that meet the stimulus guidelines.

Sixty seven Nebraska counties have submitted 179 projects totaling \$125,866,716 to Nebraska Department of Roads. Given this premise you can easily see that only a few projects will be able to receive priority status for stimulus funding.

Some of these projects are "shovel ready" and have all Right of Way documents on file and U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Nebraska Environmental Protection Agency have signed off. This places these projects in the best possible position to receive priority status for stimulus funding.

The focus of stimulus funding is for job creation for projects that are ready to move forward as soon as possible. There is a limited amount of time in which funds must be identified and appropriated. Those that are "shovel ready" will be given a higher priority in keeping with the general premises of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

I appreciate all of the cooperation and input in to this process. I will keep you posted on future ARRA developments as they become available.

Larry J. Dix
NACO Executive Director

Register Now for Counties Legislative Day

Counties Legislative Day, to be held on April 16th in Lincoln, is fast approaching. County officials will have an opportunity to view the Legislature while in session as well as meet with state senators. Lunch will be served at the Cornhusker Marriott and all senators have been invited to attend. This is a great opportunity to discuss issues affecting county government with your senator. Early registration will assist the senators with their scheduling during the busy day.

The full [program](#) and [registration](#) can be accessed on the [NACO website](#).

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Save the Date: Free Webinar, Leading in Tough Times:

The first in NACO's series of free Webinars will provide you with information and ideas about coping with and recovering from the recession.

This 75-minute Webinar, Leading in Tough Times: Implementation of the Stimulus Package - What Counties Need to Know, will be held Thursday, April 2, at 2 p.m. (EST). Funds from The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, enacted on Feb. 17, are already reaching state and local governments. Learn what's in it for counties; the purpose, structure and status of key funding for counties; and the important accountability requirements of the law. Look for more information and the final agenda in County News and on the NACO Web site. Click here: <http://www.naco.org/toughtimes> to register.

Contact: Carrie Clingan cclingan@naco.org . Phone: 202/942-4246

NACO is asking for your help with stimulus fund reporting

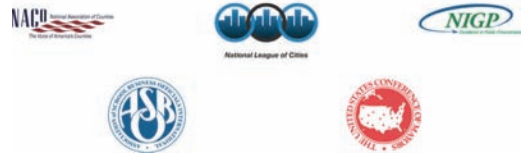
Due to the recently appointed White House Advisory Group on implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the National Association of County Officials (NACO) is seeking your assistance in providing information. The purpose of the advisory group, which has NACO representation, is to monitor funds expenditures at the state and county levels to track successes and address problems.

NACO has implemented an online questionnaire to help counties report how stimulus funds are being utilized and the impact they have on the county. Comments regarding the distribution process are also being sought. The link can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

The questionnaire can be submitted as often as there is anything new to report. Counties are encouraged to report regularly on their process.

The direct link to the survey is:

http://naco.qualtrics.com/SE?SID=SV_3sbyzW7EctZcwSM&SVID=Prod

**Founding Co-Sponsors****News Across the State...**

Links are to outside sources and may not be available indefinitely

[City, county weigh joint crime lab](#)

Omaha World Herald, 3/16/09

[No 'sacred cows' in Buffalo County; Board asks for ideas for saving...](#)

Kearney Hub, 3/18/09

[Commissioners learn of way to lock in fuel prices](#)

Norfolk Daily News, 3/18/09

[New Saunders County jail gets volunteers](#)

Lincoln Journal Star, 3/19/09



If you are aware of any news that may be of interest, please let us know

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