



Nebraska Trails News

March 2011

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NDOR Announce TE Program Request for Proposals

The Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program Select Committee is requesting proposals for projects to build pedestrian/bike trails, develop scenic byways, and restore historic transportation facilities. The application cycle for Fiscal Year 2012 opens April 1, 2011. Local Public Agencies interested in applying must submit an Intent-to-Apply form by May 20, 2011. Further information regarding the TE Program and the Intent to Apply Form can be found at www.roads.nebraska.gov/trans-enhance/apply.htm.

A webinar will be held April 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. to assist communities with project ideas. The format will consist of a presentation with information about the TE Program followed by a question and answer session. If you would like to participate in this webinar, please log on to the following link the morning of April 19: <http://breeze.unl.edu/transfunding/>.

Nebraska Trails in the News

South Sioux City awarded \$196,540 Safe Routes to School program grant to connect schools to Al Bengtson Trail System - [Sioux City Journal](#).

Trail marathon raises money to repair bridges at Wilderness Park - [Lincoln Journal Star](#).

Arbor City Committee to establish user-friendly map of Nebraska City trail system and support future trail development opportunities - [Nebraska City News-Press](#).

Coalition for Recreational Trails to form Council of Advisors

A federation of national and regional trail-related organizations, the Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT), is working to build awareness and understanding of the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). [Sign your organization on to join the Council of Advisors](#) to support the continuation and expansion of RTP. By joining the Council, Advisors agree to sign on to letters supporting RTP that will be sent to Members of Congress and the Administration. [Learn more about CRT and their request for RTP reauthorization](#).

Study Confirms Recreational Off-Road Riding Good for the Body and Soul

From National Association of Recreation Resource Planners

The results are in! It's been confirmed, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and off-road motorcycle (ORM) riding is good for your body and soul. The York University, Health Benefits study concluded that "based on the measured metabolic demands, evidence of muscular strength requirements and the

calorie burning expenditures associated with off-road vehicle (ORV) riding, this form of activity conforms to the recommended physical activity guidelines of both Health Canada and the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) and can be effective for achieving beneficial changes in health and fitness." [Read more.](#)

New Funding Opportunity with Health Impact Project

The Health Impact Project, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts, is accepting brief proposals through June 1, 2011 for grants to conduct health impact assessments (HIAs). The funding will enable awardees to develop an HIA, which is a study that can help policy makers and community members identify and address the potential, and often-overlooked, health implications of proposed policies and projects in a broad range of sectors, such as agriculture, energy, transportation and development.

The Health Impact Project will fund up to eight HIAs to identify how policy proposals will impact health at the local, tribal or state levels. Grants will range from \$25,000 to \$125,000 and will support government agencies, educational institutions and nonprofit organizations. For more information and to apply online, visit www.healthimpactproject.org.

Safe Routes to School National Conference

The third [Safe Routes to School National Conference](#) is planned for August 16-18, 2011 at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, Minn. Energize your Safe Routes to School (SRTS) planning, strengthen your networks and elevate the vision of how we all can create healthier kids and communities.

If you have trail news or events that you would like included in future issues of Nebraska Trails News, please send them to netrailscouncil@gmail.com.

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