

Let’s build some roads and bridges!

As policy bills start to wind down, the Legislature is spending more time with appropriations bills, budget bills, and **various infrastructure funding** mechanisms. For townships, it’s not a discussion of *whether* the need exists for road funding assistance, but rather *where* the assistance will come from.

As passed by the House of Representatives, **House Bill 1012** is the NDDOT Budget and contains \$115M of flexible funding, \$10M of carryover spending for road project grants (townships only), and \$750,000 of emergency funding. The bill is currently in the Senate Appropriations Committee, specifically the Government Operations Division. Many conversations have taken place on exactly how much and where some township funding can be placed. One thought is to dump more money into the Highway Tax Distribution Formula. Another idea is to increase the “flex funding” amount and designate a portion for townships.

With increased funding opportunities for townships also comes the need for support to get the dollars to where they are most needed. NDDOT is requesting more staffing, and we are advocating for one of those positions as a liaison for townships to help secure road funding opportunities.

The NDTOA has been communicating with legislators on the need for a **“regular revenue source”** through one of these means (in lieu of SB 2329, which was defeated). While townships have received one-time funding (ARPA, Prairie Dog, etc.) it is imperative to establish either an increase to the Highway Tax Distribution Formula, or another reliable revenue source to help townships meet the infrastructure funding demands. Stay tuned!

Other “infrastructure bills”

House Bill 1379 is the Legacy Fund earnings bill, which directs how Legacy Fund earnings are to be allocated. Contained in that bill is \$60M to the highway tax fund and \$100M for township and county bridge projects. **Senate Bill 2367** contains the “Prairie Dog” funding for political subdivision infrastructure funding derived from oil and gas tax revenues. The “Prairie Dog” should again provide non-oil counties and townships \$115 million, but it may be delayed till later in the next biennium before it fills.



NDTOA Bill Tracking Update

HB 1012	NDDOT Budget; includes \$115M DOT “flex funding”	Support: <i>In Sen. Appropriations Cmte</i>
HB 1236	Township officers pay and annual meeting date	Signed by Governor
HB 1379	Legacy Fund earnings; including \$100M for township and county bridge funding	Passed House; <i>In Sen. Approps Cmte</i>
SB 2113	DOT Flexible Transp. Fund	House Trans: DO PASS 14-0 Put on House calendar
SB 2178	Township special road fund increase to \$500K	Signed by Governor
SB 2183	Emergency snow removal grants	Passed Senate; Passed House
SB 2365	Legislative study regarding township participation in national flood insurance program	Signed by Governor
SB 2367	Oil & Gas revenue disbursement bill	Passes Senate; in House Approps Cmte

Good news for townships

It has been a good session for townships thusfar with three main bills passing including SB 2178, HB 1236, and the emergency snow removal grant bill, SB 2183.

As we move toward the final month of session, there will be many discussions and meetings how all of the infrastructure puzzle pieces will fit together. Please reach out to your NDTOA Board leaders if you have questions or would like to learn more how the Association is working hard for your township!

NDTOA Calendar

Check out the Calendar on the NDTOA website [HERE](#) if your event needs to be on the calendar please email larry.ndtoa@gmail.com

Full NDTOA Bill Watch List → [LIST](#)

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