

Governor Burgum delivers State of the State

Governor Doug Burgum delivered his fourth State of the State address to a Joint Session (Senate & House) on opening day of the 68th General Assembly Jan 3. He opened his remarks by supporting allocating \$30 million for political subdivisions and tribal governments for **emergency snow removal**. Representative Mike Brandenburg and Senator Terry Wanzek are the legislative leaders on this issue, however we have not seen a copy of the bill yet.



NDDOT Budget Briefing in House Approps

NDOT Commissioner Ron Henke briefed the full House Appropriations Committee on Jan 5 of the department’s biennial budget priorities (HB 1012). The nearly \$2.4 billion budget contains \$750,000 in **township emergency repair grants** and \$10 million for federal matching grants, both of which are carried over from the 2021 session. It also asks for an increase of 27 FTEs to help administer all the Transportation programs and services. We’ll keep you apprised of opportunities to contact your legislators to support township grants and programs.

Key Legislative Deadlines:

- Jan 11 – House bill introduction deadline
- Jan 23 – Senate bill introduction deadline
- Feb 24 – Crossover date for bills
- April 28 – Final statutory session date

NDTOA Bill Tracking Update

HB 1012	NDDOT Budget	Monitor/Support
HB 1098	Floodplain Mgmt	Monitor
SB 2113	Flexible Transp. Fund	Support

SB 2113 is a request of the NDDOT to allow flexibility to disburse funds without having to wait for a ‘federal match.’ The bill received a 5-0 DO PASS vote from the Senate Transportation Committee

HB 1098 removes an inadvertent extra penalty that was in state statute that exceeded the federal penalties for not enforcing floodplain restrictions. The bill got an immediate 14-0-0 DO PASS recommendation from the House Political Subs Cmte.

** Several bills have yet to be introduced that have direct impact on townships.

- Increase township officer pay per day to \$100, and increasing annual pay to \$4,000. Also allowing townships to hold annual meeting ANY day in March. This bill is being drafted by Rep. Jason Dockter.
- Increasing the special township road fund maximum to \$500K will be sponsored by Sen. Jordan Kannnianen
- Emergency Snow Removal Funds of \$30 Million. Sponsored by Rep. Mike Brandenburg and Sen. Terry Wanzek

**Make plans to
attend the
NDTOA Annual
Meeting
Jan 23-24!**