

News From The Northwest

Issue 26 No. 1 February 2021

Large Event Planning Workshop March 6

While snow is still on the ground, many are looking to summer and starting to plan their annual summer events. With Covid-19 still impacting our communities, what efforts should we be taking to ensure our events are safe for attendees?

The Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments and Northwest Missouri State University are teaming up to offer this workshop designed to address organizations that are planning for events such

as festivals, youth camps, vacation bible schools, rodeos, etc. The workshop is being held virtually, via ZOOM and is scheduled for Saturday, March 6, at 9 a.m. There is no cost to attend the workshop. Those planning to attend should register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/large-event-planning-workshop-tickets-141483094745>.

John Carr, Program Coordinator and Instructor for the Emergency and Disaster Management program at Northwest Missouri State University, will facilitate the workshop which will focus on topics such as the current best practices for event hosting related to COVID-19, the trajectory of the pandemic, where we anticipate things will be this summer, and how to ensure your event is a safe one! Attendees will also be able to request topics and ask questions through a pre-workshop survey.

The Large Event Planning Workshop is the first of three workshops being funded with Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) funds that were awarded to the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration.



**Saturday,
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To reserve your space and for additional details, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/large-event-planning-workshop-tickets-141483094745>

While snow is still on the ground, many are looking to summer and starting to plan their annual summer events. With COVID-19 still impacting our communities, what efforts should we be taking to ensure our events are safe for attendees? The Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments and Northwest Missouri State University have partnered to bring this workshop to offer tips to those in the area planning upcoming events.

John Carr, Program Coordinator and Instructor for the Emergency and Disaster Management program at Northwest Missouri State University will facilitate the workshop designed to address organizations that are planning for events such as festivals, youth camps, vacation bible schools, rodeos, etc. Topics being discussed will include the current best practices for event hosting related to COVID-19, the trajectory of the pandemic, where we anticipate things will be this summer, and how to ensure your event is a safe one! Attendees will also be able to request topics and ask questions through a pre-workshop survey.

The workshop has been paid for with Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) funds awarded to the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration.



Solid Waste Management District Announces Fiscal Year 2022 Grant Availability

Applications accepted from February 1, 2021 through April 1, 2021

The Northwest Missouri Regional Solid Waste Management District has grant funds available from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Solid Waste Management Program to distribute to both public and private entities throughout Atchison, Gentry, Holt, Nodaway, and Worth Counties. The grant

funds are intended to reduce the amount of waste entering the local waste stream and facilitate recycling. Some examples of projects include the purchase of woodchippers, aluminum and cardboard balers, forklifts, trailers, recycling bins, composting and other organic recycling projects. District Grant funds have also been used for outdoor classrooms, recycling education, rubberized track and recycling business expansion.

Those individuals or entities interested in applying for funds for a waste reduction or recycling project may contact Robin Davidson at (660) 582-5121 ext. 4, or e-mail robin@nwmorcog.org. The application is posted online at www.nwmorcog.org. **Applications must be received by Thursday, April 1, 2021, by 3:00 p.m.** at the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments, 114 W. Third St., Maryville, MO 64468.



Missouri Traffic Fatalities Increase 12%

New strategic plan identifies solutions.

JEFFERSON CITY – Preliminary reporting for 2020 indicates Missouri traffic fatalities increased by 12% compared to the previous year. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol, 989 lives were lost in Missouri traffic crashes in 2020, up from 881 in 2019.

“Nearly every fatal crash that occurs is preventable,” said Missouri State Highway Patrol Public Information and Education Director, Cpt. John Hotz. “Over 90% of these crashes were the result of someone simply making a poor decision, primarily: driving too fast, driving distracted or driving impaired. Many of those killed were not wearing a seat belt.”

Despite traffic volumes in the state being significantly down for much of the year, Missouri experienced its largest number of traffic fatalities since 2007. In particular, there were notable increases in unbuckled and speed related fatalities, with both experiencing approximately a 25% increase from the previous year. In 2020, 67% of drivers and passengers killed in car crashes were unbuckled and preliminary numbers indicate 389 people were killed in crashes involving excessive speed or driving too fast for conditions. In addition, there were 126 pedestrians killed in 2020, the largest number of pedestrian fatalities in Missouri ever recorded.

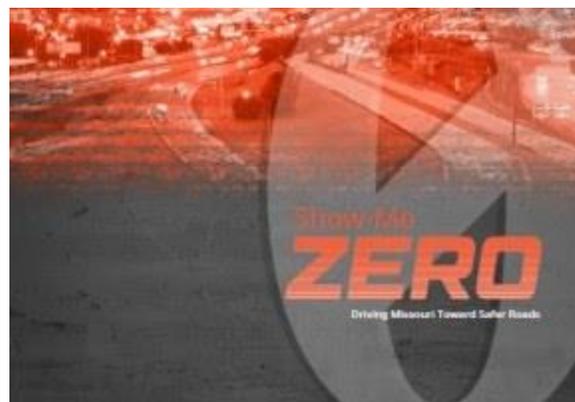
“The pandemic reminded us even if a large portion of vehicles are removed from the roadways, poor driving behaviors still have significant and often deadly consequences.” said MoDOT State Highway Safety and Traffic Engineer Nicole Hood. “We continue to work diligently in achieving the ultimate goal – zero traffic fatalities in Missouri. This year, we’re excited to introduce Missouri’s new strategic plan, a tool we hope will help us eventually reach that goal.”

Missouri's new strategic highway safety plan, *Show-Me Zero, Driving Missouri Toward Safer Roads*, identifies four key focus areas to help turn the tide: occupant protection (seat belts, car seats and helmets), distracted driving, speed and aggressive driving, and impaired driving. More than that, the plan identifies ways all Missourians can help reduce the number of fatalities on Missouri roadways. Show-Me Zero includes strategies for families and individuals as well as groups such as schools, businesses, local public agencies, law enforcement, health organizations, and statewide officials.

"So, how can you help? Ultimately, our success will be dependent upon everyone's willingness to take personal responsibility for safely using the transportation system and demanding others do the same," Hood said.

Drivers carry a huge responsibility in operating a vehicle, and other road users like pedestrians also share responsibility when using the roadways. Nearly all these fatalities are preventable when roadway users resolve to use the transportation system in an appropriate manner. When we make good decisions, lives are saved.

Show-Me Zero highlights four simple actions we can all take to improve safety on Missouri's roads: Buckle up. Put the phone down. Slow down. Drive sober. Take a look at the new plan and do your part to create a safer Missouri. The plan can be viewed in its entirety at www.savemolives.com or email Amy at the Regional Council for a hard copy, amy@nwmorcog.org



City of Oregon Awards Bids for Water Improvement Projects

The City of Oregon held their pre-construction meeting on February 9, 2021. Flint & Son Excavating (pictured) from Union Star, MO was awarded the construction bid to make the necessary waterline improvements to the city's distribution system. The contract amount is \$1,348,693.25. Construction is to begin on or before March 15. A second contract was executed with Central Tank Coatings, Inc. from Elgin, NE in the amount of \$239,000 for water tower rehabilitation. Water tower renovations will begin in May.



Grant Status Update

CDBG GRANTS

Albany Wastewater Treatment Improvements: Under Construction 90% Complete

Forest City Water Distribution System: Under Construction 50% Complete

Gentry County Two Bridge Replacements – Miller Township: Under Construction 50% Complete

King City Emergency Water: 100% Complete, Closeout Stage

Mound City Davis Creek Bridge Replacement: Construction Bid Opening March 17 at 10:00am

Nodaway County Two Bridge Replacements – Jackson Township: Environmental Review complete for #3 Bridge, Design Phase

Oregon Water Distribution Improvements: Construction to begin March 15, 2021

Parnell Water Distribution System: Design/Easement Phase

SSM/Mosaic Preschool: Closeout Stage

Stanberry New Wastewater Treatment Facility: Under Construction 90% Complete

DNR GRANTS

Nodaway County Courthouse: 30% completion of Feasibility Study of Courthouse Renovations

FLOOD PROJECTS

City of Craig Replace Grinder Pumps: Purchased 36 Grinder Pumps, Installment to pumps, Closeout Stage

Atchison County – Mill Creek Drainage District – Open construction bids March 15, 2021

Atchison County – Phelps City Special Road District – Working with District on road repairs

Holt County – Holt County Roads – Working with District on road repairs

Holt County – Fortescue Special Road District – Working with District on road repairs

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS

City of Elmo – Water Tower Rehabilitation – Environmental Review – 50% complete

Mound City Davis Creek Bridge Replacement: 100% Complete

Nodaway County Bridge Replacement – Bridge #0411018 – 100% Complete

NAP TAX CREDIT

Northwest Missouri Enterprise Facilitation (Operating): Selling NAP Tax Credits



Public Comment Sought for Route 136 Bridge Projects

Virtual and phone-in public meeting for Nodaway County U.S. Route 136 bridge replacement projects

Plans are underway to replace two Nodaway County bridges. The Missouri Department of Transportation will host both a virtual and phone-in public meeting to gather community feedback regarding the planned replacements of the U.S. Route 136 Mozingo Creek and Long Branch bridges, located east of Maryville. The projects are currently scheduled to be let for contractor bidding in August 2021.

These bridges are included in Gov. Mike Parson's \$351 million Focus on Bridges program, which will repair or replace 250 bridges across the state.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, MoDOT has temporarily suspended all in-person meetings, but is still seeking public input on planned projects. In place of a face-to-face informational meeting, MoDOT has three avenues by which members of the public may ask questions or leave comments:

1. Visit the projects' virtual public meeting space at <https://www.modot.org/nodaway-county-us-route-136-bridge-projects>. There visitors will find project information, detour route plans, a webform to leave comments or ask questions, and a way to sign up for project-specific email updates.

2. Participate in one of two planned call-in sessions: The call-in sessions will be held Tuesday, March 2 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and from 4-6 p.m. Participants can call 816-387-2483 during those hours to have an individual conversation with the project manager overseeing the design. If the line is busy, please leave a message or call back later.

3. Mail in comments. Send questions and comments to: U.S. Route 136 Bridge Replacement Projects Comments, Missouri Department of Transportation, 3602 North Belt Highway, St. Joseph, MO 64506. All comments must be postmarked by March 5, 2021.

For more information, please visit the Project Webpage at <https://www.modot.org/nodaway-county-us-route-136-bridge-projects>



Business Continuity Workshops March 23 & April 13

Local businesses have been heavily impacted by the current pandemic, exposing new challenges in how we ensure our businesses carry on during a hazard event. John Carr, Program Coordinator and Instructor for the Emergency and Disaster Management program at Northwest Missouri State University, will be facilitating two upcoming workshops that will be focused broadly on business continuity (efforts taken to ensure your business can still provide services and bring in revenue regardless of it being affected by a hazard event).

The Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments and Northwest Missouri State University are teaming up to offer these Business Continuity Workshops. Topics being discussed will include basic information about emergency planning, threat and hazard identification, risk assessment, planning processes, and other preparedness efforts. Attendees will also be able to request topics and ask questions through a pre-workshop survey.

The first Business Continuity Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23, at 5:30 p.m. and is being held virtually, via ZOOM. There is no cost to attend the workshop. Those planning to attend should register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/business-continuity-workshop-1-tickets-139018601379>.

The workshops are being funded with Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) funds that were awarded to the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration. The second Business Continuity Workshop will be held Tuesday, April 13, at 7:30 a.m. To register, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/business-continuity-workshop-2-tickets-141493168877>.



Tuesday, March 23, at 5:30 p.m.

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John Carr, Program Coordinator and instructor for the Emergency and Disaster Management program at Northwest Missouri State University, will facilitate the workshop designed to focus on efforts that can be taken to ensure your business can provide services and bring in revenue regardless of if being affected by a hazard event. Topics being discussed will include basic information about emergency planning, threat and hazard identification, risk assessment, planning processes, and other preparedness efforts. Attendees will also be able to request topics and ask questions through a pre-workshop survey.

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Important Dates

March 6: Large Event Planning Workshop, 9 a.m., via ZOOM

March 9: Solid Waste Executive Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., via ZOOM

March 23: Business Continuity Workshop, 5:30 p.m., via ZOOM

March 25: Quarterly Regional Council Board Meeting, 7 p.m., via ZOOM

March 29: Holt County Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 5-Year Update Kick-Off Meeting, 5 p.m., via ZOOM

March 29: Worth County Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 5-Year Update Kick-Off Meeting, 7 p.m., via ZOOM

April 2: Regional Council Closed

April 5: Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting, 6 p.m., via ZOOM

April 13: Business Continuity Workshop, 7:30 a.m., via ZOOM

April 14: Solid Waste Executive Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.



For more information about the Regional Council or the Missouri Job Center, upcoming events, or to request a presentation, please contact us at:

Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments

114 W. Third Street

Maryville, MO 64468

NWMORCOG Point of Contact: jerri@nwmorcog.org

Missouri Job Center Point of Contact: rita@nwmorcog.org

OR

Visit us on the web at <http://www.nwmorcog.org/> or on Facebook at Missouri Job Center-Maryville

This newsletter was prepared in part through a planning grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce (60% Federal, 40% Local Match), the Economic Development Administration, the Missouri Office of Administration, and from local membership dues and contracts for services. NEWS from the NORTHWEST is published at the NWMORCOG office, located at 114 W. Third St., Maryville, MO 64468. Questions or comments should be directed to Jerri Dearmont at the RCOG office, (660-582-5121), or by E-mail at jerri@nwmorcog.org.

