



First District News

124 1st Avenue NW | PO BOX 1207 | Watertown, SD 57201-6207

Phone: (605) 882-5115 | Fax: (605) 882-5049 | Web: www.1stdistrict.org

June 2019

Bridge Improvement Plans	1
Planner's Conference	1
My Thoughts, Todd A. Kays	2
TAP Grant Program	2
HMGP Mitigation Funding	3
Funds Awarded	3
Upcoming Governing Body Meetings	3
Recreational Funding Available Soon	3
PICNIC!	4
Upcoming Events	4

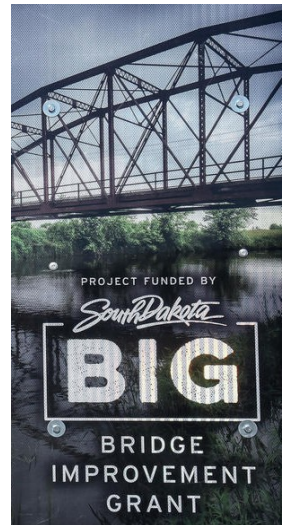
First District to Provide Assistance in Updating County Highway & Bridge Improvement Plans

In 2015, the South Dakota Legislature created the Bridge Improvement Grant (BIG) fund that provided \$7 million for local government bridges derived from an increase in license plate fees. In addition, the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) added \$8 million state funds, for a total of \$15 million available in the bridge grant program.

To be eligible for the funding, counties must have an adopted Highway and Bridge Improvement Plan. These plans are required to be updated and submitted to the SDDOT annually to maintain eligibility for the bridge grant funding.

Last year the First District assisted nine counties with the development of their highway bridge plans. The First District is offering assistance to all of its members in developing updates to their County Highway and Bridge Improvement Plans. This service is provided at no charge. County Auditors and Highway Superintendents recently received a letter regarding the timeline and information required to complete the plan updates by October 15, 2019.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please contact Todd or Greg at the First District.

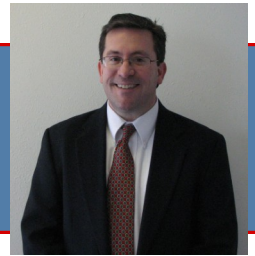
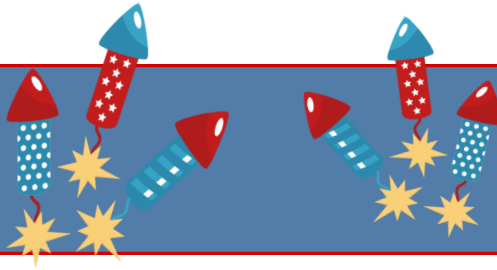


2019 South Dakota Planner's Association Conference

The 2019 South Dakota Planner's Association (SDPA) Conference will be held in Brookings on October 16th and 17th. Though subject to change, the agenda will include mobile sessions on the morning of the 17th, and traditional sessions at the Swiftel Center on the 16th. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Day's Inn in Brookings for the nights of the 15th and 16th under the South Dakota Planner's Association, however the block will not come open until September. For more information regarding this year's conference, contact Luke Muller at the First District office or visit SDPA's webpage at <http://sdplanners.com/>.

MY THOUGHTS...

By: Todd A. Kays



We Are Moving

I know it doesn't look like much right now, but before the end of the year we will be calling it home. Last week the First District Governing Body approved the plan to purchase and construct office space for the First District and its sister organization, the First District Development Company. This will be our third move in 48 years. We have been at 124 1st Avenue NW for more than 35 years and the location has served its purpose. Our current lease is scheduled to expire at the end of the year. The timing of the lease combined with increased office space needs and the cost benefit of owning versus renting made for an easy decision by the Governing Body.

I really do not like moving. Just ask my two daughters how much fun I had moving both of them to Vermillion on separate weekends last month. So I know my only regret regarding this decision will be

sorting through years and years of stuff in the basement and the move itself.

GOED & CAFOs

GOED staff will be meeting with many county commissioners in the near future to explain a new program which promotes livestock development in the State.

The program is based upon two existing programs that have been used to rebate sales and use tax. The Reinvestment Payment & South Dakota Jobs programs have been used in industries such as manufacturing and wind energy. The program will provide a sales/use tax rebate to counties which issue conditional use permits for CAFOs.

If you have questions regarding the program, you may contact Joe Fiala with SDGOED at (605) 204-2306 or view an informational webinar at <http://online.fliphtml5.com/pvyq/nyhz/>

If you have questions regarding this program and how it interacts with your zoning ordinance, please contact Luke, Tom, or myself.

Have a great Summer and hope to see you at the picnic in July and a ribbon cutting this winter.

Transportation Alternatives Grant Program

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a grant program using federal transportation funds, designated by Congress, for specific activities to enhance the intermodal transportation systems and provide safe alternative transportation options. Transportation Alternatives (TA), which replaces the former Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), includes all projects and activities previously eligible under TAP, encompassing a variety of smaller-scale transportation projects, such as: pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, as well as community improvements, such as: historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to storm water and habitat connectivity. The letter of intent is due July 15, 2019 and applications are due October 1, 2019. If you are interested in the application process or more information about TAP visit <http://www.sddot.com/services/transalt/default.aspx> or contact Greg at the First District.



HMGP Mitigation Funding

South Dakota recently received a Presidential Disaster Declaration as a result of a severe winter storm, snowstorm and flooding that occurred between March 13 – April 26, 2019. Federal funding will be available to the state, tribal, eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe winter storm, snowstorm and flooding in all eleven First District counties. While there has not been an established application deadline nor specific allocation of funds announced, it is anticipated that the HMGP application deadline will be in March of 2020. Our office will be providing more information as it becomes available. If you are interested in finding out more about the eligibility of mitigation projects or applying for these funds, please contact Greg at the First District.

FUNDS AWARDED

Elkton - \$1.206 Million CWSRF Loan, \$794,000 CWSRF Grant
\$2 Million DWSRF Loan, with \$1.164 Million in Principal Forgiveness



Upcoming First District Governing Body Meeting

Wednesday, July 17th—First District will host the annual picnic at Codington County Memorial Park. Plan to eat at 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 26th—The First District Governing Body will meet at First District for the year end Governing Body Meeting. More information and an agenda will follow.

Recreational Funding for Local Projects

The SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) anticipates it will be receiving Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) from the US National Park System later this year. The LWCF program provides 50% matching funds to state, local and tribal governments for the development or renovation of outdoor recreational facilities. Minimum grant requests accepted by GFP will be for \$10,000 of LWCF on a \$20,000 project and each project will be limited to a maximum request for \$75,000 of federal funds.



Applications must include cost estimates, maps, proof of ownership, resolutions, and a narrative. A project that is supported by a recent recreation plan and local needs assessment will receive additional ranking points or else the project must rank high on the State-wide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. If funded, the land within the project boundaries must remain perpetually dedicated to recreational use. Currently there is no application deadline. Any community anticipating that it will be applying for LWCF funds should begin the application process soon. Contact Greg, if you need assistance with an application.

First District
Governing Body Officers

Brenda Hanten.....Chairperson

Codington County Commissioner

Joe Jensen.....Vice Chairperson

Kingsbury County Commissioner

Gary Jaeger.....Secretary

Deuel County Commissioner

Todd A. Kays.....Executive Director

PICNIC INFORMATION!

WHEN: JULY 17TH

TIME: Plan to eat around 6 p.m.

WHERE: Memorial Park

Pavilion Building

**WHAT: Terry will be making ribs & we will
have chicken!**

**INVITATIONS WILL BE SENT OUT SOON!
WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

Upcoming Dates

April 30, July 31, Oct. 31, & Jan. 31—Deadlines for Local Infrastructure Improvement Program

April 30, July 31, Oct. 31, & Jan. 31—Deadlines for Economic Development Partnership Program

April 1, July 1, Oct. 1, & Jan. 1—Deadlines for State Revolving Fund (SRF) Applications

April 1 & Oct. 1—Deadlines for CDBG Applications

May 1, Aug. 1, Oct. 1, & Feb. 1—Deadlines for State Water Plan (SWP) Applications

June 26—STIP Meeting, First District Office

July 4 & 5—Independence Day, Office Closed

July 17—Annual First District Picnic

September 2—Labor Day, Office Closed

September 26—Governing Body Meeting, First District

