NODA Awards REAP Grants

In October 2016 NODA received 31 applications from cities, towns and counties in our eight county region. For the first round of awards, we are happy to announce the following awardees:

* Ames, New Water Well
* Dover, Water Meters
* Hillsdale, Streets
* Kildare, FD Equipment
* Medford, Water System
* Newkirk, Water Fill Station
* Okeene EMS, Building
* Tonkawa, Water Lines
* Burlington, Gas Lines
* Fairmont, Sewer Lines
* Homestead/Blaine Co., Streets
* Manchester, Water Main
* Morrison, Streets
* North Enid, Mapping
* Okeene, Street Maint. Equip.
* Isabella FD/Major Co., FD Station

Four additional awards may be made in Spring 2017.

The REAP Grant Program provides funding for cities, towns and counties to develop, repair and maintain projects to improve their economic viability. Funds are provided by the Oklahoma State Legislature.

Title V Coordinator Now in NODA Office

Jodi Palmer, Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Title V Coordinator for Oklahoma Economic Development Authority (OEDA), is now residing in our office at 2901 N Van Buren. She serves 16 counties: Alfalfa, Beaver, Blaine, Cimarron, Dewey, Ellis, Harper, Garfield, Grant, Kay, Kingfisher, Major, Noble, Texas, Woods and Woodward. We are happy to have her as part of our environment.
Alfalfa County Next for Transportation Planning

On Sept. 15, 2016, Northern Oklahoma Regional Transportation Planning Organizational (NORTPO) Technical Committee recommended the Noble County and Grant County 2036 Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTP) to the NORTPO Policy Board for approval at their Sept. 22 meeting.

A total of three of Northern Oklahoma Development Authority's (NODA) counties' LRTP are completed, with Kay County's LRTP being approved in 2015. Alfalfa and Major counties' plans will be completed in 2017 with Blaine, Kingfisher and Garfield counties plans to follow.

The long range transportation plans are being funded through NODA with a grant provided by Federal Highway Administration through Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

New Vehicles for CST

Cherokee Strip Transit took delivery of six 2016 Dodge Grand Caravans on Dec. 7, 2016. The new ADA vans were purchased utilizing FY-2013, 2014 and 2015 funds for replacement vehicles and associated equipment related to the Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Grant Program. Cherokee Strip Transit received $193,143 in grant monies toward the purchases.

2nd Annual Bedlam Chili Cook-Off

On Nov. 30 staff of NODA, CST and CED#8 gathered for a bedlam battle of chefs. Chili representing both OU and OSU tantalized our taste buds with Rep. Mike Sanders clearing the way and awarding the victory to OSU via Jimmy Watson's Paleo Chili. This unique recipe (right) calls for no beans and includes carrots and sweet potatoes. Thank you, Jimmy showing us healthier options for this beloved winter dish.

JIMMY WATSON'S PALEO CHILI

3 lbs. ground meat
Chili powder
Paprika
Red chili
Garlic
Dried onion flakes
8 oz. tomato paste
16 oz. beef broth
(Season to taste the base chili)
1 fresh carrot
1 small sweet potato

Rep. Mike Sanders congratulates Jimmy Watson on winning NODA's 2nd annual chili cook-off.
FY17 CDBG Application Cycle Opens in January

The FY17 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application season is fast approaching. Our staff is ready to help your community apply for CDBG funding at no cost. That is just one benefit of being a NODA member.

CDBG makes it possible for communities to finance a variety of public infrastructure and economic improvements, thus improving the lives of your residents.

Anticipated application due dates for the FY17 CDBG application cycle are:
- Community Revitalization: late March
- Water/Wastewater Engineering and Construction: late April/early May
- Capital Improvements Plan: early July

If you have a project in mind for CDBG funding contact Jennifer Firgard or Vicki Eggers for assistance at 580-237-4810.

**FFP Helps Waukomis Fire Department**

Chief Clarence Maly of the Waukomis Fire Department received assistance from the USDA Forest Service FireFighter Property program (FFP) to convert a 2010 Freight Liner to a usable tanker. The FFP is one of the DoD’s special programs where firefighters can get excess DoD property to be used for firefighting and emergency services. Certain property obtained from this program passes ownership after it has been in use for a specified period of time. This program is managed by the USDA Forestry Service with cooperation from state forestry agencies.

Congratulations Waukomis Fire Department!

Have a project idea? Contact Cecil Michael at cecil@nodanet.org.
Major County Commissioner Retires after 30 Years of Service

In December 2016 Kelly Wahl, Major County Commissioner District 2, retires after 30 years of service. He started his journey as a commissioner after a local businessman “twisted” his arm to run at a time where cooperation was lacking between citizens, businesses, city and county. Kelly attributes his keys to success as “everyone working together and not arguing. If we are not careful our rural communities will vanish if we cannot cooperate with one another.” He has served as chairman of the board for most of his time as a commissioner. Looking back Kelly is proud to have been able to rebuild approximately 100 bridges in his district. He feels blessed to work for such a great county.

Kelly has also served in several other organizations: Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce of Fairview, Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma, NODA Board, and more.

NODA is honored to have had Kelly serve for 30 years as a board member. His service over the years has been an example of hard work and dedication. His unwavering support and relentless guidance has helped in leading a path to our success. Good luck in this new chapter of life Kelly!

Ringwood Fire Department Receives 80/20 Grant

Ringwood Fire Department under Chief Cliff Davidson is the happy recipient of NODA’s Rural Fire Defense 80/20 Reimbursement Grant. The project consists of building improvements including expansion and renovations. Oklahoma’s Rural Fire Defense 80/20 Reimbursement Grant program provides funding to rural fire departments serving a population of less than 10,000 for rural fire department equipment purchases or construction.