

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY

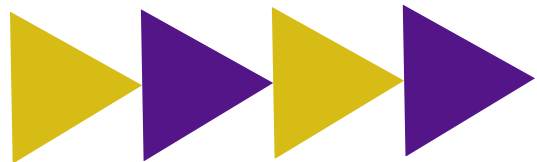
INFRASTRUCTURE



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Communities with excellent roads, sidewalks, safe bridges, and updated building and homes have the best opportunity to thrive. A place that looks great, is safe and welcoming, and is accessible via any mode of modern transportation is essential for fostering growth and opportunity.

Safe and reliable infrastructure is essential to the health and wealth of our region. Great Northwest Day encourages lawmakers to invest in our rural region's roads, bridges, water and wastewater projects – vital keys to the economic future of northwest Missouri.



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INFRASTRUCTURE



WHY IS THIS A PRIORITY?

- Whether supporting companies who use our transportation network to move goods across our state or locally for business and agriculture to create and take products to market, Missouri's roadways are vital arteries of commerce for our communities.
- Roadway safety directly impacts the ability of our youth to access education; our workforce to travel to and from their jobs; and, visitors to contribute to our local economy.
- The establishment of reliable and affordable water supply is critically important to the longevity and viability of rural Missouri. Water Systems and waterways are vital to the overall health of our region's residents and environment. In addition, rural Missouri must have effective wastewater treatment systems and fresh water treatment systems in order to stabilize the population drain and to create opportunity for existing business growth.
- With two Interstates (I-29 and I-35) and Hwy 169 and Hwy 36 running through Northwest Missouri, we are well positioned as the crossroads for a transportation logistics hub in the center of North America. However, if the state and county roads and bridges that feed these important crossroads are not safe and well cared for, we are unable to take advantage of the opportunities our location offers.

HOW TO HELP

- **Do not give responsibility for lettered highways to county commissioners for maintenance as county budgets are even tighter than state budgets.**
 - Creation of a lettered route fund – aimed at providing additional funding for high need lettered route maintenance projects
 - Priority would be given to relatively high economic value lettered routes as well as severity of needed repair
- **Support innovative funding efforts to expand high-quality replacement of outdated transportation assets.**
 - Create state programs to provide commodity purchase pools for public water utilities, communities, counties and other infrastructure providers.
 - Create state programs that provided pooled bonding capacity for public water utilities, communities, counties and other infrastructure providers.

