SOUTH DAKOTA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
September 22, 2026 at 2 p.m. - September 23, 2026 at 12 noon CT

SDDOT Sioux Falls Area Offices / Large Meeting Room– 5316 W. 60th Street N., Sioux Falls, SD

COMMISSIONER PRESENT:	Austin Simons, Chairman (September 22 only) Don Roby Larry Nelson Rick Vallery Ron Rosenboom Jaf Karim Mike Vehle
DOT STAFF PRESENT:	Joel Jundt, Karla Engle, Mike Behm, Craig Smith, Travis Dressen, Harry Johnston, Mark Leiferman, Christina Bennett, Jon Suomala, Casey Myers, Scott Nelson, Brandon Riss, Andy Berg and Kari Kroll
DOT STAFF PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL:	Joanne Hight, Sam Weisgram, Paula Huizenga, and Doug Kinniburg
OTHERS PRESENT:	Mayor Christine Erickson – City of Sioux Falls; Mark Cottier – City of Sioux Falls; Andy Berg – City of Sioux Falls; Wes Phillips – City of Sioux Falls; Troy Miller – City of Sioux Falls; and Jason Reaves – American Concrete Pavement Association South Dakota Chapter
OTHER PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL:	Toby Crow – Association of General Contractors (AGC)

Chairman Austin Simons called the meeting of the South Dakota Transportation Commission (the "Commission") to order at 2:00 p.m. CDT. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

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Secretary Joel Jundt introduced Sioux Falls Mayor Christine Erickson who briefly addressed the Commission to thank them for their continued collaboration with the City of Sioux Falls.

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Simons opened the floor to the Commission members to disclose potential conflicts of interest and to present requests for waiver pursuant to South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) chapters 3 – 23.

No members of the Commission disclosed a conflict or requested a waiver.

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Karla Engle, Office of Legal Counsel, announced a public hearing on proposed amendments to Administrative Rules of South Dakota (ARSD) 70:01:02:01 – Minnehaha County speed zone rule,

70:01:02:39 – Jackson County speed zone rule, 70:01:02:59 – Sully County speed zone rule, 70:07:01:01 – Definitions, 70:07:04:09 – Reasons for debarment, 70:07:04:10.02 – Hearing request, and 70:07:04:15 – Term of debarment.

Engle described the procedural steps taken so far in the rule adoption process.

Engle explained the proposed rule changes to ARSD 70:01:02:01 (Minnehaha County speed zone rule) would establish a forty-five mile per hour speed zone on Highway 115 north of the Interstate 90 ramp in Minnehaha County. Because additional speed zone changes have since been proposed in Minnehaha County, and those changes are proposed for hearing at the Commission's October 29 meeting, Engle asked the Commission to continue the hearing on the proposed speed limit changes on Highway 115. Doing so would allow all rule amendments to be considered at the same time.

Simons asked for public testimony in favor of or opposed to the Minnehaha County rule amendments. No members of the public offered testimony in support of or in opposition to the rule changes.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Vehle and seconded by Roby to continue the hearing on ARSD 70:01:02:01 (Minnehaha County speed zone rule) to the October 29, 2026 Commission meeting. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

Commissioner Ron Rosenboom left the meeting from 2:26 – 2:31 p.m. CT

Engle explained the rule adoption process that had been followed to date for the amendments to the rules.

Engle explained the effect of the proposed amendment to ARSD 70:01:02:39 is to reduce the speed limit from 45 miles per hour to 30 miles per hour for a 1.2 mile segment on Highway 248 within the city limits of Kadoka. Engle discussed the results of the speed study by the South Dakota Department of Transportation (the "Department") and the reasons for lowering the speed limit, including the high frequency of business, residential, and school approaches and the high pedestrian presence along the highway. Engle explained the effect of the proposed amendment to ARSD 70:01:02:59 is to establish a 55 miles per hour speed limit for a 0.6 mile segment of U.S. Highway 83 immediately south of the current forty-five miles per hour speed limit west of Onida. Lowering the speed limit from 65 miles per hour to 55 miles per hour is appropriate in this segment, because of the increased truck traffic coming to and from the ethanol plant south of Onida. The reasons for the proposed speed limit changes are to enhance safety, add clarity, and repeal speed limits for highways that are not under the jurisdiction of the Department.

Engle explained the proposed amendments to the administrative rules relating to contractor prequalification to submit bids for highway construction projects. She stated the proposed amendments are mainly changing when the terms "business" and "person" are used in the rules. The purpose of the proposed amendments is to clarify when the rules apply to a natural person and when they apply to a business entity.

Simons asked for public testimony in favor of or opposed to the proposed rule amendments to 70:01:02:39 – Jackson County speed zone rule, 70:01:02:59 – Sully County speed zone rule, 70:07:01:01

– Definitions, 70:07:04:09 – Reasons for debarment, 70:07:04:10.02 – Hearing request, and 70:07:04:15 – Term of debarment. No members of the public offered testimony in support of or in opposition to the rule changes.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Nelson and seconded by Rosenboom to approve the proposed amendments to ARSD 70:01:02:39 – Jackson County speed zone rule, 70:01:02:59 – Sully County speed zone rule, 70:07:01:01 – Definitions, 70:07:04:09 – Reasons for debarment, 70:07:04:10.02 – Hearing request, and 70:07:04:15 – Term of debarment. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2026 – 9.1 was adopted.

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Karla Engle, Office of Legal Counsel, requested the Commission set a hearing date of October 29, 2026 to consider further amendments to ARSD 70:01:02:01 (Minnehaha County speed zone rule) relating to speed limits on Highway 38 in and around Hartford, South Dakota.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Roby and seconded by Karim to set the hearing date for consideration of further amendments to ARSD 70:01:02:01 for October 29, 2026. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2026 – 9.2 was adopted.

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Simons opened the floor to public input. No other members of the public addressed the Commission or offered any input.

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Secretary Joel Jundt presented the following items to the Commission in his Secretary's Report:

- Federal: President Trump signed the Continuing Appropriation and Extension Act on September 2, 2026. This action avoided a federal government shutdown and extended IIJA to December 11, 2026.
- August Redistribution: Each year the federal government estimates the amount of federal funds that will not be obligated by the end of the fiscal year (consisting of loans, federal discretionary grants not under obligation and/or other federal programs) and redistributes those obligation funds to the State Transportation Departments. The amount of federal redistribution for FFY2026 that was made available was $7,548,440,816 in obligation limitation. The Department received $63.8 million. If a state did not obligate all its funds, it would not have been eligible to receive this additional obligation authority. The Department has a long history of meeting this requirement and receiving additional authority for our program.
- Bid Letting: As Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026 ends, Jundt shared that the Department and the Commission will have awarded $769,174,000 to 181 projects in 151 contracts. This is the highest awarded amount to date.
- State: The Department participated in the Budget Hearing with the Governor's Office for Fiscal Year (FY) 2028. Our budget request, like that of other state agencies, will be considered by the

Governor who will finalize the budget before his budget address on December 1, 2026. Our request for this year is very similar to last year. To date, revenues are up slightly over last year.

- As part of our budget process, we also take into consideration IT projects that we are upgrading or replacing. Three of our large projects are: 1) replacing the Department's current equipment management system, 2) replacing the Department's system to administer construction projects, which includes payment to contractors and inspection and testing modules, and 3) our current bid letting system, which is getting out of date and brittle.
- Finally, in preparation for the winter season, the Department is holding two of four of our regional snow fighter Roadeo's this week, beginning in Sioux Falls. This includes a friendly competition between maintenance employees within the region offices, and also numerous training activities to keep safety at the forefront. Jundt invited commissioners to observe the event.

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Craig Smith, Division Director of Operations, presented the following informational Construction Change Orders (CCO) to the Commission.

CCOs completed in March contain an increase of $1,505,006.66. Over the past 12 months, the total change to the original contract amounts has increased by 1.51%.

He noted that project #10 and #11 on SD1806 is Corson County and not Pennington County.

The following projects have a CCO with a change of more than $100,000 or a change of more than 25.0% to the contract.

ABERDEEN REGION

1. Project: PH 0010(232), Aberdeen Region, PCN 09UR
   Location: Aberdeen Region
   Contractor: Sir Lines-A-lot, LLC
   Type of Work: Centerline rumble strips

Original Contract Amount:	$	1,383,200.40
$ Change on CCO No. 2:	$	(231,894.72)
% Change on CCO No. 2:		16.8%
Net Change to Date:	$	(214,112.52)

   Explanation of Change on CCO No. 2: This decrease is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities to remove reflective elements from the pavement marking paint since it is not typical to have reflective paint on rumble strip projects.

MITCHELL REGION

2. Project: EM 0292(88)73, Lincoln County, PCN 06JQ
   Location: I-29 -85th Street interchange
   85th Street from Sundowner Avenue to Tallgrass Avenue in Sioux Falls
   Contractor: T&R Contracting, Inc.
   Type of Work: Structures, grading, PCC surfacing, storm sewer, pavement markings, lighting, signal, sidewalk

Original Contract Amount:	$	53,313,089.85
$ Change on CCO No. 6:	$	784,917.76
% Change on CCO No. 6:		1.5%
Net Change to Date:	$	1,172,779.80

   Explanation of Change on CCO No. 6: This increase is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities of select fill material that was not included in the plans.

3. Project: IM-EM 0908(97)362, McCook County, PCN 05HQ
   Location: I-90 WBL from 2 miles west of Salem interchange to 2 miles west of Humboldt
   I-90 Structures – 0.6 miles west of the US 81 interchange over Vermillion River
   2 miles east of US 81 interchange over 443rd Avenue
   Contractor: Michels Road and Stone, Inc.
   Type of Work: Remove and replace PCC pavement, pipe work, structures

Original Contract Amount:	$	37,555,832.50
$ Change on CCO No. 17:	$	217,966.76
% Change on CCO No. 17:		0.6%
Net Change to Date:	$	58,297.97

   Explanation of Change on CCO No. 17: This increase is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities to match as built quantities due to normal project variations.

4. Project: NH 0018(157)438, Lincoln County, PCN 6923
   Location: US18 from I-29 to just west of the western junction with SD11
   Contractor: Reede Construction, Inc.
   Type of Work: Grading, PCC surfacing, asphalt concrete surfacing, replace structure

Original Contract Amount:	$	45,617,461.59
$ Change on CCO No. 11:	$	139,610.80
% Change on CCO No. 11:	%	0.3%
Net Change to Date:	$	689,082.16

   Explanation of Change on CCO No. 11: This increase is the result of SDDOT compensating the contractor for extra work, with the largest increase being temporary asphalt to widen the project to carry two lanes of traffic during construction safely.

5. Project: NH 0018(157)438, Lincoln County, PCN 6923
Location: US18 from I-29 to just west of the western junction with SD11
Contractor: Reede Construction, Inc.
Type of Work: Grading, PCC surfacing, asphalt concrete surfacing, replace structure

Original Contract Amount:	$	45,617,461.59
$ Change on CCO No. 20:	$	142,186.35
% Change on CCO No. 20:	%	0.3%
Net Change to Date:	$	1,132,895.76

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 20: This increase is the result of SDDOT adjusting the contract quantity of cold milling asphalt concrete to account for the existing thickness being 2 to 8 inches more than anticipated on this section of the project.

6. Project: NH-P 0021(188), Charles Mix, Gregory, McCook, & Minnehaha County, PCN 09L0
Location: Various locations in the Mitchell area
Contractor: The Road Guys Construction Company, Inc.
Type of Work: Asphalt surface treatment

Original Contract Amount:	$	1,770,601.90
$ Change on CCO No. 3:	$	(123,052.07)
% Change on CCO No. 3:		7.0%
Net Change to Date:	$	(123,052.07)

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 3: This decrease is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities to match as built quantities normal for a surface treatment job.

7. Project: P-PT 0011(145)83, Minnehaha County, PCN 05V6
Location: SD11 from 258th Street to 257th Street
Contractor: Runge Enterprises, Inc.
Type of Work: Structure, approach grading, asphalt concrete surfacing

Original Contract Amount:	$	14,987,400.79
$ Change on CCO No. 2:	$	(162,782.86)
% Change on CCO No. 2:		1.1%
Net Change to Date:	$	(157,060.26)

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 2: This decrease is the result of SDDOT adjusting pipe elevations and ditch line grades that had discrepancies in the plans. Corrections were made by the design team and quantities were updated.

PIERRE REGION

8. Project: NH 0012(230)171, Corson County, PCN 05TY
Location: US12 from 12 miles east of McLaughlin to west of Mobridge
Contractor: Central Specialties Inc.
Type of Work: Full depth reclamation, asphalt concrete surfacing, pipe work

Original Contract Amount:	$	24,137,322.00
$ Change on CCO No. 9:	$	111,862.70
% Change on CCO No. 9:		0.5%
Net Change to Date:	$	485,386.09

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 9: This increase is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities of flagging & pilot car hours to safely pass traffic, additional work to restore a haul road, and extra work for re-staking required after the FDR destroyed the original stakes.

9. Project: NH 0012(230)171, Corson County, PCN 05TY
Location: US12 from 12 miles east of McLaughlin to west of Mobridge
Contractor: Central Specialties Inc.
Type of Work: Full depth reclamation, asphalt concrete surfacing, pipe work

Original Contract Amount:	$	24,137,322.00
$ Change on CCO No. 10:	$	(123,759.80)
% Change on CCO No. 10:		0.5%
Net Change to Date:	$	361,626.29

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 10: This decrease is the result of SDDOT eliminating cold milling and blade laying the asphalt concrete due to the condition of the current pavement. The eliminated asphalt mix will be converted to Class Q3R and incorporated into the mainline mix.

10. Project: NH-PH 0385(50)96, Corson County, PCN 06RJ
Location: SD1806 from north of 1806 P to Kenel
Contractor: Central Specialties, Inc.
Type of Work: Cold milling, asphalt concrete resurfacing, pipe work

Original Contract Amount:	$	5,832,243.25
$ Change on CCO No. 1:	$	266,854.00
% Change on CCO No. 1:		4.6%
Net Change to Date:	$	231,659.04

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 1: This increase is the result of SDDOT compensating the contractor for extra work to repair a triple 42” CMP on the project. The original plans did not include this work due to the need for landowner easements. The landowner contacted the DOT about repairing the culvert, an easement was secured, and the work was added.

11. Project: NH-PH 0385(50)96, Corson County, PCN 06RJ
Location: SD1806 from north of 1806 P to Kenel
Contractor: Central Specialties, Inc.
Type of Work: Cold milling, asphalt concrete resurfacing, pipe work

Original Contract Amount:	$	5,832,243.25
$ Change on CCO No. 2:	$	110,588.00
% Change on CCO No. 2:		1.9%
Net Change to Date:	$	377,442.00

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 2: This increase is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities of a cured in place pipe lining that was in the plans as 54" but was 60" in the field and chemical grout void fill for voids larger than was estimated.

12. Project: NH-CR 0014(185)229, Hughes County, PCN 026Z
Location: US14 from Sioux Ave to the divided highway of SD 1804 in Pierre
Contractor: Morris, Inc.
Type of Work: Urban grading, curb & gutter, sidewalk, signals, storm sewer, lighting, asphalt concrete surfacing, PCC surfacing

Original Contract Amount:	$	26,410,308.58
$ Change on CCO No. 18:	$	(124,498.40)
% Change on CCO No. 18:		0.5%
Net Change to Date:	$	507,206.00

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 18: This decrease is the result of SDDOT changing the type of pavement markings from tape to paint from Wynoka St north on this project.

RAPID CITY REGION

13. Project: NH 0042(97), Butte, Meade, & Ziebach County, PCN 0968
Location: Various locations in the Belle Fourche area
Contractor: Northwest Asphalt & Maintenance
Type of Work: Rout & seal

Original Contract Amount:	$	570,085.65
$ Change on CCO No. 2:	$	(160,973.55)
% Change on CCO No. 2:		28.2%
Net Change to Date:	$	(193,019.05)

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 2: This decrease is the result of SDDOT adjusting the contract price and quantity of asphalt crack sealing due to a significant underrun in planned quantity. The underrun in quantity results in a price increase per unit in accordance with Section 4.2 C of the Standard Specifications.

14. Project: NH 0044(227)40, Pennington County, PCN 08D9
Location: SD44 from Canyon Lake Dr to Chapel Ln in Rapid City
Contractor: Midwest Rockfall Inc.
Type of Work: Rockfall hazard mitigation

Original Contract Amount:	$	2,280,364.50
Change on CCO No. 8:	$	(163,685.17)
% Change on CCO No. 8:		7.2%
Net Change to Date:	$	(34,244.67)

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 8: This decrease is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities to match as built quantities of rock scaling and traffic control.

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Sam Weisgram, Office of Project Development, presented to the Commission the following bid letting results:

September 16, 2026

Structure (4-12'x12' CIP RCBC) & Approach Grading

1	09MM BRO-B 8038(03)	Jones County
	Anderson Contractors, Inc.	$943,945.70
	Structure 14.5 N & 0.2 W of Murdo on 227 St over White Clay Ck, SN 38-168-045	

Structure (3-10x8 CIP RCBC) & Approach Grading

2	09MA BRF-B 6127(10)	Codington County
	Lehtola Builders, Inc.	$624,295.45
	Structure 0.9 N of Jct SD20 W on 455 Ave over a creek, SN 15-190-022	

Lighting

3	09HT NH 0212(214)370	Codington County
	ENGELSTAD ELECTRIC CO	$218,914.38
	US212 - Jct of 78th St, 60th St, 54th St & 42nd St in Watertown	

A MOTION WAS MADE by Vallery and seconded by Roby to approve all bids. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

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Joanne Hight, Program Manager for the Office of Administration, presented for Commission consideration the 2027 Economic Development Grant applications. She explained that the Department

received no agri-business or industrial park grant applications. She referred to Attachment #5 to the Commission in their packets, which listed the applicants for community access grants and their funding request. She recommended the award of community access grants to the following applicants listed on Attachment #5 in the following amounts:

- #1 – City of Bryant $600,000
- #3 – City of Hoven $556,200
- #5 – City of Leola $600,000
- #6 – City of Parker $600,000

A MOTION WAS MADE by Karim and seconded by Rosenboom to award community access grants as recommended by the Department. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

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Sam Weisgram presented for the Commission's information a PowerPoint presentation about the bid letting program.

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With no further business to come before the Commission until its tour the following day, Chairman Simons declared a meeting recess at 3:49 p.m.

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Commissioner Don Roby called the meeting of the Commission back to order at 7:55 a.m. on September 23, 2026. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

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Craig Smith presented to the Commission a project overview for the planned bus tour.

The scheduled bus tour departed from the Department's Sioux Falls Area Office at 8 a.m. and traveled to the Department's 85th Street project. After a tour of the project, the group traveled to the South Veterans Parkway (SVP) project. After the SVP project tour, the group traveled to the Cliff Avenue project for a tour. The tour route included traveling past some other key development and city of Sioux Falls projects, such as the Smithfield plant and the state prison site as well as the city's Veteran's Parkway and Arrowhead Parkway Intersection projects. The bus returned the group to the Sioux Falls Area Office.

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With no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Simons declared the meeting adjourned at 11:20 p.m. CDT.