

1-100 HISTORY

In 1917, the Nevada legislature enacted the "State Highway Law." The law created the Nevada State Highway Department with a board of three directors appointed by the governor. To administer the highway program, the governor appointed a State Highway Engineer.

The Department of Highways became the Nevada Department of Transportation in 1979. The title of the administrator of the new department changed from State Highway Engineer to Director, and under the director was a Deputy Director and four Assistant Directors for the divisions of Administration, Operations, Engineering, and Planning and Program Development. Soon thereafter, the Department's six districts were reduced to three. In 2003, the legislature approved a second Deputy Director position, located in southern Nevada. The Deputy Director in the Department's headquarters office also maintains the title of Chief Engineer.

1-200 FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) plays an important role in Nevada's highway system. As an agency of the Federal Department of Transportation, the FHWA provides transportation funding to the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT). These funds are subject to federal law, executive orders, regulations, and agreements.

The FHWA Nevada Division, located in Carson City, provides federal-funding oversight throughout Nevada. On many projects with federal funding, the FHWA oversees NDOT work to ensure regulatory compliance. On other projects, the FHWA delegates oversight responsibility to NDOT. This delegation occurs through the FHWA Stewardship Program. Refer to Section 3-500 of this *Construction Manual* for a brief description of the Stewardship Program.

The FHWA Division Administrator assigns engineers as NDOT's contacts for various support services. The Chief Construction Engineer is the NDOT contact with the FHWA for construction administration matters. In preparing and approving standard specifications, general special provisions, and this *Construction Manual*, the Construction Division seeks the review and approval of the FHWA. Using the approved provisions and meeting the required outcomes described in this *Construction Manual* become the basis of federal reimbursement.

1-300 FUNDING

In Nevada, transportation project funding can come from several sources.

- State and federal governments (the principal funding sources for NDOT projects)
- City and county governments
- Regional Transportation Commissions, such as in Clark County, Washoe County, and Carson City
- Private developers (not common)

If a single project has multiple funding sources, a specific funding source may pay for only a portion of the work to be completed. For example, a roadway project may start in the City of Las Vegas, and then cross the City boundary into the City of North Las Vegas. If NDOT and the FHWA participate in funding the project, each city would provide funds for work only within their city. NDOT monitors and documents the cost of work completed in specific portions of the project to ensure that each entity funds only its respective part of the project cost.

1-400 ORGANIZATION

The seven-member State Transportation Board, chaired by the governor, establishes Nevada's transportation program. Elected officials and public appointees comprise the Board. The elected officials are the governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, and state controller. The governor appoints three public members, one from each of NDOT's three transportation districts.

Nevada law establishes the general structure of NDOT (Nevada Revised Statutes, NRS, Chapter 408). The Transportation Board appoints a Director to administer the state's transportation program. The Director appoints two Deputy Directors and four Assistant Directors. Figure 1-400.1 shows how NDOT

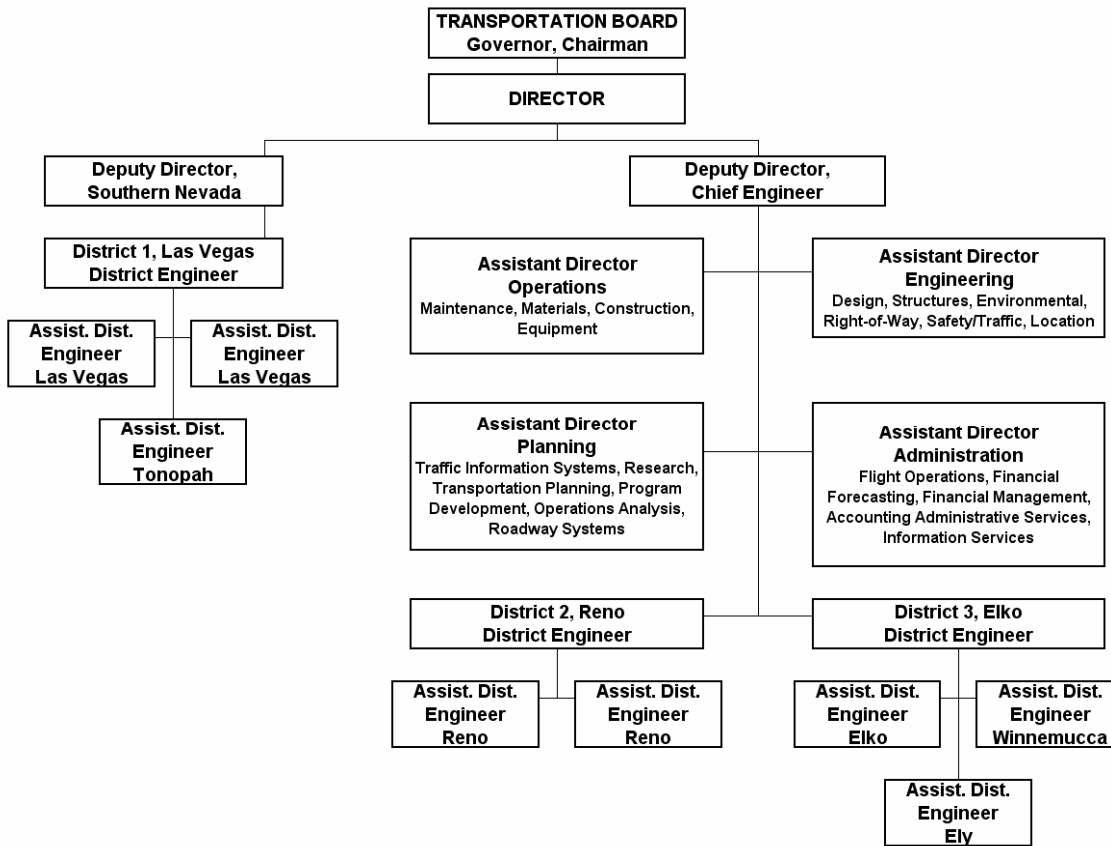


Figure 1-400.1. Nevada Department of Transportation Organization Chart.

As a project moves from a concept to completion of construction, several NDOT divisions play significant roles in the process: is organized.

- Planning – Identifies the general scope and cost of a project
- Location – Performs preliminary surveying
- Right-of-Way – Establishes project boundaries and acquires needed property
- Design – Designs the project
- Structures – Designs bridges and other major structures
- Materials – Provides input and guidance on construction materials
- Project Management – Manages the project during planning and design, and serves as a resource during construction
- Traffic & Safety – Provides traffic engineering
- Environmental – Provides guidance on conformance with environmental regulations
- Construction – Provides input and guidance on construction matters

While these divisions carry out responsibilities during project development, they also provide support during construction. When the construction plans and specifications are complete, the Construction Division confirms that the plans and specifications for the project are consistent with requirements.

1-401 CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

The NDOT Director delegates various responsibilities for administering construction contracts to the Assistant Director of Operations. In turn, the Assistant Director of Operations delegates many of these responsibilities to the Chief Construction Engineer. To carry out NDOT's construction program, the Construction Division is organized as shown in Figure 1-401.1.

Construction Division Organization Chart

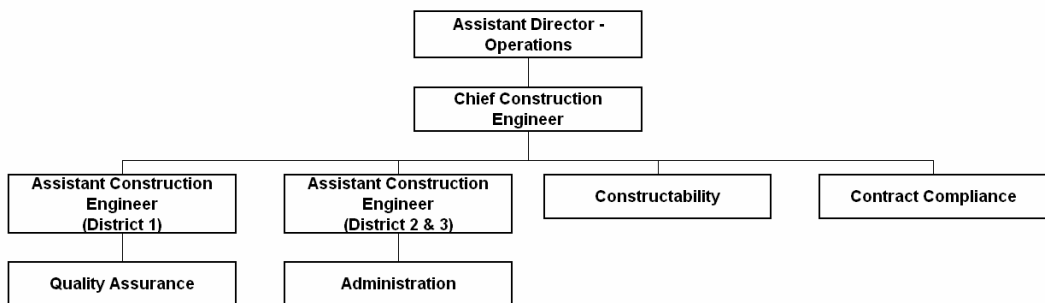


Figure 1-401.1. Construction Division Organization Chart.

1-402 DISTRICTS

Three districts implement NDOT's transportation program. Figure 1-402.1 depicts the boundaries of each district and sub-district, and Figure 1-402.2 shows the typical construction organization of each district. A District Engineer directs the operations within each district. At least two Assistant District Engineers support the District Engineer. Principal activities within the districts include construction and maintenance of transportation facilities.

The Construction Division, with input from the District Engineer, assigns projects to Resident Engineers, who administer the construction project. The District Engineer assigns available staff within the District to the Resident Engineer. If sufficient staff is not available within the District, the District Engineer notifies the Chief Construction Engineer. The Chief Construction Engineer may reassign staff from other districts or retain consultants.

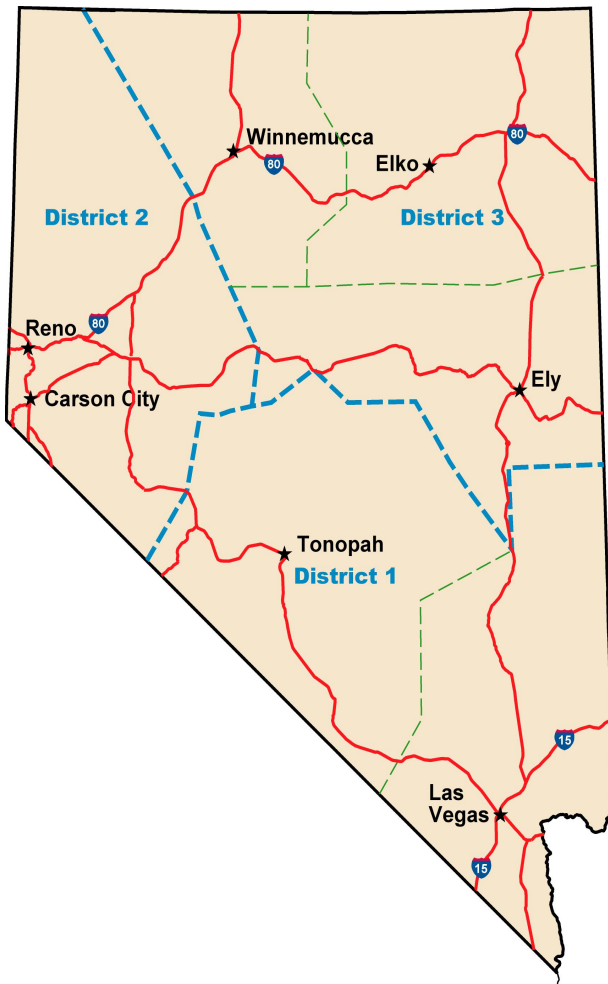


Figure 1-402.1. District and Sub-District Boundaries.

Typical District Organization for Construction

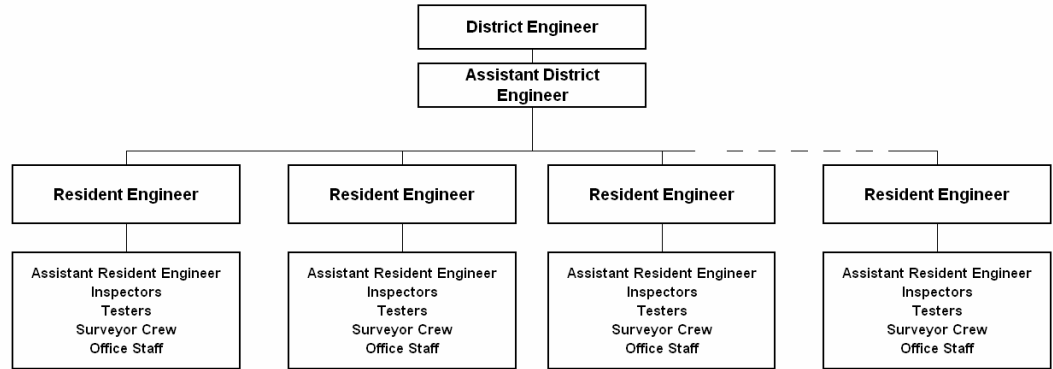


Figure 1-402.2. Typical District Organization for Construction.

A project crew typically consists of a Resident Engineer, assistant Resident Engineer, inspectors, materials testers, and a survey crew chief. The Resident Engineer is NDOT’s field representative on construction projects. The Resident Engineer administers the construction of transportation projects, which includes monitoring and documenting the contractor’s operations.