



## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

*A weekly review of government issues & activities important to the home building industry*

**Monday, August 23, 2010**

### **2010 South Dakota Ballot Questions**

The South Dakota Secretary of State's Office has released the 2010 ballot question pamphlet which includes information on the four ballot questions voters will decide during the November 2, 2010 election. The pamphlet includes the title of each ballot question, the attorney general's explanation of the measure, and statements both "for" and "against" the measure which are submitted by proponents and opponents of each ballot question. To view the ballot question pamphlet visit: [www.sdsos.gov](http://www.sdsos.gov). The four ballot questions include the following:

- **Constitutional Amendment K** – An Amendment to Article VI of the South Dakota Constitution relating to the right of individuals to vote by secret ballot.
- **Constitutional Amendment L** – An Amendment to Article XIII of the South Dakota Constitution relating to the trust fund created from the proceeds of the state cement enterprise sales.
- **Referred Law 12** – An Act to prohibit smoking tobacco or carrying lighted tobacco products in certain places and to require certain persons to inform of the prohibition.
- **Initiated Measure 13** – An Initiated Measure to authorize the possession, use, and cultivation of marijuana by and for persons with specified debilitating medical conditions registered with the Department of Health.

### **Draft Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan Public Meeting**

The South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) is soliciting public comment on the Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan. The Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan is a policy plan which guides the SDDOT in the decision making process. A copy of the draft and comment sheet can be viewed at [www.sddot.com](http://www.sddot.com). SDDOT will also be presenting the plan and soliciting public comment via a series of public meetings. A meeting for the Sioux Falls area is being conducted this Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Downtown Main Sioux Falls Library from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to see how the statewide plan may impact the transportation network in the Sioux Falls Metropolitan Planning Area and to share your comments with SDDOT staff.

### **Noise Study – I-29 from Tea Exit to Skunk Creek in Sioux Falls**

The Department of Transportation (SDDOT) proposes to upgrade Interstate 29 (I-29) between I-229 and 26th Street in Sioux Falls. Improvements include re-building the existing travel lanes and adding a third lane in each direction between interchange ramps. As part of the proposed upgrade to I-29, SDDOT conducted a Noise Impact Study to determine areas along the roadway that would be impacted by increased traffic noise levels resulting from the additional lane. The study determined that noise walls would be beneficial and cost effective at three locations along I-29 between 57th Street and 26th Street. Actual construction of the I-29 upgrade is scheduled for 2011. The public is

invited to attend a public meeting to discuss the project and offer input. The meeting will be held August 26, 2010, from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel & Convention Center - Amphitheater II, 3200 West Maple Street.

### **Sioux Falls Wastewater Regionalization Study Update**

At its August 18 meeting, the Infrastructure Review Advisory Board received an update on the Wastewater Regionalization Study being conducted by HDR Engineering, Inc. The study is the result of the City of Sioux Falls' approved agreement with the Town of Harrisburg to accept municipal sewer flows, which prompted resolution of several policy, service, and financing topics. The meeting included discussions on the following study areas and tasks:

- Explore the opportunities and challenges of regional service
- Determine interest in City-provided regional wastewater activities through various "levels of service"
- Examine potential benefits from "economies of scale", water quality, or resource management through regional cooperation
- Define methods of "fair and equitable" regional governance
- Review the City's existing cost recovery and rate structures
- Education stakeholders regarding "generally accepted" financial planning and rate setting techniques
- Establish a City/Regional specific methodology
- Develop a financial/rate model to allow for the review of different methodologies and scenarios
- Promote interaction by working together to find solutions that are acceptable to all parties, while taking into account the competing needs of all parties

### **IN THE WEEK AHEAD**

#### **Lincoln County Commission Meeting**

The Lincoln County Commission will meet on Tuesday, August 24 at 9:00 a.m. at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 104 North Main Street. The following item will be discussed:

- Update on Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership

#### **Minnehaha County Commission Meeting**

The Minnehaha County Commission will meet on Tuesday, August 24 at 9:00 a.m. at the Minnehaha County Administration Building, 415 North Dakota Avenue. The following items will be discussed:

- Motions to Declare Property Surplus for Disposition at Public Auction and Donation to Outside Agencies
- Consider Motion to Supplement \$12,320.39 from Emergency Food & Shelter Program Fund to the Emergency Food & Shelter Program Budget Representing the Second Half of the 2010 Emergency Food & Shelter Program Allocation

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**For additional information on any of the issues listed above, please contact the HBASE's Government Affairs Director, Todd Anawski at 361-8322 or [todd@hbasioxempire.com](mailto:todd@hbasioxempire.com)**