

Transportation Tidbits



Greetings,

Welcome to the August issue of the Transportation Tidbits Newsletter! This issue features the latest happenings within the transportation industry along with a list of upcoming transportation conferences and webinars. You can also find some of the latest news from our faculty and students! If you have any questions or comments about this month's issue, please [let us know](#). Enjoy!

Important Dates for NDSU Students

**8/22: Classes begin at
4:00 p.m.**

**8/23: First full day of
classes**

**8/30: Last day for
Campus Connection
Wait Lists to run**

**8/31: Last day to Add
classes via Campus
Connection**

Un-paving Roads to Battle shortage of Infrastructure Budget

When I arrived to class on my first day of kindergarten, it was on gravel roads. Throughout my years at the school all the surrounding roads were paved, (my parents' carwash fund thanked them,) and today there isn't a gravel road left in the area. Interestingly enough that may be subject to change.

In 2009 the city of Montpelier, VT, decided to revert back to their old ways of finishing roadways with gravel instead of asphalt. The City Hall received a number of complaints, but was finally swayed by a couple living on Bliss Road, who wanted to sell their home. The family feared the pothole-peppered street would deter buyers, and they had reason to be angry. According to Wired "The city of 8,000 people ranks pavement on an index of one to 100. Bliss Road scored a one."

Repaving roads is expensive, and what has now become a trend in public works, the city decided to use what was left of its budget to unpave the road. The process involves a machine called a "reclaimer"

8/31: Last day to Add classes via Campus Connection

8/31: Last day for no-record Drop of classes @ 100% refund

8/31: Last day to withdraw to zero credits @ 100% refund

8/31: Attempted credits calculated for financial aid

8/31: Eligible Pell/TEACH/ND Grants/Scholarships based on enrollment at 11:59 p.m.

Recent News Updates

[Tech Tuesday: How Big Data on the Seas Could Guide Innovation on Land](#)

[Make Yourself Heard on Transit Research Priorities](#)

[In Austin, a Vision of Sustainable Communities](#)

[Exploring the Excitement of General Aviation at AirVenture](#)

which destroys the damaged asphalt, and smooths out the road evening it with gravel.

Cities all over the country are embracing similar strategies. Like many towns, Montpelier has slashed its road budget, and several bridges and retaining walls need serious, urgent updates. With asphalt as expensive as it is, unpaving and repaving will save these towns large chunks of money that will help battle the rest of the crumbling infrastructure.

Want to read more? Check out the full article at <https://www.wired.com/2016/07/cash-strapped-towns-un-paving-roads-cant-afford-fix/>.

For more information on the status of infrastructure in the United States head to <https://www.transportation.gov/>.

Webinars

Check out this list of upcoming [webinars](#) offered by the Transportation Research Board. All participants must register at least 24 hours in advance of the webinar. If you missed a webinar and would like to know more about it [click here](#) for further instructions.

- **August 16, 2016** - [Learning About and Using the Research in Progress \(RIP\) Database](#)
- **August 17, 2016**- [Development and Implementation of the Reflective Cracking Model in the Mechanistic-Empirical Pavement Design Guide](#)
- **August 18, 2016** - [Evolving Surface Transportation Operation and Maintenance Workforce; Challenges and Opportunities](#)
- **August 22, 2016** - [Moisture and Compaction Measurement during Unbound Aggregate Layer Construction](#)
- **August 29, 2016** - [Concepts in Soil- Foundation-Bridge Structure Interaction](#)
- **August 30, 2016** - [Developing In-Stream Flow Control Structure Guidance Combining Field, Laboratory, and Numerical Experiments](#)
- **August 31, 2016**- [Measurement and Evaluation of Pavement Splash and Spray](#)

Upcoming Conferences

[Federal Agencies Aim to Improve Access to Healthcare](#)

[Searching the Globe for the Best in Public-Private Partnerships](#)

[Pennsylvania Leading the Way in Innovative Transportation](#)

UGPTI in the Spotlight

[North Dakota Grain Industry Data](#)

[Alive at 25: Analysis for North Dakota Teen Drivers](#)

[Engineering Graduate Oversees Major Construction Projects](#)

[NDLTAP Safety Talk: Common Workplace Injuries](#)

- **3rd International Conference on Transportation Geotechnics**
 - [September 4-7, 2016](#)
 - [Guimaraes, Portugal](#)
- **15th National Tools of the Trade**
 - [September 12-14, 2016](#)
 - [Charleston, South Carolina](#)
- **21st Century Waterways: The Changing Tide of Harbor Safety**
 - [September 13-15, 2016](#)
 - [Portland, Oregon](#)
- **5th International Conference on Accelerated Pavement Testing**
 - [September 19-21, 2016](#)
 - [San Jose, Costa Rica](#)
- **8th World Congress on Joints, Bearings and Seismic Systems for Concrete Structures**
 - [September 25-29, 2016](#)
 - [Atlanta, Georgia](#)
- **International Conference on Demand Responsive Transportation**
 - [September 26-28, 2016](#)
 - [Breckenridge, Colorado](#)
- **22nd International Conference on Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation**
 - [October 2-5, 2016](#)
 - [Barcelona, Spain](#)
- **10th University Transportation Center (UTC) Spotlight Conference: Bicycles and Pedestrians**
 - [December 1-2, 2016](#)
 - [Washington, D.C.](#)

Workshops/ Meetings

No workshops or meetings to report at this time. Check back in September!

New Student Biography




Mudoh Mbah is currently pursuing a certificate in Transportation and Urban Systems at NDSU. Prior to attending NDSU, Mbah earned his bachelor's degree in geography from the University of Buea and his master's degree in build environment with a specialization in spatial planning from KTH Royal Institute of Technology. Mbah also attended Prince George's Community College and pursued an associate of applied science degree in electronic engineering. Mbah's research interests focus on transit platform design to reduce transit delays, customer convenience and improve security in using

heavy rail transit. His plans to earn his certificate in Transportation and Urban Systems enhancing his knowledge of public transportation for use in his career as a transportation planner.

Kid President's Guide to Adulting





If you have items that you would like to submit for our next monthly Transportation Tidbits newsletter, please email Makenzie Schmidt at makenzie.lee.schmidt@ndsu.edu by the 15th of the month.