**This Week**

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Vol. 11, No. 6

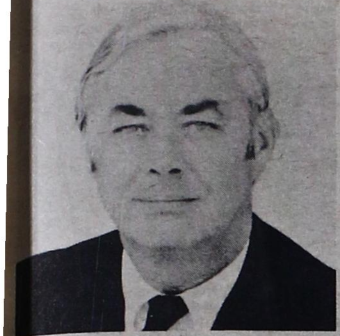
# COUNTY NEWS

*"The Wisdom to Know and the Courage to Defend the Public Interest"*

Feb. 5, 1979

NACo

Washington, D.C.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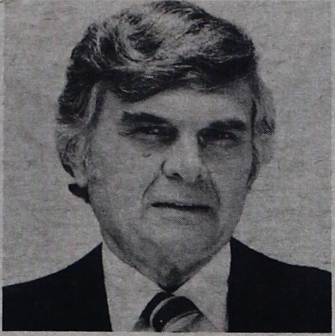
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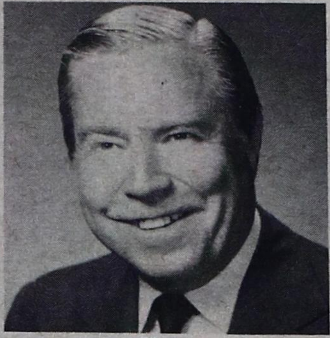
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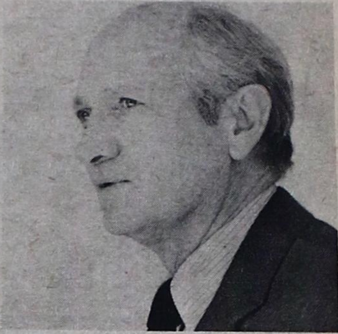
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***NACo'S LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE***

# Hill Leaders Will Brief Delegates

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Three issues of vital concern to county government—general revenue sharing, welfare reform and anti-inflation activities—will be addressed by keynote speakers at NACo's upcoming Legislative Conference, March 11-13 at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Rep. Jack Brooks (D-Texas), chairman of the House Government Operations Committee and Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore.), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, will speak at the opening general session on Monday morning, March 12.

House Republican leader John J. Rhodes (Ariz.) will address the Tuesday morning general session and Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) will be Tuesday's luncheon speaker.

The keynote speaker for Monday's luncheon will be announced at a later date.

Known for his vocal opposition to programs like general revenue sharing and countercyclical assistance, Rep. Brooks will give delegates a preview of what to expect when Congress begins debate on reauthorization of the general revenue sharing program which will expire Sept. 30, 1980.

Ullman, whose powerful committee has jurisdiction over many health and welfare programs, will talk about the President's new proposals for welfare reform which combines jobs and assistance but is not slated to take effect until 1982.

Minority Leader Rhodes will take up the theme of the conference—Inflation and the 96th—and is likely to react to the President's proposed 1980 budget which is designed to hold the line on inflation.

Finally, Sen. Moynihan, who cosponsored a bill last session to provide interim welfare fiscal relief to states and counties, will look at welfare reform and the 96th Congress. The President's plan for welfare reform makes no provision for fiscal relief up until the time it would take effect.

The annual Legislative Conference is designed to acquaint county officials with issues coming before the Congress that directly affect counties and other local governments and to brief them on federal programs and regulations.

A preregistration form appears on the back page.

## 400 Officials Expected at WIR Meeting This Week

LIHUE, Hawaii—Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) will be the keynote speaker at the opening session of the 1979 NACo Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference here this week.

More than 400 county offficials are expected to attend the meeting at the Kauai Surf Hotel.

WIR President John A. Carlson, mayor, Fairbanks-North Star Borough, Alaska will preside as county officials from throughout the county obtain information on federal programs and congressional priorities.

Sen. Inouye, the first congressman from Hawaii, was first elected to the Senate in 1962. As a member of the Senate Appropriations and Commerce Committees, he will brief county delegates on the priority issues to be considered by the 96th Congress.

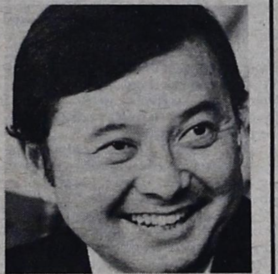
NACo Executive Director Bernard F. Hillenbrand has also been invited to speak at the opening session on NACo priorities for the coming year.

Both the Western Interstate Region Board and the NACo Board will be meeting, as will several NACo steering committees, to develop national policy on federal legislative issues.

Among the issues to be debated will be general revenue sharing, payments-in-lieu of taxes, federal wilderness proposals, sugar support legislation, employment and welfare issues and transportation and energy programs.

A special session is scheduled to hear from Frank Gregg, director of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior, and Zane Smith, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. They will discuss the status of federal land management and wilderness proposals now pending before Congress.

A workshop will be held on the pending Sugar Price Stabilization Act. Burt Tsuchiya, councilman, Kauai County, Hawaii will preside at this session designed to brief delegates on the domestic sugar industry and its importance to counties.


Sen. Inouye

## Dealaman Declares for Fourth V.P. Post

SOMERSET COUNTY, N.J.—Somerset County Freeholder Doris Dealaman becomes the third candidate to enter the race for NACo fourth vice president. Dealaman has been a member of the NACo board since 1973 and serves on NACo's Welfare and Social Services Committee as chairman for aging.

In this capacity she was active in working for the three-year reauthorization of the Older Americans Act and is concerned with the continuation of the general revenue sharing program.

Dealaman has been a Somerset County freeholder since 1967. She is a former president of the New Jersey Association of Counties and currently serves on its board of directors and as chairman of its Health and Social Services Committee. The association has endorsed her candidacy, saying "she has exhibited a remarkable brand of national leadership in the field of American county government."

Within NACo, Dealaman has helped to organize both Democratic and Republican officials to present the county viewpoint at the national party level. Last March she became first president of the National Conference of Republican County Officials.

**DEALAMAN HAS** served as a White House appointee to the President's Task Force on Civil Rights and the President's Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

In announcing her candidacy, Dealaman pledged to further strengthen the intergovernmental role of NACo. "My experience has convinced me that the pattern for planning and administration in the future lies in the full cooperation of all elements, both public and private, at all governmental levels," she said.

Also running for the post of fourth vice president are Rensselaer County (N.Y.) Executive William J. Murphy and Sacramento County (Calif.) Supervisor Sandra Smoley.

Election of officers will take place at NACo's Annual Conference to be held in Jackson County (Kansas City), Mo. July 14-18. County officials wishing to be considered for any office at that time should send their names to President Charlotte Williams at NACo headquarters, attn. Nominating Committee. In accordance with NACo policy, all candidates are entitled to coverage in *County News*. Appropriate information may be sent to Christine Gresock, news manager.


Dealaman

# Standard for Smog Lowered

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Relaxation of the national air quality standard for smog by the Environmental Protection Agency has drawn mixed reviews. At issue are the health effects of this air pollutant and others, as well as the costs of both cleaning them up and tolerating them.

EPA Administrator Douglas Costle announced Jan. 26 that the new standard is .12 parts of smog per million parts of air. The original standard, set in 1971, was .08 parts per million parts of air.

The new smog standard is important to counties because they are in the process of drawing up plans, in cooperation with cities and states, to clean up transportation-related air pollutants like smog and carbon monoxide.

Over 600 counties and 103 urban areas over 200,000 do not meet clean air standards and have until 1982 to comply with federal regulations. Extensions are available until the end of 1987 but areas that seek extensions must commit now to implementing a vehicle emission inspection and maintenance program.

A few areas that violate the former smog standard will be able to meet the new .12 standard by June 30, and will not be required to develop transportation/air quality plans—unless they violate the carbon monoxide standard. This determination will be made by EPA's regional offices.

See REACTIONS, page 8

SENATE TESTIMONY—From left, county officials James Krivitz and John Franke explain why counties oppose new HEW Social Security reporting requirements.

# NACo Opposed to Monthly Social Security Collections

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Two county officials told a Senate subcommittee last week that HEW regulations requiring more frequent collections of Social Security funds from state and local governments would impose "an onerous new administrative burden" and would mean a substantial loss of interest earnings for those governments already financially hardpressed.

Testifying on behalf of NACo, John Franke, board chairman, Johnson County, Kan., and James Krivitz, supervisor, Milwaukee County, Wis., said that new regulations requiring state and local governments to turn over their Social Security contributions 12 times a year instead of the present quarterly deposit schedule "violate the spirit, if not the letter, of the present Social Security Act."

The hearing on the regulations issued by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, was held by the Senate Finance's subcommittee on Social Security, chaired by Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.).

Franke, chairman of NACo's Labor-Management Policy Steering Committee, noted that, "the regulations run counter to a presidential directive that requires federal agencies not to impose unnecessary burdens on state and local governments."

He estimated that 12 Social Security payments a year would triple administrative costs for counties and other state and local governments.

Under the new deposit regulations, which were issued on Nov. 20, 1978 and which are scheduled to take effect July 1, 1980, state, county and other local governments will lose a substantial portion, if not all, of the interest they now earn because they could only invest the funds withheld from employees' checks for a much shorter period before the money had to be sent to the federal government.

"At a time when governments at all levels are faced with belt tightening, it is irresponsible for the federal government to want to add to its coffers at the expense of its political subdivisions," Krivitz told the subcommittee.

Franke and Krivitz presented to the subcommittee a resolution which was unanimously adopted by NACo's Labor Management Policy Steering Committee, reiterating NACo's strong support of congressional efforts to preserve the present quarterly deposit and reporting requirements.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Chuck Loveless of the NACo staff.

—Chuck Loveless

LABOR MANAGEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETS—Robert Doty of the Municipal Finance Officers Association briefs members of NACo's Labor Management Relations Steering Committee on Social Security and pension issues to be addressed by the 96th Congress. The committee, chaired by John Franke, board chairman, Johnson County, Kan. met recently in Washington, D.C. to review plans for NACo's Annual Labor Relations Conference, to be held in San Francisco April 29-May 1, and NACo's position on various labor-related issues facing the 96th Congress, including the Administration's real wage insurance plan and HEW regulations requiring more frequent Social Security deposits by county governments.

## COSTS VARY WIDELY

# Employee Benefit Survey Released

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The cost per single employee for various health care benefits ranges from under \$5 to \$35 or more per month. This was one of the findings of a survey on Self-Funding of Employee Health Benefits conducted by NACo's Labor Management subcommittee on compensation benefits and County Employees/Labor Relations Service (CELRS). The survey, conducted last year, was sent to 3,000 county-type governments with a response rate of approximately 15 percent.

The survey was designed to determine the full range of health benefits provided by counties, the degree to which a county retains all or part of a risk, and if the county has established its own fund to cover actuarially anticipated claims.

### SURVEY RESULTS

The survey revealed that 90 percent of the counties reporting provide major medical coverage, while 16.8 percent provide health maintenance plans (HMOs), and 10.7 percent give employees the option of standard coverage or HMO.

Life insurance is provided by 67.4 percent, the benefit provided by the largest percentage of counties reporting, while optical care ranks last, provided by 8.4 percent. Prescription drug benefits are provided by 60 percent, and dental care by 18.6 percent of the counties.

The cost per single employee varies widely for different benefits. Life insurance has the lowest cost per single employee (\$1.49-\$4.50), while major medical has the highest cost (\$15-\$35) per month. Dental care ranks second (\$10-\$15), while disability, optical care and prescription drugs are all under \$10 per month, per single employee.

Major medical, while highest in cost, appears to be the benefit requiring the smallest employee contribution. In 62.9 percent of the counties, the employees pay nothing, although 24.5 percent of the counties reported a 50 percent or more employee contribution.

Health benefits for a majority of counties are financed by insurance contract, while a small but significant percentage have partial or total self-funding. For example, 95 percent finance major medical by insurance contract, while 5 percent finance major medical through a partial or total self-funding mechanism.

For most benefits provided, the survey revealed that claims administration is handled by an insurance carrier. However, county personnel are used in a significant number of counties. Third party administrators are the least popular method of claims administration.

Finally, an extremely high percentage of counties responding to the NACo survey indicated that, while they were not engaged in self-funding of employee benefits, they were interested in obtaining additional information on the concept. Of those responding, 68.2 percent stated they were interested in such information while 31.8 percent expressed no interest.

### METHODOLOGY

The method used in reporting the survey results was based on the total number of counties responding to each question, rather than the total number responding to the survey. In some instances the response rate proved to be low, while the percentage was relatively high. Therefore the analysis was not done on a comparative basis, but on the basis of which item in each category was used most often.

Any inquiries regarding this report or the data should be directed to Geraldine Crawford at NACo.

—Geraldine Crawford
County Employees/Labor
Relations Service

# Counties Eligible for Food Stamp Workfare Projects

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of Agriculture has extended the application date for sponsors interested in operating a food stamp workfare pilot project to Feb. 8. Under this program, mandated by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, able-bodied food stamp recipients will be required to "work off" the value of the food stamps if their household's total earned income is less than the value of its food stamps.

The number of hours a recipient would be required to work is calculated by subtracting earned income from the value of the food stamps the household receives, and dividing the remainder by the federal minimum wage.

Cities, counties or other political subdivisions currently operating a public service employment program are eligible to participate in the workfare project. The sponsor must determine what type of jobs recipients will do. Technical assistance from the USDA is available.

The Food Stamp Act specified that one urban and one rural pilot project must be conducted in each of the seven administrative regions. The projects will be administered jointly by the USDA and the Department of Labor. Unlike the present program, the USDA is prohibited from paying any administrative costs associated with the pilot projects; however, evaluation costs will be federally funded.

Applications should be addressed to: Ms. Nancy Snyder, Deputy Administrator, Food & Nutrition Service, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. Attn: Joel Herndon, Phone: 202/447-3487, 447-8204.

NACo is monitoring the implementation of the new food stamp law. If you are submitting a workfare proposal, or are having problems implementing the new regulations, please contact Diane Shust at NACo.

# Widner Is New Head of NTDS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Mark E. Keane, chairman of the Board of the National Training and Development Service for State and Local Government (NTDS), has announced the election of Ralph R. Widner as president of the organization to replace Graham W. Watt who is leaving the post to become the administrator of Broward County, Fla.

Prior to becoming NTDS president, Watt was director of the Office of Revenue Sharing in the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Widner will continue to serve in his present post as president of the Academy for Contemporary Problems while simultaneously directing NTDS. The Academy is a public research foundation operated by seven national organizations of state, county and municipal officials, including NACo. It is headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, with offices in Washington, D.C.

Keane, who is executive director of International City Management Association, said that the Executive Committee of the NTDS Board elected Widner to "ensure continuity without interruption in the training and research activities of NTDS and carry out an evaluation of how the operations of the Academy and NTDS should be coordinated in the future."

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# Info on Federal Aid Found Lacking

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has sent a report to Congress which says there is need for major improvements in the federal aid information system, especially for small rural areas.

The report further notes that the federal government should stop studying the problems inherent in the system and, instead, begin to make changes in areas where problems have already been documented.

Specifically, the study recommends: that OMB commit itself to improving the timeliness and availability of grant program information by developing a specific plan of action and called for the General Accounting Office (GAO) to act as an oversight vehicle for implementing study recommendations.

THE REPORT WAS required by the Federal Program Information Act (P.L. 95-220) passed last year by Congress. That act, supported by NACo, called for improvements in transmitting information about available federal grant programs, including the development of a computer system within the OMB. The study centered on ways to provide information on program availability; adequate information to determine whether an application effort was worthwhile; the application process; and information on awards granted by the federal government in local communities.

The report is based on data collected by state/local government organizations and federal agency officials. NACo staff served on a special task force to provide county government concerns based on a survey of 50 county governments.

The survey found that the top concern of local officials was accurate and timely date for federal aid programs. Many noted that the old domestic catalogue of federal programs "is printed once a year, with one annual update, and is usually out of date prior to printing." Counties also complained of "consistently inaccurate people" listed in federal agencies, and "days wasted just finding the right person to talk to."

Other recommendations from the study would require:

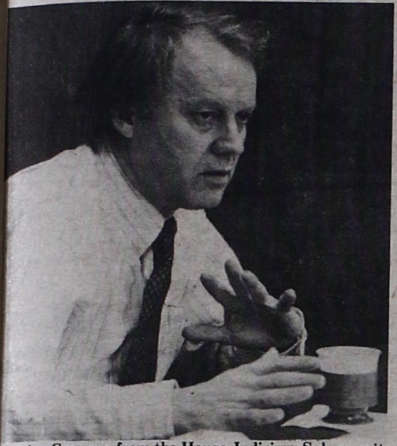
• OMB to update frequently the combined Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance and computer-base developed from the old Federal Assistance Program Retrieval System (FAPRS). Particular emphasis is given to the accuracy and timeliness of agency contacts.

• OMB to develop better access to the data system via new computer terminals on a cost effective basis.

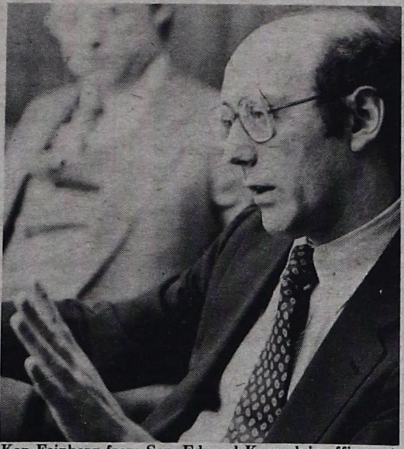
• OMB to improve information on grant awards by assuring increased federal agency compliance with existing circulars. OMB is testing the possibility of providing agency computer tapes on awards to the states. If the testing proves feasible, state governments will have up-to-date data for county governments' use in planning. This will provide information on awards made within a county's geographic jurisdiction.

A continuing concern of counties with federal assistance information is that it generally does not include detailed information on whether grant dollars are available in a given program. This usually refers to the determination of unobligated balances. It was hoped that the new system would include this information, as well as information on the status of applications. The study states, however, that inclusion of such information is not feasible. Reasons cited for this are that national data is not adequate; some grant programs require pre-application which would serve the same purpose; and equipment needed for an extended information system would cost more than the need would warrant.

These findings were based on 11 case studies suggested by Congress. OMB emphasized that if needed, information can be obtained from agency computers given the proper contact point. OMB indicates it will attempt to keep contacts current. Copies of the report are available from Tom Snyder, OMB, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.



Hayden Gregory, from the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, spells out an alternative bill to reauthorize LEAA proposed by Rep. John Conyers.



Ken Feinberg from Sen. Edward Kennedy's office outlines revised provisions of the LEAA reauthorization bill that would give entitlements to additional counties.

### NACo PANEL SUPPORTS RESTORATION

# Kennedy Attacks LEAA Cut

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) has sharply disagreed with the Carter Administration's proposed cut of $111 million for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. The Administration has cut the fiscal '80 budgets of most federal agencies in an attempt to stem inflation.

Kennedy noted that most of the 4.4 percent proposed cut in the Department of Justice budget comes out of state and local assistance programs. The LEAA program was cut nearly 17 percent to $546 million.

The NACo Criminal Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee adopted a resolution, Jan. 29, calling for at least $700 million in appropriations for fiscal '80. A major concern is the $50 million cut in juvenile justice funds. The steering committee called for a restoration to the fiscal '79 level of $100 million for juvenile justice.

Kennedy, who is the new chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, has introduced reauthorization legislation which must be adopted by Sept. 30, or the LEAA program will expire. When introduced last year, the Kennedy bill was supported by the Administration, and Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) ranking minority member of the Judiciary Committee. Rep. Peter Rodino (D-N.J.) introduced the same bill in the House. It contained a budget authorization of $825 million.

The broad support for the Kennedy bill appeared to dissipate later in 1978 as rumors leaked out that the Administration was proposing severe cuts in appropriations and that Sen. Thurmond was going to introduce a bill that provided greater discretion to the states and less to local governments for allocating program funds. At the same time, in the House, Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) was preparing additional legislation that would narrow the focus and reduce the authorization level.

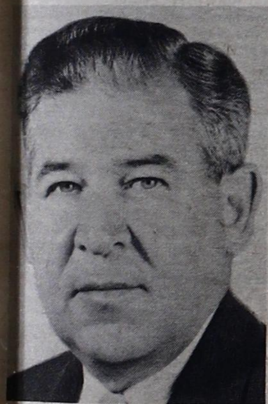
Ken Feinberg, a Kennedy staff assistant, called NACo and public interest group representatives into a meeting Dec. 11 to warn them that the senator would not fight to restore an Administration budget cuts unless they develop a consensus to support his reauthorization legislation.

Last week, the various interest groups including NACo, the National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, National Governors Association, International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Conference of Chief Justices, National Conference of State Criminal Justice Planning Administrators, and the National Association of Criminal Justice Planners met at NACo to draft a statement supporting the "conceptual framework" of the Kennedy-Rodino bill.

These diverse organizations have agreed that a coordinated effort is needed to secure reauthorization of a "federal grant-in-aid criminal justice program." They will be meeting over the next few months to develop consensus on appropriations levels and reauthorization issues.

On Jan. 31, the interest groups heard from Adrian Curtis of the Office of Management and Budget, Ken Feinberg, and Hayden Gregory from the House crime subcommittee chaired by Rep. John Conyers. They explained the rationale for recent actions on appropriations and reauthorization. County officials concerned about the future and status of the LEAA program should contact the NACo Criminal Justice and Public Safety Team, headed by Herb Jones, associate director.

# In Memory



Neff

With the death Jan. 4 of Donald M. Neff, 73, county government lost one of its most enthusiastic supporters.

Personnel commissioner for Erie County, N.Y. for 26 years, Mr. Neff served as chairman of the NACo Board of Directors from 1961-1967, when the organization was known as the National Association of County Officials, and had been a board member since 1956.

He had previously been president of the County Officers Association of New York State and was its legislative representative to the state legislature in the 1960s.

He was also president of the state County Civil Service Officers in 1949. As personnel commissioner, he received a Civil Service Commission award for "excellent" work in administering his department.

NACo expresses to Mr. Neff's wife and family its gratitude for the support and cooperation which Donald Neff provided over the years.

# Wage "Letter" Due Feb. 15

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Counties with 5,000 or more employees must submit a letter of assurance to the Council on Wage and Price Stability by Feb. 15 stating that the government and its enterprises and/or entities intend to comply with the anti-inflation pay standard.

If the letter of assurance is not provided, counties with 5,000 or more employees must notify the council of the bargaining units and method of computation to be used for determining pay rate changes during the program year.

The final wage and price standards for federal, state and local entities were published in the Jan. 25 issue of the *Federal Register*.

According to the final guidelines, general purpose governments are exempt from the price standard. State and local government enterprises such as municipal utilities, water authorities and public hospitals which can be treated as separate entities and whose operating revenues equal at least 50 percent of total expenses are expected to comply with the price standard.

To date, the council has published four major documents, in the *Federal Register*, outlining the anti-inflation program. These include:

• Dec. 28, 1978—Revised Voluntary Wage and Price Standards;

• Jan. 4, 1979—Interim Procedural Rules for Compliance;

• Jan. 25, 1979—Final Standards for Federal, State and Local Entities;

• Jan. 25, 1979—Wage and Price Implementation Guide.

Letters of assurance signed by the head of government should be sent to the Council on Wage and Price Stability, 726 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20506 by Feb. 15.

# Coastal Aid Regs Changed

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has proposed changes in the regulations governing the coastal energy impact program (CEIP). The new proposals are a result of amendments to the Outer Continental Lands Act passed by Congress last year.

CEIP was created by the 1976 amendments to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 and is intended to provide grants and loans to coastal states and communities to help them deal with the impacts of coastal energy development.

The recent amendments raised the authorization for the formula grants section from $50 to $130 million per fiscal year and extended the authorization period from Sept. 30, 1984 to Sept. 30, 1988. In addition, the "new employment" factor was deleted and the section requiring that loan money be "unavailable" before formula grants could be utilized was also stricken.

Another major change involves the period of time that an allotment of financial assistance will be available. The state will now be allowed only one fiscal year in which to apply for allotted funds. At the end of the year, money not applied for will be recalled and made available on a first-come first-served basis, in the case of loans, and will be reallocated the following fiscal year, in the case of planning grants.

NOAA officials feel that the above changes, coupled with the assistant administrator's ability to lower the interest rate on the loans under unusual circumstances, will lead to greater use of the assistance available under CEIP. This is especially true of the loan program which has been underused in the past. For further information contact: James B. Robey or Dan Hoydysh, Office of Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 3300 Whitehaven Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20235, 202/ 634-4128.

## COUNTY OPINION

*Bernard F. Hillenbrand, NACo Executive Director*

# Revenue Sharing—Slicing Out States

The general revenue sharing program may be under attack from a totally unexpected source.

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen (D-Texas) has introduced legislation that would eliminate states from their one-third of general revenue sharing allocations. This would amount to $2.8 billion in the fiscal '80 budget.

His measure is sure to have many supporters in a Congress that is quietly annoyed at state legislatures for passing resolutions calling for a constitutional convention to write an amendment requiring a balanced federal budget. Twenty-two of the required 34 states have acted so far.

Congressmen privately point out that the federal government provides more than $80 billion in grants-in-aid to states, counties and cities for which Congress must either raise revenue or add to deficit spending. They are frankly miffed that the states which could not balance their own budgets without federal dollars are using the Congress as a whipping boy by approving these popular calls for a balanced federal budget.

Presidential politics may also play a role in the Administration's response to the Bentsen proposal. President Carter has been on record in the past as wanting the states eliminated from general revenue sharing and may be again under the sting of Gov. Jerry Brown's call for a balanced federal budget.

To the average member of Congress pressing hard to show the people back home that he or she hates federal spending even more than the President, the prospects of cutting an additional $2.8 billion from the budget is attractive.

NACo's position is clear. We believe the states should share in general revenue sharing both as a matter of equity and also because any state-versus-local push and shove would be devastating to the strong coalition that helped gain passage and later renewal of this vital legislation.

# Good for You Rep. Spellman

Former NACo President, now Congresswoman, Gladys Noon Spellman, has come up with an idea we hope will be adopted by Congress.

As head of the employee compensation and benefit subcommittee of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee, she noted that 11 separate committees in the House and 10 in the Senate have jurisdiction over how 69 different federal retirement programs are structured and financed.

Her idea is simple. She wants to consolidate many of these committee assignments into one or two committees. Ways and Means, for example, now handles Social Security, while Armed Services manages the huge military pension system.

Congressional action in the pension field is likely to be vigorous. The federal government has entered into unfunded retirement agreements with present liabilities of $3.3 trillion ($3,300,000,000).

Understanding the magnitude of the problem, President Carter has established by Executive Order a Commission on Pension Policy. This group is considering not only federal retirement systems but state, local and private pension systems as well. Congress will be receiving legislative proposals to continue the work of the commission.

Congress must also return to the back breaking problem of how to deal with the Social Security system's retirement, survivors, and disability insurance benefits. Under the Social Security program—the largest single item in the federal budget—an estimated 100 million workers and their employers will contribute $113 billion in steeply increased payroll taxes in 1980.

On the benefit side, 36 million retired, disabled, elderly, dependents and survivors draw out $113 billion. Even with the new rates, the system will not remain in balance very long in the face of an increasingly aged population.

The President is also presenting to the Congress his proposal for major changes in the way Social Security is administered. The President, for example, wants to:

- Phase out Social Security payments to individuals over 18 who attend post-secondary schools;
- Adjust Social Security benefit levels for workers who also draw from other public pension systems;
- Eliminate minimum benefits (now $120 per month) for those for whom Social Security was not the principal source of retirement earnings;
- Reform disability insurance to cut widespread abuse.

County officials, both as employers and potential retirees, have a deep interest in all pension matters. Most are conscious of the fact that many of the state and local pension plans in which they participate are no better funded than the federal plans.

It is no cure-all, but we think that Spellman's congressional committee consolidation plan is a sensible first step in moving toward a more realistic American retirement system.

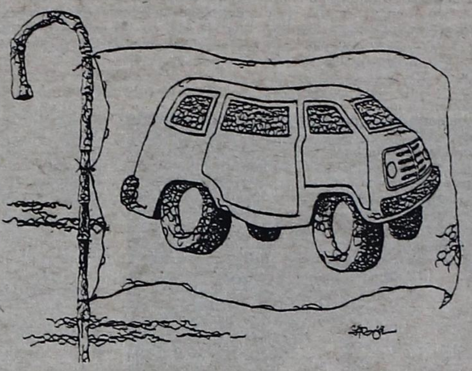
# Merry "OATS" Buses Mean Mobility for Aged and More

by Neal Peirce

COLUMBIA, Mo.—Quinnie Benton may be the only retired schoolteacher who ever started a multi-million dollar transportation network.

A spunky black septuagenarian, she returned from a White House Conference on Aging in 1971 determined to provide door-to-door transportation services for elderly people in rural Missouri counties. She enlisted the aid of the Missouri State Office of Aging which decided to give her idea a try with $30,000 in leftover funds from the federal Older Americans Act.

Today the merry yellow buses of OATS—Older Americans Transportation Service—roll throughout 89 Missouri counties, picking up elderly and handicapped citizens at their front doors, delivering them to doctors' offices, senior centers, shops, friends' homes or even cultural events in Kansas City or St. Louis, and then returning them home later.



Last year OATS' 125 vans and buses (about a quarter equipped for wheelchair riders) traveled over 3 million miles on some 600,000 passenger trips; the 1979 budget will be $3.5 million. Depending on their economic status, passengers pay from nothing to full fare. The deficit is made up by money-raising bean dinners, quilt and cake sales, and by substantial contributions from the federal government's social welfare and transportation programs, state and local aging and family service agencies.

**DESPITE PARALLEL** effort in other localities around the nation, OATS believes it offers the most comprehensive, demand-responsive, door-to-door transportation service in the country. But its chief value may be human: "OATS helps senior citizens to become more active and independent," says Quinnie Benton. A network of ongoing social contacts flourishes as OATS volunteers schedule trips in hundreds of communities. Camaraderie develops during the rides; three marriages have even resulted. A state family services official believes OATS enables many older people to remain in their homes, instead of moving to the all-so-often debilitating atmosphere of a nursing home.

The OATS experiment illustrates the special value of customized transportation in areas where regular mass transit is too spotty or simply nonexistent. But its workings show how devilishly complicated it is for local groups to deal with the federal government. For trip reimbursements under the Title XX social services program, for instance, Washington demands telephone-book size statements showing the name, date and destination of every individual on every trip involved. Accounting costs alone were $16,000 on one recent $80,000 billing OATS made to the federal government.

The OATS project is of national import because transportation is often the key to letting older people live relatively normal lives and avoid the dehumanizing segregation, behind their own walls or those of institutions, that so often comes with advanced years. Transportation freedom dovetails neatly with another key aim of groups representing the elderly: to find alternatives to nursing homes, such as home nursing care or geriatric day-care centers.

**THESE ARE BUT** two of the goals the elderly groups are now pressing on state legislatures, however. Other examples:

- Revoking state laws which ban advertising for eyeglasses, prescriptions, attorneys' and physicians' services. All consumers benefit from lifting the arcane advertising bans, clearly enacted to protect special interests.
- **Generic drug substitution.** Here the elderly—and all consumers—have benefited from 40 state laws permitting generic substitution for higher priced trademark drugs. Five years ago, no such laws existed.
- **No-fault automobile insurance.** Old people benefit particularly from no-fault, because they can suffer exceptional hardship if they must wait two or three years for a court decision granting them an insurance award. But the trial attorneys are so powerful that only one state, Michigan, has a really strong no-fault law.
- **Probate reform.** Current probate procedures, requiring long court proceedings and all-but-useless public advertising, hinder prompt transfer of property to heirs. Court and attorney fees add to inflation. But only 12 states have approved thorough probate reform, despite support from the American Bar Association, Chief Justice Warren Burger, and the National Conference on Uniform State Laws.
- **Consumer representatives** on state regulatory boards and commissions. These bodies are notorious preserves of the regulated and their henchmen, operating to protect their own profession or business rather than the public interest. The elderly have a special stake in being represented on such boards relating to mortuary science, retirement and optometry. But their interest is broader than that because all regulation that causes inflated prices is particularly harmful to persons with limited incomes.
- **Taxes.** Older people have a natural interest in reducing property taxes through such devices as "circuit breakers." They tend to favor abolishing sales taxes on food and prescriptions while making state income taxes more steeply progressive to take up the slack.

**SOME DEMANDS** of older people, however, can be exceedingly expensive. The specter of a "gerontocracy" of special privilege could promote severe voter backlash. One example: especially munificent state pension benefits, some of which permit some teachers or career state or local bureaucrats to retire (by combining their Social Security and government pensions) at a net increase in annual income. Proposals for expensive state takeover of utility surcharges for older people could encounter similar resentment.

The key test is whether the elderly approach governments as supplicants in search of charity handouts, or on a far more positive note—as people who want to remain just as active and fully participating in society as their health and circumstances permit.

Congress, in fact, struck a significant blow for the dignity and worth of older people by voting earlier this year to forbid mandatory retirement at age 65. That action reversed decades of drift toward early retirement—a luxury the nation may be unable to afford in future times. It also undermined the chimerical (and sometimes deadly) idea that it is leisure—not fruitful and productive activity—that provides the most rewarding lives for our older citizen.

Now the onus would seem on state and local governments, much closer to the people, to devise ways to let senior Americans grasp opportunities in community and neighborhood life (where skills are often sorely needed), or, if older people are willing and able, to keep their positions in the workplace. Quinnie Benton's OATS program provides a strong clue of how to start.

# EPA's Water Enforcement Plans

WASHINGTON, D.C.—"Mayors jail do not clean up the water," id an official of the U.S. Environental Protection Agency recently.

This remark underscores the policy rection of EPA's new municipal rategy which will coordinate enrcement and federal funding of sewe treatment plants, and reserve ost court action for localities refusg to make adequate water pollution ntrol efforts.

Under federal law, all discharges to e nation's waterways, including ublicly owned treatment works, ust obtain permits which specify antities of allowable pollution. In 972, Congress gave all municipalies a July 1, 1977 deadline to meet condary treatment requirements. ut more than half of the municipal lants failed to meet this deadline nd were thus in violation of their ermits, vulnerable to state or federal rosecution as well as citizen suits.

The lack of federal funds was much f the problem. The billions of dollars ready spent were inadequate to eet the sewage treatment needs of cal governments. Recognizing this consistency, Congress amended the w in December 1977 to extend the ompliance deadline for as long as ve years for some localities on a ase-by-case basis, and authorized anther $24.5 billion for grants to loal governments.

Federal construction grants are assed through states to municipalies and state water pollution control gencies now have exclusive authory to rank projects for funding. EPA till has ultimate project approval uthority, although states will have ore construction grant responsibility the near future. Many states have ready assumed the responsibility of ssuing water pollution permits uner the National Pollutant Discharge limination System (NPDES permits).

Because of this complex relationship etween state and federal governents, and between the grants and nforcement sides of state agencies nd EPA, a unified and consistent olicy concerning local sewage treatent plants is essential.

## ENFORCEMENT MEASURES

EPA intends to use both enforceent action and grants sanctions to nsure that local governments contruct needed sewage works expediiously. The municipal enforcement trategy should also ensure that juicial action is taken only as a course f last resort.

## A top EPA enforcement priority involves cities and counties that have received grant funds, but have not begun plant construction.

EPA has available three enforceent devices short of court action. he first is an extension of the secndary treatment deadline specified n a NPDES permit by as much as ive years (no later than July 1, 1983). ligibility for these extensions is pecified in the Clean Water Act, ection 301(i). The second is making ure a local government meets the erms of an Enforcement Compliance chedule letter, issued before the lean Water Act was amended. The hird is issuance of an administrative rder which also sets schedules for ompliance.

Local governments with an administrative order or an ECSL would echnically be in violation of their NPDES permit which would still require secondary treatment by 1977; n ECSL or administrative order is asically an agreement by EPA or the state not to prosecute if the schedule is adhered to.

The municipal strategy classifies all publicly owned treatment plants that did not meet the 1977 secondary treatment deadline into a number of enforcement categories. Sewage plants in each category should receive consistent agency treatment.

## ENFORCEMENT CATEGORIES

CATEGORY I includes those plants that missed the deadline through no fault of their own because of the lack of federal assistance, and will need construction to provide adequate treatment. Federal funding will be available within the next five years because the project is high enough on the state priority list, and soon enough so that the construction will be completed by 1983.

A treatment plant in this category can be granted extension of its NPDES permit if it applied for an extension by July 1, 1978. If a local government did not apply for a permit extension but meets the criteria of this category, EPA will either continue to monitor compliance with an existing ECSL or issue an administrative order, which does essentially the same thing.

CATEGORY II includes plants that also did not contribute to delay and need construction but even though federal funding will be available, construction will not be completed by July 1, 1983.

For example, construction for very large or complex plants might take as long as 10 years. Or, a project may not receive funds until 1982, too late to finish by the following year. EPA will issue administrative orders which include compliance schedules paced according to the timing of federal funding and construction milestones.

CATEGORY III comprises those communities which did not contribute to the delay, will need construction but are not high enough on state priority lists to receive funding in the next five years, and thus not be able to meet the 1983 deadline. The state is allowed to fund some projects such as sewers which do not directly help a community meet a permit requirement.

EPA will be watching priority lists closely and may negotiate with states to move Category III treatment works higher on priority lists in place of these less crucial projects. EPA may even sue the municipalities to help it receive state funding, because a state which has contributed to a delay by priority list ranking or bonding restrictions must be a party to such a suit and can be held fiscally responsible. EPA does not, however, anticipate much use of this kind of suit.

CATEGORY IV includes plants which do not need construction and are not meeting the terms of their permits because of inefficient operation. These are the traditional offenders whose non-compliance has nothing to do with the availability of federal funds. They may be granted an administrative order with a compliance schedule or taken to court.

CATEGORY V includes plants which need construction and federal funding is available, but they have been recalcitrant in applying for a federal grant or have caused delays in construction. If EPA finds that a community has "significantly contributed" to the delay, the agency may refer the case to the Justice Department for action.

> **HOW TO GET SUED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**
>
> - Significantly contribute to the delay in meeting water pollution control deadlines by refusing to commit local funds, unreasonable delays in bidding procedures, etc. . . .or
> - Don't apply for a federal wastewater construction grant though your community needs a sewage treatment plant and you are eligible for a grant, even after the state or EPA has repeatedly solicited your application. . . .or
> - Don't operate your sewage treatment plant properly. . .
>
> and
>
> - Be a large community or contribute a great amount of pollution to rivers and streams. . . .
>
> **THESE COMMUNITIES ARE FIRST ON EPA'S LIST FOR JUDICIAL ACTION**

## WITHHOLDING GRANTS

Jeffrey Miller, EPA's top water enforcement official, said recently that one of EPA's top enforcement priorities involves cities and counties that have received grant funds, but which have not begun construction on their treatment plants.

Coordination between permit enforcement and construction grant administration is an important aspect of EPA strategy. EPA has realized that a change in funding schedule must be reflected in a NPDES permit in order to retain credibility in the municipal water pollution enforcement program. The reverse is also so true; if a municipality is not meeting schedules in its permit, construction grants can be delayed, in effect using a carrot as a stick.

For the past year, according to John Rhett, head of the construction grants program, EPA has been withholding some federal reimbursement money because of non-compliance with permit conditions, which can mean millions of dollars.

For example, one city's NPDES permit specified that a plan for a new facility be submitted on a certain date. When the deadline was missed, and the city appeared reluctant to continue its efforts, the construction grant award was delayed until the plan was submitted. Another case concerned a city whose permit required that flow from a small industry be reduced. The city was reluctant to negotiate with the industry until the EPA delayed its grant payments.

Grant sanctions will probably be used only when EPA determines that a community is not making a reasonable effort to move ahead.

EPA will be keeping Congress informed about the number of communities that will not meet the 1983 secondary treatment deadline. "It is obvious," said permits chief Miller, "the period will have to be extended again."

—Arleen Shulman, NACoR

# Bill Would Enable Counties to Recoup Anti-Trust Damages

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A bill to permit local governments and consumers to recover damages suffered as a result of price fixing was introduced in Congress Jan. 31.

Known as the Antitrust Enforcement Act of 1979, the bill was introduced in the Senate by Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and in the House by Peter Rodino (D-N.J.). Similar bills were offered to Congress in the last session but a vote was never taken by either the full House or Senate.

"This bill will significantly aid the plight of our nation's local and state governments," Sen. Kennedy noted.

"It will remove the incentive for selling goods to government at artificial or fixed prices by permitting these governments to recover damages under our antitrust laws. At a time of serious and rising inflation, this legislation provides a weapon against prices illegally exacted from consumers. But it will not increase the cost of government, and it will not create new regulations."

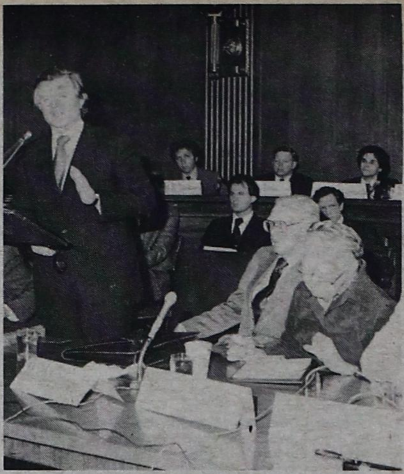
**THE NEW** measure would overturn a 1977 Supreme Court decisions. The decision, known as *Illinois Brick*, restricted the right to recover damages for price fixing violations only to direct purchasers. The problem stems from the fact that direct purchasers are often able to pass on any overcharge to the customer, and therefore do not have any incentive to act against the violator.

While counties and other units of government purchase extensive amounts of materials and supplies, they rarely deal directly with the producer, usually purchasing goods from a middleman. As a result of being an indirect purchaser, the county must absorb any overcharge passed on but does not have any legal redress.

According to Sen. Kennedy, "conservative estimates place the cost of antitrust violations at $150 billion yearly . . .and the loss in uncompensated overcharges to units of government is almost 1 billion a year."

It is estimated that counties' expenditures for goods amounted to $38 billion in 1977, a total expected to reach $45 billion in 1975.

—Elliott A. Alman



**NEW BILL—Sen. Edward Kennedy is seen introducing the Antitrust Enforcement Act.**

## MODEL TEXAS PROGRAM

# Status Offenders Kept Out of Jails

TARRANT COUNTY, Texas—A program designed to divert status offenders from the court, yet operated by juvenile justice systems agencies, is proving successful in this Northeastern Texas county which encompasses Fort Worth.

Besides providing a wide range of services to assist troubled youth, the program has helped reduce the number of young people who are sent to institutions for such relatively minor offenses as skipping school or running away from home.

Operated as part of the Tarrant County Juvenile Probation Department, the program provides counseling, casework and referral services for juveniles referred as "status offenders".

**ONLY REFERRALS** for truancy and running away are accepted and those referrals must originate from one of the Tarrant County school districts, law enforcement agencies, or from parents, notes Robert Woodert, project director of the status offenders section.

Paul Cromwell, director of the Juvenile Services Department, credits the comprehensive counseli program between the section's co selors and the children and th parents as the main ingredient of t program's success. By working w youth before they actually comm delinquent act, the Status Offen Section can divert them from court system, he adds.

Since participation in the progr is contingent on a voluntary writ agreement with the youth and youth's family, the family may q the service at any time. Moreov since the parents retain le custody while the child is in program, they also retain resp sibility for the child. "The chi problem is a family problem must be dealt with by the fa unit," explains Cromwell.

According to Jerry Woo assistant director of juvenile vices, the program has contribu significantly to a 36 percent decre in the number of county juven sent to Texas Youth Council stitutions in 1977. Moreover, fe youth were labeled "delinquent" there was a reduction in juve court costs and more time juvenile probation officers to w with more serious offenders.

Examples of projects which m the program both imaginative workable include:

- **Tarrant County Youth Cen** Based on a concept of total vo tary placement, the center requ that the juveniles and their fam be made fully aware of the obl tions and requirements of placement. The treatment is inte ed to allow the voluntary reside as much unrestricted living as t can handle.
- **Tutorial and Recreatio Summer Program.** This progr tries to stimulate and sustain terest in learning for truant/runaway. As acade proficiency increases, confidence increase and there will no longer need to run away from the probl notes Cromwell.

Tutorial and recreational serv are provided by teachers in the p lic school system and the co juvenile services staff. The sum program includes academic tutor recreational activitities, inst tional courses, educational tours special events.

- **Scouting.** The Tarrant Co Juvenile Probation Department founded what may well be the Explorer Post for delinquent, no stitutionalized children in the c try.

Cromwell notes that Tarrant C ty's program for status offen has enjoyed wide community port. "Anything we need to pro for our youth, the residents of county will make sure we have it."

For additional information, tact Robert Woodert, Project D tor, Status Offender Section, L W. Ross Juvenile Center, 2701 bo Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76 817/334-1508.

—Choice Richardson, NA



**The 1979 Achievement A deadline has been extende February 23, 1979. For information contact Lind Ganschinietz at NACo.**

# New Tax Credit Operation Outlined

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of Labor's Targeted Jobs Tax Credit (TJTC) task force, headed by Charles I. Carter, held briefings recently in three major cities to outline DOL's plans for implementing and operating the new tax credit program.

Attending the briefings in Atlanta, Dallas and San Francisco were DOL regional administrators, state employment security agency (SESA) officials and elected CETA prime sponsors. All CETA prime sponsors will be asked to meet soon with SESAs to negotiate cooperative agreements for operating the program locally.

The tax credit program, authorized by the Revenue Act of 1978, is expected to provide substantial incentives for businesses to hire members of certain disadvantaged population groups. Counties are expected to play a major role in certifying some of the eligible people.

The two-year program will provide credits of up to $3,000 in the first year and up to $1,500 in the second year an eligible worker is on the employer's payroll. The program applies to wage costs incurred by employers during calendar years 1979 and 1980 for certified employees hired after Sept. 26, 1978.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The next tax credits apply to the following groups:

- Recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments;
- Handicapped individuals undergoing vocational rehabilitation;
- Vietnam-era veterans under 35 who are economically disadvantaged;
- Recipients of general assistance (locally financed welfare) payments for 30 or more days;
- Youth, 16 through 18, participating in a qualified cooperative education program, and
- Ex-convicts (felons) who are economically disadvantaged and hired within five years of release from prison or date of conviction.

Although the operating rules are not yet final, DOL expects to begin certifying eligible workers by Feb. 15. Using existing systems, CETA prime sponsors will be determining eligibility for those who have to meet an income test.

Funds for the program will come out of the fiscal '79 CETA Title VII supplemental appropriations request. Of the $400 million requested for Title VII, up to $32 million would be authorized for TJTC. These funds would go to SESAs for management and certification functions.

At the time of the briefings exact budget figures were still being negotiated with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). However, DOL's Employment Training Administration (ETA) intends to provide interim funding in advance of the supplemental appropriation from available funds. The specific fund source, amounts and time period are under negotiation, but decisions will be made by Feb. 9, and appropriate agencies notified.

### OVERALL STRATEGY

In order to implement the TJTC program effectively, arrangements will be made within the employment and training community of each local labor market area to carry out eligibility determinations, referrals, recordkeeping and program publicity. To achieve these arrangement, DOL intends to utilize the currently available systems that have been established in each community. Therefore, ETA has instructed the state employment security agency to convene a meeting of all participating agencies in each local area to work out necessary arrangements.

The SESA will be responsible for developing formal state and local cooperative agreements with each participating agency, including CETA prime sponsors. The agreements will be formulated under flexible guidelines and will not follow an established pattern; rather, they will be open for negotiation among the participating agencies so long as established minimum standards are incorporated in each formal agreement.

Private Industry Councils (PICs) and Job Service Improvement Program (JSIP) employer committees are expected to participate fully in the development of local cooperative agreements and play a major role in marketing the program.

The overall objectives for the state and local activities will be to effectively and efficiently implement the Administration's private sector initiatives in a cooperative fashion by Feb. 15. If local cooperative agreements are not completed by that date, arrangements should be established with local participating agencies to allow for the processing of initial TJTC applications.

Each local agency may utilize its referral arrangements to place individuals under the TJTC program. In addition, individuals may seek eligibility determination as a result of program publicity or information provided by other agencies and organizations. Employers may also refer job applicants and workers who were hired on or after Sept. 27, 1978.

When an individual is determined eligible, she/he will receive a voucher and be referred to a specific employer or may look for employment independently.

The voucher will state that if the person is hired, the employer would be entitled to a targeted jobs tax credit. The voucher is to be presented to prospective employers during an individual's job search. If the person is hired, the employer will sign the voucher, indicating the date of hire and starting wage, and send it to the designated SESA which will forward the employee certification form to the employer.

The specific agencies which will be involved in a particular labor market area will be designated in the local cooperative agreements.

Publicity material for TJTC is currently being developed by ETA and will be distributed to participating agencies by Feb. 9. In anticipation of the many questions regarding the program, the task force indicated that "employer inquiry units" will be set up in each state and would be reached through a toll free number.

Final regulations for the program are scheduled to be published in April.

# Communications Aid for Local Police Being Offered

County police or sheriffs can get communications advice free of charge from a national public safety organization.

The Associated Public-Safety Communications Officers, Inc. (APCO), a not-for-profit institution, has been funded by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) to apply its specialized communications knowledge to the problems of law enforcement in cities and counties.

For example, questions about the use of telecommunication systems or about equipment frequency assignments can be answered. APCO can also provide advice on purchasing, operation and management of systems. APCO will not design systems nor compete with vendors or the consulting community.

APCO is the oldest and largest public safety radio users group and is composed of technical communication and command personnel as well as administrative personnel from the smallest to the largest agencies of local, state and federal governments.

APCO will ask its chief resource—the membership—to respond to requests for assistance. APCO's Don Kavanaugh, director of projects, says, "small cities and counties are confronted with all kinds of public safety problems. Somewhere in APCO is a member who has solved each one of them."

The technical assistance provided by APCO is aimed at meeting specific needs of requesting agencies. Responses will be made in about three to five days.

Requests for no-cost assistance should be directed to APCO's Technical Assistance Office, P.O. Box 669, New Smyrna Beach, Fla. 32069.

# Job Opportunities

**Zoning and Building Administrator**, Scott County, Iowa. Salary $17,157-$20,185. Position has responsibility for administering, interpreting and enforcing county zoning and building laws. Knowledge and familiarity with building codes, zoning ordinances, subdivision plats and Iowa Statutes desired. Resume to: Scott County Personnel Department, Scott County Courthouse, 416 W. 4th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52801.

**Chief Administrative Officer**, Scott County, Iowa. Salary $30,294-$35,640. Degree in public or business administration or equivalent experience; must have considerable managerial and administrative ability. Must be familiar with law, accounting, automatic data processing and management planning and analysis. Request application form from: Personnel Director, Scott County Courthouse, 416 W. Fourth Street, Davenport, Iowa, 52801; 319/326-7523 or 326-8767.

**Housing Program Coordinator**, Onondaga County, N.Y. Starting salary $13,691 with increase to $15,212 after 6 months. Bachelor's degree and two years professional experience. Thirty graduate semester hours is equivalent to one year's experience. Works to encourage appropriate assisted housing development and assists with federal and state housing programs, and with local municipalities to coordinate housing activities. Resume to Ed McGowan, Community Development Division, Onondaga County Civic Center, 421 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, N.Y. 13202. Closing date Feb. 28.

**Executive Director**, City of Pontiac, Mich. Salary to $30,000 per year. To direct a comprehensive improvement program with existing local businesses in the city of Pontiac and maintain contact with industries and business to encourage relocation. Graduation from an accredited college or university with a degree in business administration, economics, industrial engineering or related field. Must have four years experience in a position of full responsibility for a program of industrial development. Resume to: Personnel Services Department, Pontiac City Hall, 450 Wide Track Drive, East, Pontiac, Mich. 48058.

**County Engineer**, Cochise County, Ariz. Responsible for design, construction, maintenance of city roads, engineering alterations and other public improvements. Supervisory experience and degree in civil engineering required. Applicant must qualify for state registration. Resume to: Personnel, Box 106, Bisbee, Ariz. 85603, 602/ 432-5484.

**Program Supervisor**, Washtenau County Metropolitan Planning Commission, Mich. Salary $17,133-$23,147. To develop planning programs, coordinate activities of commission with related activities of other county departments and other units of local, regional, state and federal governments; supervise personnel and assignments, work quality and personnel matters. Bachelor's degree in planning with minimum of four years as planner; or master's degree and two years as planner. Resume to: Washtenau County Personnel, Main and Huron Streets, Box 8645, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48107.

**Director of Accounts**, Fauquier County, Va. Salary $13,000-$16,000. This is a recently authorized central accounting department. Previous experience with central accounting and/or purchasing is desirable. Accounting degree necessary. Resume to: Fauquier County Administrator, P.O. Box 738, Warrenton, Va. 22186.

**Director, Human Services**, Dakota County, Minn. Salary $25,000-$33,000. Responsibilities include developing and recommending policy to five-member Human Service Board, developing and implementing human services programs, coordinating human service divisions, maintaining fiscal control of funds exceeding $30 million in 1979. Master's degree in public administration or human services field, minimum of five years experience as executive in a human services agency or field, with at least three years high level supervisory experience required. Resume to: Administration Office, Dakota County Government Center, Highway 55, Hastings, Minn. 55033. Closing date: Feb. 15.

**Building Superintendent**, Summit County, Colo. Salary open. Performs supervisory and technical inspection work in the enforcement of building and zoning codes. Knowledge of construction methods, applicable codes and ordinances, blueprints and specifications. Two years experience required. Resume to: George Way, Summit County Building Department, Box 526, Frisco, Colo. 80443.

**Building Inspector**, Summit County, Colo. Salary negotiable. Performs routine inspection work in enforcement of building and zoning codes. Some knowlege of construction methods, blueprints and specs preferred. Two years experience in building trades or building construction field required. Resume to: George Way, Summit County Building Department, Box 626, Frisco, Colo. 80443.

# Matter and Measure

### FHWA WORKSHOPS ON ASPHALT EMULSIONS

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is sponsoring workshops on utilizing asphalt emulsions in highway construction and maintenance in each of its nine regions. Developed by the Asphalt Institute, workshop presentations will be conducted by representatives of the Institute and the Asphalt Emulsion Manufacturers Association.

The two-day workshops cover the following sessions:

- Basic chemistry of asphalt emulsions;
- Manufacturing of asphalt emulsions;
- Storing, handling and sampling;
- Testing;
- Selecting the right emulsion for the job;
- Hot and cold plant mixes;
- Stabilization with emulsions;
- Surface treatment design and application;
- Miscellaneous uses;
- Maintenance applications;
- Recycling with emulsions.

There is no tuition charge; travel and per diem must be funded by the participant or his agency. Send requests to attend the workshops to your FHWA division office.

The following indicates dates, locations and contacts for each of the nine workshops.

| Date | Location | Contact |
|---|---|---|
| Feb. 28—Mar. 2 | Atlanta, Ga. | Gordon Brooks 404/ 881-4075 |
| Mar. 7-9 | Ft. Worth, Texas | Andy Munoz 817/ 334-3229 or Nelson Evans 817/ 334-3239 |
| Mar. 21-23 | Sacramento, Calif. | John Walkinshaw 415/ 556-7761 |
| Mar. 27-29 | Portland, Ore. | John Hallin 503/ 221-2057 |
| April 10-12 | Denver, Colo. | Doyt Bolling 303/ 234-4158 |
| April 24-26 | Region 5 (prob. Chicago area) | Richard Wasil 312/ 799-6300 |
| May 2-4 | Kansas City, Mo. | Warren Edwards 816/ 926-7892 |
| May 16-18 | Region 3 (Baltimore/Washington, D.C. area) | Jim Dunn 301/ 962-3649 |
| May 23-25 | Region 1 (Northeast States) | Jack Keller 518/ 472-4407 |

### REGION 15 DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

During February and March, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will conduct Region 15 demonstration projects on stone columns for highway construction; highway noise analysis, and water quality monitoring.

According to FHWA, the stone column method of strengthening cohesive soils is often a feasible solution for bearing capacity or settlement problems. A presentation will be held Feb. 12 at the State Highway Commission of Kansas, State Office Building, Topeka. For additional information, contact Carl Crumpton at 912/296-3461.

A demonstration of highway noise analysis will be held Feb. 13-15, at the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Baton Rouge. This demonstration presents state-of-the-art techniques to measure, predict and abate highway-related noise. For more information, contact George Cramer at 504/ 389-7180.

Presentations on water quality monitoring will be held in Tennessee and Alabama. They provide information on analyzing highway impacts on water quality and erosion control methods to reduce water pollution during highway construction. They will be held: Feb. 21-23, Tennessee Department of Transportation, Nashville, contact William E. Brode at 615/ 741-3653; and March 6-8, State of Alabama Highway Department, Montgomery, contact Frank Holman at 205/ 832-5250.

### GOVERNMENTS' HIGHWAY INCOME

According to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), federal, state and local governments' highway income for 1979 will total approximately $36 billion. This amount will be about 4 percent more than the $34.3 billion collected in 1978.

In 1979 highway users will pay more than $7.3 billion, over 20 percent of the total national highway income, into the Highway Trust Fund. Another $15.8 billion, 4.4 percent of the total, will go to state and local governments from taxes and fees paid on gasoline, oil, tires, motor vehicle registrations, tolls and parking.

FHWA expects that in 1979 state and local governments will spend more than $33.7 billion, including nearly $15 billion in capital outlays, on building, operating and maintaining the country's highways. Maintenance costs are projected to reach $9.6 billion, with the remainder spent on administration, research, law enforcement, safety and debt service on obligations.

In 1978 state and local governments received about $3.7 billion in federal funds for highway projects. In 1979 the estimate is $7.9 billion. State and local governments spent about $700 million in federal revenue-sharing funds on highways in 1978, and the amount is expected to increase to approximately $730 million in 1979.

# Reactions to Smog Standards Vary

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EPA expects that from 10 to 20 urban areas will not have to prepare a transportation/air quality plan because of the relaxed standard. At present, EPA says only that Wichita, Kan.; Des Moines, Iowa; Albuquerque, N.M.; Tucson, Ariz.; and Rockford, Ill. will not have to prepare plans.

The relaxed standard will also enable a number of areas to meet the 1982 deadline, and thus avoid having to implement an inspection and maintenance program. These areas are not yet determined.

**WHAT IS SMOG?**

"Smog" is the popular name for photochemical oxidants. Photochemical oxidants are created when hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen, produced by motor vehicles, react in the presence of sunlight. Pollution occurs at the source and can also "travel" far beyond an urban center.

While smog affects the entire population, its effects are more pronounced on young people, old people, and those with respiratory conditions such as asthma and emphysema. Asthma attacks are reportedly more frequent at smog concentrations of .20 parts per million.

Even for healthy individuals, fairly low concentrations of smog, in the range of .15 and .25 parts per million, increase the risk of cough, chest discomfort, headache, and eye irritation. Vigorous exercise increases the risk of health effect from smog. A recent study (DeLucia and Adams, 1977) observed symptoms such as cough, congestion, and tickle in healthy subjects exercising in air containing .12 parts per million of smog (ozone), the new standard.

Despite the showing of health effects from exposure to smog, however, there is no convincing evidence of increased death rates or long-term health effects from this pollutant.

**REACTIONS TO THE SMOG STANDARD**

Commissioner Dennis Koehler of Palm Beach County, Fla., has called for a substantial relaxation of the smog standard, and has attacked the mandatory inspection and maintenance program requirement of the Clean Air Act.

At Koehler's behest, the Palm Beach County Air Planning Board, responsible for preparing the transportation/air quality plan, refused to commit itself to implementation of an inspection and maintenance program and called on EPA to adopt a smog standard in the range of .16 to .20 parts per million.

Koehler relies on a draft report by a George Washington University law professor. The report states that medical evidence shows no health effects from smog at levels two and perhaps three times the former (.08 parts per million) standard. It als states that reducing smog to lowe levels is not a cost-effective approac to protecting public health.

As to the problem of protectin those with respiratory ailments, notes, "It may well be much mor efficient to force the hypersensitiv to move from the most congeste highest polluted urban areas."

A number of industries, as well the President's economic advisor have also called for a greater relax tion of the smog standard than EP has made—to at least as high as .1 parts per million. (The American P troleum Institute has filed a lawsu challenging the new standard, a calling for further relaxation.)

On the other side of the issue, e vironmentalists, scientists, and least one county official have stat that the new smog standard is n strong enough to protect public healt and particularly the health of indi iduals with respiratory problems.

A coalition of groups, including th American Lung Association, the N tural Resources Defense Council, a the League of Women Voters has i sued a statement strongly opposi the relaxation of the standard.

Speaking in Washington, D.C. behalf of the American Lung Ass ciation, Commissioner Jeanne Malch of Pinellas County, Fla. noted th the "preponderance of opinion amo health professionals is that data giv very strong indication of health fects at the levels of .12 parts p million and lower in the sensiti population."

Malchon noted that Florida, by v tue of its gentle climate and forme clean air, has over the years attract many older people and individu with respiratory problems.

Those who oppose the weakeni of the smog standard note that standard is required by law to be s solely by reference to health hazard The place for economic consideratio is in the determination of what mea ures and programs for cleaning the pollution are "reasonable," a in setting deadlines for cleanup, th say.

Environmentalists are also co cerned that the relaxation of t standard will weaken EPA's credib ity with industries and others w must comply with clean air standar Violators may delay cleanup wh seeking further relaxation of sta ards and requirements.

NACo's Environment and Ene Steering Committee will take up smog issue and alternative approac when it meets in March.

—Ivan Tether, NAC

## Justice Meetin

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—A Natio Symposium on Rural Justice wil held at the University of Tenne in Knoxville, June 20-22. It will id tify rural justice issues, provid forum for the exchange of infor tion and bring together practitio and scholars with a concern for r justice.

The conference is sponsored by National Rural Center, the Univ sity of Tennessee Law School an Office of Continuing Social Work ucation and the National Associa of Social Workers.

Issues will include access to pu benefits, maintenance of civil rig the civil justice system, legal re sentation in the criminal and juve justice systems, courts and co tions.

Conference organizers are lool for relevant contributions in the of abstracts of papers and pane workshop proposals. Descriptio proposal, in writing and not than 250 words in length, shoul sent by Feb. 26 to Joanne Jank Office of Continuing Social Work ucation, University of Tenne School of Social Work, 2012 Avenue, Knoxville, Tenn. 37916