

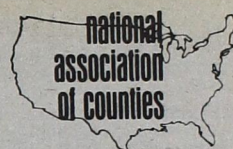
**This Week  
1977 County  
Achievement  
Awards**

Vol. 9, No. 28

# County News

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

July 11, 1977



Washington, D.C.

## SPEAKERS, PANELS

# Lots in Store for Delegates

Four days of prominent speakers and a record-breaking number of programs, panels and workshops—88—await 1977 NACo Annual Conference-goers in Detroit, Mich. July 24-27.

Vice President Walter F. Mondale will address the conference Wednesday afternoon, July 27.

The Vice President will be preceded by Bert Lance, director, Office of Management and Budget, who will deliver a Wednesday luncheon keynote address.

**MONDAY KEYNOTES** will be given by Hale Champion, under secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) at 9 a.m., and Rev. Leon Howard Sullivan, founder and chairman of the board, Opportunities Industrialization Centers at 1:30 p.m.

Sunday evening opening keynote will be given by Peter Flaherty, deputy attorney general, Department of Justice.

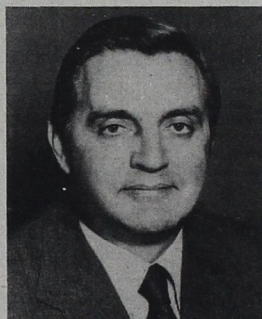
Michigan Gov. William G. Milliken will open Wednesday morning sessions.

Opening session welcomes will be given by John Barr, chairman, Wayne County (Mich.) Board of Commissioners and general conference chairman, and Detroit's Mayor Coleman A. Young.

NACo policy development will begin Sunday from 1 to 4:30 p.m. when the board of directors sits as a Resolution Committee. Final policy will be voted on Tuesday during the day-long business meeting that includes election of officers and members of the board of directors.

NACo President Dan Lynch, Douglas County (Neb.) commissioner, assessed the variety and number of workshops and panels and predicted that the "1977 conference would be the most informative ever presented."

**SOME HIGHLIGHTS** of panel topics and speakers can be found on page 31.



Vice President Walter F. Mondale



Bert Lance

## Letter from Officers on At-Large Criteria

This letter has been sent to the Board of Directors and the State Associations of Counties.

To NACo Leadership:

If the membership approves the bylaw changes as developed by our NACo Committee on the Future and approved by the Board of Directors, the incoming president will be authorized to appoint 10 at-large directors to the NACo board.

We are all aware of the importance of using these appointments wisely to insure that NACo is as representative of all our citizens as is humanly possible. If I'm elected president, this important responsibility will be mine. I have consulted with, and will continue to consult with President Dan Lynch, my fellow officers, state association leaders and minority and women representatives, to get the benefit of their collective judgment.

We are of the opinion that the purpose of the proposed amendment is to add minorities and women to the total membership of the NACo Board of Directors in order to correct any imbalances that may exist following the election of the board members.

In making these appointments, I will be guided by my judgment that the counties within a state are making their best effort to insure that in their state associational activity and in their support of NACo that the association is making a good faith effort to insure more participation by minorities and women. This would include appointment of women and minorities to state advisory groups; participation by minorities and women in state legislative activity and in conference programs; the appointments of minorities and women to state association committees and task forces and efforts to insure appointments of women and minorities to the staffs of state associations.

My fellow officers join me in the support of the following general criteria which I propose to use in making these appointments. I hope you will keep them in mind when you submit your candidates for women and minorities from your state.

- Appointments must be made for the purpose of correcting any inequities in representation, especially Female, Black, Chicano, Indian or urban/rural (specifically mandated by the proposed bylaws).
- Appointees must be elected officials from NACo member counties (specifically mandated by the proposed bylaws).
- Appointees must have demonstrated some leadership in county government at the state and/or national level.
- Appointees may not be officials who presently serve on the NACo board through the regular election process.

I want to communicate to you my thoughts on these appointments in advance of the Detroit conference so that you can make your plans accordingly. Remember that the voting on the bylaw amendments will be at the opening general session on Sunday evening, July 24.

All of us are very proud of the many firsts of NACo: first Japanese-American president; first woman president; first weighted voting system; first appointed non-voting minority and women representatives; first with proposals for voting minority appointments.

I know that each of you can understand the very large new responsibilities that these bylaws changes, if adopted, will bring to the NACo president. I know that I can count on my fellow officers and directors and the leaders of our state associations to continue to help us make NACo first all across the board.

Please call me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

William O. Beach  
First Vice President



Gov. William G. Milliken



Peter F. Flaherty



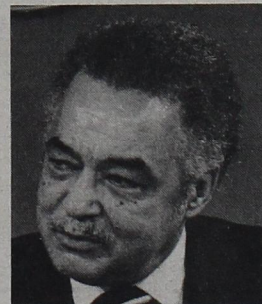
Hale Champion



Rev. Leon H. Sullivan



John Barr



Coleman Young

## NACo Launches Bridge Crisis Survey

See page 32



Answers



# Study Recommends LEAA Overhaul

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Recommendations for overhauling the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) were released June 30 by a Department of Justice Study Group. The report to the Attorney General includes a series of broad policy recommendations designed to achieve two major objectives:

- Organization of a federal strategy of basic and applied research including national program development, testing, demonstration and evaluation.

- Replacement of the present LEAA block grant program with a program of direct assistance to state and local governments that would be used to implement the national program models developed through the federal research strategy.

Attorney General Griffin B. Bell is allowing a 60-day period of public review and comment, starting July 1 before acting on the recommendations.

His recent move to close down the 10 LEAA regional offices by Sept. 30 was not a study group recommendation. It was a separate step intended

to save money, remove one layer of bureaucracy, and allow more direct communication between state and local governments and the federal agency, according to Deputy Attorney General Peter F. Flaherty.

The Attorney General indicated when he took office that a major reorganization of LEAA was in order. Former administrator, Richard W. Velde, was asked for his resignation last February, but, to this date, a new administrator has not been nominated by the Carter administration.

**THE REPORT** to the Attorney General entitled, "Restructuring the Justice Department's Program of Assistance to State and Local Governments for Crime Control and Criminal Justice System Improvement," reviews the weaknesses of the current program. These include extensive and detailed planning requirements that complicate the administration of the program without building the capacity of state and local governments to deal with the crime problem, a build-up of

categorical components and federal requirements that have increased administrative complexity, and a rapid turnover of leadership in the agency, that has created inconsistent policy directives.

The study group, including three representatives from LEAA and four officials from the Department of Justice, considered several options for improvement within each of eight issues. Their recommendations supported the following options:

- A centralized federal program in criminal justice research that represents a balanced mixture of both basic and applied research;

- A national demonstration program based on the findings of and closely linked to the national research program (This demonstration program should focus on concentrated national program development in a carefully selected number of program areas);

- Financial assistance from the federal government to state and local governments to undertake crime control and criminal justice programs;

- The present block grant portion of the LEAA program replaced by a simpler program of direct assistance to state and local governments (These governments would be entitled to a specific level of funding with no requirement for detailed plan submission);

- Linking the national research and development program and the recommended direct assistance program by encouraging state and local governments, through financial incentives, to use their direct assistance funds in the implementation of nationally developed program models or locally developed program models found to warrant national implementation;

- Minimum levels of support for specified functional areas in the direct assistance program (e.g., juvenile justice);

- Criminal justice coordination function performed by recipient governments under the direct assistance program (Direct assistance funds may be used by the recipient governments to support this function);

- In addition to minimum re-

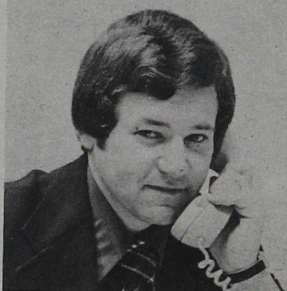
strictions prohibiting discrimination, criminal misuse and supplantation, the use of direct assistance funds by recipient governments only to implement criminal justice system improvements (The determination of what constitutes an improvement would be made only by the recipient government, subject to a general statutory definition of the term).

**SOME OF** the changes, such as refocusing the federal research and development program, could be accomplished through administrative action. Other changes would require new legislation. The Crime Control Act of 1976 extends authorization for the LEAA program through fiscal '79. Extensive modification of the legislation would be required to fully implement the study group recommendations.

Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) is expected to offer a bill for special revenue sharing within a few months.

—Criminal Justice Program  
NACoRF

## Thomas Named as Florida Executive Director



FLORIDA—John Thomas, director of NACo's New County, U.S.A. Center, has been named executive director of the State Association of County Commissions (SACC) of Florida.

Thomas, who has been with NACo since 1972, will replace E.R. "Eddie" Hafner, who became SACC's first executive director in 1958. Hafner announced his retirement in early May so he and his wife Shirley could "lead a less structured life."

As director of the New County, U.S.A. Center, Thomas supervises NACo's efforts for county modernization. The center focuses on intergovernmental relations, organization, management, finance, budget and services of county government. The center provides both direct and indirect technical assistance, information translation, sharing of county programs and expertise, inquiry response, direct consultation and research.

In addition to his responsibilities as center director, Thomas serves as staff to NACo's Committee on the Future, to NACo's Nominating Committee, to the three county members of the U.S. Advisory

Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, and to the county members of the U.S. Office of Science and Technology. He is also secretary to the National Association of County Administrators and the National Association of Elected County Executives, NACo affiliates.

Before coming to NACo, Thomas served as administrative assistant to the director of the Illinois Department of Public Aid (Welfare). Prior to that he had held positions with the Toledo (Ohio) Metropolitan Area Council of Governments, the University of Toledo and the Toledo Public Schools.

Thomas has a B.A. in political science from the College of Wooster, an M.A. in political science from the University of Toledo, and an M.P.A. from the University of Southern California. He is currently a doctoral candidate in public administration at the Washington Public Affairs Center of USC.

Thomas and his wife Judy are the parents of Jennifer, 12, and James, 10.

Thomas assumes his new duties Aug. 8.

## PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM

# EDA Resolves School Issue

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Economic Development Administration (EDA) has acted to resolve two remaining issues affecting counties in the administration of the \$4 billion local public works program. These issues involve the distribution of \$213 million nationwide that remain unallocated and the role of school districts serving unincorporated areas.

Many county governments nationwide will experience an increase in their planning targets, while a number of counties in 15 states may have schools share in their grants.

The school issue involves the 15

states that have unincorporated areas in which school districts serve less than the entire county. The states are Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, and Wyoming.

EDA IS proposing to alter the regulations to establish a specific limiting set of circumstances under which school districts in those states may negotiate with the county government for public works funding. Schools serving cities, towns and villages and those schools ser-

ving the entire county presently have a mechanism to participate in the program, but school districts in the unincorporated areas were left out.

The change would permit a school district to negotiate with a county only if all three of the following criteria were met:

- The majority (51 per cent) of the land area of the county is unincorporated;

- The school district serves 40 per cent of the population of that unincorporated area; and

- Fifty-one per cent of the enrollment of the school district is from that unincorporated area.

Preliminary analysis has indicated that only a relatively few counties will be affected by this change. Moreover, it does not mandate funding changes; it states that schools and counties must sit down and negotiate. In the event a satisfactory agreement cannot be reached, EDA will determine the projects to be funded.

**THE OTHER** major change, which benefits many counties, involves the status of the unallocated funds nationwide. EDA is proposing to provide counties with the majority of this total outside of primary cities. The reason for the carryover in funding was primarily the result of lack of applications from balance of county communities. The grant will remain in the same area to which they were earmarked, but will be added to the county government planning target.

EDA will release the new planning target this week. The amount of unallocated funds varies among states, with counties in the minimum allocation states appearing to have the best prospects for receiving additional grants.

## Fiscal Relief Contained in Moynihan Welfare Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) has announced a plan for temporary relief from the burden of welfare costs to states and localities.

Sen. Moynihan expressed dissatisfaction last May that the Administration's welfare reform plan is taking so long to develop, and said that hard-pressed states and local governments cannot wait until 1981, while the federal budget is being balanced, for relief.

On June 30, he introduced S. 1782 to provide \$1 billion additional for fiscal '78 for the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, to be distributed among the states according to their proportionate expenditures of December 1976.

In no case, however, could the new funds exceed 90 per cent of a state's AFDC expenses. Currently the federal share of AFDC varies from state to state from 50 to 80 per cent. The bill requires that states pass onto counties the percentage of state and local AFDC costs now paid by the counties.

It has been added to the public hearing agenda for H.R. 7200, Public Assistance Amendments of 1977. The schedule features Administration testimony July 12, other testimony July 18 and 19, subcommittee markup July 20-21, and full committee markup July 26-28. Supervisor Lynn Cutler, Black Hawk County, Iowa chairperson for social services, will testify for NACo.

## Interior Requests OCS Planning Schedule Comments

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of Interior is requesting comments from local governments and other interested parties on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) planning schedule for the years 1979 to 1981.

Eighteen areas are being considered for leasing: the Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank; Cape Cod to Cape Hatteras; Cape Hatteras to Key West; three areas in the Gulf of Mexico; Southern California; the Santa Barbara Channel; north and central California; Washington and Oregon; Cook Inlet; the Gulf of Alaska; Kodiak Basin; the Southern Aleutian Shelf; Bristol Bay; the Bering Sea Shelf; Chukchi Sea; and

Beaufort Sea.

Counties in these potential leasing areas are encouraged to participate in the planning process by responding to the following concerns, particularly those involving onshore planning:

- Identification of possible multiple use conflicts;

- Identification of areas of critical environmental concern, including whether such areas should be designated as marine sanctuaries;

- Amount of planning time needed to accommodate onshore development;

- Studies which might be needed;

- A ranking of oil and gas potential in each area;

- Estimated time periods to achieve initial and peak production after a discovery is made; and

- Technological feasibility of conducting exploration and development.

This information should be submitted no later than July 15 to the Director, Office of OCS Program Coordination; Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Budget, Department of the Interior, Room 4160; 18th and C Sts., N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20240. Mark the envelope "Request for Comments on Potential Future Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing."

OCS development will also be con-

sidered at the NACo Annual Conference, John V.N. Klein, county executive of Suffolk County, N.Y., which challenged Interior in a successful court suit over the leasing of the Baltimore Canyon area in the mid-Atlantic, will moderate a panel discussion on Wed., July 27, just after Vice-President Mondale's address. Participants will include Barbara Heller, deputy under secretary, Interior; Richard Gardner, Office of Coastal Zone Management; and Douglas Maloney, county counsel, Marin County, Calif.

Please call the NACoRF Energy Project (202) 785-9577 if you need any further information.

## COUNTY NEWS

EDITOR: Bernard Hillenbrand  
MANAGING EDITOR: Beth Denniston  
NEWS MGR.: Christine Gresock  
PRODUCTION MGR.: Michael Breeding  
GRAPHICS: Robert Curry, Omar PC Dasset, Mary Duncan, Karen Eldridge, Barry Levitt & Robert Redding  
PHOTOGRAPHER: Lee LaPrelle  
CIRCULATION MGR.: G. Marie Reid  
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# FHWA Abandons Metric Sign Plan

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE Workshop Highlights

COUNTY NEWS—July 11, 1977—Page 31

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Federal Highway Administrator William M. Cox has announced that the Department of Transportation's Federal Administration (FHWA) will not pursue a proposal to convert the nation's highway signs to the metric system.

"There simply was too much opposition to the proposal from the general public," he said.

On April 27 and 29, FHWA issued in the *Federal Register* an advance notice of proposed rulemaking, inviting comments on a recommended timetable for conversion to the metric system, advising that FHWA was considering revising the "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices" to establish metric standards for traffic control devices.

"More than 5,000 comments were received," Cox disclosed, "and about 98 per cent of them were negative."

Many individual counties, state associations of county engineers and the National Association of County Engineers submitted comments on the proposed rulemaking. Most comments supported provisions of a NACO Transportation Steering Committee resolution on metric conversion. NACO's resolution urged that:

- FHWA's recommended timetable for conversion of traffic signs and other traffic control devices be extended;
- The "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices" require visual differences between the existing speed signs and the proposed metric signs in order to minimize driver confusion and facilitate law enforcement efforts during the conversion process;
- Signs other than those with numbers or speed limits be phased in

at the time of normal replacement of existing signs; and

- The federal government be required to provide a one-time 100 per cent funding for metric conversion for all signs on and off the federal-aid highway systems.

According to Los Angeles County, Calif., the cost to county taxpayers for conversion of speed signs alone is estimated to be over \$290,000. Over 7,000 speed signs are maintained by Los Angeles County forces alone. Montgomery County, Md. estimates a cost of \$92,000 for metric sign conversion, using the assumption of complete sign replacement at current prices. Montgomery County has a sign network of approximately 55,000 signs, of which 4,000-5,000 are speed limit signs.

Although FHWA does not intend to institute additional rulemaking proceedings on conversion of traffic control devices to the metric system, metric conversion appears to be an eventuality that will undoubtedly affect the operation of many county departments.

The effect of metric conversion on counties is the subject of a NACO Annual Conference session scheduled for Mon., July 25, 9:40 to 11:40 a.m. in Room 2043, Cobo Hall. The session will include presentations by the staff project engineer, metric planning activity, General Motors Corporation; the metric coordinator for the National Bureau of Standards; and representatives from the National Association of County Engineers and the National Association of County Recorders and Clerks. The presentations will be followed by workshop discussion groups for elected officials, county engineers and county recorders and clerks.

## Monday A.M.

"Public Works," George Karras, deputy assistant secretary for economic development, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce.

"Help Crime Victim: Recycle a Human Being," Frank Carrington, executive director, Americans for Effective Law Enforcement.

"Youth Programs," Pierce Quinlan, administrator, Employment and Training Development Programs, Department of Labor.

"Private Sector Jobs," Vincent Moretti, Human Resources Development Institute, AFL-CIO.

"Rx for Rural Counties," George P. Tolbert, MD, MPH, associate bureau director, National Health Service Corps.

"Reducing Your Energy Wasteline," Gordon Vander Till, Federal Energy Administration.

"Quieter Skies," Charles Elkins, deputy assistant administrator for noise programs, Environmental Protection Agency.

"Should Anyone Care about the Northeast," James M. Howell, senior vice president, First National Bank of Boston and chairman, Council for Northeast Economic Action.

## Monday P.M.

"Drought Assistance," Jimmy Jones, national drought coordinator, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce.

"County/School—A Partnership for Delinquency Prevention," Susan K. Stauffer, director, division of probation, Indiana Department of Corrections.

"Deinstitutionalization of Mental Health Patients," Anne Drissel McCuan, National Institute of Mental Health.

"National Energy Policy—Five Views," Shelly Weinstein, White House energy policy planning staff.

"Counties and Environmental Decisionmaking," Burnett Vincent, Joseph Krivak, Robert Hurdaker, Environmental Protection Agency.

## Wednesday A.M.

"Community Development Update," Robert Embry Jr., assistant secretary for community planning and development, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"Canada's National Health Insurance: A Model for U.S.?", J.B.S. Rose, assistant deputy minister, Administration of Insurance, Quebec, Canada.

"Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action," Edison Elkins, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

"Energy from the Sun: Sol What?", Sheldon H. Butt, president, Solar Energy Industries Association.

"Making the Choice: Financing Unemployment Insurance," Jim Rosbrow, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor.

## Wednesday P.M.

"Public Health: Federal/State/County Financing," Hugh Tilson, MD, president-elect of National Association of Counties Health Officers and director of human services, Multnomah County, Ore.

"Skyrocketing Health Costs," Arthur Hess, director, Commission on Public General Hospitals.

"Does Farmland Need Preserving?", Marge Tschember, administrator, Office of Intergovernmental Relations, Suffolk County, N.Y.

"OCS/CZM—Alphabet Soup or a Wholesome Energy Diet?", Barbara M. Heller, deputy under secretary, Department of Interior.

"Municipal Bond Market: 7-1/2 Per Cent Doesn't Seem to Be a Lot," Dale Davis, president, National Association of County Treasurers and Finance Officers, and treasurer, Miami County, Ohio.

"Revenue Sharing—What Are the New Rules," Bernadine Denning, director, Office of Revenue Sharing, Department of Treasury.

Many county officials will join the panels and workshops sharing experiences and exchanging views.

A banquet will conclude the conference. Other events during the county officials' annual meeting include tours, a boat trip, exhibits and special programs for spouses and youth.

# Making Paper Recycling Work

Among the most successful municipal newspaper collection programs in the United States are those in Ridgewood, N.J., and Newport Beach, Calif. Lessons learned from either are applicable to countywide programs which might be undertaken anywhere.

Ridgewood, in the commuter area near New York City, began its municipal program in August 1973. By the end of January 1977, it had collected over 2,150 tons of newspapers, for a sale price of over \$47,000.

Newport Beach, on the Pacific coast south of Los Angeles, started collections in September 1974. Its collected tonnage through January 1977, totaled 2,680, for gross paper sales of \$71,000.

RIDGEWOOD HAS a population of slightly over 28,000 and Newport Beach 65,000. Newspapers are collected twice monthly in Ridgewood and once a month in Newport Beach.

In addition to income from newspaper sales, Ridgewood and Newport Beach are saving money through reduction of disposable solid waste. If Newport Beach had paid for routine disposal of that 2,680 tons of newspapers, it would have cost taxpayers thousands of dollars, estimates Jacob Mynderse, general services director.

In Ridgewood, Water Department Director Harold V. Florence, who supervises the newspaper collections, projects a sum of over \$8,000 saved because the newspapers were not landfilled.

Ridgewood and Newport Beach sell all collected newspapers to the Garden State Paper Company Inc., which operates mills to manufacture recycled newsprint near both places. A subsidiary of Media General Inc., Garden State paper has led in the growing trend for municipal governments to contract for sale of collected newspapers. Both Newport Beach and Ridgewood have agreements setting minimum prices.

During the past year, county officials across the country have shown increasing interest in implementing or expanding soil waste recycling programs. This is the final of four articles explaining the benefits of municipal recycling programs. The bulk of the material was prepared by James M. Staples of Garden State Paper Company Inc., Saddle Brook, N.J.

Dissemination of this information comes at a critical time as municipalities over the next 11 months must identify solid waste regions and agencies as a result of the new

Like most supervisors of municipal newspaper collection programs, Florence and Mynderse have integrated requirements into existing garbage and trash allocations, so that no extra employees or equipment were necessitated to initiate the programs.

Not all municipal programs are carried out with municipal employees and equipment, however. In some places, local governments contract with professional scavenger companies or public service groups to collect newspapers.

ASIDE FROM occasional pilferage of newspapers from curbside, especially when the price of used paper is highest, neither man reports any serious problems in their programs.

"Building habit patterns among the public is of paramount importance in achieving a successful newspaper recovery program," Mynderse said. "Publicity is the answer to the whole thing," agreed Florence.

Both Newport Beach and Ridgewood took advantage of existing habit patterns by timing their newspaper collections to fall on days when garbage or solid waste are also collected.

But before the programs actually began, leaders of social, religious and public service groups in both places

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. As this process unfolds, municipalities should strongly consider implementing or expanding solid waste recycling programs in their community.

In conjunction with NACO's 42nd Annual Conference in Detroit, Mich., a two and one-half hour resource recovery implementation seminar will be conducted. The seminar will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, July 25, and will feature John Lynch, vice president of Garden State Paper Company Inc., along with Penny Hansen and Robert Lowe of the Environmental Protection Agency.

were enlisted to throw their support behind the efforts.

A well-planned newspaper collection program also draws support of environmental groups. In California and New Jersey, Committees for Resource Recovery have been organized to support conservation and reuse of all kinds of recyclables.

VOLUNTEER groups often can unite major environmental leaders and industries plus civic groups and governmental agencies with recycling interests.

In addition to some 1,500 groups in the two states, the Committees for Resource Recovery include most major recyclers of paper products plus aluminum, glass and steel recyclers.

The New Jersey Committee for Resource Recovery is at Park 80 Plaza East, Saddle Brook, N.J. 07662. The address of its California counterpart is 520 S. Lafayette Park Place, Suite 208, Los Angeles, Calif. 90057.

Information about recovery and marketing of the full spectrum of resources from solid waste may be obtained from the National Association of Recycling Industries, 330 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017, and the National Center for Resource Recovery, 1211 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

# Matter and Measure



Dear NACERs,

As you know, I am leaving NACoRF and the transportation project, so I want to take this opportunity, in my last "Matter and Measure" column, to tell you how much I have enjoyed working with all of you and, of course, transportation project staff. I have been fortunate enough to meet many of you who have come to our offices in Washington, and I feel as if I know the rest of you through correspondence, phone conversations, and your involvement with NACE activities.

NACE is a great organization, and working with the excellent NACoRF project staff, I know you will continue to achieve the important goals toward which you aim.

I am taking my NACE directory with me, so maybe I will stop in to visit if my travels take me to your part of the country.

—Marion Mosner Glass  
Transportation Project

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE REMINDER

The annual conference is less than a month away. The deadline for pre-registration was July 8, so if you have not registered yet but plan to attend, you can still register at the conference.

The program sessions will be stimulating and there will be lots of NACE activities, so we hope to see you in Detroit, July 24-27.

## AIRPORT CONFERENCE

The Airport Design and Construction Conference will be held July 18-19 in Washington, D.C. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The conference is being sponsored by the American Consulting Engineers Council, American Institute of Architects, American Road and Transportation Builders Association, and Associated General Contractors of America. NACO is one of seven organizations cooperating with the sponsors in this effort.

The conference will bring together engineers, architects, contractors, and representatives from aviation industries, federal, state and local governments to examine problems related to airport planning, design and construction. Some of the topics to be covered are:

- Airport Development Aid Program (ADAP) and how it works;
- Federal aid to airports;
- Grant application procedures;
- Environmental concerns;
- Construction standards and specifications;
- Airport design concepts; and
- Labor problems.

The deadline for advance registration has passed, but you can register at the conference. Hotel reservation requests should be made through Dick Lauzier at the American Road and Transportation Builders Association. Since time is short, he suggests you call him for reservations at (202) 488-2722. If no rooms are available at the Hyatt Regency, he will make arrangements at a convenient hotel.



## A Letter to County Commissioners from Bernard F. Hillenbrand

Our county officials are reporting a growing bridge crisis that is of national proportions. This crisis threatens our transportation system, our safety and our economic well-being. All deficient bridges are a problem, but county bridges not on the federal-aid system (off-system) are a particularly grave problem because rehabilitation and replacement are such a heavy local financial burden.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has launched a nationwide effort to spotlight this crisis. Fortunately, Congress is also growing increasingly concerned. Now we need facts to document the extent of the crisis.

First, you can be very helpful to your county, to NACo, and to the Congress if you will provide us with some information on all bridges in your county by completing the **POLICY QUESTIONNAIRE** and returning it to NACo by August 15.

Second, you can also be helpful in giving us some precise data about the status of your off-system bridges by having one of your staff complete the **BRIDGE QUESTIONNAIRE**. You should know that in some states the state highway department has already surveyed bridge needs, so you may want to check with the bridge division for data. Finally, although this questionnaire is designed to be done with a minimum of technical evaluation, there is an information copy of the Federal Highway Administration's "bridge inventory guide," which provides additional data should you need it.

We would also welcome any ideas, bridge stories, photos or suggestions on policy concerning bridges which you may wish to emphasize with the Congress.

We appreciate that this requires extra work on your part, but we very much need your assistance if counties are to be successful in convincing the Congress of the need for funds. Thank you in advance for your help. Kindest regards.

The questionnaire and the FHWA Guide are being sent to all counties.

### Policy Questionnaire for County Commission

1. In your county, who has responsibility for bridges?

Jurisdiction	Number
County	_____
City	_____
Towns or villages	_____
State	_____
Other authorities	_____

2. Who has complained about bridges in your county?

Source	What Was Complaint?
<input type="checkbox"/> Farmers	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> School Authorities	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Highway Safety People	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Waterway Users	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tourist Industry	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Transit Agency	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	_____

3. In your county, how many accidents in the last year have involved bridge structures and/or approaches?

	Number
Deaths	_____
Injuries	_____
Other	_____

The following questions refer to bridges with the county as custodian and NOT ON THE FEDERAL-AID SYSTEM (OFF-SYSTEM).

4. How many of your OFF-SYSTEM county bridges have the following problems?

Problem	Number
Collapsed	_____
Closed	_____
Posted	_____

5. How many additional county OFF-SYSTEM bridges do you expect to be posted or closed in the next year?

\_\_\_\_\_ number of bridges

6. Does your county have a systematic program for evaluation of county OFF-SYSTEM bridges?

yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

7. Are you aware that federal funds (for Safer Off-System Roads) may be used for inspection of county OFF-SYSTEM bridges?

yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

8. Does the state highway department help your county with:

Bridge Inspection \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

9. For the purpose of replacing a county OFF-SYSTEM bridge, has your county ever used one of the standard design plans published by the Federal Highway Administration?

yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

10. Congress is considering legislation to provide federal aid for rehabilitation and replacement of OFF-SYSTEM state and local bridges. If this becomes law, would your county apply for funds?

yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

In your judgment, how much would your county need? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

11. If Congress decides to provide funds through a transportation block grant program, what proportion of those funds would you earmark for county OFF-SYSTEM bridges?

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

12. Are there presently any liability suits pending against your county for accidents on inadequate bridges?

yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

13. What would you like to tell your congressman about the bridge crisis? (Attach separate sheet.)

## Bridge Questionnaire—County Structures Off Federal-Aid Highway System

**Instructions:** Please complete the questions below with the best information you have. If information is an estimate or incomplete, please show this on the questionnaire. Terms of the questions are based on the Bridge Inventory and Appraisal Guide of the Federal Highway Administration.

**Important:** If data on length, square feet, and span length are not readily available, please submit "totals" for each category.

- Including only bridges OVER 20 FEET IN LENGTH, and not on the federal-aid system, how many structures are under custodianship of your county? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many of these structures have been inventoried and evaluated according to FHWA's "Guide"? \_\_\_\_\_
- For each of the FHWA classifications below, we need to know:

- a. Structures on LOCAL RURAL ROADS with county as custodian, not on federal-aid system.

Span Length	Number of Bridges	Total Length in Feet	Square Feet of Surface
20 to 60 ft.	_____	_____	_____
61 to 100 ft.	_____	_____	_____
101 to 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
over 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	_____	_____	_____

- b. Structures on LOCAL CITY STREETS with county as custodian, not on federal-aid system.

Span Length	Number of Bridges	Total Length in Feet	Square Feet of Surface
20 to 60 ft.	_____	_____	_____
61 to 100 ft.	_____	_____	_____
101 to 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
over 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	_____	_____	_____

4. A STRUCTURALLY DEFICIENT bridge (according to FHWA's definition) is one which has been restricted to light traffic or closed. Using FHWA definition, how many structurally deficient structures are there in your county?

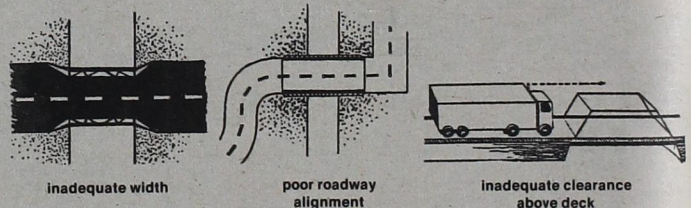
- a. Structurally deficient structures on LOCAL RURAL ROADS with county as custodian, not on federal-aid system.

Span Length	Number of Bridges	Total Length in Feet	Square Feet of Surface
20 to 60 ft.	_____	_____	_____
61 to 100 ft.	_____	_____	_____
101 to 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
over 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	_____	_____	_____

- b. Structurally deficient structures on LOCAL CITY STREETS with county as custodian, not on federal-aid system.

Span Length	Number of Bridges	Total Length in Feet	Square Feet of Surface
20 to 60 ft.	_____	_____	_____
61 to 100 ft.	_____	_____	_____
101 to 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
over 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	_____	_____	_____

5. A FUNCTIONALLY OBSOLETE bridge is one which has any one of the conditions pictured below. In the spaces provided indicate the number of functionally obsolete bridges in your county, but not already listed as structurally deficient.



- a. Functionally obsolete structures on LOCAL RURAL ROADS with county as custodian, not on federal-aid system.

Span Length	Number of Bridges	Total Length in Feet	Square Feet of Surface
20 to 60 ft.	_____	_____	_____
61 to 100 ft.	_____	_____	_____
101 to 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
over 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	_____	_____	_____

- b. Functionally obsolete structures on LOCAL CITY STREETS with county as custodian, not on federal-aid system.

Span Length	Number of Bridges	Total Length in Feet	Square Feet of Surface
20 to 60 ft.	_____	_____	_____
61 to 100 ft.	_____	_____	_____
101 to 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
over 300 ft.	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	_____	_____	_____

In case we have any questions, whom can we contact?

Name and title of person completing this questionnaire? \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Area Code \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_