This Week

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- problems, page 6.
 Perspective on disappearing farmlands, page 7.

Vol. 11, No. 33

COUNTY NEWS

August 27, 1979

OUNTY ROLE EXAMINED

Firefighters Assess Needs

NOWMASS, Colo.—The volun-fire service will never be the same country government will be in-yed in its renaissance if the par-pants of a conference held here ently succeed in reaching their tetives. Some 70 fire service rs from 49 states met at the bridge Inn, Aug. 17-19, to re their need for recognition and tance. Although the final stateof needs and priorities was di-at the U.S. Fire Administraall levels of government were lenged to help raise the level of ice provided to local citizens by than 30,000 volunteer comThe administrator of the U.S. Fire Administration, Gordon Vickery, called the workshop "the beginning of a totally new effort in fire service history ... We will now begin the process of designing and redesigning programs to meet your needs as you have defined them." The Stonebridge Conference was a direct result of Vickery's meeting with members of the National Volunteer Fire Council last spring in Dallas, Texas.

spring in Dallas, Texas.

County officials were identified by one group session as having an obli-gation to their citizens to provide financial, operational, moral and political support for volunteer fire services. The group called on counties

man's compensation and death benefits—for firefighters; coordination of training, mutual aid agreements, and fire protection master planning; and entralized dispatch for local fire dis-tricts. The group said, however, that they were not willing to give up oper-ational or financial control of their

volunteer companies.

Vickery agreed that many fire district functions within a county should be consolidated into more concise and effective units. He saw the need for centralizing functions such as dis-

patching and purchasing.

Another message from the conference, Vickery observed, was the demand for emergency medical services.

EMS logically should be run by the

fire services, he said.

The results of the conference, he added, will be helpful not only to the U.S. Fire Administration, but to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), since emergency management plans must involve volunteer fire services.

Other leaders of fire fighting organizations who viewed the conference as a landmark event were E. James Monihan, chairman, National Volunteer Fire Council: Louis J. Amabili. president, International Society of Fire Service Instructors, and Donald Flinn, general manager, International Association of Fire Chiefs.

A complete report on the proceedings of the Stonebridge Conference will be available from the U.S. Fire Administration in late October.



Youth Face Uphill ight with Alcohol

thirteen-year-old girl visiting her may and friends in the Washington opolitan area sits in a car and is from a bottle of rum. She gulps nearly six ounces at 151 proof, ing her blood alcohol level to .46, ding her blood alcohol level to .40, king nearly one-half of 1 percent of blood pure alcohol. Levels above are considered lethal. The youngr never wakes up the next morn-She becomes another statistic on sof alcohol related deaths.

What caused her to drink is still a estion. Maybe it was peer pressure. sonal problem or not knowing angers of alcohol abuse.

essionen. (

tel, 04,

All they tell kids is not to use mariana ... Marijuana, marijuana. They n't tell kids that drinking kills," he girl's older sister.

the ghrs older sister.

Thysicians agree, saying that ingsters aren't told how to drink selv and three to four kids in the shington area die each year from

ith alcohol abuse on the rise, ies have an awesome task ahead m. They must educate parents, agers and preteens on the ways aling with alcohol and its abuse. Santa Clara County, Calif., a aled an alarming alcohol usage at ages as low as fourth grade dents. The county has responded hits project PACE—Prevention Alcoholism through Community

PACE methods are aimed at those viduals who have a high risk for loping drinking problems. PACE onnel describe this group's drink-pattern as one developing from a azard process of learning from is, a reaction to outside presa response to personal prob-or a belief in common myths misconceptions related to alcohol. CE believes these individuals relearn how to drink sensibly.

THE PROJECT'S message is not nce for all. No scare tactics d. According to PACE of-For health education to be e, it must do more than arouse s anxieties about their health-behavior; it must provide costly alternative behavior in drink-

ing situations."

PACE takes a four-point approach.

Creative entertaining: In these workshops discussions center on hosting situations where alcohol is used. Hosts are encouraged to serve attractive non-alcoholic drinks in addition to the regular drinks and to identify specific behavior that is either more or less conducive to problem drinking.

 Positive parenting: Research has indicated ties between alcoholism and alcohol abuse in families. In this presentation, parents are asked to examine their own drinking habits. As the saying goes, "actions speak louder than words" and the PACE staff believes that parents' drinking stati believes that parents' drinking habits will have greater impact on their children's drinking habits than will normal parental advice about the dangers of drinking.

• Attitudes and alcohol abuses:

this discussion centers around the commonly held myths on alcohol and alcoholism and how these directly relate to alcohol abuse.

· Business and industry: PACE has developed a prevention approach specifically aimed at industry and business groups, stressing the well-documented connection between drinking practices and productivity.

ALCOHOL ABUSE affects not only the drinker but between three and four others close to the drinker and can have highly negative, often long-term debilitating effects. Society in general suffers the effects of al-cohol abuse and alcoholism through lost productivity, higher rates of accidents and death, the breakdown of families, and the increased burden on the health care, law enforcement

and social welfare system.

Programs like the one in Santa Clara County are springing up all around the country. The success or failure of these programs depends on community support and education on one of the most abused and pervasive drugs of our society.

-Paul Serber

Grants Process Made Easy

Trying to understand the A-95 pro cess sometimes leaves county offi-cials feeling confused and disoriented —rather as if they had suddenly been taken aboard a fast moving merry-go-round. But seeking funds that fall under A-95 clearinghouse review is not really that complicated. Let's see just what an A-95 clearinghouse

see just what an A-95 clearinghouse is supposed to do.

The A-95 process is applied to more than 200 federally funded grant programs to allow state, regional and local governments to integrate federal registrate programs and federal registrates programs and federal registrates programs and federal registrates and programs and federal registrates and programs and federal registrates and programs are federal registrates and programs and federal registrates and programs are federal registrates and registrates are federal registrates and registrates are federal registrates and registrates are federal registrates and registra local governments to integrate fed-eral assistance programs and federal development activities with their existing programs, policies and plans. By submitting all applications for such grants to an area or state "clear-inghouse," duplication is avoided and local plans are not funded that con-flict with the goals of the wider

A clearinghouse should encompass several cities, counties or other dis-tricts and be the center for compre-

hensive planning.

There are two types of clearinghouses. Area clearinghouses are usually regional councils, COGs, citycounty planning agencies or regional planning agencies. They number about 470. State clearinghouses are responsible for the planning and coordination of federal projects on a

Most clearinghouses have a staff

and a board made up of local elected

officials who consider applications.

They are financially supported in a number of ways depending on other functions they perform. Usually this is a mixture of federal, state and ls a mixture of rederal, state and local funding. The law does not allow for direct federal payment for clear-inghouse activities. What federal funds they do receive is for activi-ties other than their clearinghouse

STARTING THE PROCESS Agencies that have decided to apply for assistance under one of the

A-95 covered programs (urban renewal, housing programs and many of the social services, education and the social services, education and health programs) must notify both areawide and state clearinghouses, as early as possible, by submitting a brief description of the project. Some clearinghouses have developed special forms called "notification of intent" (NOIs).

(A complete list of grants requiring A-95 clearance can be found on pages 5-79, appendix 1 of the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.)
Your county has identified a needed

See CLOSE LOOK, page 3

'80 GRS Funds Announced

The Office of Revenue Sharing r cently announced the individual amounts of revenue sharing money which approximately 39,000 units of state and local government are enti-tled to receive for the period Oct. 1, 1979 through Sept. 30, 1980, The amount which each prospective

recipient government is entitled to receive is listed in a document entitled General Revenue Sharing Eleventh Period Entitlements, which was released on Aug. 16.
A total of \$6.82 billion is scheduled

to be paid on a quarterly basis in

January, April, July and October 1980. The money was authorized by the 1976 amendments to revenue sharing law, which extended the program through Sept. 30, 1980.

Revenue sharing funds are allocat-Nevenue snaring runds are allocative de according to formulas included in the revenue sharing legislation approved by Congress. These formulas use data provided primarily by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

For additional information, contact Martharose Laffey of the NACo Staff at 202/785-9577.



Fifteenth Annual National Federal Aid Conference

Hosted by the National Association of Counties and NACo Council of Intergovernmental Coordinators

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Washington, D.C. October 23-26, 1979

An opening general session will kick off the conference with a legislative overview of the 96th Congress conducted by NACo legislative representatives. Workshops will provide the most up-todate information on such subjects as: CETA, community development, LEAA, grant reform and

Delegates to NACo/CIC 15th Annual National Federal Aid Conference can preregister for the conference and reserve hotel space by completing this form.

Conference Registration

Conference registration fees must accompany this form before hotel reservations will be processed. Enclose check, official county voucher or equivalent. No conference registrations will be made

Conference Registration Fees: \$95 (member), \$125 (nonmember counties), \$150 (other). Make check payable to NACo/CIC Federal Aid Conference.

eceived

Housing Reservation

- Special conference room rates will be available to all delegates whose reservations are postmarked no later than Oct. 1, 1979.
- No housing reservations will be accepted over the telephone at any time by the conference
- Return both housing reservations and conference registration to the NACo/CIC Federal Aid Conference Registration Center, 1735 New York Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Single: \$48/\$53/\$58 Double: \$60/\$65/\$70

1 Bedroom Suites: \$130/\$155/\$180 2 Bedroom Suites: \$190/\$215/\$240

Name	The state of the s
Address	Telephone()
Arrival date/time	Departure date/time

No room deposit required. Rooms may be guaranteed by credit card number for late arrival. Give credit card company, number and expiration date:

Special hotel requests:

Recreation Funding Criteria Announced

Counties in the process of rejuve-nating or overhauling their recreation facilities should take note of the criteria for grant selection and preappli-cation procedures under the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act (UPARR) recently announced by the Heritage Conservation and Recrea-tion Service.

Cities and counties on the "eligible" list as well as those planning to apply for discretionary funds are requested to notify their state and areawide A-95 clearinghouses of their inten-

A-95 clearinghouses of their inten-tions. Fifty-two counties were listed on March 14 as "eligible" for at least 85 percent of the funds. UPARR provides funds for the re-habilitation of existing recreation fa-cilities. The federal share will be 70 percent but can be increased if a state also contributes. Grant selection is based on factors such as based on factors such as:
• Federal per capita investment for

the entire recreation system with high priority given to low per capita cost in relation to benefits projected;

 Neighborhood recreation needs; however, recreation projects which take residents away from neighborhoods are also eligible;
• Condition of facilities and im-

provement as a result of the grant;
• Improvement in recreation op-

portunities for minority, low and moderate income residents, special pop-ulations and distressed neighbor-

Other factors in the grant selection process include how well the recrea-tion program meshes with local gov-ernment to undertake the entire Reneighborhood employment opportuni-ties and citizen group involvement. State and private financial assistance and the commitment of the local gov-ernment to undertake the entire Re-

covery Action Program are important.

INNOVATION GRANTS, was federal share of 70 percent was available for projects which is demonstration value as well as me demonstration value as well as me communities. INNOVATION GRANTS, W demonstration value as Normal and to their own communities. Emplared to their own communities and larger number of s will be on a larger number of s grants, rather than on higher projects. Innovation projects on clude recreation programming in ty renewal, and ways of getting a people to parks through better to portation plans. Innovation g can be used for projects that in adaptive reuse of other propert originally meant for recreation.

Grant selection will be base

how well the project provides an effective means of delivering an ation service that can serve as a rel for other communities. Other teria are similar to those for relation grants. Grants will also judged on how they coordinate other local, state and federal munity development efforts.

Counties seeking rehabilitation

innovation grants under UPA must now submit a preliminary covery Action Program and a plan after Oct. 1, 1980. Federal f of up to 50 percent share are ava-for doing this planning. Selection be based on need, size and complete of planning, and the extent to si recreation planning will be integra with overall community plans. Requirements for Recovery AP Program plans were published in

Federal Register on July 5.

The Heritage Conservation a
Recreation Service has prepare
Preapplication Handbook which
available from your regional HO

Procurement Regs Issued

The Office of Management and Budget has issued new Standards Governing State and Local Grantee Procurement, which will become effective on Oct. 1, and has proposed a revision to its rules governing audits of federally assisted programs.

The new Attachment "O" to OMB (Circular, A.102 (Uniform, Advision, Advisor, Advision, Ad

Circular A-102 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants-in-Aid to State and Local Governments) basically reaffirms and strengthens state and local government grantees' management of their own procurement process.

However, under the new regula-tions it is incumbent on the grantees to be sure they are in compliance with all applicable state and local laws and regulations. It is also in-cumbent on them to conform to the standards set forth in Attachment "O" and other applicable federal laws.

The main changes in the new at-

- tachment:

 Direct grantor agencies to rescind nonconforming provisions of current agency subordinate regulations and limit the issuance of additional requirements unless specifically required by federal law, executive order, or authorized by the administrator for federal recomments discovered to the control of the con
- trator for federal procurement policy;

 Create a grantee certification program to reduce the grantee agency burdensome pre-award review of
- individual procurement;
 Add provisions to reduce the

possibility of fraud and waste;
• Expand coverage of small, minority, women and labor surplus con-

The proposed revision to Attachment "G" of Circular A-102 was published in the July 11, 1979 Federal

Register. This revision expands a clarifies Attachment G's rules g erning audits of federally assi

OMB expects the new requirement

• Ensure that grantee audits made on an organization-wide be rather than on a grant-by-gra

• Ensure that all audits meet standards that will be acceptable to

federal grantor agencies.

Comments on the proposed revisionable with the proposed revision and the proposed revision and the Pinancial Management Branthe Pinanc Budget Review Division, Office Management and Budget, Washi ton, D.C. 20503 by September! Please forward a copy of your or ments to Joan Paschal, Grants a Regulation Coordinator, NACo.

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Coordinated Phone System Improves Service

Editor's Note: The following article as prepared by Nicholas M. Meiszer, onty administrator, Chesterfield anty, Va., president, National As-ciation of County Administrators, of James L. Mercer, director, Bat-lle Center for Urban Technology.

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, Va. ving money and improving service esterfield County's telephone cost atrol project which the Center for orial Institute is helping to ement as a part of a National ace Foundation-funded effort to innovative local govern-

esterfield County undertook the ect in 1978 after a similar effort been successful in Henrico

The following approaches to improve service in Henrico

· Establishing a consistent level elephone service from office to of-

Requesting the telephone comny's traffic studies department to termine where additional trunk vere required;

. Matching switchboard capacity operator workload to office

· Assigning either telephone

operator or secretary to answer a particular phone.

As a result, police were able to an-

swer more calls and handling of emergency calls was streamlined. emergency calls was streamlined. Welfare office switchboard tie-ups weriare office switchboard tie-ups were eliminated. Access to major county functions such as public utilities and public health was made easier by direct dialing. Cost savings were achieved, citizen service levels increased and interoffice com-munications improved.

munications improved.

The study was then used to establish telephone system requirements for a new complex of three county buildings, including the main administration building.

The telephone cost control effort in Henrico County prompted the Bat-telle Center for Urban Technology to prepare a package to help other counties achieve similar results. The first phase is a detailed review of the present system, including an inventory, study of costs, usage, bottlenecks and the degree to which the system provides a desired level of service. This phase requires extensive contact with the local telephone

In the second phase, options for najor system improvements are considered, including new systems. This phase focuses on equipment and systems, their characteristics and relative benefits and costs.

Overall management of the project by one individual is important. He or she should have some technical training in communications and be willing to dig into the complexities of telephone tariffs and to deal firmly

telephone tariffs and to deal firmly with the local telephone company.

The Chesterfield County project has not been completed, but it appears that it will save the county money and improve service.

Chesterfield County's rapid growth during the past seven years has resulted in a myriad of problems and an overloading of the current

and an overloading of the current centrex telephone system There are a wide variety of telephone systems throughout the departments and

A county-wide survey of depart-A county-wide survey of depart-mental needs is now being com-pleted as well as a study of potential benefits from use of a WATS line. Initial results indicate that there is potential for standardizing telephone systems, eliminating lines within departments, reducing the total cost of operation, and reducing the calls handled by the switchboard

The telephone survey is very timely since Chesterfield County is planning the construction of a new administration building. The new facilities will include combined Fire and Police Department dispatching facilities and the use of 911 emergen-

cy numbers throughout the county.

The telephone cost control project is one of the Center for Urban Technology's first county government projects.

Other replication packages now being transferred by the center insolar hot water heating systems and improved management and monitoring for capital im-

provements programs.

The Battelle Center was

established in 1978 to help local governments improve management and service through the use of new technology or science and policy-based research. More county assis-tance efforts are anticipated in the

near future.
For further information, contact Larry O'Keefe, manager, Battelle Center for Urban Technology, 101 Marietta Tower, Suite 3525, Atlanta, Ga. 30303, 404/688-5370.

New Aging Affiliate Seeks County Reps

NACo's newest affiliate—the National Association of County Aging Programs—is inviting the chief elected official in each NACo member county to designate the county's representative to the affiliate.

The purpose of the affiliate is to

involve elected officials, aging pro-gram administrators and older people in developing and implementing na-tional policy to establish effective county-based aging service pro-grams which will be able to address the needs and problems of older needs and problems of older

However, identifying the individual responsible for serving the county's elderly is not always easy because of the pattern by which services to the elderly are provided across the country.

The official network for services

funded through the Older Americans Act, administered by the Adminis-tration on Aging, is one of state units on aging and area agencies on

There are currently about 573 area agencies on aging. Over 25 percent of these are county offices for the aging, others are set up to serve a single county through a private, nonprofit agency and quite a few serve two or more counties through a council of governments arrangement. Within this last category, many of the counties so covered also have a county council on aging or other identifiable focal point on aging in

The primary question to be considered by the chief elected official in choosing among the many options possible is "who can best represent the interests of this county and its older citizens in the affiliate?"

THAT REPRESENTATIVE can be (and often is) an elected official, but the director of the single county area agency (for either a public or private nonprofit agency) may be chosen to represent the county. For a county which is part of a multicounty area agency, options include: elected officials of the counties in-volved, individuals who serve the elderly within the county, or the area agency director—designated by one or more of the counties. For areas designated, an elected official or a program administrator serving the elderly might be designated.

The affiliate's new president is Katie Dusenberry, supervisor, Pima County, Ariz.

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 1-3 in East Baton Rouge, La. Those interested in attending or in need of further details may contact Mary Brugger Murphy, Program Director, Aging Program.

NACo member counties which

have not yet designated representa-tives to the aging affiliate are en-couraged to use the following form to identify the individual who can best represent the county and the elderly.

RETURN TO: National Association of County Aging Programs, 1735 New York Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Membership Form

(Please print all information) County State (a rural □ or urban □ county) Name of Aging Program Name of Member(s) (Designated County Aging Program Administrator and/or Elected Official) (Elected □ or Appointed □) City Phone Number Approved by Chief Elected Official:

A Close Look at the A-95 Process

d

lits a

You have found a grant h will fund the program and sent a description of your proor a NOI to both clearinghouses at happens next? (The accompanychart may clarify the process.) he clearinghouse then notifies the opriate government agencies te clearinghouses notify state areawide notify local agencies). clearinghouse has 30 days to er comments from these agenabout the project and pass on comments to you. This step in rocess is designed to identify ems before you have spent con erable time and money on your

If no problems, such as duplication

of service, have been identified, you may then complete and submit the application to the funding agency or the clearinghouse may ask to look at the completed proposal first. If the former takes place, the clearinghouse has another 30 days to review and sign off on the application. If you submit a formal application rather than a NOI, the clearinghouse has 60 days in which to act.

problem areas during the notification period, they try to arrange meet with you before the final proposal is written to resolve the issues. This process can be time-consuming, taking up to several months before a compromise can be reached. If posal is submitted to the funding agency; if not, a revised proposal can be submitted to the clearinghouse for the second 30-day review. During this time, the clearinghouse and other interested agencies react to any changes and comment on the application. You must include these comments with your proposal when it is finally submitted to the federal

agency, the application must be ac-companied by a statement that all clearinghouse comments were considered. However, you may also include a rebuttal to the clearinghouse

If there were no clearinghouse comments, you must certify that A-95 procedures were followed and no comments received. Remember that have to be allowed to complete their review before you submit the pro posal to the funding agency.

THE GRANTOR'S ROLE

Under the terms of the A-95 cir-cular, the granting agency need only notify potential applicants that they must submit applications to areawide must submit applications to areawide and state clearinghouses, refuse to accept an application unless it has been considered by both clearinghouses and notify clearinghouses within seven days of any action taken. This leaves the agency free to make the grant even if the clearinghouse has not approved it. However the agency must notify the clearing house in writing why they have ac To avoid that fast moving merry

go-round feeling when submitting a application under A-95, it is vital application under A-95, it is vital that you become thoroughly familiar with the operations of your local clearinghouses and know the people that will be reviewing your proposal. If you are completely unfamiliar with the process, try to attend an A-95 board meeting. They are often open to the public. You might also contact there in your area who have

contact others in your area who have gone through the process.

—Joan Paschal

The A-95	Notifies clearinghouses with pre-application or NOI	
Process	2. Clearinghouse	
	Notifies public agencies that are interested in project or does own review	
4a, if no issues are raised CH signs off—notifies applicant	3. Public Agencies Review proposals and inform CH of their interest	4b. If issues are raised conference is arranged between applicant and public agencies or CH staff and applicant
Applicant Completes proposal and submits to funding agencies	5a. Conflicts resolved CH signs off and notifies applicant	5b. If conflicts not resolved
		6. Clearinghouse
		CH can notify applicant to submit completed proposal for review
Funding agency		
* FA returns all proposals tha	t don't offer evidence that	4

FA awards grants despite CH objections must explain

7. Applicant

NACo DIALOGUE

The Handicapped Transportation Regulations

Francis B. Francois, President National Association of Counties

I want to extend to you my heartiest and most sincere congratulations upon your election as the new President of the National Association of Counties. It was an honor indeed to meet you, following your acceptance speech during the banquet and formal closing ceremonies. As you know, I had the privilege to make a presentation regarding county compliance with Section 504 at one of the general session workshops held during the conference. I would like to express my gratitude to you, Bernie Hillenbrand and Ms. Tecla Bacon for allowing me the privilege of sharing our planning programs regarding Section 504 with administrators from counties throughout the nation.

You had asked me to briefly outline for you You had asked me to briefly outline for you my deep concern regarding the resolution which NACo adopted on July 17 relating to "Handicapped Transportation Regulations." My concern is primarily directed towards the resolution wording beginning with the statement on "moratorium." I believe that the use of this word implies that NACo would be content to sit back and wait on any degree of progress or effort to improve mass transit for the disabled, pending the duration of the litigation filed by the American Public Transit Association against the U.S. Department of Transportation. If this suit takes a substantial amount of time to be resolved the moratorium Transportation. It this suit takes a substantial amount of time to be resolved the moratorium implying no action would be a terrible blow indeed to the civil rights movement for disabled and mobility-impaired people, which has taken so many years to come about.

I would like to recommend that NACo consider a slight amending of this stance, by publicly expressing its interest in a temporary moratorium on the Section 504 transit mandates in those instances where it can be clearly

shown that existing county funding cannot meet the comprehensive nature of these reg-ulations. In addition, I would hope that NACo could go on record as supporting pilot studies by county governments, working in conjunc-tion with public interest groups, to selectively identify those areas where "retrofitting" of mass transit would clearly enhance the mobility and independence of persons with handicapped

conditions.

I strongly believe that these slight modifications to the resolution would strengthen the meaning of NACo's intent concerning implementation of the law to benefit disabled people. Although wheelchair-bound myself, you will recall that I mentioned to you my clear understanding of the implementation problems caused by Proposition 13 pressures, runaway inflation and the public demand for cost-effective government programs. fective government programs.

I look forward to meeting you again in the future, and to hearing from you regarding NACo's efforts to assist disabled persons in

—Don Dreyer, Coordinator Office for the Physically Handicapped Nassau County, N.Y.

Thank you for your letter of July 31, 1979 concerning NACo's position on the Handicapped Transportation Regulations, and also your kind words on my election as NACo

your kind words on my election as NACo-President.
Unfortunately, at this time NACo cannot formally modify the 504 handicapped trans-portation resolution without the approval of the Board of Directors and the membership. This does not mean that NACo policy issues, such as the 504 regulations, are unchangeable or can never be modified. Changes or modifi-

cations can be made on an interim basis at the NACo Board of Directors meeting in November 1979. Interim policy adjustments must, however, be finalized by the full NACo membership at the next annual conference in Las Vegas, Nev. in 1980.

bership at the next annual conference in Las Vegas, Nev. in 1980.

NACo agrees with your suggestion of pointing out to all counties that, irrespective of the pending 504 litigation, public transit operations are still required by Section 16(a) of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, to make regular transit services more accessible to elderly and handicapped persons. Moreover, efforts to achieve this purpose must be reflected in the annual element of the local transportation improvement program, which serves as the basis for allocation of federal public transportation funds. Additionally, we will be telling our membership that the Congress, in enacting the federal Section 5 (operating expenses) portion of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, provided that fares charged elderly and handicapped persons during off-peak periods for the use of facilities financed under that section of the law cannot exceed one-half of regular peak period fares.

Your suggestion relating to an exemption from the Section 504 Transportation Postels.

Your suggestion relating to an exemption from the Section 504 Transportation Regula-tions in situations where it can be clearly shown that existing county funding cannot shown that existing county funding cannot meet the comprehensive nature of these regulations is precisely one of the reasons NACo is involved in the pending 504 litigation. NACo is committed to achieving full accessibility, but the membership strongly feels that the final 504 regulations requiring mainline accessibility are inappropriate.

Full access to bus and rail facilities will be very careful. The activation of these committees are considered as a constant of the committee of the committe

very costly. The estimated cost of implementing the 504 regulations to urban mass transportation systems will be an additional \$1.8 billion (1977) dollars in capital and operating

expenses according to DOT. Local tragencies estimate that the cost may end \$5 billion. This gives rise to a number of services for counties and other local forments. First, will full accessibility acts meet a significant portion of the real neep persons who use wheelchairs, or are sembulatory? Second, can special services ambulatory? Second, can special services the needs of the elderly and handicapped ter than a fully accessible system? Finally a dual system—a fully accessible transit tem and a system of special service for the manufacture. a dual system—a fully accessible transity tem and a system of special service for the who cannot, or will not, use the regular transity it—appropriate? More importantly, is a description of "retrofitting" in connection with me ing specialized services, along with the ing specialized services, and the reasons why Nu is involved in the 504 litigation.

NACo strongly supports the continue, and expansion of specialized transportation and expansion of specialized transportation in part from a multiplicity of few social welfare programs, including Title social welfare programs, including Title and VII of the Older Americans Act, Title and VII of the Social Security Act, along we have considered to the security and the security and visit of the Social Security Act, along we seem to see the security and the security and visit of the Social Security Act, along we seem to see the security and the security act, along we seem to see the security act, along we seem to see the security act and visit of the Older Americans Act, Title and VII of the Social Security Act, along we seem to see the security act and the security ac

and VII of the Older Americans Act, Tite and VI of the Social Security Act, along the ongoing mandates of Section 16(a) and tion 18 of the Urban Mass Transportation. We will continue to spotlight county transtation programs that receive funding in these federal programs and provide for mobility requirements of elderly and he canned persons.

capped persons.

I hope this information will clarify NAO, efforts to assist elderly and handicapped.

persons.

I welcome your continued thoughts a suggestions on this most important subject

-Francis B. France Preside National Association of Count

Committee on Future Named by Francois

CHAIRMAN

Roy Orr NACo First Vice President Commissioner Dallas County, Texas



MEMBERS

John Spellman NACo Second Vice President County Executive King County, Wash.

J. Richard Conder NACo Third Vice President Chairman, Board of Commissioners Richmond County, N.C.

William J. Murphy NACo Fourth Vice President County Executive Rensselaer County, N.Y.

Guy Millard NACo Fiscal Officer Administrator Somerset County, N.J.

Charlotte Williams NACo Immediate Past President Commissioner Genesee County, Mich.

Rosemary Ahmann Commissioner Olmsted County, Minn.

William O. Beach County Executive Montgomery County, Tenn.

Doris Dealaman Freeholder Somerset County, N.J. NACo President Frank Francois has appointed the members of the NACo Committee on Future. He has asked the committee to consider:

Proposed formal bylaws for the NACo Board of Directors; Proposed formal bylaws for steering committees;

Proposed inprovements in the NACo resolutions process;
Proposed improvements in the NACo resolutions process;
Developing guidelines for evaluating proposed NACo regional districts;
Reviewing the process for presidential appointments to the NACo Board of Directors, cluding possible limitation on the term.

The Committee on the Future has been requested to make its first report to the mid-wing Board of Directors meeting and to have any proposed bylaw changes in time for next year conference.

Bob Eckels Harris County, Texas

Arthur Edmonds Yolo County, Calif.

Herman Geist NACo Parliamentarian Westchester County, N.Y.

Commission President Jefferson County, Ala.

Harold Hayden Commissioner Genesee County, Mich.

Michael Hayes Freeholder Camden County, N.J.

Carolyn Lathrop Associate Judge Boone County, Mo.

Lois Parke Councilman New Castle County, Del. Russell B. "Bo" Shetterly **Executive Director** South Carolina Association of Counties

Sandra Smoley Supervisor Sacramento County, Calif.

Oscar Soliz District Clerk Nueces County, Texas

John Thomas **Executive Director** State Association of County Commissioners of Florida

William Thomas Planning Director Onondaga County, N.Y.

Wally Toevs Commissioner Boulder County, Colo.

Bernard F. Hillenbrand, Secretary Committee on the Future Executive Director, NACo

study of Clean Air Policies Solicit County Viewpoint

ne National Commission on Air lity (NCAQ) is embarking on an program to examine this current efforts and future for reducing air pollution and de a commitment to involve city and state government, the general public, in its

NCAQ is not a regulatory yy. It was established by ess in the Clean Air Act amend-of 1977 and is made up of 13 sioners, including four mem of Congress and nine members ed by the President.

ng the appointed members is me Malchon, commissioner, as County, Fla. Other appoin-include a state legislator, a industry, environmental, health and Indian represen-

ording to Malchon, counties to frame the clean air policy ure through participation in Q study. "We recognize MCAQ study. "We recognize all of us in this country face difficult choices and that, if our mmendations are to be useful to we must have full par-of all segments of the their formulation," urges "This commission marks st effort of any body to take a rehensive approach to the tion's air in a realistic and ef-manner. I believe we can for-constructive, viable recom-

commission is compiling and ing information on the mic, environmental, health, and social and social issues and to air quality policy. Malchon that the commission "hopes to mplish this immense task within nd budget constraints by coning on five or six regions for sive studies. Recommenwill be made to Congress at clusion of its investigation."

In establishing the commission, Congress recognized that the existing regulatory framework may need refining or may not be the best way to reduce air pollution. The commission's analysis will help Congress make informed decisions about air quality.

WHAT THE COMMISSION

WILL DO
The issues of clean air policy are complex, and are both scientific and political. The commission's work plan encompasses seven basic issues

National ambient air quality National ambient air quality standards: What processes and criteria should EPA use in establishing or reviewing air stan-dards? Are there other pollutants, not currently controlled, that pose a hazard to health?

 Keeping clean air clean: What are the health and economic impacts of preventing degradation of clean air? Are there better ways than the existing regulations to go about

· Cleaning up dirty air areas: How existing requirements affect health, energy, and jobs? How effec-tive are the present strategies such as review of new sources of pollution and emissions offsets?

· Pollution from cars, trucks and other mobile sources: What energy effects do these requirements have? Are present control technologies effective? What are the effects of tampering, fuel switching and other post-manufacturing factors?

Costs and benefits of air pollution control: How can we accurately measure these costs and benefits?

Impacts of air pollution control on industry: For selected industries (especially those using coal), what the effects of current requirements? What would be the effects of alternative approaches?

• Institutional and research programs in planning and enforce-

ment: Are federal, state and local governments able to carry out the Clean Air Act? Can requirements be simplified? Are research and simplified? Are research and monitoring programs adequate to tell us what we need to know about

this country's air?
In addition, the commission will review and analyze the effectiveness of many of the alternative approaches developed in other parts of the study, including economic and other-nonregulatory strategies. In particular, the study of economic incentives to supplement or replace government regulatory controls will be closely examined.

HOW YOUR COUNTY CAN GET INVOLVED

Throughout the commission's study, there will be numerous points at which county government should get involved. "Officials at the local or county level will bear most of the for putting the Clean Air Act fect," states Malchon, NCAQ into effect," states Malchon, NCAQ
member. "It is imperative that they
have input into the process."

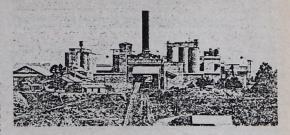
The NCAQ will be selecting a small

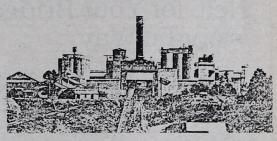
number of geographical regions for which the clean air (prevention of significant deterioration) and dirty air (nonattainment) issues will be examined in great detail. Although these regions will be small in number, they will probably be quite large in size. In those areas, the NCAQ will be establishing local information groups to ensure accurate data and reasonable conclusions, and county officials will be important members

of those groups.

Also, at various points in the study, "expert panels" will be needed to study such topics as modeling techniques, monitoring and cost-benefit analysis.

The commission intends to evaluate how well the Clean Air Act has been implemented at all levels of government and will be interviewing government officials about the state





implementation plan (SIP) process. The NCAQ will want to know, for example, whether local concerns have been adequately reflected in the

POINTS OF CONTACT Here's how your county can get

involved:
• Watch County News for air quality articles and contact the Clean Air Project at NACoR for more information on those issues

concern your county; Contact Ginger Patterson, Contact

NCAQ Intergovernmental Liaison, 499 South Capitol St., Washington, D.C. 20003 (202/245-6355) for a copy of the commission's work plan and to be put on their mailing list for a periodic newsletter;
• Establish contact with Jeanne

Malchon or other commission mem bers to express your concerns about how the commission's work should proceed. Malchon can be reached at Pinellas County, 315 Court St. Clearwater, Fla. 33516.

-Arleen Shulman

The Latest Word

. A Look at **NACo/NACoR Publications**

hishing an Energy Office: Seven County Programs.

publication from NACoR's Energy Project a variety of approaches to the organization of a e counties have built an energy component into

ng agencies, some have developed programs to needs as they arise, while others have consolidated rgy activities into a new department. Emphasis en placed on conserving energy in county buildn energy audits for businesses and homes and on

the case study offers background on the county and brelopment of its program, describes the way in activities are funded and the county's involvement federal and state agencies. Besides these details, mblication addresses decisions that must be made eacounty undertakes such a program.

ties and Safe Drinking Water: Protecting the Pub-

new publication from the National Association nunties Research corporation describes in detail forts of four county health departments to ensure thinking water for their citizens—Allegheny County, Pa., Kern County, Calif., Olmsted County, Minn. and Palm Beach County, Fla. These counties represent a range of geographic, water source and institutional characteristics.

Although the federal Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 encourages states to take over primary enforcement responsibilities, many states that have done so cannot adequately monitor the entire state. In the states in which the Environmental Protection Agency retains responsibility, resources are stretched even farther. An active county role in these circumstances has helped this nation make sure that people drawing water from public systems have clean safe drinking water.

If your county health and environmental department already has such a program, you may want to compare notes with the counties presented in this booklet. If you are interested in taking a more active role, the programs described on the booklet can give you a place to start. Descriptions of institutional arrangements, day-to-day activities, budgets and staffing are included.

In addition, the booklet includes information gleaned from talking with state water officials about the activities of counties across the country.

For more information on federal and state drinking ater programs, contact Arleen Shulman at NACoR. Both publications are available from the NACo publica-

Census Offers Program to Assure Accurate Tally

Each county in the nation has a stake in the 1980 census. For that reason the Bureau of the Census has developed several voluntary programs through which local governments can join with the federal government in working for the most accurate possible count of their communities

During the 1970 Census, the bureau conducted an experimental project with the city of Detroit to involve community leaders in encouraging public cooperation with the census effort. Called the "Correct Count Committee," the panel, up of local clergy, elected officials, minority leaders, and businessmen launched a public campaign to assure citizens of the safeguards surrounding the personal census information and to inform them of the federal funds that flow to the community based on the census

This committee was able to draw on local resources, such as radio and television personalities, to promote the 1970 census as a supplement to bureau's national publicity program.

Because of the positive con-tributions of this effort, the bureau is developing and testing the concept of local "Complete Count Commit-tees" for the 1980 census. The program was used in the 1978 dress rehearsal census in Richmond, Va., and again the efforts of the mayor and other community leaders contributed to the success of the census pretest. This fall the bureau will launch a program to encourage as many counties and cities as possible to form these committees for getting the census message across and get ting local government actively volved.

Another voluntary program, called the Local Review Program, is now under way. This program, a coop-erative effort between local of-ficials and the bureau, is designed to provide counties and cities with the opportunity to review preliminary population and housing counts from the census before the temporary census district offices are closed and all counts are finalized.

counts are finalized.

All revenue sharing governments at the county level and below, about 39,000 in all, have been invited to join this program. The Census Bureau has requested that local officials and their designated liaisons review the counts and feed information back to the bureau if discrepancies in the counts are discrepancies in the counts are suspected. The program is being un-dertaken because the bureau be-lieves that the knowledge of elec-ted officials and their local liaisons regarding the location of housing and population in their communities will greatly enhance the accuracy of will greatly enhance the accuracy of

the 1980 census.

For further information about how your county can participate in these and other programs to ensure an accurate and useful census, write to the Director, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233.

Bridge Meetings Scheduled

To help assure that counties get their fair share of the \$4.2 billion their fair share of the 84.2 billion available in the federal highway bridge replacement and rehabilitation program, the National Association of Counties Research, Inc. (NACOR) and the National Association of the National Asso are sponsoring a series of regional meetings on the bridge program, designed specifically for county

The regional meetings are based on the nine regions of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and are specifically designed for

officials in those areas. (If your state is not listed in any region, you do not have road and bridge respon

Mark your calendar now. You will be receiving housing and registration be receiving housing and registration information in the mail direct from NACoR. Sites of the meetings are: Region 10 (Idaho, Oregon, Washing-ton), Boise, Idaho, Sept. 18-19, 1979; Region 3 (Maryland, Pennsylvania), Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 3-4, 1979; Re-gion 5 (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin), Indiana-polis, Ind., Oct. 25-26, 1979; Region 7

(Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska), Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 5-6, 1979; Region I (New Jersey, New York), Albany, N.Y., Nov. 15-16, 1979; Region 8 (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming), Denver, Colo., Jan. 10-11, 1980; Region 9 (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada), San Francisco, Calif., Jan. 24-25, 1980; Region 4 (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee), Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 7-8, 1980; Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, 1980; Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana)

1980; Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas), Fort Worth, Texas, Feb. 14-15, 1980.

Summons to Bridge Battle for Md. and Pa. Officials

You have received a letter from National Association of Coun-Research, Inc. (NACoR) President Francois and National Association County Engineers (NACE) President Klossner urging your attendant at the NACoR-NACE regional meeting on the federal bridge program

Wednesday, Oct. 3—1:30-5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4—9 a.m.-noon Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Please use the housing and registration forms enclosed with that \lg_{th} to register for the meeting.

During the session, county, state and federal officials will provide formation on implementation of the \$4.2 billion federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program, covering such topics as:

 How county projects qualify for funds;
 Federal and state rules and regulations that must be followed;
 Bridge inventory and inspection requirements;
 In addition, NACoR will learn from you how to improve program ministration and cut red tape. You will also receive a packet contains. the most up-to-date information on the federal bridge program technical resources.

For more information on the NACoR-NACE bridge meeting, comb Marlene Glassman, NACoR Transportation Project Director.

Matter and Measure



DIRECTIONAL SIGN REPORT
In 1978 Congress directed the U.S. Department of Transportation, study the national standards for directional and informational signs systems. Accordingly, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) an in-house interdisciplinary task force to consider existing direction

The task force has now submitted its final report and recommendation The task force has now submitted its final report and recommendation FHWA, although the rule-making process on this subject is not yet find Because the reassessment of the Highway Beautification Program nounced on April 30, 1979 addresses the question of motorist informations in considerable detail, it was determined that the directional informational sign standards and systems study should be considered in Highway Beautification Program reassessment. FHWA will make its full was the submitted of the program reassessment of the program reassessment is completed.

ment is completed.

Please send comments on the directional and informational signing states by September 14 to Chuck Reidbord of NACo. Chuck can also furnish on of the notice of availability of the task force study from the July 23 Fe

Copies of the task force report are available from: Dr. Ross D. Nether Chairman, Task Force on Directional and Informational Signing, Offi Research, HRS-41, Federal Highway Administration, 400 7th Street Washington, D.C. 20590.

RAILROAD GRADE CROSSINGS PUBLICATION

A Traffic Laws Commentary publication, Drivers Duties at Railroad (gings, developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), is available.

Transportation officials agree that the automobile/train collision is penthe most preventable highway tragedy of all. It is hoped that transports decision-makers who are active in driver, railroads and highway promanagement will find this publication useful in improving rail/highway g

The publication reviews state motor vehicle and traffic laws applicable railroad grade crossings. It is limited, however, to provisions appearing state vehicle codes and does not include laws appearing in state highways. railroad codes.

Copies are available from the Government Printing Office for \$2.75. Worder refer to Stock No. 050-003-00345-0 and send request to the Superindent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 200

ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED SEMINARS

The Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) is conducted eight regional seminars, each lasting one-and-a-half days, to assist local in the planning and provision of specialized transportation services for elements.

- and handicapped persons.

 The objectives of these seminars are:

 To provide technical information on service concepts and travel behave that will be useful in the development of transition plans and the provise interim services where necessary to meet the U.S. Department of Transport tion (DOT) regulations implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation
- To disseminate findings regarding alternative methods for improvement the mobility of the transportation handicapped in areas where there

public transit system.

• To provide information and guidelines for use in preparing transplans for identifying improvements and policies that will achieve the

To disseminate information on the initial experiences with planning.¹ nology, and deployment of accessible fixed route transit vehicles in cities have already begun to provide accessible mainline transit.
 The seminar topics are restricted to bus and paratransit services and not provide general compliance guidance for meeting requirements of the regulation.

Locations and dates are: New York, Sept. 5-6; Chicago, Sept. 19-20; De Oct. 3-4; Fort Worth, Oct. 10-11; Boston, Oct. 24-25; San Francisco, Not 15; Phoenix, Nov. 19-20; Atlanta, Nov. 28-29. For more information contact Helen M. Overly, Public Technology, 1140 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, 202/452-7700

Attention: Idaho, Washington and Oregon County Officials Help for Your Bridges is on the Way A special meeting to explain the new federal bridge program is being held by the National Association of Counties Research, Inc. (NACoR). It is especially designed for county officials in Idaho, Washington and Oregon. The Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation program is a source of billions of federal dollars. It may be the answer to your local bridge crisis, but it raises

many questions:
• What are provisions of the bridge bill passed by the U.S. Congress?

How are funds made available to counties?

What federal and state rules and regulations must be followed?

During the meeting, county, state and federal officials will answer these and other questions, and NACoR will learn from you how to improve program administration and

You will also receive a packet containing the most up-to-date information on the bridge program and technical resources.

We encourage you to attend this important meeting so you will get your fair share of federal bridge funds.

> Tuesday, Sept. 18 Wednesday, Sept. 19 2 p.m. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, Boise, Idaho

A block of rooms has been set aside for you at the Boise Holiday Inn. **Please make your own reservations** directly with the Holiday Inn. *no later than Sept. 4, 1979,* and indicate that you will attend the NACoR bridge meeting: **Reservationist, Holiday Inn, 3300 Vista Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705, 208/344-8365.**

Your \$35 registration fee will cover meal functions and packet information. To register, please complete the form below and send it to Marlene Glassman. Transportation Project Director, at NACoR by **Sept. 4, 1979.** If you do not pre-register, an on-site registration fee of \$40 will be charged.

NACOR BRIDGE MEETING REGISTRATION FORM September 18-19, 1979

Name		William Land and Control of Control
Title (include name of county if	county official)	
Address		
		The same of the sa
City	State	Zip Code
Telephone ()		
☐ Enclosed is my check for \$3	35 made payable to NACoR	
☐ Please bill my county for \$3	35	
RETU	RN TO NACOR BY SEPTEM	IBER 4, 1979

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AGLANDS PERSPECTIVE

Environmental Impact Review Aids in Farmland Conservation

counties are discovering that their farmland is being converted to cultural uses at an accelerating pace, ted officials recognize the potential ences of this trend: the failure of sequences of this trend, the failure of culture as an industry that supports the economy, and rising costs of providing is services to widely dispersed settlement, metimes, the force behind the conversion cal agricultural lands is the federal govern-Highways, reservoirs, sewage treat-facilities, energy development and other al projects are often responsible for farmland outright or establishing patterns that encourage development that should remain cropland. Of course, tter is not black and white—such pro-re frequently needed, but may be overpoorly located. And the truth is that nate design and location of these prothe result of a process of negotiation state and county, as well as federal

nes important, therefore, for county who are concerned about farmland on to be able to exert leverage over the s that determines the design, location on whether there is really a need for ects. Federal environmental impact procedures are a tool that can help

I government gain this leverage when dwith a federal proposal. Wiyronmental impact review, mandated by Vational Environmental Policy Act of 1969 AP. P. J. 91-190, is designed to ensure that ral agencies "look before they leap" into sions that may irreversibly affect the use hatural resources, including our finite rultural land base. Review procedures are need in newly streamlined and simplified ations of the Council on Environmental of the Council on Environmental ty (CEQ) (These can be found in the Code deral Regulation, Vol. 40, Parts 1500and became effective July 30, 1979.) is how these procedures can es that are concerned about farmland

THE FEDERAL REVIEW PROCESS

ant federal involvement in a matter ould affect environmental resources is triggers the requirement that agencies their review. This involvement may be federal sponsorship or funding of a taking, or federal regulation of a private acty. If the project or other federal action is stantial size or arouses controversy, an ronmental review must be performed reany action is taken to commit the agen-

he first step in such an environmental ew is referred to as the "scoping" process, erein the responsible federal agen-together with state and local agencies that something to say about the ct-identifies the resource management that are raised by its proposal, and at alternatives that might serve the ct purpose but cause fewer resource ns. This is the initial opportunity that officials have to get involved in the process, and to express their views whether a project is needed, their conabout its impact on local farmland, and ideas about alternative designs and sites could reduce the effects on agricultural

behave vision insport on Ac

is crucial that county officials get in-ed in the review process at the earliest e for otherwise important decisions about goes into the study may be made without participation—the farmland conversion r participation—the farmland conversion e may not even be raised. Timely infor-tion about new federal project proposals led be available to county officials through boal A-95 clearinghouse agency or, par-larly in the case of a project that could af-farmland, through the state conserva-ionist of the Soil Conservation Service S.U.S. Department of Agriculture.

EIS AND FARMLAND

ice scoping is completed, the federal agen-ind cooperating state and local agencies) his preparing a draft environmental impact ement (EIS). In this concise document, the

agency must explain in plain English what effects the project will have on the environment based on its careful technical anlysis. The effects on farmland are clearly intended to be addressed. A memorandum from the chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality to all heads of federal agencies stipulates that the analysis should include "threats to the con-tinued use and viability of farmlands not only from direct construction activities, but also from urbanization or other changes in land use that might be induced by the federal action."

Under the new CEQ regulations, a federal agency must also explore in the impact statement any conflict between the effects of a proposed project and local land use plans, policies or controls (including those that focus on farmland conservation). This requirement is expressly designed to give local government leverage over federal decisions that affect land resources. But for this procedure to work, county officials must make federal agen-cies aware of local farmland conservation

If, for some reason, county officials—or local citizens—are not able to raise the farmland issue during the scoping process or by cooperating in the preparation of an EIS, they may do so by commenting in writing on the

draft document when it is made available to the public for this purpose. Comments may take the form of your own analysis of project impacts, presentation of data that contradict the federal agency conclusions, or questions that the agency has not yet addressed.

During the comment period, which varies with the magnitude of the project but is never less than 45 days, other federal agencies also review the EIS and prepare a response. The U.S. Department of Agriculture plays a key role in analyzing projects that may result in farmland conversion, and can be of great help to county officials in understanding the comto county officials in understanding the com-plexities of the issue, providing them with useful data and making sure that their opinions are considered. USDA review begins with the participation of the SCS district conservationist (at the county level) or the state conservationist in the scoping and EIS preparation process, and may continue at the Washington level through the agency's Office of Environmental Quality, if the impact of a project on farmland is serious or controversial. County officials should not hesitate to contact this office directly, if at any time their concerns about farmland conversion are not being listened to by any federal agency, including divisions within USDA itself.

FINAL DECISION-MAKING

After all the comments of citizens and county, state and federal officials have been digested by the agency that sponsors a project, a final EIS is prepared and becomes vital information upon which a decision on the project is made—go ahead with it, modify it to militate inparts on farmlands abandon it in mitigate impacts on farmlands, abandon it in favor of an alternative. A finding in an EIS that a project would have a devastating effect on farmland does not compel the sponsoring agency to abandon or modify it, but it does give rise to the opportunity to elevate the controversy to the CEQ for further high-level review and, hopefully, a resolution that is satisfactory to all concerned parties.

satisfactory to all concerned parties.

The environmental impact review process, in the final analysis, is only as effective as conscientious citizens and public officials want to make it. With dedicated participation and an open mind to the opinions of everyone involved, it can provide county government with greater leverage over federal projects that would unseccessfully generally and for the processor of the control of necessarily remove local farmland from production and thereby disrupt both the en-vironment and the economy of the community.

-Edward Thompson Jr. NACoR

Farmland Bill Protects County Role

The Environmental Impact Statement required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) can be an important tool for counties to influence federal decisionmaking, as it affects the protection of

agricultural land.

Another important and potentially more potent tool is being considered by Agriculture Committees in both the House and Senate. The proposed Agricultural Land Protection Act, H.R. 2551 and S. 795, would direct federal agencies to conduct their activities in a manner consistent with county, state and local agricultural land protection laws. This coupled agricultural and proceed on laws. I his coupled with the NEPA process promises to provide counties with a stronger tool for providing some control over federal actions now resulting in or encouraging the conversion of valuable farmland to other uses.

Every year, the United States loses about 3 million acres of farmland. Many counties and minion acres of farmand, Many contines and some states have adopted programs for revers-ing this trend, which would provide the basis for judging and even controlling federal ac-tions which help promote conversion. Federal projects such as highway construction, sewers and wastewater treatment plants, water resource projects, federal land purchases, and federally supported or approved public facili-ties, often frustrate county efforts to guide vth and implement programs for preserving agricultural land.

CONSISTENCY OF FEDERAL ACTIONS

The proposed agricultural land protection bill would transfer much of the decisionmaking over development and resource actions affecting agricultural land back to county, state and local officials. The consistency requirement found in Section 104 of the proposed act would require federal actions to be compatible with state or local agricultural land protection programs already in existence and at the time they are proposed.

A similar requirement is contained in the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) first enacted in 1972. Consistency determinations under CZMA are made in the case of projects by the sponsoring federal agency, and in the case of federal permits by the state. In order to qualify for use of the consistency requirement under the proposed agricultural bill, counties and states would need to have an

agricultural land protection law which identified land for preservation.

DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTY PROGRAMS

Many counties are implementing a variety of measures to protect agricultural land. Title III of H.R. 2551 would provide a demonstration program of financial assistance to develop, program of thancial assistance to develop, demonstrate and carry out a variety of methods for preserving agricultural land. Some of these methods such as zoning, agricultural districts, and purchase of development rights are already in use and would be applied in a variety of new situations and more impossible ways such as in comand more innovative ways, such as in com-binations. Other methods such as the transfer of development rights and the purchase and lease-back method now in use in Europe could be tested, in some cases, for the first time. Other provisions of the bill would authorize

the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a national study to evaluate the factors contri-

buting to the loss of agricultural land, its impact on the national economy, and the ex-perience of state and local demonstration grantees in carrying out projects for farmland preservation. The Administration is now conducting a version of this study which would identify the reasons for agricultural land conversion and impact on the U.S. economy and balance of payments.

The proposed Agricultural Land Protection Act will be considered by the House and Senate Agriculture Committees during Sep-tember. NACo supports provisions contained in both bills. During the August recess, county officials should contact their own delegation and committee members and urge co-sponsorship of H.R. 2551 in the House and S. 795 in the Senate.

HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Thomas S. Foley, Washington, Chairman E de la Garza, Texas Walter B. Jones, North Carolina Ed Jones, Tennessee Dawson Mathis, Georgia George E. Brown, Jr., California David R. Bowen, Mississippi Charles Rose, North Carolina Frederick W. Richmond, New York Richard Nolan, Minnesota James Weaver, Oregon Alvin Baldus, Wisconsin Tom Harkin, Iowa Berkley Bedell, Iowa Glenn English, Oklahoma Floyd J. Fithian, Indiana Leon E. Panetta, California Ike Skelton, Missouri Jerry Huckaby, Louisiana Dan Glickman, Kansas Daniel K. Akaka, Hawaii

Charles Whitley, North Carolina Tony Coelho, California Thomas A. Daschle, South Dakota Kent Hance, Texas Beryl Anthony, Jr., Arkansas Charles W. Stenholm, Texas William C. Wampler, Virginia Keith G. Sebelius, Kansas Paul Findley, Illinois Steven D. Symms, Idaho James P. Johnson, Colorado Edward R. Madigan, Illinois Margaret M. Heckler, Massachusetts James M. Jeffords, Vermont Richard Kelly, Florida Charles E. Grassley, Iowa Tom Hagedorn, Minnesota E. Thomas Coleman, Missouri Ron Marlenee, Montana Larry Hopkins, Kentucky Bill Thomas, California

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David L. Boren, Oklahoma Jesse Helms, North Carolina Milton R. Young, North Dakota Robert Dole, Kansas S. I. Hayakawa, California Richard Lugar, Indiana Thad Cochran, Mississippi Rudy Boschwitz, Minnesota Roger Jepsen, Iowa

Conference to Spotlight Rural Need

In planning for NACo's Eighth Annual Employment Policy Conference in Jefferson County (Louisville), Ky. Oct. 14-17, the NACETA (National Association of County Employment and Training Administrators) Board of Directors has placed special emphasis on the needs and concerns of rural and balance-of-state (BOS) CETA administrators.

This is a result of the commitment, expressed by NACETA President Patricia Bambery early in her term, to developing and strengthening the services of NACETA and NACo for the

special employment and training needs of rural counties. She appointed a rural/BOS task force of county and regional BOS co-ordinators and governors' office rep-

resentatives to: explore the role of BOS and rural counties within the CETA system including the relationship between BOS counties and states, facilitate BOS participation in NACETA and NACo's service fee program, explore the various types of BOS administrative structures, facilitate exchange of program informa-tion and serve as advisors to the

NACETA board on rural issues. At NACo's recent annual conference, the task force made recommendations for rural participation at the NACETA conference. It was decided that the workshop agenda should provide a rural perspective on as many issues as possible.

Special rural workshops will include: CETA and Rural Economic

Middle Initial

Development, Balance of Roundtable and Rural Deliverels. Representatives of rural areas will also participate of panels including PSE Transcription. cation Systems, Private Councils, Independent M Councils, Independent Mon Units, CETA's Role in Nation Units, CETA's Role in National ergy Policy, Diversifying Fus Resources, Private Sector Prop. Information: Access and Dissection, Youth Demonstray grams, and Improving the Sur Youth Program.

Bambery and the NACETA B. of Directors extend a special of the property of the property of the property and staff to attend the conference of the property of t

and staff to attend the conference become involved with NACE activities. With your help and pa pation, NACETA can continue velop as an organization which dresses the concerns of rural, a as suburban and urban, count administrators and elected office

Workshops on Local Budgetin **Being Planned**

Several financial managen workshops are planned durin tember for the top managers o and medium-sized jurisdiction programs will feature manage financial experts who have devi isdictions.

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The one-day financial plam workshop will be held Sept. II Los Angeles and Sept. 19 in Des Participants will explore a variety rattchants will explore a var financial planning approach cluding revenue-expenditure casting, fiscal impact analys the use of early warning indica The budgeting and perfor

The budgeting and perior measurement workshop will be on Sept. 5 in Atlanta, and Se in Minneapolis. Blending ditypes of budgets, developing s level budgets, and using perior reporting are several approx which will be examined. The Ge Association of County Consioners will be one of the cospo

sioners will be one of the cospos of the Atlanta meeting.

The workshops, sponsored by International City Management sociation, are offered in conjun-with the Department of Housing Urban Development's Finan Management Capacity Sharing

gram.
For further information, on Peggy Brannigan, International Management Association, 1140 necticut Avenue N.W., Washi D.C. 20036, 202/828-3682.

Ezelle Briefed at White House

Curtis Ezelle, tax commi tended a White House briefing the Strategic Arms Limits Treaty (SALT II). At the invitati the President, Ezelle flew to and Washington at his own expense briefing was conducted by Mr. 0 and Zbigniew Brzezinski, Assistat the President for National Sen

at the White House, for any read Ezelle said. "It's kind of like a manding general of an army; vites you, you go." in office for 31 years and active NACo for over 20 years. He past President of the National activition of Treasurers and Finance

NACETA will sponsor NACo's Eighth National **Employment Policy Conference**

Sponsored by the National Association of County Employment and Training Administrators (NACETA) with special sessions sponsored by the County Employee/Labor Relations Service (CELRS)

Commonwealth Convention Center Jefferson County (Louisville), Kentucky October 14-17, 1979

Workshops			CONFERENCE REGISTRATIO		
For elected officials, CETA staff, labor relations staff, personnel directors, welfare directors, lob service directors and service deliverers		Check appropriate box(es) Name Last	□ Delegate (\$95) First	□ Spouse	: (\$55)
PSE Management Job Development Jouth Programs Rural Programs JED / Affirmative Action Job Classification Public / Media Relations Business Sessio	OJT Designs Private Sector Initiative Welfare Reform Targeted Jobs Tax Credit Client Motivation Counseling Techniques	Title	riate)		
lection of Officers of the		City Name of Registered Spouse	State	Zip	Tel
Regional Caucuses General Session Speakers		L	ast		SE TO DES

Committee Chairman Carl Perkins, Secretary of Labór F. Ray Marshall, House Subcommittee on Employment Opportunities,

Ranking Minority Member James Jeffords, Assistant Secretary of Labor Ernest Green, and many other key congressional representatives, staff and administration officials

General Information

Delegates to NACo's 8th Annual Employment Policy Conference can both preregister for the conference and reserve hotel accommodations by completing this form in full. Please use **one** form for **each** delegate registering for this conference. You must pay your Conference Registration Fee by check, voucher, or equivalent made payable to National Association of Counties / Employment and postmarked no later than Sept. 10, 1979. Return all of the above to NACETA Conference Registration Center, 1735 New York Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006. For further information, call 703/471-6180.

Conference Registration

All advance conference registrations must include payment and be postmarked no later than **Sept. 10**, **1979.** No requests for conference registration will be accepted by telephone. Refunds of Conference Registration Fee will be made if cancellation is necessary, provided that written notice is postmarked no later than Oct. 7, 1979. Spouses must register to attend social events. No separate tickets will be sold.

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. Special conference room rates will be available to all delegates whose reservations ar	e	
postmarked to the NACETA Conference Registration Center no later than Sept. 10.		

 After Sept. 10 no hotel reservations will be made directly by the Conference Registration Center. However, the NACETA Registration Center (703/471-6180) will provide information on hotel room availability after Sept. 10 so that delegates can make their own hotel reservations.

No housing reservations will be accepted over the telephone at any time by the Conference Registration Center.

Indicate hotel preference by circling rate under type of room:

by your county or by sending one night's deposit to the above address. For further housing information, call NACETA Conference Registration Center (703/471-6180).

	l person/l bed	2 persons/1 bed	2 persons/2 beds
Hyatt Regency	\$39	\$49	\$49
Galt House	\$35	\$43	\$43
Note: Suite information fro	m Conference Re	gistration Center	(703/471-6180).
Name of individual			
Co-occupant/Double or Tv	vin		
Arrival Date/time	Depart	ure Date/Time	
Special Hotel Requests			
Credit Card Name		Number	
Authorized user's signatur	re		Expiration Date
☐ Check here if you have a	housing related di	sability.	
N d	n	For Office Use Only	

Check Amount

Date Received_ Date Postmarked