This Week

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COUNTY NEWS

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

NACo

Vol. 11, No. 48 December 10, 1979 Washington, D.C.

LOCKED IN DISCUSSION—Reps. Jack Brooks (D-Texas), L.H. Fountain (D-N.C.) and Les Aspin (D-Wis.) discuss amendments being offered to H.R. 5980, the targeted and antirecession fiscal assistance legislation reported out of the House Government Operations Committee Dec. 5. A vote on House floor is expected this week.

House Panel Approves Antirecession Measure

The House Government Operations Committee last week approved a bill to aid governments hard hit by an economic recession through quarterly payments and a "one shot" $250 million program aimed at the most needy.

The bill, H.R. 5980, was sponsored by Chairman Jack Brooks (D-Texas) and represents a compromise worked out by the Administration and the committee leadership. The so-called "fast track" legislation was introduced and reported out of subcommittee and full committee in five legislative days. It is expected that the bill will be voted on by the full House this week.

The first title is a $1 billion countercyclical program that would help state and local governments during a recession in proportion to the impact of the recession on each government. While a billion dollars is authorized for fiscal '80, the Second Budget Resolution contains only $525 million for fiscal '80 for both an antirecession program and any targeted fiscal assistance.

The program would be triggered when the gross national product drops in two consecutive quarters, and a decline in real wages and salaries is evidenced.

Once a recession has been confirmed by these declines, funds would be allocated for each recession quarter based on the severity of the recession. The program would be funded at a rate of $15 million for each one-tenth percentage point decline in real wages and salaries measured from the pre-recession base which increases three-tenths of 1 percent in each recession quarter. Funding would continue until real wages and salaries reach the higher base level resulting from the three-tenths of 1 percent added to each recession quarter.

States would receive each calendar quarter one-third of the funds in proportion to their respective shares of the national decline in real wages and salaries and their tax effort.

Under a complex formula, the remaining two-thirds of the money would be allocated to all qualifying county areas on the basis of the amount of their increased, or "excess," unemployment rates for each recession quarter as compared with the same calendar quarter in the previous non-recession year.

Within each county area, the allocation would be divided between the county government and other general units of government in proportion to their respective shares of general revenue sharing money. The minimum payment to any unit of government would be $1,500 for the quarter, and no unit would receive an allocation if its per capita income is 140 percent or more of the per capita income for its state.

THE SECOND TITLE of the bill provides $250 million for payment in a lump sum, about April 1, to those units of general local government that meet the following eligibility tests:

• An unemployment rate above the national average in the most recent calendar year computed separately for governments in metropolitan areas and those outside metropolitan areas;

• A growth rate in employment of less than 250 percent of the national average during the most recent three years;

See RECESSION, page 8

GASOHOL OUTLETS BOOM

Alcohol Fuel Comes Back in Style

The secretly operated still, made famous by the bootleggers, is even today the basic apparatus used in small scale production of alcohol. But there's a rather different use for the alcohol made by modern still-like operations, namely energy. The reemergence of alcohol and alcohol blends as a fuel source is one of the more interesting side effects of the current energy crisis.

With all the hoopla surrounding gasohol, one could think that alcohol fuel production is a brand new technology. Not so. Henry Ford designed the Model T to run on gasoline, alcohol or a blend. Ford was an early and vocal proponent of the use of gasohol.

In the early 1930s, service stations in a number of midwestern states sold a gasohol blend under the brand name of Agrol. In addition, during World War II the federal government made extensive use of ethanol, one of the forms of alcohol, as part of the war effort. The reason these uses did not survive is simple. As we moved further into the petroleum era, gasoline became cheaper than alcohol and drove it from the market.

But the days of cheap and readily available gasoline are over—as anyone who owns an automobile can attest. While most alcohol fuels are still not cheaper than gasoline, selling for between $1.40 and $1.60 a gallon, various federal tax initiatives have almost evened out the differences. Despite this apparent parity however, the widespread use of 100 percent alcohol fueled vehicles is not anticipated in the near future.

Perhaps the most likely use of alcohol is as an extender, and octane booster, for current gasoline supplies. According to the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), "if (an) oil refinery produces a lower grade of gasoline to take advantage of the octane boosting properties of ethanol, an additional 36 gallons of gasoline equivalent can be saved in refinery processing energy." When this octane boost is added to the gasoline savings that an alcohol-gasoline blend will bring, it could have a significant effect on our oil dependence.

If the use of alcohol has these benefits, why hasn't it received wider use? In fact, it has. In Iowa, where gasohol is exempt from state fuel taxes, sales have increased in less than a year from 600,000 gallons to 6.1 million gallons. The National Gasohol Commission estimates that four or five new outfits open each day and that total outlets have grown from about 500 in March of this year to 2,000 in October.

Besides the advantages that alcohol fuels have as a gasoline supplement, they have the added advantage of being easily produced from a variety of readily available resources.

ALCOHOL PRODUCTION

The new materials for the production of alcohol fuels are found in every area of the United States. Sources include wood and forest residues, manure, corn and plant residue, and most feed grains.

Most commercial applications of alcohol technology have focused on the use of grains, in particular corn, and of wood and forest products. In large measure the production technology has not changed in centuries. The still of yesterday continues to be the basic apparatus used in small scale applications. Large commercial operations use, obviously, a more sophisticated technology but the principle is essentially the same.

The key to the commercial production of alcohol is the cost of the feedstocks. For example, ethanol produced from corn at $2.50 a bushel would yield alcohol for about $1 a gallon. However, the cost could be reduced by using the by-product, which is high in protein and nutrient value, as an animal food.

A potentially cheaper source of alcohol is methanol, produced from either coal or municipal waste. Alcohol from coal could cost between 30 to 60 cents a gallon and alcohol from municipal waste below 70 and 90 cents a gallon. However, the economics of this produc-

See KEEN, page 3

Contents of yesterday's alcohol still, strapped to revenuers' car, can be put into gas tanks to run today's vehicles.

Revenue Sharing Audit Alert

The Office of Revenue Sharing requires that all counties that have received more than $25,000 in general revenue sharing money since 1976 must submit audits of these funds by March 1. Failure to do so may result in termination of revenue sharing aid. The Office of Revenue Sharing reports that less than one-third of the counties nationwide have filed audit reports to date. NACo urges all counties to file their audits with the ORS as soon as possible.

JOBS CALLED WEAPON AGAINST INFLATION—Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.), standing, asks advice from CETA and community and economic development administrators. Also seen are, from left, Carol Payne, CETA administrator, Coconino County, Ariz.; Charlie Bartsch, program analyst, HUD; Jon Weintraub, NACo associate director.

Hawkins Calls for Links among Local Job Creation Programs

Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.), told a group of CETA and community and economic development administrators last week at NACo that "local governments have not focused the attention necessary to enhance cooperation among job creation programs."

The chairman of the House subcommittee on employment opportunities added, "The time has come for the public to look at federal programs as not just jobs, but as an effective weapon against inflation."

His remarks came during a meeting attended by representatives of NACo, the National Governors' Association, the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. The meeting was called in response to Hawkins' request for more information on existing links between CETA and other federal job programs in an attempt to determine whether legislative or regulatory changes are necessary to remove current barriers. Also attending were subcommittee staff, Susan Grayson, director, and Steve Juntilla.

Administrators at the meeting strongly opposed any new requirements being added to the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), emphasizing that flexibility to design programs based on local conditions is crucial to establishing successful links between programs.

Grayson suggested that incentives be offered as an alternative to specific legislative mandates to ensure coordination. Participants agreed that incentives would be a better approach if they were in addition to regular allocations and not a diversion of existing funds.

They also agreed that the subcommittee should not propose specific changes in CETA Title VII, private sector initiatives, when it comes up for reauthorization next year, but instead request a simple extension. The prime sponsor representatives also indicated that, since most activities are just getting under way, there is not yet sufficient data to determine what changes if any are necessary.

Other recommendations were to:

• Implement forward funding so that local officials have adequate lead time for planning.

• Allow CETA funds to be used as the matching requirement for other federally funded programs.

• Permit a broader client eligibility range for upgrading in Title VII of CETA.

Representatives from the Departments of Labor, Commerce, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and the Office of Management and Budget attended the meeting, chaired by NACo Associate Director Jon Weintraub.

Executive Order to Cut Red Tape

In a move to reduce government waste, President Carter has signed a new Executive Order aimed at reducing 496,000 annual reports and the thousands of other forms requested by the Executive Department and regulatory agencies.

In addition, the President has proposed new legislation which would strengthen the oversight role of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to control federal paperwork and would shift those controls currently exercised by the Government Accounting Office to OMB.

It has been estimated that the public spends 768 million hours filling out information for the federal government. While the number of forms have decreased since 1977, notes Wayne Granquist, associate director for management and regulatory policy at OMB, the hours spent on the reporting have increased significantly.

Of those reports required by the Executive Department, only 33 percent are application forms. Nearly 50 percent are a direct result of audits and regulatory activities, while 15 percent are for evaluation and research. Only 5 percent are required for the collections of statistical data, said Granquist.

THE NEW EXECUTIVE order has five major parts: a paperwork budget process administered by OMB to control the total burden that agencies may impose on the public; an information locator system which will contain profiles of all federal agencies' requests for information; a special consideration for small organizations in the collection of information; a sunset provision for both new and existing forms and information requests; and a strong provision for public participation in the development of paperwork requirements.

Under the paperwork budget each federal agency must estimate the total number of hours required to fill out all its forms and submit that to OMB with its annual paperwork budget. OMB will have the power to deny approval and order reduction of the paperwork burden.

The information locator system first proposed by the Commission on Federal Paperwork, will place all government information requests into a central computer. To protect confidentiality, the computer will collect only the information requested, and not the data collected by that request. Before issuing a new form or request, each agency will be required to check the central computer. If the same information has been collected previously by another agency, the federal agency cannot duplicate the effort.

A special consideration for small organizations and governments is required to reduce the paperwork burdens on those least able to bear it. Agencies will have to consider shorter or less frequent reports or exemptions for small organizations and governments.

Under the sunset provision new forms will be authorized by OMB for only two years and thereafter terminated if OMB does not reauthorize their use. All existing forms and reporting requirements will be terminated after 1984 unless specifically reauthorized by OMB.

A major provision of the President's legislative proposal would prohibit any penalties on the public for failure to file information requests which have not been cleared by OMB and which do not contain the OMB clearance number on their face. The measure would also provide a statutory base to the information locator system to assure continuity of the new system.

In addition, the bill would require every three years, a total review of each agency's information management and paperwork reduction activities and would allow OMB to set target goals for reduction. OMB would be empowered to designate a central collection agency for agency information requests and thereby eliminate duplicative reporting.

SEVEN COUNTY MEMBERS

Local Energy Advisors Named

Almost a year after announcing the establishment of a Local Government Energy Policy Advisory Committee, the Department of Energy has made appointments. Of the 33 members of the committee, seven represent counties. The appointees are: NACo President Frank Francois; Dade County (Fla.) Commissioner Harvey Ruvin; Suffolk County (N.Y.) Executive John Klein; Black Hawk County (Iowa) Commissioner Sonia Johannsen; Garfield County (Colo.) Commissioner Flaven Cerise; Erie County (N.Y.) Energy Coordinator John Garfield and D. Lee Satterlee of Ionia County, Mich.

The Local Government Advisory Committee will advise and make recommendations to the Secretary of Energy on policies, programs and legislation.

The purpose is to ensure that the needs of local governments are reflected in DOE policies and to generally improve intergovernmental communication in the energy area.

The committee is to meet at least four times a year. Representation on the committee, which is to be chaired by Atlanta's Mayor Maynard Jackson, is balanced, both regionally and demographically.

While the first meeting of the committee has not been formally announced, it is expected that it will occur within the next few months.

Officials Given Paperwork Briefings

Efforts by the Administration and Congress to reduce federal red tape were outlined in a series of meetings in Washington, D.C. Nov. 30.

At the White House, county officials were briefed by Wayne Granquist, associate director for management and regulatory policy of the Office of Management and Budget, on plans to implement the President's new order to reduce excessive government paper work. (See related article.)

Granquist told county officials that the White House will increase its staff to monitor and enforce compliance with the new order. NACo had been concerned that previous Administration efforts had fallen short due to lack of adequate staff.

One of the county officials present, Louis Heimbach, county executive, Orange County, N.Y., later attended a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Citizens Committee on Federal Paperwork which had a key role in developing the new order.

Heimbach and fellow trustees heard from key congressional staff of Sen. Lawton Chiles (D-Fla.) and Rep. Frank Horton (R-N.Y.) on proposed legislation to reduce red tape.

S. 1411, The Paperwork Reduction Red Tape Act, and H.R. 3570, have been introduced by Chiles and Horton respectively and hearings have been held in both Houses. Congressional staff predicted early action in the second session of the 96th Congress.

Both bills would eliminate many of the present loopholes in the reports clearance process, including reports and forms required by the Internal Revenue Service which represents 73 percent of the burden of paperwork on the public.

HEIMBACH CALLED the committee "an important vehicle to seek enactment of proposed legislation, assure full implementation of the White House efforts and seek ways the nation's elected leaders can effect paperwork reduction activities on each level of government."

He told fellow board members, "The only way to reduce federal paperwork is to cut it off at its source; we must begin to teach government bureaucrats that they simply must find alternative means to collect information and only that information which has been properly judged as essential to the operation of the nation."

The Citizens Committee on Federal Paperwork Reduction was established as the last official act of the Federal Commission on Federal Paperwork to follow up on the implementation of the 500 recommendations made by the commission. Many of these recommendations will be implemented by the President's order.

Heimbach

The committee is made up of county, city, state and public industry representatives. Heimbach was appointed on the recommendation of NACo President Frank Francois.

Correction

Stuart Eizenstat's name was incorrectly spelled in last week's report of NACo's Board meeting. Our apologies.

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Keen Interest Is Shown in Gasohol

Continued from page 1

tion require large plants with large capital investments. As a result, ethanol from agricultural products is expected to be the dominant form of alcohol produced through the next decade.

FOOD VS. FUEL

One of the lingering questions regarding alcohol fuel production, particularly food grains, is what effect this will have on the nation's food supply.

A Department of Energy report, prepared by the Alcohol Fuels Policy Review Panel, concluded that for at least the 1980s, a food-fuel conflict was unlikely to develop. This conclusion was reached, in large part, because little food value would be lost if the by-products are recovered for use as an animal feed. The survey went on to note that surplus and waste raw materials would be sufficient to meet alcohol fuel demands through the mid-1980s.

A report from the Office of Technology Assessment also concluded that up to 2 billion gallons of ethanol a year could be produced without a significant impact on food and feed prices. Beyond that level, the report went on, increased ethanol production could have an inflationary impact.

It is also expected that by the mid-1980s methanol production from coal, solid waste and other sources will be available to relieve the pressure on food-based alcohol production. Methanol production would have little if any impact on food prices. Thus, the future of alcohol production would appear to require a technological mix.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

One of the last remaining questions about alcohol fuels is whether the energy required to produce the fuels is greater than the energy value of the alcohol. No other area of alcohol production and use generates more debate.

A recent report prepared by Battelle, Columbus Laboratories, for the American Petroleum Institute concluded that alcohol from corn, even using new energy saving technology, showed a net energy loss. Other production modes studied, including ethanol from sugar cane and methanol from wood, showed a positive energy gain.

On the other hand the Alcohol Fuels Policy Review Panel concluded that with *new* facilities, alcohol from grains production "would have a clearly positive (though small) net energy balance even if all the fuel used were oil and gas." While this divergence of opinion is likely to continue for some time, most experts seem to be coming to the conclusion reached by the Alcohol Fuels Policy Review Panel.

If extensively used as a motor vehicle fuel supplement, alcohol seems to have a mixed, although generally positive, effect on air pollution. It generally decreases hydrocarbon and carbon monoxide emissions while slightly increasing aldehyde emission. Aldehyde, a colorless but pungent gas produced by the oxidation of alcohols, could be controlled by the new pollution control devices which should be installed on most cars by the early 1980s.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

More bills have been introduced on the subject of alcohol fuels than on almost any other legislative issue. In fact, Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) has noted that, "with a percent of the gasohol bills, the greatest energy-producing factor would be if you took all the paper the bills have been printed on and all the self-serving press releases and rolled them up and burned them." Sen. Leahy's comments aside, he, like most members of Congress, supports alcohol fuels.

During Senate consideration of the synthetic fuels bill, S. 932, members approved a massive alcohol program. The Senate adopted an amendment offered by Agriculture Committee Chairman Herman Talmadge (D-Ga.) which will provide $5 billion for gasohol over the next five years. The Senate also increased the funding from $650 million to $1.2 billion for a program of loans, loan guarantees and price supports to be operated by a new office of alcohol fuels in the Department of Energy.

The House has adopted a synthetic fuels proposal which is considerably more moderate than the Senate's, providing only $3 billion for the entire synthetic fuels program. However, the House is considering alcohol fuels as a separate piece of legislation. The House may complete action on an alcohol fuels bill before the end of the session.

Given the continuing escalation of oil prices and the resulting improved economies, it appears likely that there will be a significant increase in the production and use of alcohol. Congress' recognition of the potential of this energy source and its willingness to provide funds for its development make the future of alcohol fuels bright indeed.

—Mark Croke

TIMES HAVE CHANGED—In earlier days, law officials were kept busy destroying illegal stills that produced moonshine. Today, members of Congress, state and local governments are taking a serious look at alcohol as a fuel source and are endorsing local efforts in its production.

County Alcohol Fuel Production Not Moonshine

The small farm "still" is alive and well in Republic County, Kan., and is helping to run trucks and tractors as well as heat homes.

Instead of producing the moonshine of yesteryear, the modern still, recently displayed at a local energy fair, produces alcohol fuel from farm products such as corn, wheat, milo and silage.

With all pipes and tubes in place, onlookers gathered as Bob Brautigam, the still's creator, took the crowd through the entire process of producing alcohol. So successful was the demonstration that Brautigam is planning mass production in the near future.

"Fuel prices are so high that many people can't afford to buy gasoline," said Ray Nelson, commissioner, Republic County, who participated in the county fair, along with County Commissioners Edward Pachta and Larry Rundus.

"People in rural areas dependent upon gasoline for farm machinery are taking a serious look at alcohol production," he added.

Besides demonstraing methods of producing alcohol, experts were available to answer questions on the latest advances in solar energy technology and methane gas recovery.

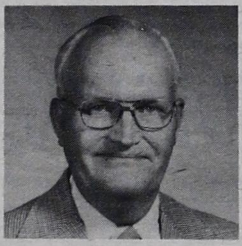
"We're hoping that counties across the country take the lead in cutting our dependence on foreign oil and start looking in their own backyards for other forms of energy," said Nelson, who is chairman of NACo's Rural Affairs Committee.

The interest in alcohol production has not been limited to the farm communities of the Midwest.

In St. Mary's County, Md. efforts are under way to build an alcohol fuel plant in the county's government center. Still awaiting word on federal funding, the plant is designed to be small and efficient, producing 60,000 to 100,000 gallons per year when fully operational.

"Our goal is to produce enough alcohol to heat the government center and run the county's vehicles," said Dan Dawson, plant engineer.

If the project is successful, officials plan to make information available to farmers, county governments and others interested in alcohol production.



Nelson

"We're hoping that counties ... start looking in their own back yards for other forms of energy."

On a larger scale, Hunterdon County, N.J. is looking into the feasibility of building an ethanol plant that would satisfy the energy needs of its own and two surrounding counties.

According to Monte Van Doren, economic development administrator, the plant would have a $10 million to $20 million price tag. "We already know that gasohol production on a small scale is possible," said Van Doren in response to an earlier offer by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to fund the building of a small ethanol plant. "We feel that it's time to go forward and step up production that can accommodate large communities."

Designed to be energy efficient, the proposed plant would make use of the latest energy technology available. Current methods for producing ethanol use nonrenewable resources such as oil or coal to produce the heat necessary in the process. According to Van Doren, "using oil to make alcohol is just spinning unnecessary wheels" that continue our reliance on foreign oil. With coal as an energy source come problems of storage and pollution, he said.

Instead, county officials are looking into a new method of using a renewable resource such as wood. A process has been tested, said Van Doren, that produces liquid and gas products from wood as substitutes for oil or coal.

"The plant would benefit the national economy by reducing the amount of oil dollars spent abroad, strengthen the farm community because of the industry's reliance on farm products, create jobs and encourage farmland preservation," said Van Doren.

Already supported by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and various members of Congress, the plan may be the target of a Department of Energy feasibility study. Local officials are keeping their fingers crossed.

NACo would like to hear about other county efforts at producing ethanol and other alternative energy products. Please contact Mark Croke at NACo.

—Paul Serber

Wisconsin Launches Model Farmland Program

Two years after its inception, the statewide farmland preservation program in Wisconsin is showing impressive signs of success in curtailing the disappearance of agricultural land. Inspired by the preservation efforts of Columbia and Walworth counties, the Wisconsin program combines exclusive agricultural zoning, established and administered at the county level, with state income tax credits for farmers who meet eligibility requirements. This approach to halting farmland loss is a good example of the effectiveness of a creative partnership between state and county governments.

One of the leading dairy states in the nation, Wisconsin has experienced over three decades of rapid economic and population growth. Many of the houses, businesses and industries built to accommodate this growth have been located willy-nilly in the open countryside, creating "urban sprawl" and causing problems for the agricultural community.

Professor Richard Barrows of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Wisconsin described these problems: "[T]he spread of development into rural areas causes tax increases and land use conflicts...Farm property taxes increase because assessments increase rapidly, reflecting the higher market value of the land; tax levies increase because of the need to provide more (and different) public services to the new residences and businesses.

"There may be problems of trespass and crop damage from nonfarm residents. Idle lands held by speculators may be a source of spreading noxious weeds. Farmers may be subjected to social and sometimes legal pressures to change certain farm operations such as manure spreading, night plowing or feedlot locations. The size of the farm operations may be restricted by the inability to buy or rent land in the developing area. Finally, as more and more farmers move out of the area, businesses such as creameries and feed mills may be forced out of business. Gradually, the area changes from a rural farm environment and lifestyle to one dominated by the interests and lifestyle of exurban commuters."

"Within a relatively short period of time, and with the expenditure of a modest sum of money, Wisconsin has given farmers a reason to stay on the land ..."

USE OF STATE TAX CREDIT

Adopted in 1977, the Wisconsin Farmland Preservation Act is designed to protect farmers by giving the responsibility for such protection to local citizens and their elected officials. Its approach is to provide incentives for both farmers and county governments to take the matter of farmland preservation into their own hands, using the tools of planning and zoning.

The principal incentive for farmers is a state income tax credit of up to $4,200 annually. As farm income increases, the amount of the tax credit for which he may qualify decreases, so that the credit serves as a kind of "insurance policy" against crop failure and other factors that might otherwise economically cripple farm families. Unlike the property tax breaks offered farmers by some states in an effort to preserve agricultural land, the Wisconsin state *income* tax credit does not diminish local tax revenues, making it attractive to counties.

Until 1982—the end of Phase I, and the beginning of Phase II of the Wisconsin program—farmers may qualify for the state income tax credit in two ways. (They may also qualify for protection from special tax assessments levied to fund public services demanded by suburbanites, as an additional incentive.) First, farmers may qualify by signing a contract with the state, agreeing to forego development of their farmland for purposes other than agriculture; these contracts expire in 1982. Second, farmers are automatically eligible for the tax credit if their county adopts an agricultural zoning ordinance that meets the criteria under the Farmland Preservation Act.

Once Phase II of the Wisconsin program begins in 1982, the eligibility of farmers for the state income tax credit will come to depend solely on whether their county takes action to preserve farmland. In rural counties, local government may adopt either a farmland preservation plan setting forth goals and policies, or a zoning ordinance which creates an exclusive agricultural zone wherein the best soils cannot be developed for nonagricultural purposes.

Counties that are more urbanized, with a population of 75,000 or more, are required to adopt an exclusive agricultural zoning ordinance, if their farm constituents are to qualify for continued tax credits. In either case, counties are given rather broad discretion in their choice of the type of ordinance which will best suit their needs and realize their farmland preservation objectives.

Adoption of county farmland preservation plans and ordinances is not compelled by the state statute. But unless county government acts by 1982, farmers may no longer qualify for the state income tax credit simply by signing a contract with the state and, indeed, must pay back all or part of the credits they have received. If county government does act, the amount of tax credit for which farmers may qualify doubles. This provision of the Wisconsin law gives county officials a powerful incentive to preserve local farmland—namely, the continued political support of their farm constituents.

But Wisconsin does not thus encourage counties to preserve farmland and then simply ignore them. To assist local government in what is not only a political but also a highly technical task—involving soil mapping, selecting farmland for preservation and drafting ordinances—the state provides funds to counties for farmland preservation planning. To date, $800,000 has been distributed among Wisconsin counties for this purpose, with another $310,000 earmarked for assistance through the end of 1979. Financial assistance for county planning has also proved to be an incentive for counties to act.

THE SIGNS OF SUCCESS

What about those signs of success? As of June 30, 1979, approximately 9,400 farmers have become eligible for state income tax credits, either through contracts or because their counties have adopted agricultural zoning ordinances. More than 1.9 million acres of Wisconsin farmland have in this way been protected from sprawl development.

The state has credited its qualified farmers with a total of $4.1 million in income tax breaks through the program. That breaks down to an average credit of $1,112 to approximately 3,057 participating farmers.

Forty-seven of Wisconsin's counties (65 percent) have either completed or are now preparing farmland preservation plans and ordinances. As a result of this positive action by local government, 14.9 million acres of agricultural land will eventually be preserved.

The experience of Wisconsin and its counties with farmland preservation stands in sharp contrast to those of many other states. Within a relatively short period of time, and with the expenditure of a modest sum of money, Wisconsin has given farmers a reason to stay on the land, encouraging them to participate in its farmland preservation program at a rate many times greater than in other states.

Wisconsin officials are guardedly optimistic about the success of their program. Pamela G. Wiley, assistant director of the program, says that "What we're counting on and what were seeing is an educational process." The program, she says, is encouraging farmers to stick together to resist development pressure.

Others are even more enthusiastic. Robert J. Gray, executive director of the National Agricultural Lands Study, has called the Wisconsin partnership effort, combining state tax credits with local agricultural zoning, "perhaps the most effective" program in the nation.

FOR FURTHER information contact: James A. Johnson, Director, Farmland Preservation Unit, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, 801 West Badger Road, P.O. Box 8911, Madison, Wis. 53708, 608/266-1721.

NACPRO
1980 Awards Program

National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials

Each year, the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) presents a series of awards for exceptional contributions to the field of parks and recreation. As a professional and a member of NACPRO, you are invited to submit nominations of persons and organizations you feel merit recognition.

AWARDS TO PARK AND RECREATION PRACTITIONERS/AGENCIES

Organizational Award. Presented to a county park and recreation agency, whose county is a member of NACo, conducting activities in the parks and/or recreation field whose programs are considered to be exemplary during the past year. Up to two will be awarded.

Fellow Award. Presented to a park and recreation professional and NACPRO member who has performed an outstanding job over a period of years, providing outstanding professional leadership at the local, regional, state and/or national levels. Up to two will be awarded.

Lifetime Award. Presented to a retiring park and recreation professional who has been a member of NACPRO. Consideration based on individual's contribution and service to the field. Number awarded not limited.

AWARDS TO OTHER PARK AND RECREATION CONTRIBUTORS

Friend Award. Presented to a lay individual or a public or private organization that has responded in an unusual manner in making a major contribution to benefit park and recreation programs or facility development at any level of government. Can include elected officials other than those on the county level, such as state or federal legislators. Number awarded not limited.

Board/Commission Award. Presented to a park/recreation board member or to a county commissioner who has contributed significantly to the benefit of park and recreation programs or facility development within his/her governmental jurisdiction. Up to two may be awarded.

PROCEDURES

- Each NACPRO member may submit up to two nominations. Deadline for receipt is Feb. 8, 1980. Submit to: Frank Stramler, Kern County Parks and Recreation Department, 1110 Golden State Avenue, Bakersfield, California 93301.
- Nominations will be evaluated by the Awards Committee and selections made by the NACPRO Board of Directors at the NACo Legislative Conference meeting in March. Award presentations will be made at the NACo Annual Conference in July.
- **Attach nominee support documentation or additional sheets in the following order:**

Brief history of individual or organization. (If individual, include such personal items as clubs, organizations, schools attended, family, hobbies, etc.)

If applicable, provide professional or related experiences of individual or organization.

Identify individual or organization publications which have been of significance to the field, community or country.

Explain in detail the contributions made by the nominee which you feel merit the receipt of award recognition. (This is the most important element of the award submittal.)

Attach any additional documentation which you feel is pertinent to the nomination.

- Though the Awards Committee seeks detailed support documentation, please keep information submitted as precise as possible, as some information will need to be duplicated for the Committee's evaluation. Additional information may be requested if needed.
- Three copies each of all documentation is required.
- NACo staff contact: Arleen Shulman

Name of award nominee____________________

Position title (if individual)____________________

Address____________________

City State Zip

Check award category:

Friend of Recreation ☐ Board or Commission Member ☐

Fellow ☐ Lifetime ☐ Organizational ☐

Award Sponsor____________________

Position title and/or organization____________________

Address____________________(Phone)__________

City State Zip

Clean Air Options under Review

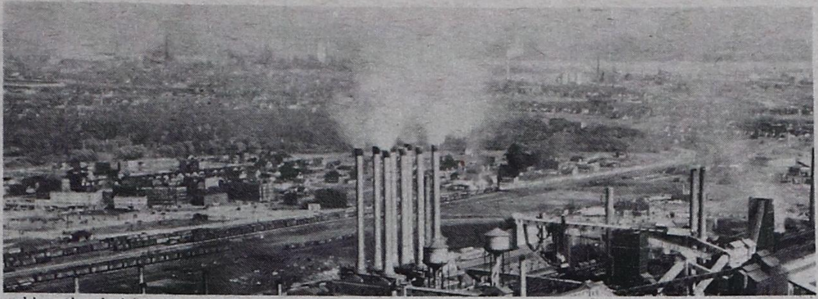
he Clean Air Act of 1970 put a h premium on government regula- to achieve national air quality ndards and employed a number mechanisms to meet its goals: formance standards, state and ally devised transportation meas- s, maximum allowed amounts of lution in "clean air" areas, and lution tradeoffs in areas not meet- federal standards (nonattain- nt areas).

hose working with this compli- ed law in subsequent years be- questioning whether there might be a more efficient way for this ntry to clean up its air.

ongress thought there might be, while retaining the original struc- of the law in its 1977 amend- ts, it established the National mission on Air Quality. As part its plan, NCAQ will be looking possible alternatives to the cur- law in five regional studies: Los Angeles/Kern County area, Four Corners area in the West, York City to Hartford, Conn., uisville, Ky. to Dayton and Cin- nati, Ohio and Minneapolis/St. ul. After examining the results of se studies, NCAQ will make re- mendations to Congress in about o years.

o begin the study process NCAQ t to the public for suggestions of rnative policies to achieve clean The commission found, a staff er notes, that "despite frustration h existing laws, few actual policy rnatives were recommended as right replacements for the basic tute."

any of the alternatives recognized importance of reducing the costs ollution control and of using mar- forces rather than regulation to so. Commission members will be making the decision in early January on which alternatives to study. A summary of major alternatives being considered follows.



EMISSION CHARGES

Emission charges would use economic incentives rather than regulation to achieve air quality standards. Polluters would be required to pay a fee for emitting certain quantities of pollution. If the fee is set at a rate which makes it less expensive to control the pollution, the polluter would choose to reduce emissions rather than pay the fee.

Proponents of emission charges say, given such an incentive, polluters are better able than government to find economical ways to control pollution. The total cost of air pollution controls to society would then decrease. However, one serious drawback to this approach lies in the difficulty of calculating the fees, which must consider both the ambient air goals and the control costs for each particular industry. Also, critics argue that monitoring requirements would be immense.

Substituting emission charges for the present regulatory approach would in effect give a right to pollute to those who choose to pay rather than control, a concept alien to present environmental laws. For this reason and others, emission charges may be considered as a possible supplement to other strategies.

The city of Philadelphia will also be studying emission fees as part of a federally funded demonstration program for reconciling clean air and economic growth.

EMISSION LIMITATIONS

Under a purely technological approach to achieving clean air, similar types of polluters would be required to install similar types of control equipment. Different levels of control for new sources in clean air and dirty air areas were written into the Clean Air Act as a way to condition controls on ambient air quality.

Emission limitations would require the best available technology for new sources and for modifying existing polluters, regardless of how clean the air in a given location. The costs to industry and the adequacy of these requirements need to be assessed.

Proponents suggest that this approach will deal with the exportation of pollution and would be more equitable to polluters. Industries would then not need to shop for the most favorable air quality location. One problem with emission limitations is that it may not account for the cumulative effect on public health of many polluters who all meet requirements but, in total, exceed safe ambient levels.

TRANSFERABLE EMISSION REDUCTION ASSESSMENTS

An extension of the present emission offset policy, transferable emission reduction assessment (TERA), would allow one polluter to pay another polluter to reduce its emissions for it, if that would be less expensive than controlling its own pollution. TERA could be used only after the polluters each meet basic pollution control requirements. Emission fees could also be charged to provide incentives for control.

For example, if it would cost Industry A $250 per ton to control hydrocarbons to a certain level, and Industry B only $50 a ton, Industry A could pay Industry B to reduce hydrocarbons for both. Theoretically, TERA could lead to further emission reductions at less cost than is now possible, as well as provide an incentive for industries to develop less expensive control methods.

Concerns about the system include tax and accounting problems for industry and administrative problems for overseeing agencies. Also, there are questions about the proper geographic distances within which such tradeoffs could be permitted, to make sure local pollution problems are not exacerbated.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE PSD PROGRAM

The "prevention of significant deterioration" (PSD) program has been widely criticized for its economic development controls, especially for energy projects. Critics contend that the land use controls implicit in the program are inappropriate for the federal government. However, supporters of the PSD measures argue that they are necessary to protect health and recreation values.

The effects of totally eliminating the PSD program, added to the law in 1977 as result of litigation, as well as limiting PSD protection to pristine areas (Class I) have been suggested for study.

This would not mean suspension of the Clean Air Act in these areas; the federal ambient air quality would still govern the maximum amount of pollution allowed.

COSTS AND BENEFITS OF DIFFERENT AIR STANDARDS

Rep. Dave Stockman (R-Mich.), a NCAQ member, has suggested that the commission study alternative numerical values and averaging periods for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. These alternative values would be applied to each regional area identified for study and the relative costs and benefits determined. This would give NCAQ some indications of the effects of substituting higher and lower values (as well as longer and shorter averaging periods over which to determine compliance) on costs and benefits of air pollution control across the country.

It is important to note that the NCAQ will *not* be recommending specific air quality standards to Congress. The commission is already charged with examining the *process* by which the Environmental Protection Agency sets air quality standards and the alternative standards studied in the regional studies would supplement that investigation.

FINE-TUNING EXISTING LAW

Growth in clean air and nonattainment areas is currently regulated by the PSD program and by the emissions offsets or growth margin strategies identified in state air quality plans. Mechanisms which would allow more local control over growth decisions may be necessary refinements to the act.

Possible strategies for study include allowing more local control over PSD increment allocations either by developing a method other than "first come, first served" or by allowing a community to plan how much of a PSD increment can be used over time.

Locally administered air quality zoning is a possibility in nonattainment areas. The Metropolitan Council in Minneapolis/St. Paul is presently planning to use emission density zoning as part of a demonstration program.

Other minor adjustments in the act could be marketable emission permits, standards for acid rain susceptibility and visibility, redefinition of violation criteria, adjusting the particulate standard to address fine particulates and allowing tradeoffs among pollutants.

—Arleen Shulman, NACoR

ir Quality Studies et in Five Regions

our regions, in addition to the Angeles/Kern Desert area, have n selected for intensive study the National Commission on Air lity. These regional studies will vide the basis for many of the ommendations the commission l be making to Congress.

en. Gary Hart (D-Colo.), commis- chairman, explained that the mission intends to find out how goals of the Clean Air Act are re not being achieved and why. e want to know if the act pro- es for the most expeditious means achieving healthful air quality le still allowing for growth and domestic energy needs. In cases re it doesn't, we will examine rnative ways of meeting its ls," he said.

he study areas are:

- Four Corners/Western Colorado- stern Utah, selected because it prime candidate for an examina- of "prevention of significant erioration" issues relating to visi- ty, energy development, high ulation growth and complex geo- phy.

ounties in the area include 3 in zona, 4 in New Mexico, 11 in orado, and 16 in Utah.

- New York City/Hartford Region, cted to enable the commission examine long-range air pollu- transport issues across e boundaries. "This is also an llent area in which to study problems of older cities with ining populations and complex energy conversion problems," said Sen. Hart.

Counties include New York City and four surrounding New York counties, eight New Jersey counties and portions of the state of Connecticut.

- Minneapolis-St. Paul Region, which provides an opportunity to study a growing metropolitan area where the air quality is relatively unaffected by neighboring population centers. The metropolitan multicounty government in the area, a unique institutional framework, will be an important element in the study.

Eleven Minnesota counties are included in the region.

- Ohio River Valley Region (Louisville to Dayton) was selected because of its heavy industry and because its cities are growing slowly economically. The three states involved also have complex interstate problems regarding allowed growth increments under the Clean Air Act. The city of Cincinnati also has its own vehicle emission inspection and maintenance program.

Eleven counties in Kentucky, and the neighboring six counties in Indiana, as well as nine Ohio counties surrounding Cincinnati and Dayton are included in the region.

For the names of the specific counties included in each region, more information on the studies and how to get involved, contact Arleen Shulman at NACoR's Clean Air Project.

AREA CAMPAIGN BEGINS

Joint Attack on Air Pollution

"Achieving healthful air quality is truly a shared responsibility among all levels of government," Jean Malchon, commissioner from Pinellas County, Fla., told a group of local officials at a U.S. Conference of Mayors regional meeting in New Orleans.

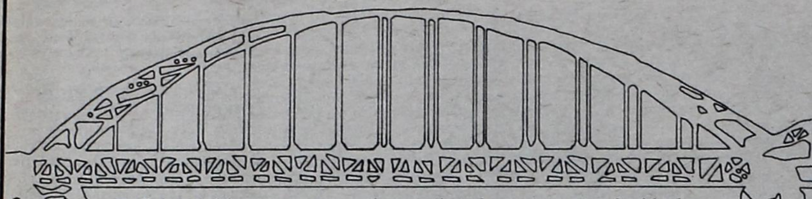
Malchon is a member of the National Commission on Air Quality. "Inasmuch as the air belongs to each and every one of us, we must combine and coordinate efforts for cleaning it up and keeping it clean.

"Local governments voiced their desire for a partnership role with the federal government when the 1970 Clean Air Act was written and again when it was amended in 1977. They asked to be included in the process and they were. Through the state implementation plan provision of the act, those of us in the local arena do shoulder the responsibility for finding effective and efficient ways of achieving healthful air quality according to our regional abilities and needs.

"The process doesn't stop or start in a local official's office," Malchon added. "The starting point and finishing mark must be prescribed by an informed and participatory constituency. The complexity of air quality issues—their relationship to energy needs, economic growth, public health, property damage and agricultural yields—demands that all interested parties participate in the "how" of air pollution control," she said.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors has sponsored a series of regional meetings geared to the special air quality issues of the area. The next meeting will be in Phoenix Jan. 11-12. County officials from the area are urged to attend. For more information, including an agenda, contact Arleen Shulman, NACoR's Clean Air Project.

Help for Your Bridges Is on the Way



Deficient bridges pose a serious threat to the safety and economic health of our counties and nation. You know well that the cost of repairing and replacing bridges is no small order. That's the reason Congress passed the **$4.2 billion federal bridge program.**

To make sure that counties get their fair share of these funds, NACo, through its research arm, NACoR, and the National Association of County Engineers, are sponsoring a series of regional meetings to bring you up-to-date on provisions of the program. We will address such topics as:

- Funds available for county projects
- Inventory and inspection procedures
- Bridge ratings
- Project selection
- Regulations on design standards and consultant agreements
- Historic preservation

The meetings are based on Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regions. You must attend the meeting in the FHWA region that includes your state since the meeting will be designed for that region.

MEETING TIMES

Meetings begin the first day at 1:30 p.m., following a get-acquainted buffet luncheon beginning at 11:30 a.m., and run from 8:30 to noon the second day.

REGISTRATION

Your pre-registration fee of $25 covers buffet luncheon, costs involved in a cash-bar reception, coffee and soda breaks, and a packet containing the latest information on the bridge program and technical resources. If you do not pre-register, an on-site fee of $30 will be charged. To pre-register, complete the form below and return to Marlene Glassman at NACoR.

HOUSING

To secure hotel accommodations, make your own reservations directly with the hotel. Be sure to indicate you will attend the NACoR bridge meeting to take advantage of special room rates for NACoR's block of rooms.

FHWA Region 8
(Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)

Denver, Colorado
Jan. 10-11

The Plaza Cosmopolitan
1780 Broadway
Denver, Colo. 80202
303/861-9000
Housing room block deadline: **Dec. 20**

FHWA Region 9
(Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada)

Burlingame (San Francisco), Calif.
Jan. 24-25

Hyatt-Burlingame Hotel
1333 Old Bay Shore Highway
Burlingame, Calif. 94010
415/342-7741
Housing room block deadline: **Jan. 10**

FHWA Region 4
(Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee)

Atlanta, Ga.
Jan. 31-Feb. 1

Ladha Continental
100 Tent Street N.W.
Atlanta, Ga. 30309
800/241-5513 (toll free)
404/892-6800 (Georgia residents)
Housing room block deadline: **Jan. 24**

FHWA Region 6
(Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas)

Dallas, Texas
Feb. 14-15

Hyatt Regency at Reunion
300 Reunion Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75207
214/651-1234
Housing room block deadline: **Jan. 24**

MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

Return this form to NACoR no later than ten days prior to your region's meeting.

Pre-registration: $25 On-site registration: $30

Name______________________________________
(Last) **(First)**

Title__________________ **County**__________________

Address______________________________________

City________________ **State**__________ **Zip**________

Telephone_____(____________)____________________

☐ Enclosed is my check for $25 made **payable to NACoR**
I will attend the following regional meeting:

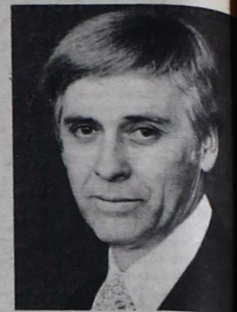
☐ FHWA Region 8
☐ FHWA Region 9
☐ FHWA Region 4
☐ FHWA Region 6

For office use only:
Check No.
Date Received

RETURN THIS FORM TO: **Marlene Glassman**
NACoR
1735 New York Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

For more information, contact Marlene at NACoR: 202/785-9577

New Fire Academy Leaders Announced



Thompson

B.J. Thompson, 49, city manager of Santa Ana, Calif., and former Santa Ana fire chief, is the new superintendent of the National Fire Academy. When making the announcement, Gordon Vickery, administrator, U.S. Fire Administration, said that among over 75 applications considered, in the national recruiting campaign, Thompson had the most outstanding qualifications. He has proven skills as a firefighter, administrator, and educator, said Vickery.

Thompson began his fire service career as a hoseman in Redondo Beach, Calif. He then moved to Santa Fe Springs where he advanced from firefighter to chief of a department that protected six cities with 30 fire companies and six paramedic units.

In August 1976, Thompson became chief of the Santa Ana Fire Department, a 260-member department serving a population of about 200,000. He was hired as city manager of Santa Ana in February of 1979 for a city with 1,600 employees and an annual budget of $75 million.

Thompson is a registered fire protection engineer with a master's degree from California State University and a Ph.D. from Union Graduate School. He was an associate professor at California State where he developed an upper division curriculum for a bachelor's degree in fire protection administration. He also has served as a fire service coordinator for Rio Hondo College in Whittier, Calif., and a consultant to the Strategic Air Command in fire science program development.

Chosen as deputy superintendents are Edward M. Wall of the Newark, N.J., Fire Department, and Paul Watson of Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C. Wall, 49, deputy superintendent for resident instruction, has been with the Newark Fire [De]partment for 25 years. He is depu[ty] chief for training. He has taught [at] Essex County College, Rutgers U[ni]versity, and co-authored colle[ge] level home study courses in f[ire] science.

Watson, 54, deputy superint[en]dent for curriculum developme[nt], has been in university level mana[ge]ment for 15 years. He is curren[tly] director, curriculum developme[nt] for Gallaudet College. He has [a] master's and Ph.D. degrees from [the] University of Washington and h[as] done post-doctorate work in hea[lth] science education.

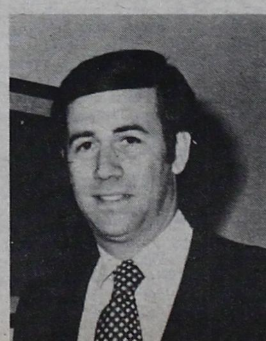
The National Fire Academy oc[cu]pies the 110-acre site of the form[er] St. Joseph's College in Emmitsbu[rg], Md. Scheduled to open in Janua[ry], the academy will train from 4,0[00] to 6,000 individuals a year in th[e] basic curriculums—executive dev[el]opment, train-the-trainer, and te[ch]nical aspects of fire prevention a[nd] control. Stipends of up to [...] percent of travel and per diem co[sts] will be provided to participat[ing] state and local fire service person[nel].

Magazine to Head EPA's Intergovernmental Office

When Fairfax County (Va.) Supervisor Alan H. Magazine ends his second term of office Dec. 31, he will not be fading into the background of public life. Instead he will be well on his way to assuming new challenges in government administration and public affairs.

Effective Nov. 11, Magazine has been named by EPA Administrator Douglas Costle to direct the new Office of Intergovernmental Relations (formerly the Office of Regional and Intergovernmental Operations, headed by Ed Roush).

A former vice chairman of the county Board of Supervisors, member of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Board of Directors, and Executive Bo[ard] member of the Virginia Associa[tion] of Counties, Magazine brings s[ub]stantial and impressive experie[nce] to his new position. He holds a Ph[.D.] in public administration and ur[ban] affairs from the University of Ma[ry]land, and has been employed i[n a] broad range of federal, regional a[nd] local governmental activities.



Magazine

As a consultant to the Divisio[n of] Planning and Management at EP[A], Magazine has participated in a w[ide] array of EPA program and mana[ge]ment reviews and evaluations. [His] work with the Commission on F[ed]eral Paperwork offered the opp[or]tunity to supervise staff and budg[et] and to serve in a liaison capac[ity] with national public interest grou[ps], the executive branch, Congress, [and] state and local governments. [For] several years he served as a se[nior] consultant with the Real Estate [Re]search Corporation.

Of his new position, the Fair[fax] supervisor has said, "I am ent[hu]siastic about the prospect of be[ing] in a position to help improve [the] relationship between EPA and st[ate] and local governments. There is [no] question that EPA desires to w[ork] closely with national public inte[rest] groups like NACo so that we ma[y] resolve major environmental pr[ob]lems in a mutually satisfact[ory] manner.

"One of my major goals is [to] improve the nature and extent [of] the dialogue between EPA [and] county officials," he said.

Matter and Measure

MURPHY ADDRESSES BRIDGE MEETING

County elected officials and engineers along with state transportation and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regional and division officials recently met in Albany County, N.Y. to discuss the $4.2 billion federal highway bridge replacement and rehabilitation program.

Addressing the Region I group was NACo Fourth Vice President William Murphy, county executive, Rensselaer County, N.Y., who emphasized the importance of the meeting as an opportunity for county officials to learn how county bridge projects qualify for federal funds. He reminded the officials that accurate and timely adherence to federal and state requirements of the bridge program would expedite overall implementation of the program within their counties.

NACoR/NACE is sponsoring a series of bridge meetings based on FHWA regions for county officials. The Region I meeting was the fifth in the series. Check this and future *County News* for information on the remaining bridge meetings for your FHWA Region.

TRB ANNUAL MEETING

Jan. 21-25 will mark the dates of the 59th annual meeting of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) in Washington, D.C. County transportation specialists and other officials are encouraged to attend this meeting which is expected to attract some 4,000 of the top transportation people from all levels of government, as well as representatives from universities and industry. It is a working meeting with morning, afternoon and evening sessions and committee meetings.

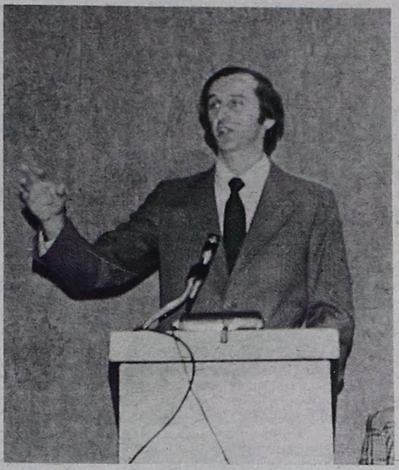
There will be various sessions on subjects of interest to county and municipal personnel including: maintenance, design, safety, environment, air and noise, transportation system management, transportation for the elderly and handicapped, economics, planning, historic and archeological preservation and energy.

The full program for the annual meeting is included in the Nov.-Dec. issue of TRB's *Transportation Research News*. For more information contact the: Transportation Research Board at 2101 Constitution Avenue N.W., Dept. 526, Washington, D.C. 20418, 202/389-6334.

IMPACT OF MASS TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

The Department of Transportation's Office of Environment and Safety has released a report entitled "Guidelines for Assessing the Environmental Impact of Public Mass Transportation Projects."

The notebook series report is designed to facilitate assessment of the environmental impact of public mass transportation projects, with an emphasis on major fixed guideway investments. It also seeks to encourage integration of the transportation planning process and the environmental impact assessment process. Under each of 19 principal environmental components, the nature of the impact is defined; available methods for assessing the impact of projects are described; data needs are summarized; and measures to mitigate adverse impacts are discussed. An extensive bibliography is furnished.



NACoR/NACE BRIDGE MEETING—NACo Fourth Vice President William Murphy, county executive, Rensselaer County, N.Y., addresses county elected officials and engineers in Albany County, N.Y. The meeting was the fifth in a series on the federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program.

The report is presented as a five-volume set of notebooks and an Executive Summary. Each notebook addresses a particular area of concern: notebook 1, Purpose and Procedures; notebook 2, Social Impacts; notebook 3, Economic Impacts; notebook 4, Physical Impacts; and notebook 5, An Environmental Assessment Reference Book.

Two previously issued series of notebooks dealt with the environmental assessment of highway projects, and the environmental assessment of airport projects.

The five-volume set of notebooks is $21.50 and should have reference No. PB299697/AS, included when ordering. The Executive Summary is $4 and should have reference No. 299696, included when ordering.

This report is available from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Va. 22161.

NEW DIRECTIONS

County Grantsmanship: Making the Most of Aid

Editor's Note: New Directions appears periodically to keep county officials in touch with new trends in management.

Making the best use of federal aid can help a county official meet local service needs, while maintaining a reasonable tax rate. But understanding the complex federal-aid system and endeavoring to make the most of available programs is no simple feat. For this reason a "nuts and bolts" workshop at the recent Federal Aid Briefing was held to answer some of the most frequently asked questions of "county grantsmanship." From the free-wheeling discussion came some solutions to common problems. The conference was co-sponsored by NACo and the Council of Intergovernmental Coordinators.

How does a small county organize and run a grants office?

- Two or more neighboring counties can hire and share the services of one grants coordinator.
- A full-time coordinator can divide his other time between grant-related activities and working with the state legislature on behalf of the county.
- The grant coordinator could fill a dual role, i.e., an added function for an employee with other responsibilities, such as the assistant county manager.

How can a grant coordinator have an impact on federal legislation and regulations?

- One of the most effective means is by working with your national associations, i.e., NACo. This includes supporting its lobbying efforts through your expertise and willingness to testify before Senate and House committees and commenting on new agency regulations when they are announced in the *Federal Register* and *County News*.
- Another proven method is a personal meeting with your congressman. Let him/her know exactly what effects (both pro and con) the legislation will have on your county.
- During the battle to have counties included in the community development block grant program, several grant coordinators asked their affected departments for comments. Armed with facts they went before their county board and requested them to pass a resolution. The resolution was forwarded to the appropriate congressional committee with a copy to NACo. Through the combined efforts of counties and NACo, urban counties were included.

What is the responsibility of the grants coordinator in dealing with cutback management?

- The main responsibility is keeping your board of commissioners informed of probable levels of federal financing in the coming fiscal year. The board has the final responsibility for deciding what must be cut, if anything.
- Some counties starts months before the budget process by involving citizens, i.e., setting goals and computing the impact of a budget cut on each program. Finally the board should be presented with options for cutting out services or programs and told what ramifications can be expected from such cuts.

Should indirect costs be included in a grants proposal, and if so, are you penalized by the grantor agency?

- Part of a grant coordinator's job is to develop and negotiate an indirect cost rate plan with the lead federal agency. One word of caution. Before becoming embroiled in the decision to claim or not to claim indirect costs, make an honest assessment of the money you are likely to recover in relation to the cost you will incur in obtaining a direct cost rate.
- No one in the audience ever had a grant refused because it included an indirect cost rate.

—Joan Paschal

Washington Briefs

Employment

Labor-HEW Appropriations. The President signed the second continuing resolution, H.J. Res. 440, into law as P.L. 96-123. This resolution contains funds for the Departments of Labor, HEW, Defense and State (i.e., foreign assistance) through Sept. 30, 1980.

Welfare Reform Jobs. The House subcommittee on employment opportunities will mark up the welfare reform jobs bill, H.R. 4425, in late January or early February.

Energy/Environment

Energy Mobilization Board. As *County News* went to press, the conference committee on the Energy Mobilization Board, scheduled to begin last week, had not met. House Majority Leader Jim Wright (D-Texas) is pushing for final passage prior to the December recess, so conferees will be under pressure to reach a quick agreement. While similar in structure and authority, there are significant differences which could make the conference committee heated. Final passage prior to the recess is still possible.

Synthetic Fuels. Conference Committee action on synthetic fuels legislation is pending in the Senate, which has not yet appointed conferees. Another possible source of delay is that the House has not yet addressed many of the features of the Senate bill, in particular wind energy, a solar and conservation bank and a gasohol proposal. It is possible that the House will have acted on these proposals by the time the conferees reach these titles. (For background on alcohol fuels and gasohol, see story page 1.)

Windfall Profits Tax. Last week the Senate continued debate on the windfall profits tax without reaching an agreement. Actions approved so far included extending the life of the tax so that it would now expire in the mid-1990s and increasing the level of the tax so that it would now raise approximately $155 billion over the next decade. The Senate figure is still far short of the $277 billion proposal passed by the House. Still pending before the Senate are approximately 130 amendments to the bill. Many senators are now talking about a final Senate compromise of $185 billion over the next decade. Final Senate action is possible prior to the December recess; conference committee action is not likely until January.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Long delayed House action on the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act reauthorization bill may occur this week. Originally scheduled for action last week, the bill was pulled because of negotiations over a proposed amendment dealing with the "special waste" category. The Senate passed its version of this reauthorization on June 4. Even if the House completes its action prior to the December recess, a conference committee will not meet until January or February.

Local Energy Management Act. Hearings have been scheduled this week before two Senate committees, on Dec. 12 before the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and Dec. 13 before the housing and urban affairs subcommittee of the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs. NACo will be testifying at both hearings.

Health

National Health Insurance. Markup in Senate Finance Committee of catastrophic health insurance proposals, with some additional coverage for the poor and elderly, not expected to resume before January. Additional joint hearings in House Interstate and Foreign Commerce and Ways and Means Committees on Health Care for all Americans Act, S.1720/H.R. 5191, sponsored by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.), and the Administration's National Health Plan Act, S.1812/H.R. 5400, sponsored by Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.) and Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) to be announced.

Child Health Assurance Programs (CHAPs). H.R. 4962, to improve and expand provision of Medicaid services to low-income children up to 18 years of age and pregnant women, scheduled for vote on House floor at press time. Rep. David Stockman (R-Mich.) expected to offer amendment which would limit program to annual appropriations rather than guarantee services to all eligible, as provided in CHAPs bill. Senate bill, S. 1204, providing for poor children up to six years of age, ordered reported by Senate Finance Committee, but may be included as part of that committee's national health insurance proposal. Both bills contain NACo-supported provision permitting county health departments to provide assessments without directly providing follow-up care.

Mental Health Systems Act. Markup in Senate Labor and Human Resources of S. 1177, the Administration's bill sponsored by Sen. Edward Kennedy, to provide more flexibility in the delivery of services and the support of community based mental health programs, expected in January. New draft, developed by coalition of mental health and consumer groups, addresses NACo-supported provisions safeguarding local planning process. House Interstate and Foreign Commerce health and environment subcommittee markup of H.R. 4156 not yet scheduled.

Taxation and Finance

General Revenue Sharing. At a White House meeting last week, the President told county and city officials that he has not yet decided the shape of the general revenue sharing proposal he will offer. He said he has an open mind regarding the state share and has never questioned the need for revenue sharing for local government. NACo encourages all county officials to wire the White House requesting extension of the current program with funding adequate to compensate for inflation. Budget decisions will be made within the next two weeks.

Targeted/Antirecession Fiscal Assistance. The House Government O[…]erations Committee has reported […] a two-title bill which should go to […] full floor this week. This fast tr[…] legislation, which amends the gene[…] revenue sharing act of 1972, allo[…] $250 million for targeted aid a[…] establishes a cap of $1 billion for co[…]tercyclical assistance. (See page […]

Welfare Social Service

Food Stamps. The subcommittee […] domestic marketing, consum[…] relations and nutrition last week […]proved a bill, H.R. 4318, which wo[…] establish new procedures designed […] reduce error and fraud in the fo[…] stamp program and remove an […]isting ceiling on the amount wh[…] Congress has authorized for […] program in 1980 and 1981. In rela[…] action, the subcommittee also […]proved H.R. 5057, which wo[…] amend the Food Stamp Act of 1[…] to raise the level of deductions […] certain medical and dental expen[…] for households which contain […] member 60 years old or over or […] receives Supplemental Security […]come benefits or disability p[…]ments. Reps. Frederick Richm[…] (D-N.Y.) and Richard Kelly (R-F[…] the respective sponsors of the b[…] agreed to the subcommittee's act[…] of combining the two bills to creat[…] more concise package for the […] committee to consider. The new […] number is H.R. 5902. Full commit[…] action was scheduled to take place […] *County News* went to press.

Job Opportunities

Youth Programs Coordinator, St. Clair County, Mich. Salary $15,795 to $18,482. To administer youth training and employment programs. Bachelor's degree in human services or related area. Three to five years experience in administration, program implementation, preferably in the area of employment and training. Resume to: St. Clair County Manpower, 511 Fort St., Suite 400, Port Huron, Mich. 48060.

Zoo Assistance Supervisor, Dade County, Fla. Salary $18,800. Responsible for obtaining financial assistance to develop 740-acre cageless zoo. Two years grant administration and other financial duties involving research, application preparation, contract negotiation. Direct zoo or park and recreation financial assistance experience desired. Resume to: Stan A. Hemphill, Financial Assistance Administrator, Dade County Park and Recreation Dept., 50 S.W. 32nd Road, Miami, Fla. 33129.

Administrative Analyst II and III, San Bernardino County, Calif. Salary $22,152 to $30,408. Staff assistant to agency administrators. Analyst II requires two years experience and 30 semester units in public administration or related field. Analyst III requires three years experience and equivalent to degree in public administration or related field. Apply to: San Bernardino County Personnel Dept., 157 W. Fifth St., San Bernardino, Calif. 92415, 714/383-2061.

Administrative Assistant, Frederick County, Mich. Salary: $34,000. Responsible for administration of various functions according to policies of board of county commissioners. Bachelor's degree in public administration, business management or related field, three years experience in local government administration. Applications available from: Personnel Department, Winchester Hall, Frederick, Md. 21701, 301/694-1070. Closing date: Dec. 14.

Personnel Director, San Luis Obispo County, Calif. Salary $2,262 to $2,749 per month. Related education and experience required for further information: San Luis Obispo County Personnel Department, 1015 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, Calif. 93408, 805/549-5959. Closing date: Dec. 21.

CETA Director, Volusia County, Fla. Salary $20,600 to $28,800. Responsible for technical and administrative work. Degree in business or public administration or related field and three years administrative experience in manpower planning or program management. Resume to: Personnel Director, P.O. Box 429, DeLand, Fla. 32720. Closing date: Dec. 24.

County Administrator, Beaufort County, S.C. Salary $30,000 to $35,000. Appointed by nine-member council, administering $7.5 million budget. Degree in public or business administration plus three years progressive administrative experience. Resume to: Arthur Horne, Chairman, Beaufort County Council, Box 1228, Beaufort, S.C. 29902, Attn: County Administrator Application.

County Engineer/Director of Public Works, Sedgwick County, Kan. Salary $34,000 to $37,600. Responsible for planning, organizing and directing activities of County Public Works Department including bridge, highway and sewer design construction and maintenance; building inspection and vehicular and equipment maintenance. Degree in civil engineering, extensive supervisory experience in civil engineering or public works administration, or appropriate combination of education and experience. Must be certified as a Kansas Registered Professional Engineer or eligible for such registration. Resume to: Sedgwick County Personnel, 510 N. Main, Wichita, Kan. 67203, 316/268-7178. Closing date: Dec. 17.

Director of Planning and Development, Multnomah County (Portland) Ore. Salary $27,144 to $38,628. Responsible for land use planning, land development and engineering services with a budget of $1.9 million and 81 employees. Six years of land use planning or engineering experience, including two years of management experience. Degree in land use planning or engineering. Contact: Multnomah County Personnel Division, 426 S.W. Stark, 7th floor, Portland Ore. 97204.

Executive Director, Planning and Community Development Agency (COG) of Southeastern Ohio county of 55,000 population. Salary $18,000 to $19,500. Programs include CDBG, Neighborhood Strategy Area Program and UDAG. Major neighborhood revitalizations under way in several areas. Require recent planning, development and administrative experience, some in a supervisory capacity. Bachelor's degree in public administration, city planning or a related field. Resume, letters of reference and salary requirements to: Personnel Committee, Athens City/County Planning and Development Board, City Hall Annex, Athens, Ohio 45701. Closing date: Dec. 15.

Risk Management Officer, Orange County, N.Y. Salary commensurate with ability. Develops comprehensive pooled self-insurance program for county. Degree in business administration or related field plus five years experience in general insurance dealing with large businesses or municipalities. Resume to: Dept. of Personnel, Orange County Government Center, Goshen, N.Y. 10924.

CETA Director, Humboldt County, C[…] Salary $25,113-$30,658. Directs the activi[…] the CETA program; evaluates manpower […] resources and programs. Requires degr[…] business or public administration and five […] with state or federal manpower program[…] years administrative. Resume to: Pers[…] Dept., Humboldt County Courthouse, Room […] Eureka, Calif. 95501. Closing date: Dec. 31.

Chief, Division of Accounting and B[…] Loudoun County, Va. Salary $17,884 to $1[…] Emphasis on accounting supervision and b[…] analysis. Requires knowledge of local g[…]ment and two years supervisory profes[…] experience in municipal accounting, budg[…] and financial administration, plus MBA […] counting or related field or four years p[…] bachelor's degree in accounting, busines[…] ministration or related field, or an equiv[…] combination. Resume to: County of Loudou[…] fice of Personnel, 18 N. King Street, Le[…] Va. 22075, 703/777-0213. Closing date: De[…]

Executive Director, Central Puget S[…] Economic Development District. Salary $[…] to $35,000. Responsible for programs and […] policies; maintaining liaison with district […]tors and local, state and federal officials […]tifying economic development opportu[…] administering business affairs. Requires […]ledge of economics, business and publ[…] ministration and state and federal leg[…] Resume to: Search Committee, Central […] Sound Economic Development District, […] 214, 500 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, Wash. […] Closing date: Dec. 20.

Health Administrator, Ottawa County[…] Salary: $22,878-$27,194. Responsible for […]tion, operation and overall administration […] county health department. Prefer master's […] in public health or public administration. R[…] to: Ottawa County Personnel Department[…] Washington, Grand Haven, Mich. 49417.

Recession Aid Bill Oked

Continued from page 1

• A per capita income of less than 130 percent of the state average during the most recent calendar year; and

• An allocation of at least $6,000 for SMSAs and $3,000 for nonmetropolitan areas.

The allocation for each eligible government would be computed by taking its average unemployment rate for the most recent four years, subtracting 4½ percent from that rate (4 percent in the case of nonmetropolitan area governments[…] multiplying the difference by […] government's general revenue […]ing payment.

NACo actively supports the […]lation and asks that counties co[…] their House delegations to su[…] the measure, without amendme[…] the House floor. The bill, if appr[…] will go to conference with a S[…] version during the week of De[…] Congress is expected to close […] first session Dec. 21. For add[…] information contact Bruce […] at NACo.