



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OUTREACH SPECIALIST APPOINTED FOR UPCOMING
INCLINE VILLAGE HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

Nov. 4, 2010 (*Stateline, Nev.*) – Lee Weber-Koch of Weber & Associates was selected as the outreach specialist for community involvement and educational programs for various highway projects, including the Incline Gateway Roundabout at the intersection of State Routes 431 and 28.

Weber-Koch will work with the Tahoe Transportation District (<http://www.tahoetransportation.org>) in conjunction with the Nevada Department of Transportation (<http://www.nevadadot.com>) to develop a speaker's bureau and organize recommendations for the roundabout centerpiece. Weber-Koch will schedule opportunities for community members to share their feedback, ideas and discuss the project's benefits to the area.

The Incline Gateway Roundabout project is a safety solution for an intersection that has been the scene of numerous accidents and is slated for fall of 2011 with utility work. The roundabout completion is set for late 2012. NDOT will oversee the project and construction in partnership with TTD. The development is before the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency for permit approval and the utility relocation will require a permit from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Weber-Koch a 24-year Incline resident was chosen for her knowledge of the community and participation with local non-profits including: Arts Culture Heritage Committee of the Parasol Community Collaboration (Chairman); Incline Community Business Association (Corporate Member); Lake Tahoe Music Festival (Fund-raising Committee); Nevada Special Olympics (Marketing Consultant); Sierra Nevada Ballet (Board of Directors) and Tahoe Business Exchange (Educator).

Based on research, the Incline Gateway Roundabout was determined the best solution for the intersection due to notable safety increases and traffic flow benefits:

- Increased safety rating – higher than signalized intersections
- Reduces frequency and severity of crashes
- Reduces traffic delays/increases traffic capacity
- Slows excessive traffic speeds while still improving traffic flow
- Reduces long-term operational costs

- More environmentally-friendly than traditional intersections due to less vehicle emissions, fuel use and noise

While other intersection alternatives were also reviewed, they neither met federal requirements nor did they provide the benefits of roundabouts.

A comprehensive study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety has determined that roundabouts are much safer than other types of intersections. The Institute examined 24 intersections in eight states that were converted from stop signs or traffic signals. The results that emerged were remarkably favorable: vehicular accidents overall declined 39 percent; accidents resulting in injuries fell 76 percent; and accidents resulting in death or incapacitating injury plunged 90 percent.

Driving in roundabouts is easy and follows many of the same principles of other traffic intersections. Drivers yield to approaching vehicles already in the roundabout and only have to stop if there is a vehicle in the roundabout approaching to their left.

NDOT is responsible for planning, construction and maintenance of highway operations within the state. They oversee 5,400 miles of highway and over 1,000 bridges and various allied projects from the Adopt-a-Highway program to the maintenance of State Historical Markers.

TTD was created under Article IX of a Congressional Compact. Its board includes representatives from the public and private sectors. TTD is responsible for implementing transportation plans and projects, and can own and operate transportation systems and/or facilities.

“NDOT and TTD have utilized a great deal of research, area experience and commonsense to determine an effective safety solution for a troublesome area,” said Nick Johnson, NDOT project manager.

“We are striving to bring a new level of public safety to the area, and the roundabout at Hwy 28 and 431 will do just that,” said Carl Hasty, TTD District Manager.

A community meeting to present details on the project will be hosted by NDOT and TTD this spring.

Information about roundabouts, construction and scheduling may be accessed through NDOT: www.NevadaDOT.com/roundabout.

For details on the Tahoe Transportation District and current projects, visit www.TahoeTransportation.org or call (775) 589-5500. For general information regarding the Nevada Department of Transportation, visit www.NevadaDOT.com or call (775) 888-7000.



Lee Weber-Koch has been selected as the outreach specialist for various highway projects along the corridor between Highways 28 and 431.

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The Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) is responsible for the implementation and management of transportation projects and programs in the Tahoe Basin. The organization has facilitated many area safety including bicycle paths, roadway improvements, pedestrian thoroughfares, water quality and water shed improvements and public transit solutions. www.TahoeTransportation.org

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is responsible for the planning, construction, operation and maintenance of the 5,400 miles of highway and over 1,000 bridges which make up the state highway system. The department also oversees various allied projects from the Adopt-a-Highway program to the maintenance of State Historical Markers. www.NevadaDOT.com