Connecting the DOTs

February 2026

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

"Scoopy Scoopy Doo, where are you?"

The Jones County Preschool and their teachers met their newly named Winner Area plow, **"Scoopy Scoopy Doo"** in February.

The shirts worn by students were specially "Scoopy" designed by the preschool teachers. The kids braved the wind to sing their own rendition to the Scooby Doo cartoon theme song.

You can listen to the kids singing their ode to "Scoopy" here: https://youtu.be/pKCTjZeSwj8

Below are the creative lyrics:

**"Scoopy Scoopy Doo, where are you?
We've got some work to do now.**

**Scoopy Scoopy Doo, where are you?
We've got some snow to move now?"**

Find additional photos from the Winner Area Meet and Greet, along with other snowplow events, on pages five and six.

The Secretary's Corner

Employee Engagement in Action

Annual employee meetings were held across the state once again this past fall and early winter. These meetings provide an excellent opportunity for leadership to engage with staff in person to hear what is most important.

Staff input given at the employee meetings held in 2024 directly led to several changes and actions including: development of an annual statewide construction map, defining the role of the lead highway maintenance worker, creating a plow cutting edge work group, updating the clothing allowance policy, issuing a guidance memo on remote work, and additional training on Open Roads.

While these initiatives have addressed some of the suggested improvements, we appreciate that staff shared additional thoughts and ideas at the recent 2025 employee meetings. Areas that were discussed and identified to review for improvement in 2026 included: weekend, holiday and emergency call-in pay, concerns with IT implementation (BISON, Evergreen, E-Construction and MEMS), contractor accountability and work quality, loss of knowledge as employees retire, use of Teams phones, post construction improvement opportunities, material testing and inspection demands, communication on funding impacts, and an overall interest in AI.

A summary of the **2025 employee meeting identified priorities** with staff feedback, comments, and ideas is available within the **Employee Resources Tab** on the Intranet at https://intranetdot.sd.gov/docs/empl/2025EmployeeMeetingsPrioritiesSummary.pdf.

In addition, the Executive Team has completed an initial review and identified specific items for action. This working list of **2026 actionable items** may also be found on the Intranet at https://intranetdot.sd.gov/docs/empl/Actionable%20Items%20from%202025%20Employee%20Meetings%20-%20Jan%202026.pdf.

One of the first actions being addressed is a review of policies **DOT-S-PER-3 Field Activity Overtime / Flex Guidelines and DOT-S-PER-9.2 Overtime Policy**. A guidance document that will combine these two policies is being drafted and will be sent out to the policy review team. The guidelines will address concerns we heard from employees that are working weekends and holidays, scheduled for construction activities or when responding to emergency needs.

We continue to find tremendous value in the annual employee meetings overall. The breakout sessions provided a wonderful opportunity to discuss topics of interest or concern in a smaller group setting. Thank you for your engagement. We will continue to work side-by-side with employees to make SDDOT an even stronger organization.
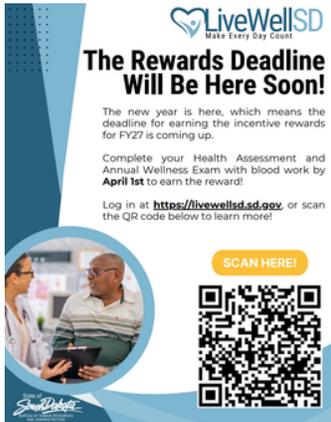
Transportation Learning Network (TLN)

Take advantage of the TLN supplemental training opportunities. These virtual sessions make it easy to learn at your own pace and enhance your professional development without having to travel.

How to get started:
1. Log in to SDLearn   2. Select Upcoming Calendar Events 3. Search for TLN in the title text box

TLN training helps us stay sharp and deliver the best for South Dakota.

Complete Your Health Assessment and Annual Wellness Exam!

Don't Miss the Rewards' Deadline on April 1, 2026!

It Pays to Train!

Benefits Open Enrollment is coming soon! Join Monday, March 2, 2026, **It Pays to Train** at 10 a.m. MT/11 a.m. CT to hear from BHRA about this enrollment process!

Join the live session by following this link: **It Pays to Train Live Session**

You can also be added to the recurring calendar invite for each month, so you never miss a session! To get on this invite, please email **dotlms@state.sd.us**

February Watercooler

February topics include: Reserving the B20 Capitol Conference Room, the LiveWellSD Well-Being Reward Deadline, Preventive Care Resources, HSA Tax Documents, Step Enrollment, and the new Power Up Summit!

Click to watch on YouTube.

Links:
- LiveWellSD Portal: https://livewellsd.sd.gov/
- Preventive Care Resources: https://www.sd.gov/bhra?id=kb_article_view&sysparm_article=KB0044565
- WEX: https://wexinc.com/
- Employee Space: https://bfm.sd.gov/hr/es.aspx
- Register for Power Up: https://sdlearn.csod.com/ui/lms-learn...

Safety Matters
By: Chuck Layton, Safety Manager

I began in my SDDOT Safety Manager position in late December 2025. Thank you to everyone who has welcomed me to the SDDOT. I have spent the last two months traveling across the state to learn more about SDDOT operations overall and to meet SDDOT staff members.

I am based out of the Custer Area Office and the Rapid City Region Office. My entire career has focused on workforce safety, with extensive experience within the mining industry and nearly 10 years with United Rentals, Inc.

Throughout my career, I have worked to implement safety culture programs and processes.

Please know that I am excited to work with SDDOT staff throughout the state to closely align all safety-related goals with the SDDOT 2026 Strategic Plan. Thank you for working with our team, which includes **Carol Evans, Region Safety Coordinator** - located in Pierre and **Steve Schneider, Region Safety Coordinator -** located in Sioux Falls to move the department's safety initiatives forward.

A high-level summary of our short and long-term goals includes:

- Build a **Value Based Safety process – Zero Incident Mindset**
- Update the **SDDOT Employee Safety Manual**
- Streamline our Region Safety Committees
- Increase the **visibility** of the Safety Team in the field
- Create a **Safety Management Database** to improve field safety communications with emphasis on improved accident investigations
- Improved **Safety Orientations** for Supervisors and Employees
- Provide ongoing **safety-based communication** through the monthly newsletter, meetings, etc.

A **Value Based Safety process** will help us adopt proven practices. While it will take time to implement, this process will help us reduce safety and claims losses, and move us toward being a leader in safety standards for the State of South Dakota. This process helps us move away from a traditional philosophy of reactive safety management where the primary strategy is measuring statistics and benchmarking goals from the statistics.

A Zero Incident Mindset will help the SDDOT proactively define and implement measures and solutions to put safety at the forefront of all decision-making with the ultimate goal of meeting the objective of everyone home safely every day!

Snowplow Naming Meet and Greet Community Events

Find more information (photos and videos) at https://dot.sd.gov/inside-sddot/of-interest/sddot-snowplow-naming-contest/

Custer Area - Feb. 13, 2026
Sleddy Roosevelt met the 3rd graders

Many thanks to the SDDOT team for making this event possible at Hill City Elementary including Bruce Schroeder, Custer Area Engineer, Tucker Pankowski, Custer Area Highway Maintenance Supervisor, and Dan Alfson, Highway Maintenance Worker.

Pierre Area - Feb. 13, 2026
Buzz Ice Clear met the Sayler family

Pictured from left to right are Les Winsel (Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Pierre), Dean VanDeWiele (Pierre Area Engineer), Thomas Viktora (Highway Maintenance Worker, Pierre), John Sayler, Bauer Sayler, Madden Sayler, Jordana Sayler, Jason Humphrey (Pierre Region Engineer, and Kallie Poss (Accounting Assistant, Pierre).

Winner Area - Feb. 17, 2026
Scoopy Scoopy Doo met the Jones County Preschool

SDDOT employees from left to right in the middle picture are Andy Hatheway, Chris Feddersen, Gabriel Ellendorf, Jim Lolley, Tim Byrd and Jim Christianson. Many thanks to Doug Sherman, Winner Area Engineer, for coordinating the event and taking the photos/video!

Snowplow Naming Meet and Greet Community Events continued . . .

Mitchell Area - Feb. 13, 2026
Plowverine met the 4th graders of Armour Elementary School

SDDOT personnel attending were Jay Peppel (Mitchell Area Engineer), Stephanie Stacey (Mitchell Area Secretary), Travis Sparks (Unit 251 Maintenance Supervisor), Jerry Leonard (Armour Lead Highway Maintenance Worker), Justin Villmow (Highway Maintenance Worker) and Caleb VanZee, (Highway Maintenance Worker).

Rapid City Area - Feb. 19, 2026
Mount Slush No More joined the Office of Highway Safety for a joint press event to talk about various highway safety initiatives.

Todd Seaman (Rapid City Region Engineer) and Mike Carlson (Rapid City Area Engineer) hosted the Office of Highway Safety, who submitted the winning name for Rapid City Area.

Yankton Area - Feb. 24, 2026
Stormin' Norman debuts its grit on the roadways in the Yankton Area

Pictured are staff from Junction City including Josh Timmerman, Highway Maintenance Worker, Bo Groethe, Highway Maintenance Worker, Greg Rothschadl, Yankton Area Engineer, John Gustad, Highway Maintenance Worker, Tyler Small, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker, Austin Martensen, Highway Maintenance Worker, Christian Anderson (driver), Highway Maintenance Worker, Gene Ericson, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker, Brad Steeneck, Highway Maintenance Supervisor Junction City/Beresford.

The contest winner, **Troy Rosenbaum,** was unable to attend, but wanted to thank the maintenance teams who keep our roadways safe all-year long.

Sioux Falls Area - Feb. 24, 2026
Frost Force One met Nolan Allen and classmates at Horizon Elementary.

Thank you to **Chris Peters, Sioux Falls Area Highway Maintenance Supervisor**, for lining up this school visit!

2026 Aviation Art Contest - "Fly to Save Lives"

Group 1 - Ages 6-9 (24 entries)

1st Place: Madysen, age 6 - Ft. Pierre   **2nd Place:** Thea, age 9 - Ft. Pierre   **3rd Place:** Matias, age 7 - Pierre

Group 2 - Ages 10-13 (48 entries)

1st Place: Brielle, age 12 - Murdo   **2nd Place:** Reagan, age 12 - Murdo   **3rd Place:** Sage, age 13 - New Underwood

Group 3 - Ages 14-17 (20 entries)

1st Place: Anastelle, age 14 - New Underwood   **2nd Place:** Jesse, age 15 - Murdo   **3rd Place:** Brook, age 14 - New Underwood

Honorable Mentions

Lilith, age 7 - Ft. Pierre

Breck, age 13 - New Underwood

Alexander, age 15 - New Underwood

Taycee age 13 - New Underwood

SD MENTORING

Mentoring Minute - February 2026

By: Scott Eisenbeisz, Ariana Griffey, Tel Saucerman, Josh Timmerman, and John Villbrandt

Are you ready to take your career to the next level? Wondering how you fit into the big picture at SDDOT? Whether you're new and looking for guidance or experienced and ready to give back, the **SDDOT Mentoring Program** could be exactly what you need.

Since its start in 2007, there have been 12 program cohorts which have assisted over 300 employees to:
- **Grow** in their roles and **explore** new opportunities within SDDOT;
- **Network** with peers while **sharing knowledge and experience** to support colleagues; and
- **Gain** fresh perspectives while **building** valuable relationships.

If this sounds interesting to you, **don't miss your chance to join!**

Key Dates . . .
- **Registration:**
  March 5 - 27, 2026
- **Orientation/Speed Mentoring:**
  April 8, 2026, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. CST at Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center in Fort Pierre
- **Pairing Announcements:**
  May 1, 2026
- **Program Kickoff:**
  May 12, 2026, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. CST at Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center in Fort Pierre

At the kickoff, mentoring pairs will create a personalized **Mentoring Action Plan**—setting goals, meeting schedules, and more. The program is **mentee-driven**, so you can tailor it to your needs.

Mentoring Minute continued . . .

SD MENTORING

Group Events Timeline:
- **July 2026 Event**
- **September 2026 Event**
- **Mid-point Energizer: November 2026**
- **January 2027 Event**
- **March 2027 Event**
- **End-of-Program Celebration: May 2027**

While the formal program ends in May each year, many mentor-mentee relationships continue informally for months and years!

Mid-point Energizer Event

July Event at Egger Steel Co. in Sioux Falls

Secretary Jundt pictured with various mentoring pairs receiving their certificates during the 2024-2025 **Mentoring Program End-of-Year Celebration.**

Ready to learn, grow, and connect?
Mark your calendar for **Thursday, March 5, 2026,** and join us for another great year of mentoring at SDDOT! For more information, check out the mentoring intranet site.

Mentoring Coming Events:
- Mentoring Program Registration Open – March 5-27, 2026
- Mentoring Orientation – April 8, 2026

Make Time for Mentoring!

SDDOT 101 for New Employees

SDDOT 101 is a course designed for newer employees in the SDDOT and is aimed at providing a comprehensive and engaging introduction to our organization.

Key Details:
- **Eligibility**: Employees should attend SDDOT 101 after being in their role for at least three months and no longer than nine months.
- **Lab Tour**: The Lab Tour will continue to be offered on the afternoon of the second day. This tour is optional, but supervisors and employees should ensure they sign up if it is relevant to their job duties or if otherwise interested.
- **Facilitation**: The course has been transitioned to Jaynie Spier, Employee Development Coordinator, who will now oversee facilitation.
- **Continuity**: Many of the great attributes of the classic NEO will remain the same, ensuring a smooth transition and familiar experience for new employees.

The next SDDOT 101 session is scheduled for April 21-22, 2026.

If you are a new employee, please check that this training has been assigned to you in SDLearn.

If you have questions about **SDDOT 101**, please reach out to Jaynie Spier at **Jaynie.spier@state.sd.us** or 605-291-5418.

It Pays to Train

Benefits Open Enrollment is coming soon!

Join us on Monday, March 2, 2026, for It Pays to Train at 10 a.m. MT/11 a.m. CT to hear from BHRA about the enrollment process!

Join the live session by following this link: It Pays to Train Live Session.

You can also be added to the recurring calendar invite for each month, so you never miss a session! To get on this invite, please email dotlms@state.sd.us.

2026 SD Airports Conference

Wednesday, April 8, 2026
Ramkota Hotel, 920 West Sioux Ave. in Pierre

This conference is for airport managers, finance officers, mayors, and other city/county personnel to learn more about how to better run their local airport. Many consultants and aviation vendors were also in attendance as this conference is a great networking opportunity for everyone.

Additional information will be available on our website at
https://dot.sd.gov/transportation/aviation/airports-conference/

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Learn ~ Engage ~ Improve

Click on the SDLearn graphic or use this link to sign in: **SDLearn**
Search by the **complete course name** listed.

	March 2026
	SIMPLIFIED CODING FOR ALL TRAINING COURSES: **Use function 1175; no AFE needed!**
	It Pays to Train sessions highlight SDDOT's core values while diving into timely, relevant topics. **Date:** Monday, Mar. 2, 2026, 11 a.m. CST/ 10 a.m. MST **Location:** Teams **Core Value:** Transparent Public Service and Benefit Enrollments with Corrine Schapinski Ask DOTLMS@state.sd.us for a meeting invite so we are on your calendar each month!
	TLN: Engineering Ethics…A Pragmatic Approach Mar. 9 | 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT | Zoom **TLN: Emotional Intelligence: Making your EQ Work for you at Work** Mar. 31 | 12:30 – 4 p.m. CDT | Zoom Apr. 1 | 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT | Zoom
	TLN: ATSSA Traffic Control Technician Mar. 3 | 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. CST | Zoom **TLN: ATSSA Traffic Control Supervisor** Mar. 4-5 | 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. CST; 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. CST | Zoom
	TLN; Concrete Patching & Repair Mar. 18 | 9:30 – 11 a.m. CDT | Zoom **TLN: Concrete Pavement Preservation & Grinding** Mar. 25 | 9:30 – 11 a.m. CDT | Zoom
	TLN: Fundamentals of Bridge Maintenance Mar. 17 | 9:30 – 11 a.m. CDT | Zoom **TLN Construction Surveying Basics, part 1** Mar. 19 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. CDT | Zoom **TLN Construction Surveying Basics, part 2** Mar. 24 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. CDT | Zoom
	TLN: Tractor Mower Operator Safety Training Mar. 26 | 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT | Zoom
	National Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Responder Training – Register at **Office of Emergency Management.** Mar. 19 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. MDT |Rapid City Mar. 19 | 1 – 5 p.m. MDT | Rapid City

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Search by the **complete course name** listed.

	National Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Responder Training – Register at **Office of Emergency Management.** Mar. 31 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT | Sioux Falls Mar. 31 | 1 – 5 p.m. CDT | Sioux Falls Apr. 1 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT | Sioux Falls Apr. 21 | 1 – 5 p.m. CDT | Aberdeen Apr. 22 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT | Aberdeen
	ADA 101 Mar. 3 | 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. CST | Sioux Falls **Accommodating Pedestrians in Work Zones** Mar. 3 | 1 – 3 p.m. CST | Sioux Falls
	Aspen Aerial Bridge Unit Training Mar. 31-Apr. 1 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. CST | Aberdeen

WINTER CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

	Bituminous Office Jan. 22 | 9:30 – 11 a.m. CST | Teams **Office of Bridge Design** Jan. 27 | 9:30 – 11 a.m. CST | Teams **Concrete Office** Feb. 5 | 9:30 – 11 a.m. CST | Teams *Recordings can be found in SDLearn*	**ADA/Civil Rights/Labor Compliance Office** Mar. 16 | 3 – 4:30 p.m. CDT | Teams **Traffic Control** Mar. 23 | 3 – 4:30 p.m. CDT | Teams

	First Aid/CPR/AED Mar. 3 | 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. MST | Rapid City Mar. 10 | 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT | Pierre
	Welding Basics Mar. 9 - 12 | 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT | WDT Mar. 17-19 | 6 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT | LATC Mar. 17-20 | 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT | MTC
	Bridge Preservation Guide Online Course **Bridge Cleaning** Online Course **Basic Bridge Concepts for Maintenance Technicians** Online Course
	NO MORE AFE'S FOR TRAINING! **Use function 1175**

BHRA TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

In-Person Training Opportunities

These courses are hands-on, practical sessions designed to provide useful tools.

There are some great trainings offered yet in February and in the upcoming months:

- **Crucial Conversations** – (Pierre) Navigate high-stakes discussions by managing emotions, creating safety, and building shared understanding for effective outcomes in this 2-day course.
- **Edit, Rewrite, AI...Oh My!** – (Sioux Falls) Use Copilot to enhance your writing and use AI responsibly.
- **Everything DiSC** – (Rapid City) Leverage your DiSC style to adapt, reduce friction, and collaborate.
- **Defusing Difficult Customers** – (Rapid City) Recognize, manage, and de-escalate difficult customer interactions while maintaining professionalism and personal control.

2026 DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
South Dakota State Government

Course Name	Last Update	New Supervisor Curriculum	Supervisors & Managers	All Employees	BHRA In-Person Course	BHRA On-Demand
16 Personalities	2024		✓		✓	
Civil Treatment Workplace for Leaders	2025	✓	✓		✓	
Classification & Compensation and Civil Service vs Exempt	New!	✓	✓			✓
CPC Foundations for Supervisors	New!	✓	✓			✓
Crucial Accountability	2025		✓		✓	
Crucial Conversations	2023		✓		✓	
Customer Service Excellence: Enhancing the Customer Experience	2025		✓	✓	✓	
Defusing Difficult Customers	2024		✓	✓	✓	
DiSC	2025		✓	✓	✓	
Edit, Rewrite, AI...Oh My!	2025		✓	✓	✓	
Five Behaviors of a Team: Personal Development Workshop	2025		✓		✓	
Four Tendencies for Employees	2023			✓	✓	
Hogan 101: Assessment & Debrief	2025		✓	✓	✓	
Hogan 102: Strengths & Superpowers	2025		✓	✓	✓	
Hogan 103: Dealing with Derailers	2025		✓	✓	✓	
Hogan 104: Exploring Your Core Values & Motivators	2025		✓	✓	✓	
Hogan Leadership Experience	2025		✓	✓	✓	
Lost Art of Phone & Email Etiquette	2023		✓	✓	✓	
Managing Remote Teams	2025		✓		✓	
Navigating the BHRA Website and Additional Resources	New!	✓	✓			✓
Navigating Tough Talks & Documentation	2025	✓	✓		✓	
New Employee Onboarding	2025	✓	✓			✓
Peer to Leader	New!		✓		✓	
SDLearn Basics for Supervisors	2025	✓	✓			✓
South Dakota Interview and Selection	2025	✓	✓			✓
Taking the Coach Approach	New!	✓	✓		✓	
The Art of Delegation	New!		✓		✓	
The Key 14: Mastering Supervision in SD State Government	New!	✓	✓			✓
Time Management	2025		✓	✓	✓	
TKS Functions for Supervisors	New!	✓	✓			✓

LEARN MORE

Growth at Your Fingertips 24/7! SDLearn offers state employees access to over 1,500 on-demand resources for personal and professional development.

Career Fairs and Community Events

SDDOT staff participated in a Career Fair at the **South Dakota School of Mines & Technology** in Rapid City on Feb. 3, 2026.

Pictured left to right are **Kate Sieverding, Assistant Rapid City Region Bridge Engineer, Heidi Olson, BHRA - Human Resources Manager, and Mike Carlson, Rapid City Area Engineer.**

SDDOT staff participated in a **Career Fair at South Dakota State University** on Feb. 11, 2026.

Pictured left to right: **Kim Smith, Human Resources Generalist, Kirk Henderson, Sioux Falls Area Engineering Supervisor, and Jeff Brink, Watertown Area Engineering Supervisor**.

Pictured are **Mike Welch, Aberdeen Region Design Engineer, (left) and Matt Brey, Watertown Area Engineer** who attended the **Career Fair at North Dakota State University** on Feb. 4, 2026.

Black Hills Stock Show

Thank you to all SDDOT staff who assisted at the SDDOT booth for the Black Hills Stock Show (Jan. 30 - Feb. 7, 2026).

Stacy Barlett, Rapid City Road Design Engineering Manager and Mike Carlson, Rapid City Area Engineer

Julie Stevenson, Strategic Communications Coordinator

Tom Horan, Rapid City Region Operations Engineer and Krystl Vermundson, Rapid City Senior Secretary

Steve Palmer, Rapid City Engineering Manager and Chuck Layton, Safety Manager, Rapid City

Watertown Farm Show

Matt Brey, Watertown Area Engineer and **Mark Peterson,** Aberdeen Region Engineer, engaged with customers at the **Watertown Winter Farm Show,** which was held from Feb. 11-14, 2026.

Thanks to **Brian Burke, Watertown Area Highway Maintenance Worker**, for bringing his four boys to the booth on Saturday. Currently, they are "committed" to working for the SDDOT in the future!

How to Change Your Microsoft Profile Image

To begin, download the attached DOT logo or save your preferred profile image to your computer.

Via Web Browser (Account Profile):
1. Go to the Microsoft account dashboard and sign in.
2. Select **Change photo** below your current image or initials.
3. Click **Add a photo** or **Change photo** to upload a new image from your device

Via Microsoft 365/Teams/Outlook:
1. Open Outlook or another Microsoft 365 app.
2. Select the circle containing your initials or photo in the top right corner.
3. Click **View Account**
4. Follow steps 2 & 3 again until a separate tab opens.
5. Click pencil by your initials or old photo
6. Choose a new image.

Key Details
- **Photo Type:** Use .png, .jpg, or .gif files.
- **Size Restriction:** Files must be smaller than 4 MB.
- **Sync Time:** It may take up to 48 hours for the new photo to appear across all applications.
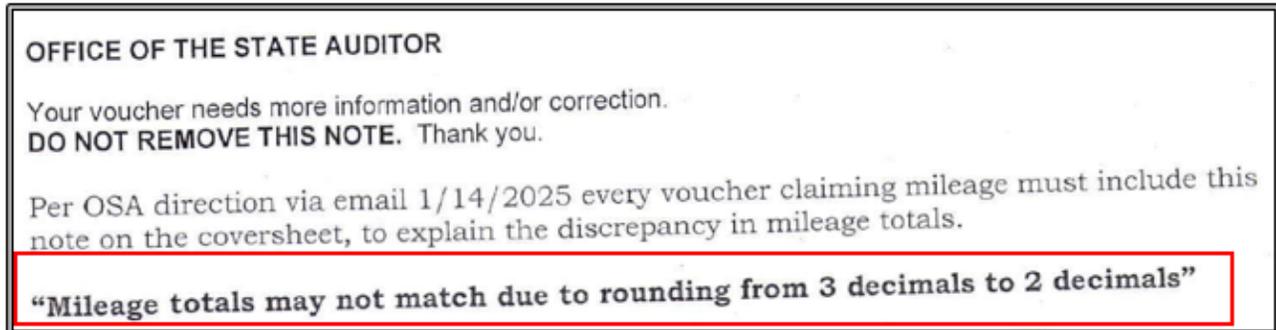- **Restrictions:** Some profile picture changes may be restricted by your IT administrator.

Finance Corner

Employee Travel Reimbursements (Mileage)

When processing employee travel with mileage, there may be an issue with rounding in Batch Load.

You should notate **"MILEAGE TOTALS MAY NOT MATCH DUE TO ROUNDING FROM 3 DECIMALS TO 2 DECIMALS"** on the voucher cover sheet. This will ensure it has been reviewed by the administrative staff who processed the voucher, the employee & the approver (supervisor).

Example:

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

Your voucher needs more information and/or correction.
DO NOT REMOVE THIS NOTE. Thank you.

Per OSA direction via email 1/14/2025 every voucher claiming mileage must include this note on the coversheet, to explain the discrepancy in mileage totals.

"Mileage totals may not match due to rounding from 3 decimals to 2 decimals"

Employee travel information can be found on the SDDOT intranet at:
https://intranetdot.sd.gov/travel.aspx

Please reach out to the Central Finance Office (Brandy Hansen or Patricia Devitt) with any questions.

BISON Update
By: Kellie Beck, Director of Finance & Managment

We have been striving for a BISON "go live" date of July 1, 2026. The BISON team and BFM have determined that "go live" for July 1, 2026, is not realistic with the amount of work yet to complete to implement the system.

They have not set a new date for "go live" as of right now. In the coming weeks that date will be announced.

In the meantime, work will continue on this project and it will remain a priority for SDDOT and the state. More information to come as timelines are determined.

Primavera Tips/Tricks - Create a Desktop Icon

SDDOT utilizes Primavera Cloud, which is a cloud-based scheduling software for the design phase of a project. Additionally, Primavera Cloud is utilized for various aspects of project management to help with managing resource workloads (current & future) and to assist in the delivery of projects in a timely matter.

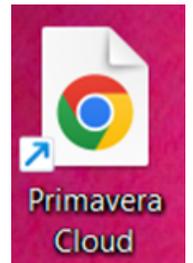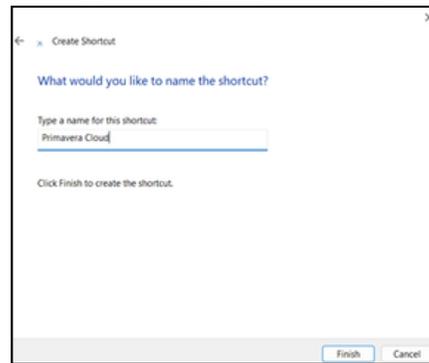This tip demonstrates how to **Create a Desktop Icon** for Primavera Cloud.
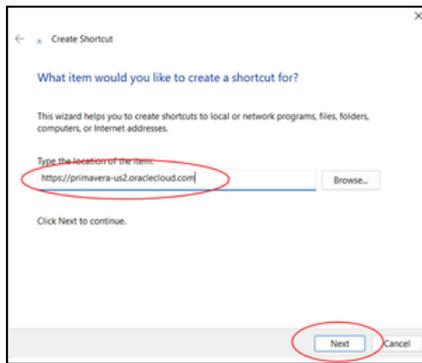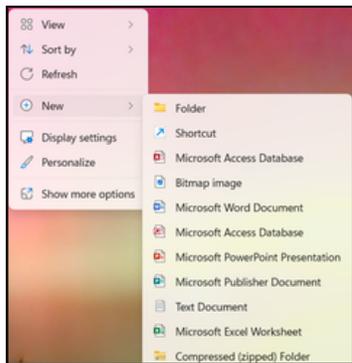
1. On your **Desktop, Right Click,** select **New** and then select **Shortcut**.

Note: The **Create Shortcut** window will open.

2. In the **Create Shortcut** window, **Copy and Paste** the web address for Primavera Cloud, and then select **Next**.

3. On the next windows, name the shortcut **Primavera Cloud** and select **Finish**.

Note: The **Primavera Cloud Shortcut** will be created (see below).

If you have questions about the Primavera Cloud software, please reach out to the Project Delivery Team.

Earl Berg (earl.berg@state.sd.us or 773-7191)
Kathryn Faubel (Kathryn.Faubel@state.sd.us or 773-3567)

ArcMap is Officially Retiring- Your Help is Needed!

ArcMap is retiring March 1, 2026, and BIT is removing support for it on June 1, 2026. The reason for removing support is an upgrade to our Enterprise GIS and a new licensing model. The new version of our Enterprise GIS will require named users, so every ArcGIS Pro user will need their own license.

The DOT GIS Team is tasked with determining who needs a license for ArcGIS Pro and the type of license they need, and we need your help. We created a short survey with a few questions.

If you use ArcGIS Pro, please fill it out so we can make sure you get a license. Get in touch with **Kimberly Zerr or Kathryn Wesson** if you have questions or concerns. Thanks for your help!
Click here for the survey.

SDDOT Employee News and Updates

February New Hires:

Charles Layton, Safety Manager, Rapid City **(Chuck actually started in late December, 2025)**

Braden Powell, Highway Maintenance Worker (Bridge), Aberdeen

Brian Kramer, Highway Maintenance Worker, Mobridge

Convey, Kayin Highway Maintenance Worker, Brookings

Andrew Hatheway, Highway Maintenance Worker, Murdo

Kai Eisenbraun, Highway Maintenance Worker, Kadoka

Rebecca Soukup, Marketing & Communication Specialist, Yankton

Zachary Bowen Highway Maintenance Worker, Milbank

Clyde Baker, Highway Maintenance Worker, Faulkton

Ian Claywalker, Highway Maintenance Worker, Rapid City

Tyler Welker, Equipment Mechanic, Pierre

February Lateral Position Updates:

Craig Christeson,Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Watertown

Justin Toering, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker, Watertown

Vinay Nukala, Engineer, Yankton

February Longevity:

David Jennings, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Huron - 20 years

Noel Pothast, Traffic Data Analyst, Central/Transportation Inventory Management - 25 years

Lanny Iwan, Business Manager, Rapid City - 25 years

Mark Peppel, Highway Construction Project Engineer, Winner - 30 years

Matt Brey, Area Engineer, Watertown - 35 years

Dan Strand, Project Engineer (Pierre), (left) received his **40-year longevity** pin from **Dean VanDeWiele, Pierre Area Engineer.**

Matt Brey, Watertown Area Engineer, (left) received his **35-year longevity** pin from **Mark Peterson, Aberdeen Region Engineer.**

David Lolley, Highway Maintenance Worker, White River, (right), received his **10-year longevity** pin from **Wyatt Reis, Winner Area Highway Maintenance Supervisor.**

Missouri River Flood 15 Years Later
Photos provided by Dean VanDeWiele, Pierre Area Engineer

In May/June of 2026, we are now 15 years post - Missouri River Flood. Below are a few pictures from the 2011 flooding event which demonstrate the great impact for many along the Missouri River.

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In Sympathy with our co-workers:

Sympathy is extended to **Heidi Olson, BHRA Human Resources Manager**, on the recent passing of her mother.

Lynda Arithson passed away on Feb. 11, 2026, in Belle Fourche.

Mass of Christian Burial for Lynda was held on Feb. 16, 2026, at the St. Charles Catholic Church in Bowman.

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Sympathy is extended to **Michele Beeler, Training Specialist (Pierre)**, on the recent passing of her father.

(David) Michael Brewster passed away on Jan. 25, 2026, in Marshalltown, Iowa.

Burial will be at Albion Cemetery. A time of remembrance and celebration of Michael's life will be held in April.