LOUISIANA GOOD ROADS
AND TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

NEWS RELEASE

Good Roads elects officers, directors;
sets focus area for 2014

BATON ROUGE, La. - Kenneth Perret, former assistant secretary for DOTD and a former administrator with the Federal Highway

Administration, has been re-elected as the 2014 president of the non-profit [Louisiana Good Roads and Transportation Association](#).

Also re-elected as officers for 2014 were Senior Vice President J. Don Weathers, executive director of the Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Association; Vice President Johnny Bradberry, former DOTD secretary and COO of TOPCOR; and Secretary/Treasurer Ken Naquin, CEO of Louisiana Associated General Contractors.

Ken Perret

Perret said one of Good Roads' focus areas in 2014 will be to encourage state officials to use any budget surplus funds on transportation projects.

"Road and bridge projects create jobs and have a positive impact on Louisiana's economy," Perret said. "The longer we wait to make additional investments in transportation infrastructure, the more it will cost down the road."

Perret said last year's state budget surplus - which may be more than $100 million - should be spent on projects that have statewide or regional impact. Some project candidates include Interstate 49 South between Lafayette and New Orleans, improving congestion at the Interstate 10/Interstate 110 interchange in Baton Rouge and additional work on I-10 in Lake Charles.

"Every $1 billion invested in transportation creates more than 31,000 jobs, makes us more competitive with other states for large-scale economic development projects, and improves the quality of life for our citizens," Perret said.

The budget surplus money would give a "shot in the arm" to transportation projects, but Louisiana still has long-term challenges, Perret said. Louisiana does not raise as much revenue for transportation as other states do. Besides having the 11th lowest gasoline tax in the country (the gasoline tax is the primary funding mechanism for transportation projects), Louisiana does not dedicate any general fund or sales tax revenues to transportation, outside of some capital outlay projects.

"The 2012 ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) Report Card for Louisiana's Infrastructure gave our bridges a 'D+' and our roads a 'D,' and we haven't made any systemic changes to the system that got us where we are," Perret said.

Good Roads directors elected for 2014 include Joseph Accardo, of the Ports Association of Louisiana; Gen. John Basilica of HNTB; William B. Conway of Modjeski and Masters; Janet L. Evans of Volkert, Inc.; Courtney Fenet of R.E. Heidt Construction; Brin Ferlito of Neel-Schaffer Engineers; Al Flettrich of EnCon Resource Group; Steve Hackworth of D&J Construction; David S. Huval of Huval & Associates; Shelby P. LaSalle Jr., of the APWA; Wayne Marchand of GEC; Roger Melancon of RDM Consulting; Daniel E. Mobley of ACEC of Louisiana; Dr. Kam Movassaghi, former DOTD secretary and president of Fenstermaker; Gordon Nelson of Fenstermaker; Bob Schmidt of AECOM; William Sussmann, formerly of the U.S. FHWA; Willie T. Taylor, formerly of DOTD; Bill Temple of CAAL; Neil Wagoner, former DOTD secretary; and Gard Wayt of the International I-49 Coalition.

Louisiana Good Roads and Transportation Association is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to fostering and promoting a program of planning, design, construction and maintenance of an adequate transportation system, sufficiently financed, which will conveniently and safely serve the transportation needs of the people of Louisiana.

For more information, contact
Mark Lambert of Lambert Media
lambertmedia@eatel.net
www.lambert-media.com
225-937-8113