



NEWS RELEASE PRESS CONTACT:

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## **NDOT Employee recognized with Bike Walk Nebraska Board of Directors Champion Award**

Omaha, NE. (October 23, 2019) \_ Bike Walk Nebraska presented Nebraska Department of Transportation Project Manager Maryanne Jacobs with a Board of Directors Champion Award at the Oct. 17 Nebraska Bike Walk Summit in Lincoln.

Jacobs, who works in NDOT's Gering office in District 5 in the Panhandle, was nominated for her collaboration on improving conditions for bicyclists on state highways.

Bike Walk Nebraska Board President Katie Bradshaw of Scottsbluff explained that, in response to cyclist request, Jacobs checked with design and safety engineers and changed an in-progress rumble strip application on Highway 71 over the Wildcat Hills, which is a popular local cycling route. "Maryanne worked with the contractor to put regular gaps in the rumble strip, so a person riding a bike on the shoulder who needed to move into the lane to avoid a hazard didn't have to deal with the additional hazard of riding over a rumble strip," Bradshaw said. "Her work helped open the door for this cyclist-friendly 'discontinuous' rumble strip being applied throughout the state."

Julie Tuttle Harris, Executive Director of Bike Walk Nebraska, praised Jacobs for her spirit of collaboration. "Others may have issued a swift 'NO' to this request without much thought, but Maryanne took the time to consider the merits and explore how the rumblestrip application could be modified in a way that retains the safety for drivers while improving conditions for bicyclists. This collaborative approach is how we strive to work, and we're grateful Maryanne has the same spirit."

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About Bike Walk Nebraska: The mission of Bike Walk Nebraska is to cultivate safe and accessible active transportation in Nebraska through partnerships, education and advocacy. Our vision is a state where bicycling and walking is a safe and enjoyable part of the Good Life. Learn more at [www.bikewalknebraska.org](http://www.bikewalknebraska.org)