



NEWS RELEASE

Nevada Department of Veterans Services
"SERVING NEVADA'S HEROES"

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Federal grant addresses veteran transportation needs in rural areas
of Nye and Elko Counties**

(Reno, NV) – The Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) is pleased to announce the federal Department of Veterans Affairs is extending its approval of a Transportation Grant designed to be used in highly rural areas. This marks the fourth year in a row NDVS has applied for and received this grant approval.

The \$100,000 grant will ensure veterans in Nye and Elko counties have free transportation to VA medical clinics or hospitals. The grant allows NDVS to support transportation services through private suppliers to get veterans from rural areas to the services they need in other locations.

Transportation needs in Nevada's rural areas are great. Without this grant, some veterans would face a hurdle in getting to see their health care provider. The closest VA hospital for Elko County residents is in Salt Lake City. The trip is more than 200 miles, taking around three-and-a-half-hours to travel just one way. For Nye County veterans the trip is even farther with the closest VA facility in North Las Vegas which is approximately 240 miles away, one way.

NDVS Director Kat Miller said, "Our agency continues working closely with federal and county partners to help ensure that no matter where a veteran lives, they have access to the services they've earned." Miller added, "This opportunity provided by the VA is a benefit to rural veterans as well as an economic opportunity for transportation providers in rural areas."

Governor Brian Sandoval notes the importance of this grant in fulfilling a significant need for Nevada's rural veterans. He said, "This grant continues the important work of ensuring that Nevada becomes the most military and veteran-friendly state in the nation."

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Sandoval added, "I understand the incredible value that Nevada veterans, from our WWII veterans to those returning home from service today. I remain committed to ensuring that every Nevada veteran and their families have access to services they need and are honored for their service to our nation."

Funding for the grant will be made available to NDVS during the coming months and the department will then begin the process of extending agreements with county officials in Elko and Nye Counties.

About us: NDVS is a state agency with the mission of connecting Nevada's veterans, their spouses, and families to benefits, resources and programs earned through military service in the United States Armed Forces. NDVS is responsible for the administration of two State Veterans Memorial Cemeteries; one Boulder City, the other in Fernley. The agency also operates a Nevada State Veterans Home in Boulder City and is currently overseeing the construction of a new State Veterans Home in Sparks. NDVS administration and staff are dedicated in their commitment to serving "Nevada's Heroes."

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