



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Study Commission An Inventory of Its Records

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** Minnesota Highway Study Commission.
- Series Title:** Records.
- Dates:** 1947-1955 (bulk 1953-1954).
- Quantity:** 1.5 cu. ft. (1 box and 1 partial box).
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE COMMISSION

The Highway Study Commission was established by the Minnesota Legislature in 1953 [Laws 1953 c692] with the charge of making a comprehensive study of the state's highway system, its needs, and funding policy. The 28 person commission, chaired by Senator A. O. Sletvold, Detroit Lakes, was composed of seven Senators, seven Representatives, and 14 citizens (seven appointed by each legislative body). The Automotive Safety Foundation, Washington, D.C., was hired to conduct an engineering needs study; the Public Administration Service, Chicago, to conduct a fiscal needs study.

After preliminary work and several public hearings, the Commission determined the need for more flexibility in the constitutional provisions which dedicated the state's registration fees and fuel taxes to the state trunk highways and counties. Changes to that policy and permission for the Legislature to make other limited adjustments are detailed in the Commission's final report. The Commission met for the last time on December 22, 1954.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

The Commission's records contain the minutes of the full Commission and its Executive Committee and Subcommittee on Constitutional and Statutory Changes, as well as an index to the minutes and transcripts of select minutes and public hearings. The correspondence consists largely of background material forwarded to Commission members from Executive Secretary Lloyd Wilkes. Also included in the records are preliminary and final reports of the Automotive Safety Foundation and Public Administration Service; the Commission's final report, minority

report, and indices; and several folders of miscellaneous background material, some relating to township road maintenance in Minnesota and other states.

INDEX TERMS

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

Automobiles—Registration and transfer—Minnesota.
Highway planning—Minnesota.
Motor fuels—Taxation—Minnesota.
Roads—Minnesota—Finance.
Roads—Minnesota—Maintenance and repair.
Transportation—Minnesota.

Persons:

Sletvold, A. O.
Wilkes, Lloyd.

Organizations:

Automobile Safety Foundation.
Minnesota. Dept. of Highways.
Public Administration Service.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the volume and page or item and folder title here]. Minnesota Highway Study Commission. Records. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.
See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note the location shown below. Each file consists of one folder unless specified otherwise.

Location

117. I.1.9B General introductory material, 1953.
Minutes, 1953-1954. 6 folders.
 Index to minutes.
 Full Commission minutes, May 25, 1953 –December 22, 1954. 2 folders.
 Executive Committee minutes, May 25, 1953 –October 8, 1954. 2 folders.
 Subcommittee on Constitutional and Statutory Changes, October – December 1954.
Minute and hearing transcripts, October 1953 – December 1954. 14 folders.
 1953. 3 folders.
 October 21-22.
 November.
 Highway 61 Association.
 December.
 Photocopied clippings regarding the various hearings.
 1954. 11 folders.
 July 16.
 August 16-17.
 August 30-31. 2 folders.
 September 20.
 October 8.
 November 19.
 Subcommittee.
 November 26.
 Subcommittee.
 December 9-10. 2 folders.
 December 17.
 Subcommittee.
Correspondence, June 1953 –March 1955. 7 folders.
 1953. 4 folders.
 June - November 25.
 November 27. 2 folders.
 November 30 - December.
January–July 1954. 2 folders.

Location

117.I.1.10F

- August-December 1954, March 1955.
General files, 1947-1954. 17 folders.
Agency contract, 1953-1954.
Attorney General correspondence and reports, 1953-1954.
Automotive Safety Foundation, 1953-1954. 3 folders.
 Highway Transportation in Minnesota, September 1954.
 Minnesota's Highway Needs - Summary, October 1954.
 Other reports and correspondence, 1953-1954.
Financial reports, August 1953 – December 1954.
Public Administration Service, 1953-1954. 5 folders.
 Interim Report, October 1, 1953.
 Compilation of material pertaining to the financing of
 Minnesota's Highways, September 1953; revised February
 1954.
 Basic Considerations in Financing Minnesota's Highways,
 February 15, 1954.
 Memorandums, 1953-1954.
 Financing a Proposed Highway Program in Minnesota, October
 1, 1954.
Township road maintenance, Minnesota, 1953-1954.
Township road maintenance, other states, 1953-1954.
Miscellaneous background material, 1947-1954. 2 folders.
Commission reports, 1953-1954. 3 folders.
 Engineering Procedures and Instructions for Determining..., 1953.
 4 items in 1 folder.
 Four reports bearing the above title and subtitles: Street
 Needs in Cities under 5,000 population; Street Needs in
 Cities over 5,000 population; County and Township Road
 Needs; and State Highway Needs.
Final Commission Report, December 22 1954. 2 items in 2 folders.
 Final Report to Legislature, December 22, 1954.
 Printed.
 Final Report, December 22, 1954.
 Mimeograph draft, with supplementary statement
 (minority report) and index.