

**Joe Prather at the Transportation Cabinet
Creating a Culture of Integrity**

Reducing Political Influence

- Making it clear that political contributions would not be a factor in contract awards.
- Abolishing the network of deputies in each highway district who reported directly to the Secretary's office. This system was set up under a previous administration to consolidate political power and influence.

Increasing competition in bidding to benefit taxpayers

- Opening bidding to both asphalt and concrete surfaces where feasible.
- Packaging projects to cross county lines where feasible – meaning distance would not confer advantage or allow for monopolies. The result: the Department of Highways now gets 2.64 bidders per project, versus 2.14 in 2007. That's an increase of nearly 25 percent.
- Imposing controls on use of change orders by requiring an extra level of approval, reducing the potential for abuse and helping to bring costly changes under control.

Maximizing taxpayer dollars

- Instituting Practical Solutions, an approach that allows the Cabinet maximize road-building dollars by pursuing the simplest and most cost-effective way to build a road while still accomplishing the desired purpose. Initiative has saved taxpayers millions of dollars in costs.