

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY INFORMED

# Project Update

This issue describes the Missouri Department of Transportation's Route 45 Location Study.

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## MoDOT studies Rt. 45 improvements

**The study under way is funded with Amendment 3 revenue approved by voters in 2004.**

The Missouri Department of Transportation is undertaking a study to look at future improvements to Route 45 between Route 9 and Interstate 435. The Route 45 Location Study is designed to:

- Determine current and future community needs regarding Route 45;
- Study reasonable alternatives for addressing those needs; and
- Recommend a preferred course of action for improving Route 45 in the future.

### Issues to be studied

The study, which is scheduled to be completed this year, will examine how well Route 45 serves the public now and in the future in terms of:

- Safety
- Ease of access
- Land use
- Quality of life
- Traffic volume and speed
- Economic development
- Physical design
- Environmental impact

The study will help decision makers determine what actions are needed to maintain Route 45's usefulness and what costs and impacts might be incurred.

### Study goals

The Route 45 Location Study will yield a recommendation that will identify:

- Specific types of roadway improvements
- The location of those improvements
- A time frame for when improvements will be needed

However, any study recommendations will require approval and funding by the state and/or local jurisdictions before construction could begin.

## PROJECT TIME LINE

The Route 45 Location Study is scheduled to be completed in 2006. Here are some of the study's key interim events.

**Spring, 2006:** Conduct initial research and analysis of corridor needs.

**May 25, 2006:** Public meeting to examine existing corridor conditions.

**Early Summer, 2006:** Develop and evaluate potential alternatives.

**Late Summer, 2006:** Conduct alignment engineering study.

## What is a location study?

**“Route 45 is a high-priority project for MoDOT. This location study will enable us to identify potential solutions, then move into design as soon as possible.”**

**Allan Zafft**

**MoDOT Transportation Planning Coordinator**

A location study produces a detailed analysis that enables decision makers to determine what specific actions, if any, should be taken and to understand the cost and impacts of their decisions.

A location study is a process that the Missouri Department of Transportation and agencies like it use to identify a corridor's future transportation needs – and to undertake the long-range funding and implementation planning required by large-scale roadway projects.

Such studies are used to help carefully invest taxpayers' money in projects that satisfy community and transportation needs. As a result, it's a process that requires:

- Collecting substantial amounts of data
- Considering all relevant factors
- Consulting with citizens and elected officials
- Coordinating with other government agencies
- Developing and considering a full range of alternatives

It also involves fully documenting all of these efforts so that MoDOT's decision making is open and transparent to all who rely on Route 45 for their personal and business use.

### Arriving at a desirable alternative

A location study is used to refine our understanding of conditions on a corridor like Route 45, an understanding often built on earlier studies or other analyses conducted by MoDOT.

It is used to:

- Provide an engineering assessment of specific alternatives
- Document further the impacts (cultural, environmental, etc.) of specific alternatives
- Identify a preferred alternative

As part of this effort, MoDOT's study team will examine the feasibility of improving the existing roadway in order to meet the area's transportation needs.



*Highway planning today is a process that examines safety, growth, quality of life and other issues affecting roadway needs over time.*

**Fall, 2006:** Prepare environmental documentation.

**December, 2006:** Study recommendations go to MoDOT.

**January, 2007:** MoDOT begins design of Route 45 between Routes 9 and K.

**Summer, 2010:** Construction begins on Route 45 between Routes 9 and K.

## Join us at the May 25 public meeting

Learn more and be heard regarding Route 45 at the upcoming open house.

Please join us to learn more about current conditions, future needs and future improvements along Route 45.

You can join us anytime during the three-hour open house meeting, which is scheduled from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 25, in the Generational Room of the Platte County Community Center South, 8875 Clark Avenue, Parkville, Mo.

Study team members will be present to talk with you and to take your questions regarding many topics, including:

- Study goals and schedule
- Current and future traffic conditions and
- Background on Amendment 3

The public meeting is just one of several tools MoDOT is employing to find out the needs and opinions of people who live, work and travel on Route 45. Others include a:

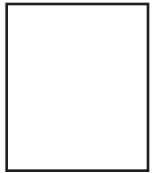
- Community survey
- Series of stakeholders briefings
- Series of project newsletters
- Project hot line
- Project email

## The Route 45 Location Study Area

The Route 45 Location Study will examine current and future transportation needs on Route 45 from Interstate 435 east to Route 9.



The Route 45 Location Study is being conducted by the Missouri Department of Transportation with the assistance of a study team led by URS Corporation and including George Butler Associates and DeMent O'Flaherty and Collier Communications.



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**Join us at the Route 45 Location  
Study open-house meeting from  
4-7 p.m. Thursday, May 25, at the  
Generational Room, Platte County  
Community Center South, 8875  
Clark Ave., Parkville, Mo.**

## What do you think?

**The Route 45 study offers you many opportunities to learn more about the study and to provide feedback:**

- **Survey**

In early May, a short survey was sent to several hundred property owners and others to help MoDOT assess stakeholders' opinions about the access, mobility, and safety of Route 45.

- **Briefings**

The study team is meeting with key stakeholder groups to learn about specific Route 45 issues that concern them, including representatives of emergency management services, the school district, and local businesses.

- **Feedback**

You can also make your opinion known by sending your comments and questions to:

[Route45@modot.mo.gov](mailto:Route45@modot.mo.gov)



*Keep up with progress on the Missouri Department of Transportation's Route 45 Location Study by visiting:*  
[www.modot.org/kansascity/major\\_projects/Route45.htm](http://www.modot.org/kansascity/major_projects/Route45.htm)