

The Hannibal Expressway has been identified as a need and was recently ranked in mid-range for statewide priorities in rural Missouri by MoDOT and its planning partners.



Now that the Avenue of the Saints is four lanes from St. Louis to St. Paul, MN, it is important that we continue to improve the corridor by addressing the only section of the Avenue that has traffic signals – through Hannibal.



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There is no dedicated funding for building the Hannibal Expressway, yet MoDOT is moving ahead with low or no-cost processes that contribute to the preliminary design of the expressway. We appreciate your interest in this project and improving our transportation system.

What's next?

While there is a lot of uncertainty in transportation funding, both at the federal and state levels, since the Hannibal Expressway was identified as a need by MoDOT and its planning partners, we will continue to work towards the preliminary plans stage of the planning process. This means that while there won't be a lot of public involvement at this point, we will move forward on a formal re-evaluation process based on the information provided in the first environmental impact statement and the most recent surveys. This is a more detailed look at what structures are in both the Trabue Lane

and the Route M locations. We will look at culverts, prime farmland, homes, streams and other factors to determine which location will be the best value for taxpayers and serve as a practical connection.

How does MoDOT prioritize projects?

The planning prioritization process involves MoDOT and its planning partners to determine statewide priorities as well as regional needs and priorities. The Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments is the regional planning organization who assists the Northeast District with the planning process. They have a Transportation Advisory Committee, made up of key stakeholders in the region and meet regularly to consider the transportation needs for northeast Missouri. Robin Fitzgerald is the director of the MTRCG, and David Cheek assists with the transportation planning process. They can be reached at 573-565-2203 or through email at cheekcog@rallstech.com.

FAST FACTS ABOUT U.S. 61

- Sections of U.S. 61 through Hannibal average 40,000 vehicles a day, including 30% commercial truck traffic.
- There have been 441 crashes along this stretch of road in the past three years.
- An environmental impact statement was completed in 1996.
- The estimated cost of the project is \$63.4 million.

