



Route 141 at I-44 Design-Build project

What is the problem?

There are several issues along Route 141 near I-44 in Valley Park. Primarily, the Route 141 corridor is exceptionally congested during morning and evening commutes, especially between I-44 and the Vance intersection. Several major side roads, including Vance, lead to Route 141 near I-44, add to that congestion. That congestion led to nearly 1,000 crashes (mostly rear-end) over the past five years. In addition, the roadway can flood for short periods of time during intense rainstorms. There are several other concerns (such as limited pedestrian and cycling accessibility, and Meramec River flooding) that the department is also aware of.

What is the plan?

MoDOT is in the middle of the design-build process on the Route 141 project. With design-build, MoDOT sets the project goals and budget and the potential contractor team determine the design work and schedule based on those goals. The selected contractor team, Pace Construction, was chosen because their proposal provided the best value, while meeting the project budget. Using the design-build process helps MoDOT take advantage of innovation, while giving Missouri taxpayers much more project for the limited funds available. MoDOT commission has awarded the Route 141 design build project to Pace Construction in January.

Pace's proposal included:

- A flyover ramp from southbound Route 141 to eastbound I-44
- Updated north outer road system with improved access between northbound and southbound Route 141 and westbound I-44
- A relocated Park and Ride lot
- Improved drainage to reduce the possibility of flash flooding
- Signalized thru-turns at Vance and Marshall Roads to improve flow of traffic turning left

What are the construction impacts?

Construction impacts are projected to be fairly limited. Most of the work on Route 141 will take place between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. or between 6 p.m. and 5 a.m. The work on the north outer road portions of the project will experience the most impact to traffic, but this will not significantly impact traffic on Route 141 or I-44. There are two closures on the outer road, each for three months, which will require a detour.

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We anticipate that the connection to the north outer road west of Route 141 will be closed between January and March 2017. The connection to the north outer road east of Route 141 will be closed between March and June 2017.

What is the current schedule?*

Construction begins	June 2016
Northbound Route 141 connection to North Outer Road closed	January – March 2017
Southbound Route 141 connection to North Outer Road closed	March – June 2017
Relocate Park and Ride	March 2017
Switch traffic to thru-turns	May 2017
Vance intersection complete	August 2017
Interchange Completion	June 2018

*Schedule is subject to change

What are the goals for the project?

There are six goals for the project, in order of importance:

1. Deliver the project within the program budget of \$25 million.
2. Maximize mobility on Route 141 and improve efficiency at the I-44 interchange and Vance Road intersection.
3. Deliver the project in a manner which demonstrates the importance of safety.
4. Provide a quality project resulting in a long-lasting transportation facility that minimizes future maintenance.
5. Deliver the project using a diverse workforce.
6. Complete the project by July 15, 2018.

What is design-build?

Design-build is a way to construct projects that includes hiring one contracting team to complete the design work and build the highway improvement under one contract. MoDOT provides the project goals, budget and schedule and the contractor team completes the work. This technique has been known to significantly save time and provide cost savings.

Will this fix the flooding problem on Route 141 under I-44?

One of the goals is to minimize future maintenance issues on the project – flooding is one of those maintenance issues. This project will reduce the impact and duration of flash flooding, but will not eliminate the impacts of major river flooding, like that in December 2015.

Will there be pedestrian crossings or improvements for cyclists?

We have limited funding for this project and are unable to make significant improvements for pedestrians or cyclists at this time. We continue to work with several partners to try to identify funding to make improvements in the future. None of the work currently planned will prohibit future cyclist or pedestrian improvements.