



# MISSOURI ROUTE 47 CONCEPTUAL STUDY IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

## A Note from the Project Team

Thank you for your engagement with the Route 47 Conceptual Study. Your input has been invaluable through this process. In this newsletter we would like to share with you what we have accomplished to-date along with what steps are still to come. We look forward to completing the Study and taking the next steps to improve Route 47.

As you may recall, this study is part of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and MoDOT has budgeted an estimated \$78.1 million for the construction of the safety and congestion improvements along the Route 47 corridor in Washington, Union, and St. Clair in FY2028.

MoDOT is conducting a study to identify issues and potential improvements related to Safety and Mobility, Intersections and Access Management, and Condition of Existing Infrastructure. Stakeholder input is an important component to this phase of the project. As of Fall 2025, the project team has conducted the following engagement Activities:

- 1 Public Survey
- 1 Public Meeting (9/24/2024)
- 3 Community Advisory Group (CAG) meetings
- 12 Stakeholder Listening Sessions

While each stakeholder has their own transportation challenges along Route 47, the consensus is the communities of Washington, Union and St. Clair are supportive of making improvements to the corridor.

As we move forward, we look forward to gathering additional input on the concept alternatives from the public at the 2nd Public Meeting on October 9, 2025. We hope to see you there!




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## Project Goals

Based on stakeholder input, the project team has established the project goals. In addition, the Community Advisory Group has helped prioritize the goals. This helps the project team, in addition to engineering factors, determine the best alternatives to help meet the needs of the community. The Prioritized goals include:

	<b>Increase safety</b>		<b>Reduce congestion</b>
	<b>Balance needs for local access, mobility, and economic growth</b>		<b>Increase reliability of north-south regional travel</b>



## What We've Heard

### Public Engagement

To kick off the study, MoDOT hosted Public Meeting #1 on September 24, 2024, along with a public survey. The purpose of the initial meeting was to provide an overview of the study, share initial safety and traffic information and allow the community to provide input. The public survey was available at the public meeting and available online until October 8, 2024, for public meeting attendees and the general public to help understand how the community uses and views the Route 47 corridor.

- Approximately 160 people attended the in-person public meeting
- 14 comment forms were submitted via a written comment form, the MoDOT website or email
- 190 public survey responses received



In general, the public is in support of improvements to Route 47 to increase safety and address congestion. There were many comments about the need for turn lanes. One frequently cited location is the Route 47/U.S. 50 intersection; attendees noted it is heavily congested and causes backups 2+ miles north of Rte 50.

It was also frequently noted that there is concern about the sight distance problem for those that are pulling onto Route 47. There are many curves and hills, and it is dangerous to pull out of existing driveways as drivers are unable to see traffic coming.

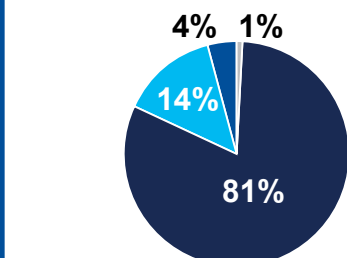
### Stakeholder Listening Sessions

MoDOT hosted a series of Listening Sessions throughout the Study to share information about the Route 47 Conceptual Study and gather input from targeted stakeholders about how their organizations use Route 47 between Washington and St. Clair, their perceptions and understand their concerns about the corridor. Key stakeholders included but were not limited to:

- MO State Parks/Rock Island Trail
- Trailnet
- Scenic Regional Library
- UPS
- MO Baptist Sullivan Hospital
- Septic Services/Wunderlich Surveying
- Little Bears Daycare
- Riverstone Quarry
- First Student Busses
- QuikTrip (St. Clair)
- 3R RV

#### Public Survey Response

How much of a concern is **SAFETY** to you on Route 47 in Franklin County?



#### LEGEND

- Very Concerning
- Not Concerning
- Somewhat Concerning
- Not Sure

\*The public survey was conducted in the fall of 2024 to gather input on the Route 47 corridor between Washington and St. Clair.

## Community Advisory Group (CAG)

The Community Advisory Group (CAG) is made up of members of the community and key stakeholders across the project area. They include, but are not limited to, staff from Franklin County, Cities of Washington, Union and St. Clair, emergency services personnel, school districts, elected officials, and key business representatives. The CAG members are important as they represent their organizations and their constituents.



The CAG helps the project team understand and address community needs and concerns throughout the study. This has been crucial through the development of potential improvement alternatives for Route 47.

In addition to gathering input on the project goals, the CAG has provided input on concerns throughout the corridor and the alternative concepts.

### Corridor Capacity

The CAG was presented potential capacity corridor options, such as a four-lane option, three-lane that includes one lane in each direction and a middle turn lane, and 2-lane options. The lane capacity may be different throughout the corridor, based on safety and congestion at that specific location. Additional lanes are not recommended through all sections of the MO-47 corridor.



### MO 47 / US 50

The CAG and the public stated the U.S. 50/47 Intersection was a key location that needs improvement. The current intersection experiences backups and heavy congestion. It is also where there are safety concerns due to crashes. The CAG reviewed several design alternatives at the second and third meetings. During the third CAG meeting, three design alternatives were presented that included:

- **Southwest Realignment** - A realignment of MO-47 from north of Sawmill Rd. to the existing western intersection of MO-47 and U.S. 50.
- **Diverging Diamond Intersection (DDI)** - Utilizes cross over intersections similar to a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI).
- **Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI)** - Shifts the U.S. 50 eastbound to MO-47 northbound left turning traffic to the opposite (north) side of oncoming westbound traffic west of the MO-47/US-50 intersection, allowing simultaneous left turns and through movements to reduce delays.

Generally, the CAG noted they were not in favor of a Diverging Diamond Intersection (DDI). The Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) concept alternative was overwhelmingly supported by the group. This concept improves safety, congestion, as well as limits the right-of-way and environmental impacts and is the most budget friendly. It was also noted that the CFI design may accommodate the Southwest Realignment alternative concept in the future, if needed. The Southwest Realignment of MO-47 was viewed less favorably due to the anticipated right of way impacts, higher construction cost and lesser benefit to traffic operations. The public can see the U.S. 50/47 Intersection Alternative exhibits at Public Meeting #2 on October 9, or the exhibits will be available online on October 10 at the project website ([www.modot.org/Future47](http://www.modot.org/Future47)).

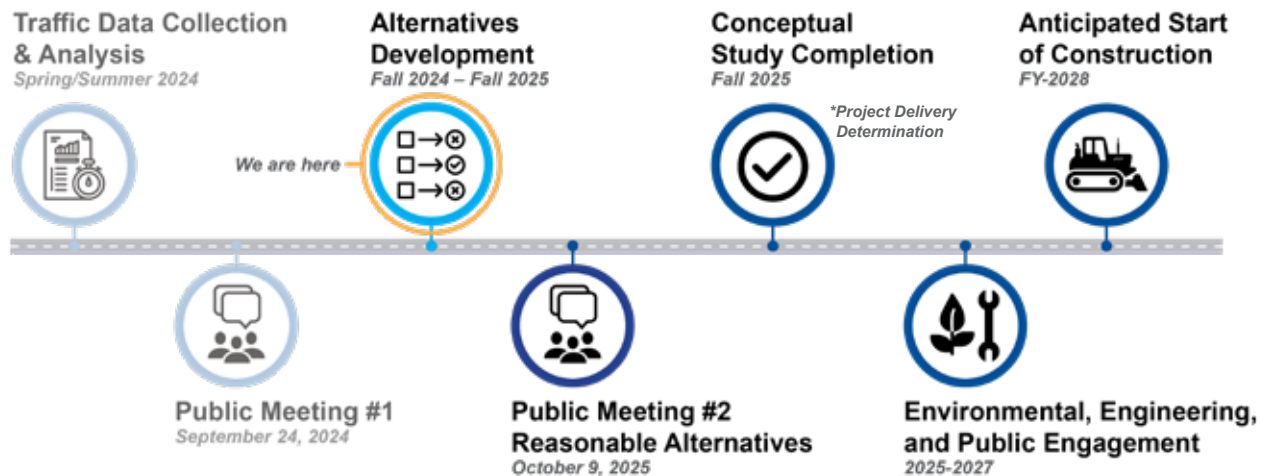
### Intersections

Additional improvements may be considered at intersections throughout the corridor. Improvements can include signalized or roundabout intersections, turn improvements, additional lanes, access management, etc. There is support from the CAG to make improvements to enhance safety and congestion. The CAG noted to look at each intersection and do what is best for that specific area. The CAG expressed support for roundabouts in conjunction with additional design and strategy to lower the posted and travel speeds below the 55mph along many portions of MO-47 to help improve safety along the corridor.

## Project Timeline

The project kicked off in the Spring/Summer 2024 and anticipates completion of the Conceptual Study in late 2025. Stakeholder engagement has been held throughout the course of the study.

A second Public Meeting, is planned for October 9, 2025 from 3:30 - 6:00 p.m. at the Union Community Center, 1329 Union Ave, Union, MO. The purpose of the meeting will be to present alternative concepts and intersection examples to the public and gather input.



## Next Steps

Following Public Meeting #2 (October 9, 2025), the project team will document public feedback and further develop the concepts and cost estimates before moving into Preliminary Design next year. The next phases of the project will include preliminary, right of way and final plan engineering design, additional public engagement, along with environmental investigation. These tasks will occur before construction can begin in Fiscal Year 2028, when the \$78.1 million dollars in funding for this project is available.

## Project Contacts

You may submit questions and comments to:

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