

MODOT YEAR IN REVIEW



Missouri Department of Transportation



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2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

DELIVER THE PROGRAM

Commission approves one of Missouri's largest transportation programs ever

Significant investments continued to be made in Missouri's transportation infrastructure in 2025. This past year — following a multi-year public input process including metropolitan planning organizations, regional planning commissions, elected officials and the general public — the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission approved one of the largest Statewide Transportation Improvement Programs (STIP) to date. The program spans the next five years and lists transportation projects planned by state and regional planning agencies working in conjunction with MoDOT.



This year's STIP made available \$13.3 billion of federal and state revenues for all modes of transportation and details \$9.5 billion in contractor awards for road and bridge construction — averaging approximately \$1.9 billion per year. This year's program allocated funds for the fixing of low-volume minor roads, as well as improvements to bridges, airports and rail crossings. Funds for the Improve I-70

program and the Forward 44 effort were also featured in this year's STIP, continuing the unprecedented levels of investment made in Missouri's transportation infrastructure over the last few years — investments made possible by the increased motor fuel tax, additional General Revenue and federal transportation funds.

MoDOT works busiest construction season on record

With significant investment comes significant construction. This year, MoDOT surpassed \$2 billion worth of contracted work — a first-time milestone for the organization. As a result, the construction season was the busiest in MoDOT history. At its peak this summer, there were over 1,000 active work zones across the state. As MoDOT and its partners in the construction and contracting communities hit the road and put in the work, an estimated 4.6 million tons of asphalt were placed on Missouri roadways in FY2025. With all of the active work zones — including construction across much of I-70 — more emphasis was put on



Crews install a box culvert in Polk County.

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safety messaging. This year's work zone awareness theme - "We don't speed through your workplace. Please don't speed through ours" - highlighted the role each driver plays in making these many work zones a safe place to drive and work.

Multiple Improve I-70 projects under construction across the corridor

MoDOT's Improve I-70 Program continued to make progress at unprecedented speed across the state in 2025. The program was made possible by a historic \$2.8 billion General Revenue investment to add a third lane to Interstate 70 in each direction between Blue Springs and Wentzville.

In 2025, the program team awarded the Blue Springs to Odessa project, and construction was in full swing by the fall. The Warrenton to Wentzville project broke ground in early 2025 and opened a five-mile stretch of three new lanes of I-64 by November. Each of these were among the largest projects awarded in MoDOT's history. The Columbia to Kingdom City project was awarded in 2024 and completed more than \$125 million in high quality improvements within the last year.



Crews work on the new lanes of the Improve I-70: Columbia to Kingdom City project.

In late 2025, MoDOT will award contracts for the Boonville to Rocheport project and the Rocheport to Columbia project, each beginning construction in approximately spring 2026.

As more work zones got underway, MoDOT continued to encourage motorists to slow down and stay alert in work areas, where there were approximately 400 women and men working on an average day to bring the historic improvements to life.

MoDOT moving forward with I-44 improvements

Forward 44, an effort to bring improvements to the I-44 corridor across the state, officially broke ground in spring 2025 on its first project funded partially with General Revenue investments. The groundbreaking ceremony in Springfield kicked off an improvement project to widen the corridor to three lanes in addition to various other improvements, including bridge replacements and pavement rebuilds from Missouri Route 13 to U.S. Route 65. The project, which includes \$13.4 million in General Revenue funds, is one of many



The Springfield Forward 44 work zone in summer 2025.

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ongoing improvements happening across the corridor and comes at the tail end of the Forward 44 Environmental Study that was completed in the spring.

The study, funded by \$20 million of General Revenue, was a critical step to preparing the corridor for future projects as funding is available. Through public engagement and data reviews, MoDOT and its consultant teams identified pavement improvements, additional capacity, interchange modernization and bridge replacements as some of the corridor's key needs.

Progress continues on General Revenue-funded transportation projects

In addition to the Improve I-70 Program and Forward 44 effort, various other transportation projects across the state made progress this past year thanks to the investments of General Revenue funds.

In recent years, Missouri's General Assembly and governors have supported several initiatives to designate state General Revenue to address high priority transportation needs across the state. Doing so makes long-awaited transportation improvements a reality, expanding the overall program of improvements for Missouri travelers.

In 2025, work continued on many of these improvements, including the Governor's Rural Routes Program. With Gov. Mike Kehoe's signing of the fiscal year 2026 budget, General Revenue investments in the program totaled \$320 million since 2022 to improve many of the state's low volume roads in poor condition. Those investments have resulted in nearly 5,700 lane miles of improvements, with an additional 500 underway or planned.

RESTORE OPERATIONS

MoDOT faces costly winter season

During the 2024-25 winter season, MoDOT faced nine statewide snowstorms, costing the department a total of \$64 million in labor, equipment and materials. Eighty percent of the cost was due to the major storms in January and February. In comparison, an average Missouri winter costs MoDOT \$50 million.

Additional statistics for MoDOT's winter operations in 2024-25 include:

- 140,000 tons of salt used.
- 2,600 employees worked to clear roads.
- 529,000 hours spent fighting winter weather.
- 5 million miles driven while plowing snow.



A MoDOT Maintenance crew performs a gang plow operation on Stadium Blvd. in Columbia.

Two events of note: MoDOT's Kansas City District received 20 inches of snow near the Kansas City International Airport, the most seen there in 14 years. The Southeast District also received a severe ice storm, leaving many employees

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without power at home while they worked to help reopen routes that were closed due to downed trees and power lines.

While staffing and labor hour shortages remain a challenge, MoDOT has made meaningful progress — hiring more than 700 new employees statewide as of late November, including more than 400 in the Maintenance and Bridge divisions. Thanks to this progress, along with strong preparedness, efficiency, partnerships and the dedication of our workforce, MoDOT continues to deliver during winter operations.

MoDOT responds to numerous floods, windstorms and tornado events

In addition to a busy winter season, MoDOT responded to a series of severe weather events in 2025—including widespread flooding, windstorms and tornadoes—that affected nearly every county in Missouri. These events resulted in a total response cost of \$6 million in labor, equipment and materials—50% higher than the department’s annual average of \$4 million.



March 15 storm damage on Missouri Route 49 in Iron County.

Additional statistics for MoDOT’s response to these events since Jan. 1 include:

- 1,470 employees mobilized to clear roadways and restore access.
- More than 70,000 hours were dedicated to closing roadways, clearing brush and reopening roadways.
- 112 of Missouri’s 114 counties were impacted by at least one of these events.

MoDOT’s Southeast District was hit especially hard, bearing the brunt of multiple storms in March and April. Crews in this region contributed to 54% of the total labor hours, working tirelessly for weeks to remove downed trees and haul away hundreds of loads of debris.

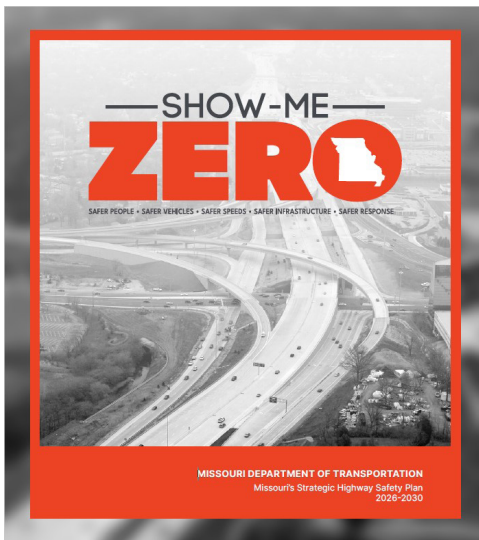
WORK SAFELY FOR OUR EMPLOYEES AND THE TRAVELING PUBLIC

Missouri launches new strategic highway safety plan

At the annual Highway Safety and Traffic Conference this past fall, MoDOT unveiled Missouri’s updated strategic highway safety plan, Show-Me Zero 2.0, which outlines the state’s plan for reducing traffic fatalities and serious injuries. The plan is structured around critical behaviors and issues revealed by analysis of Missouri’s crash data over the past five years, and outlines effective strategies for mitigating the identified problems. The 2026-2030 Show-Me Zero plan was built around the Safe System Approach, which is a comprehensive highway safety method that proposes solutions in the

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following areas: safer people, safer vehicles, safer speeds, safer infrastructure, and safer responses. The Safe System Approach, like Missouri's Show-Me Zero philosophy, deems death and serious injuries unacceptable on the highway system.



Updated safety plan targets vulnerable road user fatalities

Missouri's updated Strategic Highway Safety Plan for 2025 includes a Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment. Active travelers (pedestrians, bicyclists, and wheelchair users) are sometimes referred to as vulnerable road users (VRU) given their susceptibility to serious injury if involved in a crash. Fatal and serious injury crashes involving VRU increased more than 50% between 2015 and 2023, while all other serious crashes only increased 14%. In MoDOT's desire to rid the state of these crashes, the agency assessed active transportation safety across the entire system.

The VRU safety assessment is part of the Show-Me Zero strategic highway safety plan. In creating the plan, MoDOT engaged with hundreds of

stakeholders across the state, and reviewed VRU crashes on all Missouri roads for the past 10 years. The result was the identification of a Higher Crash Potential Network showing where VRU crashes might happen in the future, even if they haven't occurred there yet. MoDOT plans to use the information to develop projects, strategies, and an action plan to help make VRU travel safer across the state.

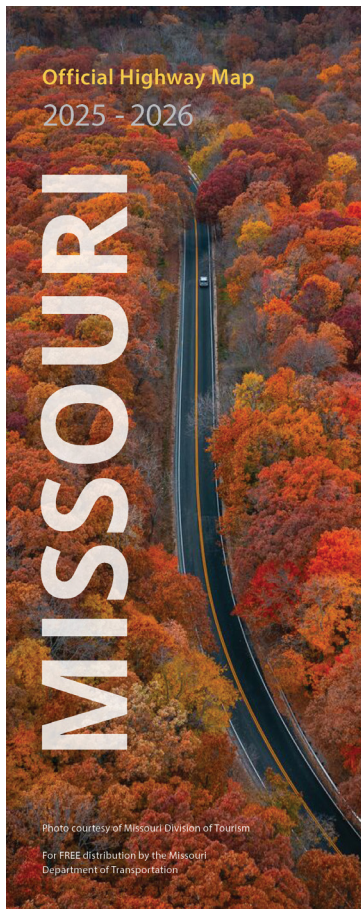
MoDOT increases safety emphasis in every project

The Safety Assessment for Every Roadway (SAFER) is a MoDOT tool that has helped create a culture in which every construction project is viewed as an opportunity to improve safety of the system. The SAFER tool is used to consider several different areas in which the roadway can be improved to mitigate potential safety concerns. This includes looking at items such as roadway alignment, roadway visibility, roadsides, vulnerable road user accommodations, intersection safety, access management, and more. SAFER is built on the foundation of the Federal Proven Safety Countermeasures. Since its adoption, the percentage of construction projects including measurable safety improvements has increased from 47% to 74%, and the amount of funding invested specifically for safety improvements has increased from \$183 million to \$499 million over the first three years of the STIP. This investment has provided a return on investment of more than 5:1. In other words, for every \$1 spent on safety, the state is realizing a return of more than \$5. Collectively, projects programmed from FY2026-FY2028 are expected to save more than 300 lives and prevent more than 1,000 injuries over the lifetime of the improvements.

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FOCUS ON CUSTOMERS

MoDOT unveils 2025-2026 State Highway Map



The 2025-2026 Official State Highway Map debuted in August at the Missouri State Fair. The map features an aerial photo of Missouri Route 79 near the DuPont Reservation Conservation Area south of Hannibal and appears courtesy of the Missouri Division of Tourism. The inside fold includes a portrait and welcome letter from Missouri Gov. Mike Kehoe.

Other features include Missouri population numbers, a current list with locations of state

parks and historic sites, historic trail and route markers, rest area and roadside park locations, U.S. bike routes, post office locations and more.

The map also includes the locations of 120 public-use airports and 18 public ports, more than 4,000 highway demarcations and over 2,000 towns connected by 33,814 miles of state highways — with 1,385 miles of interstates — and 5,300 miles of railroad tracks.



Gov. Mike Kehoe and MHTC Chairman Warren Erdman officially unveil the new State Highway Map at the Missouri State Fair on Aug. 7.

Updates made to Long-Range Transportation Plan and State Freight and Rail Plan

This year, MoDOT began the process of updating the state's Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which serves as a roadmap for Missouri's transportation network for the next 25 years. Updates to the plan will build upon the goals outlined in the last long-range plan, which was released in 2018 and focused on taking care of the transportation system we have, improving safety, investing in projects that spur economic growth, improving system reliability, and giving Missourians more transportation options. The new long-range plan will also address emerging trends and the evolving needs that impact the system.

At the same time, the process began to update the State Freight and Rail Plan (SFRP). The SFRP is a strategic document that outlines the vision, goals and priorities of Missouri's freight

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and passenger rail systems. The plan provides a comprehensive assessment of existing conditions as well as goals to improve and enhance the system. Updating both plans at once ensures a coordinated and well-informed development process for shaping the future of transportation in Missouri.



**Long-Range
Transportation
Plan**



**State
Freight & Rail
Plan**

To determine the goals, priorities and focal areas of the new plans, MoDOT and its partners received input from thousands of roadway users and through multiple public surveys, virtual public meetings and in-person presentations. Listening to the voice of the traveling public, with continued input from elected officials and stakeholders, is essential as the process moves forward. Drafts of the new plans will be available for public comment in early 2026, with the final plans being presented to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission later in the year.

MoDOT hosts various public engagement opportunities

In 2025, MoDOT reaffirmed its commitment to transparent, community-driven transportation planning through extensive public engagement. The \$13.3 billion 2026–2030 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) launched with a 30-day public comment period in May, resulting in 73 responses that shaped the final plan. MoDOT also released a draft list of High-Priority Unfunded Needs in July, identifying \$1.1 billion in annual unmet needs, and gathered feedback through statewide meetings and a public comment period. Virtual public meetings and surveys helped shape Missouri's Long-Range Transportation Plan and State Freight and Rail Plan, with over 3,000 participants contributing input. MoDOT also hosted dozens of local meetings across the state to discuss local project impacts. These public outreach efforts reinforce MoDOT's ongoing dedication to building a transportation system that reflects the needs and priorities of its users.



August 11 High Priority Unfunded Needs Public Meeting in St. Louis.

2024 National Performance Report Card

A

Project Management

Current Performance = Missouri road and bridge projects were delivered within -0.4 percent of the award amount and 93 percent were delivered on-time.

National Ranking = Not available.

A

Road Conditions

Current Performance = 89 percent major highways (5,555 miles) in good condition. 80 percent of minor highways (18,114) in good condition.

National Ranking = Missouri's highway system ranked 10th in the nation. (*FHWA Highway Statistics 2022*)

A

Administrative Costs

Current Performance = \$1,040 cost per mile

National Ranking = Missouri has the 5th lowest administrative cost per mile.

B

Customer Satisfaction

Current Performance = 68 percent satisfied customers

National Ranking = Missouri trails the highest rated company on the American Customer Satisfaction Index by 17 percent.

B

Infrastructure for Business

Current Performance = No internal measure

National Ranking = A CNBC business study ranks Missouri's infrastructure as the 16th best for business.

D

Number of Fatalities

Current Performance = 991 fatalities

National Ranking = Out of 50 states, Missouri ranked 26th for rural fatalities and 32nd in urban fatalities.

D

Congestion (travel time index)

Current Performance = Kansas City: 1.15 St. Louis: 1.14

National Ranking = Out of 101 urban areas, Kansas City ranked 54th and St. Louis ranked at 64th for congested areas in the U.S. (*Urban Mobility Report - 2023*)

D

Bridge Conditions

Current Performance = 6 percent of Missouri bridges in poor condition by deck area.

National Ranking = Missouri ranked 38th for the percent of bridges in poor condition by deck area. (*FHWA Highway Statistics*)

D

Employee Turnover

Current Performance = 14.24 percent

National Ranking = Not available

F

Revenue

Current Performance = \$61,233 revenue per mile

National Ranking = Missouri has the 48th lowest revenue per mile. (*FHWA Highway Statistics*)

RANKINGS

1-10 = A

11-20 = B

21-30 = C

31-40 = D

41-50 = F



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