

The times continue to challenge us.



As you're aware, the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent stay-at-home order has played havoc with statewide revenues. MoDOT was not immune. It was estimated that traffic on our roadway system decreased by 50% this quarter. That directly affects our revenues from gas taxes. Add to that a decrease in new car sales, licenses and our budget projections taking a direct hit. Thankfully, our MoDOT family stepped up to the challenge, as they always do in times of crisis.

More than 80% of you worked through Human Resources to participate in the Shared Work Program. Others took salary reductions of 5% - fortunately due to savings efforts and revenue stabilizing the reduction only lasted for one month. These actions will go a long way to help MoDOT compensate for lost revenue. Please know, it was not an easy thing to ask you to make those sacrifices, just as I know that was a tough decision for you to make on such short notice. To say I'm proud of all of you doesn't seem to be enough.

I've also had the unfortunate duty to inform you on what is becoming a daily basis of another member of the MoDOT family who has tested positive for COVID-19. Please keep in mind that the danger from this pandemic is far from over. Don't look at the open economy as sign that the virus has ended. We have to get serious as a nation and as individuals and put up with the minor inconveniences that will inhibit the spread, both in the workplace and outside of it.

Wear a mask when you're in public. A recent projection from the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation suggests as many as 33,000 lives could be saved between now and October if everyone wore a mask. Do it for your friends, family and co-workers.

Stay 6-feet apart. Social interactions can continue no matter what the personal distance. But being physically apart by at least six feet will limit the spread of respiratory droplets that lead to COVID-19.

Stay home if you're sick. Remember, if you're feeling bad, you're more of a hero for staying home than for coming in to work.

We don't want MoDOT to be the place where the virus spreads. I will continue to notify you when a member of the MoDOT family has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, but it's a responsibility I do not enjoy.

Be safe, stay healthy and know that I appreciate everything you do.

With warm regards,

Patrick K. McKenna

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation system that is safe, innovative, reliable and dedicated to a prosperous Missouri.