

## As I've said before—and will probably say again before it is over—2020 has been quite a year.



We have been able to work at about 85 to 90% capacity since the first statewide shutdown was implemented in April. Though some of our staff continues to work remotely, about 60% of you are continuing your work in the field as usual.

COVID-19 continues to challenge our ability to work in close quarters and requires us to put a lot of extra effort in keeping our facilities and equipment clean and sanitized. Those efforts are necessary to keep your fellow workers and all our MoDOT family as safe as possible in this pandemic. Thanks to you, we've been able to minimize the number of COVID-19 cases among our employees.

I'm proud of the way our department stepped to the plate to become the first agency to participate in the state's Sentinel Testing Pilot Program. Your voluntary participation helps us understand how the virus spreads, particularly among those who are not experiencing symptoms.

We're not out of the woods yet. Please continue to social distance, wear face coverings, wash your hands and work remotely and virtually wherever and whenever possible.

Now for some good news: As of September 15, the department has paid contractors \$721 million toward the completion of nearly 500 contracts valued at about \$2 billion. That's \$127 million more in overall payouts than at the same time in last year. This is a remarkable accomplishment, especially when you consider what we've been up against in loss of revenue that resulted from people driving less due to the pandemic.

We were also able to move ahead on some key projects, including the Buck O'Neil Bridge replacement, the Bootheel Bridge bundle design-build project, and the climbing lanes at Mineola Hill. In addition, the I-270 North expansion project in St. Louis—our largest project in the last 10 years—is on track and recently won an AASHTO Award for its outreach efforts.

The year has been challenging but, as you can see, the news is not all bad. I look forward to MoDOT once again delivering outstanding customer service as the winter season approaches.

Thank you for all that you do,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick K. McKenna". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

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.*