



FORWARD 44: Franklin County



What is Forward 44?

Forward 44 is an effort to bring improvements to the Interstate 44 corridor, and is ongoing in different stages across Missouri. A Forward 44 study, led by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and conducted in 2024-2025, covered 253 miles of the corridor, stretching from the Oklahoma state line to near the Franklin/St. Louis County line. The study aimed to assess current conditions, identify safety and operational challenges, and help determine both short- and long-term transportation priorities for the corridor.

Completed in 1966, I-44 is a crucial east-west route in Missouri, important for statewide and national transportation, and a key commercial trucking corridor. However, due to evolving engineering, and safety requirements since its construction, many sections now have outdated design standards.

Be a part of shaping the future of I-44 in Franklin County.

We want to hear your ideas and thoughts on a vision and goals for improving this critical corridor. Share your feedback here:



Contact Us

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What are the needs for I-44 in Franklin County?



SAFETY

Between 2018 and 2022
1,600 crashes
were reported along I-44.

Of those, **550 crashes** involved
a tractor-trailer.

70 of those **crashes** resulted in
fatalities or serious injuries.



PAVEMENT CONDITION

I-44's pavement and bridges date
back to the **1950s**.

Some original Route 66 sections of
I-44 are **even older**.

Since 2020, MoDOT has spent
\$1.3 million
on pavement repairs along I-44.



CONGESTION

40,000 vehicles
travel daily on I-44 in Franklin County.

30% of those vehicles
are tractor-trailers.



CAPACITY

I-44 only has **2 lanes** in each direction.

More than **130 incidents** have shut
down I-44 in the past **five years**.

Closures affected travelers for an average of
3.5 hours.

I-44 lacks alternate detour
routes suitable for all traffic.



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Upcoming (Funded) Projects

| Limits | Funding | Source |
|--|----------------|-------------------|
| 1 Pavement Improvements (Limits TBD) | \$20 million * | Legislative Funds |
| 2 U.S. 50/Route AT Intersection | \$14 million | MoDOT STIP |
| 3 Pavement Improvements (100W to Pacific) | \$4 million | MoDOT STIP |
| 4 Pavement/Ramp Improvements (MO 30 to MO 185) | \$22 million | MoDOT STIP |

* Can be spent towards Unfunded Needs



Franklin County

Crawford County

SULLIVAN

Washington County

SAINT CLAIR

UNION

PACIFIC

St. Louis County

Jefferson County

Unfunded Needs

| Limits | Estimate |
|---|---------------|
| 5 Rebuild I-44/U.S. 50 Interchange (Union Exit) | \$70 million |
| 6 Replace Bourbeuse River and Route O Bridges | \$40 million |
| 7 Rebuild and Widen I-44 from 100 W (Washington Exit) to U.S. 50 (Union Exit) | \$70 million |
| 8 Rebuild and Widen Union Exit (U.S. 50) to St. Clair (MO 30) | \$110 million |

Note: Unfunded needs above are listed in priority order