

Missouri Department of Transportation

ST. CHARLES NEWS
SUMMER 2020



What's Happening with Blanchette?

As summer continues and the July heat takes over the Saint Charles region, the good news is the eastbound Interstate 70 Blanchette Missouri River Bridge is progressing as planned! So far, the contractor has completed the expansion joint and paint replacement Stage 1 (left half) of the Blanchette Bridge project.



Crews are working on completing the traffic switch to begin Stage 2. Stage 2 will focus on the right half of eastbound I-70.

This weekend, starting Friday, July 17 through early Sunday morning, crews will close the eastbound Blanchette bridge in preparation for the switch. This closure includes the right lane of eastbound I-70 and the on-ramp from Fifth Street. The left two lanes of eastbound I-70 will remain open across the westbound bridge. As Stage 1 painting is completed, you can see the difference from the before and after photos (left).

The worn out structural steel paint on the right side of the eastbound Blanchette Bridge verses the recently replaced paint for the left side of the bridge highlights the distinction of rusted paint (above).

One of the rehabilitation components of the project is to create a higher, more robust barrier wall on the bridge for improved safety and longevity. In the photo below you can see the new wall is taller and thicker than the existing wall.

Motorists are still encouraged to use Route 94, Route 370, and I-64 as alternate routes during the duration of the project.



Before (left) and after (right) of recently improved barrier wall



St. Charles County Projects

The widening of Route T work is also on schedule. Crews began the asphalt work on Route T at Route TT heading north in June. Flaggers are out directing traffic as the closure is in place, Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The project ends in Foristell. Work is expected to be completed by September.

Pavement and shoulder improvements on Route F from Route D in New Melle to Route 94 near Defiance is expected to begin this fall. Pilot cars will be out to direct traffic. Construction ends Fall 2021.

To report a road concern, contact MoDOT Customer Service 314-275-1500 or toll free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT.



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