



## HISTORY

In fall 1997, MoDOT initiated the Route 67 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in Madison, Wayne, and Butler Counties.

Initially, U.S. 67 was upgraded from Fredericktown in Madison County to north of Poplar Bluff in Butler County thanks to the partnership of the Highway 67 Corporation, MoDOT and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Funding was secured for the project after Poplar Bluff voters passed a tax to pay for a portion of the construction, Missouri voters passed Amendment 3 and an agreement was reached with the Army Corps of Engineers.

A ribboncutting ceremony was held in August 2011 to celebrate the improvements from Fredericktown to Poplar Bluff, but there has been a continued desire to reach the state line. MoDOT has made efforts to upgrade U.S. 67 and get closer to this ultimate goal. However, due to limited transportation funding, a section of U.S. 67 south of Poplar Bluff was left unfunded and without upgrades.

In Aug. 2019, the voters of the City of Poplar Bluff overwhelmingly approved a ballot measure led by the Highway 67 Corporation to fund the expansion of U.S. 67 south of Poplar Bluff, which supports plans for Future I-57. In Dec. 2019, Gov. Mike Parson announced Phase 1A for inclusion in his transportation cost share program.

MoDOT is currently in the planning stages for the conversion of U.S. 67 to Interstate 57. The original EIS was revisited and reapproved in January 2021. This project is broken down into five phases, with funding secured for Phases 1A, 1B and 2. Funding is not yet secured for Phases 3 and 4, which will allow for the final connection at the MO/AR state line.

## ABOUT THE FUTURE I-57 DESIGNATION

Congress passed S.1655, the federal appropriations bill for the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018. Within this bill, on page 50, Sec 126, Section 1105( c )(89) of Public Law 102-240, is amended to read as follows:

*“(89) I-57 Corridor Extension as follows: In Arkansas, the corridor shall follow United States Route 67 in North Little Rock, Arkansas, from I-40 to United States Route 412, then continuing generally northeast to the State line, and in Missouri, the corridor shall continue generally north from the Arkansas State line to Poplar Bluff, Missouri, and then follow United States Route 60 to I-57.”*

In 2019, MoDOT formally requested the Federal Highway Administration's approval of the statutory designation of the corridor extending from the Missouri/Arkansas state line north to Poplar Bluff, then east along Route 60 to I-57 at Sikeston as I-57.

### PHASE 2: CRD 338 TO CRD 352

# U. S. Route 67/ Future I-57

## BUTLER COUNTY

UPGRADING U.S. 67 TO INTERSTATE STANDARDS  
FROM ROUTE 160/158 TO THE STATE LINE



## PROJECT SUMMARY

The Future I-57 project in Butler County will include upgrading U.S. Route 67 to interstate standards from the Route 160/158 interchange south of Poplar Bluff, Missouri to the MO/AR state line. This will primarily be accomplished by constructing four new lanes west of the existing U.S. 67 pavement and converting the existing pavement into an east outer road. The entire project limits are broken down into five phases: Phases 1A and 1B, as well as Phases 2-4.

Phases 1A, 1B and 2 are currently funded. Funding is not yet secured for Phases 3 and 4; schedules will be determined as funding becomes available.

Phases 1A, 1B and 2 will include upgrading U.S. 67 to four lanes from the Route 160/158 interchange to County Road 352. Phase 2 includes upgrading a two-mile section of U.S. 67 to four lanes from County Road 338 to County Road 352, north of Neelyville, Missouri.

In order to upgrade the area to interstate standards, any at-grade crossings along this section of U.S. 67 will be permanently closed.

## CONTACT US

Please contact MoDOT Project Manager Tim Pickett at (573) 472-9003 or MoDOT Area Engineer Dave Wyman at (573) 380-2913. Interested persons can also sign-up for project updates at [www.modot.org/futureI57](http://www.modot.org/futureI57).



## IMPROVE SAFETY

With separate lanes of traffic, upgrading to interstate standards is considered a safety improvement. In fact, the FHWA found that in 2019, the fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled was 0.55 on interstates compared with 1.3 on all other roads. In addition, it is necessary to remove at-grade crossings to upgrade U.S. 67 to interstate standards. Traffic will no longer cross fast-moving lanes of traffic to get to the opposing lanes, which reduces the risk of right-angle crashes. These crashes are considered the crash type most responsible for fatalities and serious injuries at intersections.



## INCREASE EFFICIENCY

With projected traffic demands, reducing congestion and increasing efficiency is vital. Over the next two decades, traffic is expected to double along the entire corridor.



## ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY

Upgrading U.S. 67 to interstate standards will improve connectivity along the corridor between I-55 in Jefferson County to the MO/AR state line, as well as continuity of the National Highway System. The Arkansas Department of Transportation is currently conducting an environmental study to examine three potential alignments for U.S. 67/Future I-57, as well as the connection at the state line. This will be key once MoDOT moves forward with Phase 4 at the MO/AR state line. Upgrading this section of U.S. 67 to enhance connectivity is also part of MoDOT honoring its commitments. This project has been a priority for Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission, Butler County and the City of Poplar Bluff.



## POTENTIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Investment in transportation improvements has long been held as a major economic engine that drives growth in job creation, personal income and new value added to Missouri's economy.



CURRENT PROJECT TIMELINE

Value Engineering Study  
Completed Dec. 2020

Access Justification Report  
Approved April 27, 2021

Phase 1A Construction Begins  
Tentatively Summer 2022

Phases 1B & 2 : Construction Begins  
Tentatively Jan. 2023

Completion of Phases 1B & 2  
Tentatively Fall 2024

EIS Reevaluation  
Approved Jan. 2021

Tentative Letting for Phase 1A  
May 2022

Tentative Letting for Phases 1B & 2  
Dec. 2022

Completion of Phase 1A  
Tentatively Fall 2023

PHASE 2 CONCEPTUAL PLAN: WIDENING AND REALIGNMENT

