



MoDOT in *MOTION*

District 10

Spring 2011

Dear friends:

As you have probably noticed, this issue of MoDOT in Motion “went orange.” This is one of the many tactics the Southeast District will be using to remind motorists to drive safely in work zones for National Work Zone Awareness Week. Check out the back cover for ways you can get involved and win prizes.

These are exciting and challenging times in the Southeast District. There are many projects going on throughout D10 that I would like you to know more about.

Routes 67 and 34 have seen major improvements in the past year. Learn more about these projects on pages 2 and 3.

Our Adopt-A-Highway program continues to be successful

throughout the state and District 10. Find out more about that program on page 4.

We hope to provide you with information on projects going on throughout the Southeast District. Keep in mind that we would also like to hear from you, so find us on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter or you can contact our Customer Service Center at 1-888-ASK MoDOT.

Travel safe and always buckle up.

Thank you.

Mark Shelton, P.E.
District Engineer



Transportation: It's Personal

Transportation is more than roads, bridges and projects. It is our connection to work, business, family and safety. It's personal. Think about how your children get to school, how you get to work or how you visit your family. Chances are transportation provides you the way.

For the last six years, MoDOT averaged a \$1.2 billion construction program. Moving forward, MoDOT will only have about \$600 million per year to maintain our current roadways. This decline in transportation funding

means more than a decrease in needed projects. It means that Missouri could lose 17,000 jobs.

So, what is MoDOT doing right now? MoDOT is doing what most businesses and families have to do when budgets get smaller – we're tightening our belts. We are becoming a smaller organization, cutting costs and reducing services.

Our focus over the coming years will be to direct all available resources to taking care of our roads and bridges.

We will not have enough money for major road and bridge projects we need to keep motorists safe, support jobs, provide additional transportation options and compete economically.

Now is the time for Missourians to take action. We must find a way to invest in our infrastructure.

If you're ready to take action, contact the Missouri Transportation Alliance at www.missouritransportation.org, follow them on Facebook or contact MoTA at 1-573-418-0429.

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573-472-5333
1-888 ASK MODOT (275-6636)
Fax: 573-472-5351
www.modot.org/southeast

Route 67 Nears Completion

Southeast Missouri travelers will soon experience the full benefits of a four-lane corridor from north of Poplar Bluff to Fredericktown in Madison County. Three of the five sections of Route 67 have been upgraded to four lanes, leaving 22 miles in the center of the corridor to be completed.



Improvements to the final 22 miles of Route 67 are expected to be completed this year.

Besides increasing the ease of travel and safety, the improvements will also offer economic benefits to the area.

“We estimate that in Missouri, approximately every dollar invested in transportation infrastructure returns around \$4 in economic activity,” said Planning Manager Bill Robison.

One of the remaining sections to be completed, known as Section C, is located from approximately two miles south of Route F to Silva. Improvements to this span will include completing the construction of the Silva outer road and demolition of the existing bridge over Wap-

papello Lake near Route D.

During work in Section C, one additional traffic switch will be necessary as MoDOT’s contractor works to construct tie-ins from the existing pavement to the newly four-laned roadway.

Traffic shifts will also occur within Section D, which spans from Silva to the Madison county line, this year. The first shift will include routing traffic to the newly constructed pavement at the Route 34 interchange. This movement is expected to occur in early spring.

Additional traffic shifts will

occur as final improvements are made to finish four laning the corridor.

As early as summer 2011, motorists could begin driving along the newly completed four-lane corridor. Final improvements will be completed by the end of the year.

“MoDOT developed a great partnership with the City of Poplar Bluff, the Highway 67 Corporation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as we joined to deliver 50 miles of new four-lane highway crossing three counties,” said Robison. “These improvements will help foster necessary economic development in our great state.”

Once the project is completed, D10 will hold an event to celebrate the improvements. To stay up-to-date on upcoming events in the Southeast District, please subscribe to: www.modot.org/southeast/news_and_information/special_events

Contractor crews work to finish the newly constructed Route 67 bridge located over Cedar Creek.

More Route 67 Work in St. Francois County

Although Route 67 work in Butler, Wayne and Madison Counties is wrapping up, more corridor improvements are coming.

This year, MoDOT will let three Route 67 projects in St. Francois County. Projects to be awarded include:

- Diverging diamond interchange located at the intersection of Routes 221/67/W in Farmington
- Median crossover improvements north of Bonne Terre
- Capacity improvements at the Route 67/47 interchange and the adjacent 47/Raider Road intersection at Bonne Terre

The diverging diamond interchange project is expected to be the first of the three projects to be awarded. The project could be awarded as early as July.

If the project is awarded in July, construction could begin as early as fall 2011.

As construction is underway, motorists should expect traffic shifts and width restrictions on Route 221 and Route W. Lane closures may be necessary at times. The project will have a minimal impact on Route 67 traffic.

The additional St. Francois County projects are currently expected to be let in December.



MoDOT's Southeast District Participates in Spring Property Sale Spring Event To Be Held March 28-April 1

With spring quickly approaching, the Missouri Department of Transportation is preparing to do a little spring cleaning of its own. From March 28 to April 1, MoDOT will “clean-up” its real estate inventory by marketing properties that are no longer needed to build, improve or maintain Missouri’s highway system.

The Spring Event will be the Realty to Roads program’s third sales blitz—an all-out attempt to sell multiple properties across the state in a short period of time. Thirty-nine parcels ranging in size from one-tenth of an acre to 199 acres will be available for purchase from March 28 to April 1.

Three of the Spring Event parcels are located in the Southeast District.

Two of the parcels have great potential for commercial use. One of the parcels is located at the Route 60/Dudley interchange in Stoddard County. The 3-acre site has close access to Route 60, as well as good visibility from Route WW and eastbound Route 60. Additionally, a 0.98-acre property located on Route PP in Butler County is on the market. This parcel would be ideal for an innovative developer.

MoDOT’s Bonne Terre maintenance facility in St. Francois County is also included in the Spring Event. The 5.88-acre site contains several structures, including a garage, corrugated

metal building, material shelter and storage building.

“While the Southeast District no longer needs this land, the parcels are valuable and we want to find the right buyers,” said Senior Right of Way Technician Michael Smith.

Smith added that the money brought in through the Spring Event will be used to fund highway projects. Additionally, ridding of excess right of way saves maintenance costs, reduces liability and puts the property back on the tax rolls to the advantage of local communities.

For more information, please contact Smith at (573) 472-5286 or visit www.modot.org/southeast/realtytoroads.htm.



The Bonne Terre Maintenance Facility is no longer needed to build, improve or maintain Missouri’s roadways, so it is currently being marketed to the public.

Route 34 Project Wraps Up in Wayne County

To the delight of Wayne County travelers, long-awaited improvements to Route 34 from Piedmont to Silva have been completed ahead of schedule. Originally projected to be completed in fall 2011, the major work was completed in fall 2010.



With the major work completed, drivers are utilizing the newly improved Route 34. Additional work will be completed on the St. Francis River Bridge and a bridge on County Road 219 near Silva.

The major work included grading, paving, adding shoulders and some realignment of Route 34 from Piedmont to Patterson. The project also included resurfacing with paved shoulders from Patterson to the new Route 34 realignment at Silva.

Remaining work on the St. Francis River Bridge and a bridge on County Road 219 near Silva will be completed this spring.

To celebrate the project’s completion, a ribbon cutting will be held April 19. The ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Trinity United Methodist Church, located on Route 34. The public and media are invited to attend.



Major improvements to Route 34 from Piedmont to Silva were completed ahead of schedule. The project was expected to be completed in fall 2011. Minor bridge work will be completed this spring.

Prestressing for MoDOT's Bridges

Typically, using the word “stress” to describe part of your job isn't positive. But for Senior Materials Inspector Shannon Inman it's to be expected.

Prestressing is a vital part of his job at County Materials in Bonne Terre.

Basically, prestressing involves embedding cables under tension in concrete to add both strength and flexibility.



Tune into MoDOTSoutheast on YouTube to watch Senior Materials Inspector Shannon Inman discuss and demonstrate the benefits of prestressed concrete. Video is available at: <http://youtu.be/TPI13dq8RR0>

Inman works in the plant to ensure that deck panels and beams are properly prestressed for use on MoDOT's bridges.

“Concrete is extremely strong when in compression,” said Inman. “However, without prestressing, the concrete beams and panels would break and cause the bridge to fail.”

The process is very detail-oriented, with the number and configuration of cables varying from bridge to bridge. Additionally, each cable must be accurately tensioned within the concrete to hold the correct load.

Inman explains that we all experience the effects of prestressing as we drive along the roadway.

“Have you ever stopped your car on a bridge, and felt the bridge flex up and down as other cars passed by,” he asked. “Prestressing allows the bridge to flex and transfer the weight back to the load bearing area of a bridge.”

Besides being prestressed, deck panels and beams are also constructed of a special mix of concrete and cured using live steam. The live steam reaches 130 to 140 degrees and speeds the curing process. Within 18 hours, deck panels and beams reach the strength of approximately 7,000 to 8,000 psi and are ready for use.

Adopters Clean Missouri's Roadsides

Missouri's Adopt-A-Highway program began in 1987 and has since grown to nearly 4,300 groups and more than 40,000 volunteers focused on making Missouri's roadsides cleaner and more attractive for our residents and visitors. More than 6,600 miles of roadway have been adopted statewide. In the Southeast District, nearly 630 miles of roadway have been adopted by over 350 groups and organizations.

“Adopter groups include commercial and private companies, civic and non-profit organizations, families and

individuals,” says Southeast District Coordinator Mark Aufdenberg. “MoDOT spends about \$6 million annually to remove litter from more than 385,000 acres of right of way along 33,685 highway miles.”

Adopters perform about \$1 million a year in litter cleanup and beautification efforts. Every area kept free of litter by adopters allows MoDOT to devote resources to keeping roadways in good condition.

Adopters now have four options: pick up litter, mow,

beautify the roadside through landscaping or grow native wildflowers and grasses on the roadsides.

“The program has been growing in this area for several years,” says Aufdenberg. “This is a trend that we hope will continue well into the future.”

For more information about the Adopt-A-Highway program or other service programs, contact Aufdenberg at 573-794-2891 or visit our website at www.modot.mo.gov/services

Richard McAllister is one of D10's many adopters. As dedicated volunteers, McAllister and his helpers work to pick-up most of western Wayne County. Nearly 630 miles of D10 has been adopted by 350 groups.



D10 Innovations Challenge Winners

Changes may have been made to this year's Innovations Challenge, formerly called the Tool and Equipment Challenge, but one thing remains constant. D10 crews continue to find ways to do their jobs better, faster, cheaper and more safely.

“Each year, it is great to see the innovative ideas our crews develop,” said Lawrence Schumer, Maintenance Superintendent and D10 showcase judge. “Although it is a competition, the crews still demonstrate great teamwork.”

Schumer explained that during the challenge, participants are happy to share their ideas with co-workers in D10 and statewide.

D10 Innovations Challenge Showcase winners include:

- Adjustable Striping Wheel
- Channel Driver
- Overhead Hydraulic Crane
- Pivoting Sign
- Rear Sign Mount



Senior Maintenance Worker Todd McGregor explains that the Channel Driver speeds up the driving process and improves safety.

- Stop Sign and County Road Sign Process

D10 showcase winners were submitted to a statewide panel of judges. After careful review of the entries across the state, D10's Channel Driver was selected to compete in the statewide Innovations Challenge showcase.

The statewide competition will be held in late March. Winners will receive an additional \$10,000 for their district's budget.

Rate Our Work Zones

National Work Zone Awareness Week isn't just about what motorists can do to help keep our crews safe. In addition to reminding motorists to drive safely, MoDOT wants to know what we can do to improve work zones for travelers.

Following your travels through a work zone, please visit www.modot.org/southeast and rate our work zones. A link to the customer survey is located under the programs & links heading. Click on the Rate Our Work Zones icon and you will be taken to the survey.

The safety of the traveling public is as important as the safety of MoDOT's crews and contractors. Please let us know what you think!

Thank you for driving smart.

More Trucks Increases Need for Truck Parking

When Missouri began constructing rest areas, they were built to provide travelers with restroom facilities and a place to stretch their legs. Because of costs associated with updating and maintaining many of the older facilities, MoDOT has started converting some sites to meet the growing demand for commercial vehicle parking.

“MoDOT worked with stakeholders to identify the current situation and put a plan together to address concerns,” said Project Manager Eric Krapf. “The primary concern focuses on the need to address the shortage of parking for commercial vehicles for extended periods of time to meet the requirements of the federal motor carrier guidelines.”

Future commercial vehicle traffic is expected to make up 30 to 35 percent of all traffic on interstate highways. Most commercial vehicle operators park somewhere along their route for the required rest period, often forced to park on the deceleration and acceleration ramps, creating a safety hazard.

MoDOT has made the commitment where feasible and practical, to offer parking for the commercial vehicles at rest area locations taken out of service. In the Southeast District, MoDOT is considering converting both Fruitland rest areas into truck parking facilities with vault-type restrooms only.

Let us know what you think. To learn more, visit: www.modot.org/southeast/news_and_information/public_meetings or contact our Customer Service Center at 1-888-ASK-MoDOT (275-6636).

Help Keep Our Crews Safe

Participate in Work Zone Awareness Week April 4-8

With spring quickly approaching, MoDOT crews and contractors are gearing up for a busy construction season. This means motorists will soon begin seeing progress as well as work zones. In an effort to encourage motorists to drive safely in work zones, MoDOT will participate in National Work Zone Awareness Week from April 4 – 8. To celebrate this week, the Southeast District has plans to get people throughout the district involved in a number of activities.

The Southeast District encourages people to participate in its first “Where in the District is Barrel Bob?” contest. Barrel Bob, constructed by Road Runner Safety Services, Inc., is a 10-foot-tall man made of orange construction barrels. Each day Barrel Bob will appear in a new location throughout the 14-county district. Photos of Bob will be posted to both Facebook and Twitter. The first person to correctly identify Bob’s location will receive a prize, donated by the Southeast Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety.

D10 has also enlisted the help of area legislators by asking them to sport an orange “Arrive Alive” shirt for D10’s Work Zone Awareness Wall of Fame. Photos will be posted to our Flickr account and we will continue to add to the wall throughout the week. Photos will also be posted at Facebook and Twitter.

“The final component of this celebration will be our public service announcements that will feature those who work on our roads each day and their family members,” said Community Relations Manager Nicole Thieret. “We have asked families to participate in videos highlighting the importance of slowing down in work zones.”

To get involved, visit www.modot.org/southeast and click on the Facebook or Twitter icons at the top of the page. If you already follow the Southeast District on Facebook or Twitter, continue to check those pages for upcoming announcements about Work Zone Safety Awareness week.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.modot.org
1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636)
573-472-5333
Sikeston, MO 63801
P.O. Box 160
Southeast District
Transportation
Missouri Department of

