

MoDOT Express Lane

Missouri Department of
Transportation

Transportation News To You in 12 Articles or Less

TOP OF THE PAGE

MoDOT Making Progress You Can Feel

In his annual State of Transportation address, MoDOT Director Pete Rahn touted work to improve the state's major highways by the end of the year as "progress you can feel." The Smooth Roads Initiative was the lead topic for the address, but Rahn also spoke about public/private partnerships and the primary safety belt law. [Transportation Address](#)

Commission Gives More Funds for Preservation, Local Priorities

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission recently modified the process for distributing Missouri's transportation money to provide more for taking care of the existing roads and bridges, and more for construction of local priorities. According to MoDOT Director Pete Rahn, this allows the department to deliver more value to Missourians. [Funding Distribution](#)

Governor Highlights Importance of Child Passenger Safety

Gov. Matt Blunt recently joined University of Missouri doctors and officials, MoDOT Highway Safety representatives, and members of the Columbia Safe Kids Coalition to discuss child passenger safety. When used correctly, child safety seats are 71 percent effective in preventing fatalities for infants and 54 percent for toddlers. [Child Safety](#)

LEADERSHIP

Director Promotes Pay Raises for State Employees

MoDOT Director Pete Rahn recently wrote to Missouri newspaper editors in support of a four percent across-the-board pay raise for state employees. According to Rahn, Missouri's dedicated and hard-working public servants have gone too long without a significant pay increase. He says the state needs to work on retaining experienced workers, because without them, efficiency and effectiveness will suffer, thereby increasing the cost of government to Missouri taxpayers. [Letter to the Editor](#)

OFF THE ROAD NEWS

State Airport System Plan Updated

MoDOT's Aviation Section recently completed an update of the State Airport System Plan, which helps guide airport development in Missouri. [SASP Update](#)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Regional Blueprint Action Could Have Statewide Implications

The St. Louis regional Blueprint committee initiated "Travel Safe Zones" to address high-accident areas in their region. Travel Safe Zones use all three Es of the Blueprint -- engineering, enforcement, and education -- to make travel safer. This idea caught the attention of Rep. Neal St. Onge (R-Ellisville), who took it one step further by introducing legislation to double fines for traffic violations in Travel Safe Zones. This proposal was introduced to the House Transportation Committee on Feb. 15 as HB 1378 and is sponsored by Rep. St. Onge. [HB 1378](#)

P3 Moving in the House

Just a week after the House Transportation Committee heard public testimony on MoDOT's Public Private Partnership (P3) initiative, HB 1380, the committee unanimously voted on Feb. 15 to pass the bill to the House Floor for debate. This bill would allow the MHTC to enter into a contractual agreement with a private consortium to finance, build, maintain, and operate a new Mississippi River bridge in St. Louis. [HB 1380](#)

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Work Zone Page Highlights Major I-44 Construction

Ready ... set ... go! Work is about to begin on a series of 27 projects that will improve the condition and safety of Interstate 44 across the state by Dec. 31. Visitors can check out the Work Zone Advisory and get information on major work zone delays. They can also download a new I-44 map that outlines where construction will take place this year. [I-44 Construction](#)

Express Lane Link Now on Web Page

Check out the new *MoDOT Express Lane* link that's on MoDOT's home page. Visitors looking for the most up-to-date and comprehensive Missouri transportation information can click on this link and be informed in just a few minutes. It's quick and efficient - it's the *MoDOT Express Lane*! [Home](#)

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