

I-49 Unveiling Ceremony

Speaker Biographies



Federal Highway Administration Administrator Victor Mendez

- ◆ Appointed Administrator in July 2009
- ◆ Heads agency with 2,900 employees in Washington, D.C., and field offices across the country; FHWA is division of United States Department of Transportation
- ◆ (FHWA oversees use of federal funds for the National Highway System; provides highway design and construction services for federal land-management agencies; performs and sponsors research for roadway safety improvements, congestion relief, construction materials and construction methods; publishes Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices used by state highway agencies)
- ◆ Former Director of Arizona Department of Transportation; active with American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
- ◆ Native of Texas; bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, University of Texas-El Paso; master's degree in business administration, Arizona State University, Tempe



United States Senator Roy Blunt

- ◆ Elected in 2010 to U.S. Senate. Committees: Appropriations; Commerce, Science and Transportation; Select Committee on Intelligence; Rules. Vice Chairman of Senate Republican Conference and member of Senate Republican Whip Team
- ◆ Elected in 1996 to U.S. House of Representatives in southwest Missouri's 7th District and re-elected six times, serving through 2010
- ◆ Elected in 1984 as Missouri Secretary of State and re-elected one time, serving through 1992
- ◆ Other positions held: High school history teacher, Greene County Clerk, President of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar
- ◆ Webster County native; bachelor's degree in history, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar; master's degree in history, Missouri State University in Springfield



Missouri Governor Jay Nixon

- ◆ Elected Missouri Governor in 2008; re-elected in 2012
- ◆ Elected in 1992 as Missouri Attorney General and re-elected three times, serving through 2008; Elected in 1986 to Missouri Senate from Jefferson County and re-elected one time, serving through 1992
- ◆ Native of De Soto in Jefferson City; bachelor's degree and law degree, University of Missouri-Columbia; practiced law in De Soto

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Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Chairman Rudy Farber

- ◆ Named to commission in March 2007 by then-Gov. Matt Blunt; term expires March 2013
- ◆ Chairman of Community Bank & Trust in Neosho; active in many civic organizations in Newton County; serves as board member of Missouri Chamber of Commerce; board member of Hawthorn Foundation
- ◆ Neosho native; bachelor's degree in business administration, Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.; master's degree in business administration, Columbia University in New York City; U.S. Navy officer from 1963-1967, with stint as Navy Exchange Officer in Japan



Missouri Department of Transportation Director Kevin Keith

- ◆ Appointed MoDOT Director in 2010; had served as MoDOT Chief Engineer for nine years; active with American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
- ◆ Also served as MoDOT's Transportation Planning Director in Jefferson City; MoDOT's Northwest District Engineer based in St. Joseph; held other MoDOT positions in Branson, St. Louis and Chillicothe
- ◆ Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, University of Missouri-Columbia