

kcConnections



A publication of MoDOT Kansas City District

Sept. 5-9, 2011

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Bolder 5-Year Direction Update

KC Maintenance Staffing Plan

The management team has created a draft for KC's maintenance staffing plan. (Log onto 1 Team, 1 Blog to download the printable version.)

The intent is to consolidate Liberty and Chouteau into a new facility and potentially close 87th St. with employees and equipment distributed to the most logical facilities. Real estate negotiations for these three properties are underway but none are a done deal. The bridge function will be located at Stadium and have three teams that are supported by the areas in which they are working.

We are putting together a strike team that will perform sweeping, assist with seasonal activities such as striping/mowing, and the former "special ops" functions. The strike team will need help from the areas depending on the task and be housed at Lee's Summit, Marshall Junction, Excelsior Springs and Northmoor.

- Independence will house the "Strike Team" and our District-wide sweep-

ing crews.

- Lee's Summit will be the location for a combined signing and striping crew along with maintenance forces.
- Stadium will have a combined bridge crew and maintenance staff assigned to that location.

We are still working out the structure for clerical duties and District Office staff. We have the opportunity to retain salt storage at Marshall Junction, Excelsior Springs and Northmoor

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Redline (607-2283) or Jesse Skinner (607-2034).

Bolder 5-Year Direction Questions?

- Visit: wwwi/intranet/hr/
- E-mail: SalaryGrade10-11CrewLeader@modot.mo.gov
- E-mail: SalaryGrade12-16@mdot.mo.gov
- E-mail: SalaryGrade17-20@modot.mo.gov
- Contact your KC District HR representative

COUNTY	LANE MILES	BUILDING	PROPOSED FULL TIME PERSONNEL	Maint Super SG 14	Maint Super SG 12	Maint Crew Leader SG 10	Maint Worker SG (6-8)		
Cass	842.3	Belton	14	1		3	10		
		Harrisonville	13	1		3	9		
		Knob Noster	10	1		2	7		
Johnson	864.6	Warrensburg	12	1		2	9		
		Jackson	1324.0	Mulberry	16	1		3	12
		Stadium	28	2		5	21		
Pettis	779.7	SCSC (87th)	10		1	1	8		
		Lee's Summit	45	2	2	9	32		
		Independence	22	1	1	3	17		
		Lafayette	860.4	Sedalia	20	1	1	3	15
Lafayette	860.4	Odessa	12	1		2	9		
		Concordia	12	1		2	9		
		Marshall	21	1	1	4	15		
Platte	740.1	Nashua	14	1		3	10		
		Platte City	14	1		3	10		
		Kearney	14	1		2	11		
Clay	878.3	Liberty	11	1		2	8		
		Chouteau	7		1	1	5		
		Ray	568.5	Richmond	13	1		2	10
TOTALS			308	19	7	55	227		

Bolder 5-Year Direction Timeline

2011

- **September 8:** SG 18 positions filled/announced.
- **September 14:** SG 17 positions filled/announced.
- **September 16:** SG 12 to 14 and Motor Carrier Services (MCS) SG 15 supervisor appointees announced. Interviews scheduled for remaining SG 12 to 14 and MCS SG 15 supervisor positions.
- **September 27:** statewide conference call with SG 10-11 Crew Leaders.
- **September 30:** announcements made of SG 10-11 Crew Leader appointments, remaining SG10-11 Crew Leader jobs posted; announcement of remaining SG 12 to 14 and Motor Carrier Services (MCS) SG 15 supervisors. Deadline for Notice of Intent to Retire for SG 17-21.
- **October 7:** deadline to apply for SG 10-11 Crew Leader positions.
- **October 14-18:** interviews for SG 10-11 Crew Leader positions.
- **October 20:** SG 10-11 Crew Leader announcements made.
- **October 24:** maintenance employees notified of their new facility locations.
- **October 31:** 60-day Notice of Intent to Retire deadline for Supervisor SG 12-16s and SG10-11s who wish to be compensated for annual leave and comp time at their current rate of pay if being demoted.
- **November 1:** maintenance employees report to their new facilities.
- **November 30:** deadline for SG 17-20s to separate from the Department and be compensated for annual leave and comp time at their current rate of pay.
- **December 1:** salary changes take effect for SG 17-20s.
- **December 31:** deadline for Supervisor SG 12-16s and SG 10-11s to separate from the Department and be compensated for annual leave and comp time at their current rate of pay if being demoted.

2012

- **January 1:** salary changes take effect for demoted Supervisor SG 12-16s and SG 10-11s.
- **December 31:** all facility, equipment and operational changes complete.

2013

- **March 31:** all employee reassignments, staff reductions complete.

Retirement Questions?

- Go to www.mpers.org
- Click on Publications, choose the Brochure that applies to you.

If you are close to retirement and leave state employment, we suggest that you contact a MPERS benefit specialist at (573) 298-6080 or (800) 270-1271 to discuss your individual situation and answer your specific questions, or contact your KC District HR representative.

Reposted Positions

The Governmental Relations Coordinator, Information Systems Supervisor-Software Configuration, and the Information Systems Supervisor-Network Management positions are reposted. All three positions are Central Office positions.

These vacancies will close on **Tuesday, September 6, at 4 p.m.** The

Northeast District has also posted a Job Opportunity Announcement for a Salary Grade 14 Roadside Manager position. You have until **11:55 p.m. on September 8 to apply for this job.**

In order to be considered for these positions, you will need to ensure your online profile is completed and select the advertised job at www4.modot.mo.gov/HRIS/external/applicantHome.do.

For questions, visit [www/intranet/hr/](http://www.intranet/hr/) or e-mail SalaryGrade12-16@mdot.mo.gov or SalaryGrade17-20@modot.mo.gov

You may also contact your KC District HR representative

Do you **DRIVE** through or **WORK** in a MoDOT work zone? We want to **HEAR** about your experience! Log on to www.modot.org/kc and click on "Rate Our Work Zones"

Workshop Champions Bike/Ped Options

On Aug. 25, architects, engineers and planners from MoDOT and communities across the Kansas City District sat down as one transportation group to talk about what it means to build Livable Streets at the Best Practices in Bicycle Pedestrian Design workshop.

Across the country, more communities recognize that motor vehicles are not the only form of transportation, and in fact, more citizens request the safe sidewalks, bike routes and transit options that fit their lifestyle.

In May, the Missouri House of Representatives passed the Complete Streets Resolution, urging cities, communities and state transportation to consider bicyclists, pedestrians and transit users whenever they planned transportation projects. The Best Practices in Bicycle Pedestrian Design workshop, hosted in partnership with MU Extension, focused on just that -- making streets that accommodate any mode of transportation.

The all-day workshop featured internationally known Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner and Engineer Bruce Landis. His presentation included strategies to make neighborhoods, retail districts and other community settings more walkable, bikeable and accessible to all.

"This program was designed to let planners look at a street objectively and see, based on what is going on in the roadway environment, exactly how to design a livable street," said Landis.

One of the things discussed was what makes a street more livable? It could be as simple as sidewalks and crosswalks. But planners also consider wheelchair ramps, bicycle paths, mixed-use paths

that may host joggers and dog walkers alike, bus stops, or even paved shoulders in a rural area.

MoDOT in Kansas City completed several projects just this year with pedestrian and bicycle access including the rehabilitated Heart of America Bridge and the Chouteau Bridge. The Broadway Overpass over I-670 Bridge project - on schedule to open Sept. 9 -- also includes wider, safer sidewalks for the many pedestrians who use that walkway to attend events at Bartle Hall, the Music Hall and later this month, the Kauffman Center for Performing Arts.

Several locations joined the workshop via webinar, including Jefferson City, St. Louis District Office, Northeast District, Southeast District Office, Northwest District Office, Southwest District Office and Macon.

KC KUDOS:

- 66 The bridge by Iatan Power Plant that crosses over the tracks!!! Oh Wow, that was soooo needed. Thank you! -- Kevin S.
- 66 Recently MODOT completed a project resurfacing the bridge and ramps at Highway 350 and Bannister/Colburn Roads in the KC, Lee's Summit area. What a nicely completed project with the construction crews moving in, completing the work in a timely fashion, producing little to no congestion problems and having a great end product. Thanks for the good work. -- Jim B., Kansas City



Ribbon Cuttings and Events Around the District

This week's events featured finished Safe & Sound Bridges and two retirements for fellow employees

As with any event MoDOT hosts, employees are always welcome to attend. Visit our website at www.modot.org/kc and click on "News and Information" for a link to the public meetings scheduled for the coming weeks.

Events Calendar

Ribbon Cutting for Broadway overpass at I-670 next to Bartle Hall

Sept. 6, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Broadway at 15th St (Truman Road) in the southwest corner of the Downtown Loop

Ribbon Cutting for Safe & Sound Bridge Route Z Bridge in Cass County

Sept. 7, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

At the bridge five miles north of Garden City

Ribbon Cutting for Briarcliff Interchange

Sept. 8, 10 to 11 a.m.

Trezo Mare restaurant, Briarcliff Village shopping center, 4105 N. Mulberry Drive, KCMO.

Ribbon Cutting for Route 24 Bridges Safe & Sound Bridges in Clay County

Sept. 13, 10 to 11 a.m.

At the bridge over Big Sni A Bar Creek, closest to Route 131

Voice in Transportation Road Show at Concordia Fall Fest

Sept. 10-11, 2011

Concordia, MO

Voice in Transportation Road Show at Liberty Fall Fest

Sept. 23-24, 2011

Liberty, MO



Twenty turned out for the ribbon-cutting ceremony for 67th Street bridge over Route 350, another MoDOT Safe & Sound success story. The bridge was replaced in less than six weeks.



John Cave, Senior Assistant Council, (pictured left) and his family celebrated with his retirement with fellow MoDOT employees this week. John served Missourians for 20 years



Kevin Rose, Regional Maintenance Supervisor, (pictured left) and his family also celebrated with his retirement this week. John was with the department for 36 years.

EAEC Corner: Profiles

The KC Employee Advisory Extension Council (EAEC) has been active for more than three years and serves KC District employees. The council's goal is to foster and enhance a positive work environment for all employees by assisting management and employees with cultural diversity, policy review, and communication issues.

Take advantage of this avenue to stay informed about our district. You can contact the various members or submit a concern or question through the intranet or through a paper form that can be located in each work unit. All concerns are anonymous and confidential throughout the process.

The EAEC Corner introduces you to the members of the council.

Name, title and position on the EAEC.
Lindsay M. Harris, Senior Traffic Studies Specialist, EAEC Secretary

What areas of the district do you represent on the council? *I represent the*



Field & District Office Traffic Department and Permit Department.

Why did you volunteer and what do you hope to accomplish while serving on the EAEC? *I volunteered to serve on the EAEC because I wanted to be a part of the mission of the EAEC. More importantly I wanted to help and get the word out about the EAEC because I saw the potential for great things to come from it. As a member of the EAEC I hope to continue to be a liaison between employee issues and solutions. I also hope to continue to build positive relationships with my coworkers throughout the district to help foster more open and honest communication among employees and departments.*

What's the best part of serving on the team? *My parents taught me to always be a part of the solution not the problem, and with the EAEC I am doing that. I also appreciate the opportunity to meet, get to know, and form relationships with coworkers who I would not have gotten to interact with during my day-to-day work.*

What is one employee issue you hold near and dear to your heart? *Definitely communication. When communication breaks down in any relationship, frustrations build and eventually that relationship also begins to break down. In order to maintain effective working relationships from the bottom up we must start with effective communication from the top down.*

Learn more about the KC district EAEC on the district intranet, click on Employee Advisory Council on the left-hand links.

Safety First

String trimmers are handy tools for trimming around fences, trees, guardrail and sign posts. The stringer head rotates at over 8,000 r.p.m. and poses risk of injury to the operator and any bystanders. To help minimize these dangers, follow these basic safety rules:

- Wear relatively tight-fitting clothing. If you have long hair, tie your hair back. Loose clothing and long hair can get caught in the moving parts of a weed eater.
- Always wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). This includes work gloves, safety glasses, goggles or a face shield, as well as adequate hearing protection (ear muffs or plugs).
- Watch where you are trimming. Do not operate when others are close by. Objects can be thrown up to 50 feet away, so a hard hat is also recommended.
- Remove any objects that could be picked up and thrown by the cutter line.
- Keep all safety devices (guards, shields, switches, etc.) in place and working.
- Whenever you release the trigger control, the trimmer head should stop. If the safety feature fails to operate, have it repaired before using unit.
- Start the engine on firm ground in an open place, holding the trimmer with two hands. Make sure of your footing and position your feet to help maintain good balance.
- Never operate the trimmer overhead.
- Keep all body parts away from rotating cutter line.
- Move diagonally across slopes, not straight up and down.
- Be alert for holes, rocks, bushy vegetation. Tall grass can hide obstacles than can trip you.
- Stop the engine prior to setting the weed eater down.
- After use, allow the engine to idle down for a few minutes so it can cool off.

More safety information is available on the intranet under Risk Management.