

Top 10 Accomplishments of 2009

Our efforts to create jobs, save lives, improve our transportation system and grow communities make us proud to share our top 10 achievements for 2009.

1 Highway Deaths Continue to Drop

Undoubtedly saving lives is our most important endeavor. Traffic deaths fell from 992 in 2007 to 960 in 2008. Between 2005 and 2008 traffic deaths have decreased 24 percent. Preliminary figures for 2009 show a 10 percent decrease in fatalities on Missouri highways when compared to 2008.

2 I-64 Reopens Early, Under Budget

Missourians had fun on the freeway on Dec. 6, the day before the second stretch of the new I-64 in St. Louis opened to traffic almost a month ahead of schedule and \$11 million under budget. The opening culminated the largest project in MoDOT history, which involved rebuilding 10 miles of interstate highway in the heart of St. Louis.

3 Missouri Claims First-in-the-Nation Recovery Act Project

Within minutes of President Barack Obama signing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, we became the first state in the nation to put people to work on an economic stimulus project. U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood commented: "Missouri has done a terrific job of using recovery funds to invest in good transportation projects across its cities, suburbs and rural communities. These efforts are really making a difference to the folks who live and work in Missouri."

4 86 Percent of Major Highways Now in Good Condition

The percentage of major highways in good condition rose to 86 percent in 2009, a hefty 39 percent jump from 2004 when only 47 percent of major roads were in good condition. Missouri's improved road conditions prompted truck drivers who responded to an Overdrive magazine survey to rank Missouri's highways as the fifth best in the nation.

6 89 Percent of Missourians Trust MoDOT to Keep Its Commitments

We have worked hard to complete projects on time and within budget and to provide a dollar of value for every dollar we spend. Our success in improving roads and bridges, creating jobs, making our highways safer and impacting economic growth is reflected in the fact that 89 percent of Missourians trust us to keep our commitments, and 85 percent are satisfied with the job we're doing.

5 More Than 100 Bridges Fixed

In the past year, we repaired or replaced 121 of the state's worst bridges under our Safe & Sound Bridge Improvement Program. Since the program began in September 2008, we have been fixing a bad bridge every 1.8 days. When the program is finished in October of 2013, we will have improved 802 bridges.



7 Radical Cost Control Saves Taxpayers Millions

We fulfilled our pledge to complete projects on time and within budget this past year by bringing in 461 projects under budget to the tune of \$135 million. For the last five fiscal years, we have awarded 2,151 projects costing \$5.7 billion. Those projects were completed 5.5 percent under budget saving taxpayers more than \$334 million.

8 Diverging Diamond Interchange is First in Western Hemisphere

Driving on the left side of the road may not seem like a logical way to design a highway interchange, but that's the concept behind a new project MoDOT delivered in June at the intersection of Route 13 and Interstate 44 in Springfield, Mo. The unique configuration, the first of its kind in the Western hemisphere, also piqued the interest of Popular Science magazine, which named the interchange as one of its 100 best innovations of the year.



9 Mississippi River Bridge Moves Closer to Construction

Bids for a new Mississippi River Bridge in St. Louis were opened Dec. 8. The \$640 million project will relocate Interstate 70 one mile north of the Martin Luther King Bridge. The four-lane bridge – two lanes in each direction – will remove about 40,000 vehicles daily from existing downtown bridges.

10 Amtrak Increases Reliability

More than 90 percent of the Missouri River Runner trains that run between Kansas City and St. Louis arrived on time or ahead of schedule this past year. During the busy Thanksgiving holiday week, the east-west Amtrak service was on schedule 100 percent of the time. A contributing factor is a recently finished siding project located just west of California, Mo. that allows slower freight trains to move off the main track so faster passenger trains can pass through.

