

Bollinger | Butler | Cape Girardeau | Carter | Douglas | Dunklin | Howell | Iron | Madison | Mississippi | New Madrid | Oregon
Ozark | Pemiscot | Perry | Reynolds | Ripley | Scott | Shannon | Ste. Genevieve | St. Francois | Stoddard | Texas | Wayne | Wright

Dear friends:

Welcome to the Spring 2013 edition of MoDOT in Motion. We have experienced a great number of changes at MoDOT. Recently, Dave Nichols was named director. Nichols brings a wealth of experience to the position and is spearheading our On the Move initiative to update the Department's 20-year plan.

With the new construction season, we will celebrate Work Zone Awareness Week. To learn more about that effort, take a look at page 5. When entering a work zone, please follow the signs and be safe. Our goal every day is for each employee to go safely home to their families. Thank you for your role in making our roadways safer.

As our construction program gears up, you'll see several projects take shape. The Commission recently awarded a project in Cape Girardeau to construct a roundabout and add turn lanes at Route W, Lexington and Kingsway. The Route 67 South project is well underway, as well as the Oak Grove Road interchange in Poplar Bluff. Learn more about those projects on pages 2, 3 and 4, respectively.

As always, please buckle up and slow down when you near a work zone. Travel safe.



Mark Shelton, P.E.
District Engineer



Dave Nichols Named Director of MoDOT



[MoDOT Director Dave Nichols]

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission has selected Dave Nichols

to serve as the director of the Missouri Department of Transportation. Nichols has served as interim MoDOT director since March 21. He has been with the Department for more than 29 years.

“Dave Nichols has the talent, skills and experience needed to be a successful leader for MoDOT,” said Commission Chairman Joe Carmichael. “The commission unanimously agreed that a prolonged search for a new

director was unnecessary, as the right person for the job was already here.”

Nichols assumed the interim director position after the resignation of Kevin Keith, who left MoDOT on March 21 for a medical leave of absence. Nichols has held a variety of leadership roles in the department, including his work as chief engineer and as the Department's first director of program delivery. He has also served as district engineer for

the Department's Northwest District headquartered in St. Joseph and worked in MoDOT's Kansas City District.

“The commission has full confidence in Dave's ability to tackle the significant transportation challenges Missouri is facing,” said Carmichael. “His dedication and innovation will help Missouri maintain its status as a leader in transportation.”

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

Roundabout Planned for Cape Girardeau

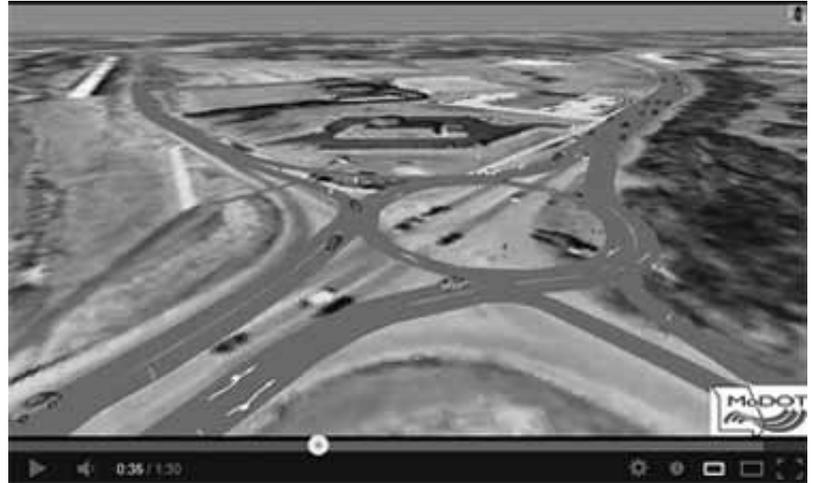
In March 2013, the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission awarded a \$1,465,295 contract to Fronabarger Concreters, Inc., to construct a roundabout at the intersection of Route W/Lexington Avenue/Kingsway Drive, add a turn lane at the intersection of Kingshighway and Lexington Avenue and improve capacity on Lexington Avenue between Kingshighway and Abbey Lane in Cape Girardeau. Work is expected to begin this month.

Tim Richmond, project manager for the Missouri Department of Transportation, said MoDOT is sharing the cost of the project with the City of Cape Girardeau. The city will pay \$793,000, and MoDOT will pay the remainder.

“MoDOT and the city evaluated several potential projects to ease traffic congestion. In addition, a public meeting was held to gather input prior to deciding on the roundabout design,” said Richmond.

“Traffic counts did not show enough vehicles traveling through the area to require an additional signal, and the signal would be placed too close to a signal at the intersection of Lexington Avenue/Mount Auburn Road and Kingshighway.”

There will be road closures throughout the project. Richmond said the closures will be mostly at night to alleviate traffic delays as much as possible.



Visit <http://youtu.be/koR6gPboqW0> for an aerial view of the roundabout that will be constructed at Route W/Lexington Avenue/Kingsway Drive in Cape Girardeau.

The project is expected to be completed later this fall.

Additional information can be found online at www.modot.org/southeast/news_and_information/public_meetings/RoundaboutandSignals_CapeGirardeau.htm.

Extending the Life of SE Missouri Roadways

With the current lack of transportation funding, keeping our system in good condition for as long as possible is critical. In an effort to extend the life of the existing roadways throughout the Southeast District, several contracts were recently awarded for projects to meet this need. In addition, the projects will provide a smoother ride for motorists. Details about several of the upcoming projects are included below.

Howell County: Routes 63 & 60

The Route 63 project consists of milling the southbound lanes and replacing the pavement. The

improvements will extend from south of the Route 60/63 directional interchange near Willow Springs to north of Route N near Pomona.

The Route 60 project consists of a 3.75” overlay in the westbound lanes from west of the Route 60/63 directional interchange near Willow Springs to the Texas County line.

Both projects will include installation of edgeline rumble stripes. Lane reductions will be in place as work is underway. The projects are expected to be completed by Nov. 2013.

Stoddard County: Route 60

The project will include resurfacing the eastbound lanes from Route 51 to Route F. Work

could begin as early as this April, with completion by Oct. 2013. As the improvements are underway, lane reductions will be in place.

St. Francois & Ste. Genevieve Counties: Routes 32, AA & EE

The work will include overlaying Route 32 from Route OO in St. Francois County to I-55 in Ste. Genevieve County, Route AA from Route H to the end of state maintenance in St. Francois County and Route EE from Route C to Route D in Ste. Genevieve County. The Route 32 project will also include adding a left turn lane at the Route O intersection and a center turn lane from Route OO to the east city limit of Farmington. Improvements to

Route 32 are expected to begin in July, with work on Routes AA & EE to follow. Motorists can expect a two-way, one-lane operation with a pilot car escort through each work zone. Work is expected to be completed by fall 2013.

Bollinger County: Route 51

Work is currently underway from Marble Hill to Patton, which consists of resurfacing and adding 3’ shoulders in various locations. MoDOT’s contractors are currently working to extend pipes and install concrete pipe collars. MoDOT’s contractor will resume earthwork operations once the ground conditions allow. Work is expected to be completed in Oct. 2013.

[continued on page 5]

Route 67 South Takes Shape

The Route 67 South project is well underway, with over 85 percent of the earthwork completed, decks poured for the Cane Creek and Cane Creek Overflow bridges and preliminary work finished for the bridge on Route 158.

“The project is progressing and should easily reach its targeted completion date of summer 2014,” said Resident Engineer Audie Pulliam.

In the next month, construction of the new interchange will be underway. During this time, it will be necessary to close Route 158 for two days for installation of bridge girders and panel placement. The closures will be during daylight hours. More details

will be released prior to the closures.

Once completed, the project will have a significant impact on the area by addressing the two primary concerns.

“The full interchange planned at the Route 160 intersection will address the current issues with left turning traffic. Additionally, the project will reduce the number of potential conflict points by limiting access,” said Project Manager Eric Krapf.

According to Krapf, managing the number and location of access points will also help reduce congestion.



Preliminary work on the Route 158 bridge has been completed. Construction of the new interchange will be underway throughout April. When completed, the interchange will help address the issues with left turning traffic.

Upcoming Route 34 Schedule for Bollinger County Project

With warmer weather ahead, MoDOT’s Route 34 contractor is preparing to pursue an aggressive schedule to complete Route 34 in Bollinger County.

“We encourage motorists to use caution in this area as work is underway,” said Resident Engineer Brian Holt. “Lots of work is planned for this construction season, and the Route 34 project could be finished ahead of schedule.”

Holt explained that provided the weather cooperates, MoDOT’s contractors currently plan to have the project complet-

This year, MoDOT’s contractor has a very aggressive schedule planned for the Route 34 project in Bollinger County.



ed as early as fall 2013—eight months ahead of schedule.

Recently, contractors completed earthwork near Glen Allen to Woodland Schools, excavated the roadway relocation at Glen Allen and installed a box culvert at Gimlet Creek. In addition, the bulk of the grading is completed from County Road 808 to County Road 805.

Throughout April and early May, work will be underway to complete grading, place base rock and pave for curve relocations at Glen Allen and near County Road 808 to County Road 805.

Motorists should expect various impacts to traffic. As work is underway to complete the tie-ins for the relocation of Route 34 at Glen Allen, traffic will be reduced to one lane for approximately one week. Temporary signals will be in place to control the one-lane, two-way traffic.

In addition, there will be a complete road closure from County Road 506 to County Road 504 for approximately one month this summer during installation of cross road culverts and curve relocation.

Various daytime lane closures may also be necessary at times.

Second Phase of Oak Grove Road Project Awarded

The first phase of the Oak Grove Road project in Poplar Bluff is expected to be completed by this June. A \$1,206,122 contract for the second phase of the project, which includes construction of the overpass bridge adjacent to the existing structure, was awarded to Robertson Contractors, Inc., this April.



Work on the second phase of the project could begin as early as May, with completion anticipated by Oct. 2013.

As work is underway, Route 67 will be reduced to one lane in each direction. In addition, nighttime closures will be necessary as the bridge girders and deck panels are set.

The Oak Grove Road project is part of an economic development program agreement between MoDOT and the City of Poplar Bluff. In addition to construction of the interchange, MoDOT's portion of the project includes geometric and traffic signal improvements at the intersection of Oak Grove Road and Westwood Boulevard. The City of Poplar Bluff's portion of the project includes adding lanes to Oak Grove Road between Route 67 and Westwood Boulevard.

Tie-ins for the Oak Grove Road interchange are expected to be completed by June 2013, weather permitting.

MoDOT is On the Move

MoDOT has been working hard to update its long-term transportation plan through the On the Move initiative. Listening sessions, a mobile tour and virtual forums allow the Department to gather input from individuals across the state.

The On the Move website at www.missourionthemove.org allows visitors to learn about Missouri's transportation system, track what MoDOT is hearing from Missourians, stay up-to-date on upcoming events and comment on the specific projects.

"Missouri transportation begins with Missouri citizens – the very people who use our roads and bridges, railways, greenways, waterways and airways to travel to and from work, to the

doctor, to soccer practice and everywhere in between," said MoDOT Southeast District Engineer Mark Shelton. "Engaging Missourians is a critical step to ensure that MoDOT outlines a sustainable and economically viable transportation vision that serves the growing needs of Missourians well into the future."

Listening sessions have been held across the state over the past two months. At this time, the mobile tour is newly underway. Look for the tour in your

county over the next three months. Stops will include local events, county commission meetings and regional planning commission meetings. MoDOT personnel will continue to talk with Missourians about the State's transportation future.

In addition, opportunities to comment can be found on the website mentioned above.

A timeline for the long-term transportation plan's release is expected to be announced in summer 2013.

Although MoDOT wrapped up the scheduled listening sessions in April, Missourians will have more opportunities to comment as MoDOT hits-the-streets through a series of mobile tours this spring.



Additional work will also be completed from Marble Hill City limits to Route 60 in Bollinger County. The project will include an asphalt overlay and shouldering. Work could begin as early as this April, with completion anticipated by Oct. 2013. As work is underway, motorists should expect lane reductions, with pilot cars in use during shouldering and paving operations.

Pemiscot & Dunklin Counties: Route J and Route 164

The work will consist of an asphalt overlay on Route J from Route NN to Route Z in Pemiscot County and Route 164 from Route 412 to Route N in Dunklin County. Improvements will be underway this construction season, with completion anticipated by mid-Oct. 2013. During construction, motor-



Overlays help extend the life of the pavement and rumble strips, such as those pictured above, help alert drivers when they are leaving the driving lane.

ists should anticipate lane reductions with flaggers and pilot cars as paving operations are underway.

Ripley County: Route 160

The project will include overlaying the route, adding 4' paved shoulders, constructing alternate passing lanes from Route 21 to Route JJ and installing edgeline rumble stripes east of Doniphan. The work will extend from Route 21 at Doniphan to Route JJ. Motorists should expect two-way, one-lane traffic operations during construction. Work could begin as early as this April, with completion anticipated by Nov. 2013.

Texas County: Route 17

The improvements will consist of overlaying the route, adding 4' paved shoulders and installing edgeline rumble stripes from Route 63 in Houston to Route 38. Work zones will be two-way, one-lane operations controlled by flaggers. Completion is anticipated by Oct. 2013.

Ozark & Wright Counties: Routes 95 & 5

Work on Route 95 will consist of an asphalt overlay from Route 5 to Route 160 near Theodosia—totaling 20.5 miles. Work zones will be two-way, one-lane operations controlled by flaggers. Completion is anticipated by Oct. 2013.

Work on Route 5 will consist of an asphalt overlay from Route C in Laclede County

to Route 60—totaling nearly 40 miles. The intersection of Routes 5 and 38 in Hartville will be replaced with 10" of concrete to address issues with rutting due to heavy truck traffic. Work is expected to begin in late April. However, the intersection work will be coordinated so it does not impact the Hartville Civil War Re-enactment.

Work zones will be two-way, one-lane operations controlled by flaggers. Construction is expected to be completed in late July 2013.

St. Francois & Ste. Genevieve Counties: Route Y

The project will consist of resurfacing, adding shoulders and installing shoulder rumble stripes to more than 18 miles of Route Y from Route 67 in St. Francois County to Route 61 in Ste. Genevieve County. Motorists can expect a two-way, one-lane operation with a pilot car escort through the work zone. Work is expected to begin in June, with completion anticipated in fall 2013.

Work Zone Awareness 2013

MoDOT will celebrate National Work Zone Awareness Week from April 15-19. To celebrate this week, the Southeast District has planned interactive activities to emphasize the importance of work zone safety.

“In 2012, 8 people were killed in work zones, a decrease from 2011 when 11 people were killed,” said District Engineer Mark Shelton. “We want to make sure this progress continues. Our goal is to educate the public, as well as our employees and contractors, to ensure everyone gets home safe at the end of each day.”

During Work Zone Awareness Week, check MoDOT’s Southeast District facebook and twitter pages to participate in daily safety trivia.

“Work Zone Awareness Week is not only a time to remind drivers of the importance of slowing down and paying attention in work zones,” said Shelton. “It is also a great opportunity for MoDOT to receive feedback about our work zones.”

The Department is asking the public to grade its work zones in various focus areas, such as signage and delays, by filling out a short online form. The form is available at www.modot.org/.

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 Awareness Week. For more information, please contact the MoDOT Customer Service Center at 1-888-ASK-MoDOT (275-6636) or visit www.modot.org/southeast.

MoDOT's 100th Anniversary

Governor Jay Nixon recently issued a proclamation recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Missouri Department of Transportation.

“One hundred years ago, most road building equipment was mule-powered,” said MoDOT Director Dave Nichols. “Today, our skilled crews and contractors use a variety of machines. There is even a machine that can pull up old pavement, recycle it, and put it back down all in one sweep. The engineers of yesteryear would be amazed by what is possible just 100 years past their time.”



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 in the drop-down menu of the Road Work tab at the top of the website.

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.

MoDOT in MOTION

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