



MoDOT in *MOTION*

District 10

Summer 2010

Dear friends:

Once again the heat is on and the construction season is in full swing. We are excited about the many projects that are taking shape in District 10.

For Interstate 55 travelers, we have new welcome centers, a new weigh station as well as improvements to the corridor. We are also using a new, greener product called Thiopave on the improvements to the corridor in Cape Girardeau County.

Our No MOre Trash Bash program is attracting new organizations interested in keeping Missouri beautiful! To learn more, see page 4.

In addition to beginning many new projects, we are pleased

to announce Route 60 has been upgraded from Sikeston to Willow Springs. To learn more about becoming part of our celebration, see page 4.

Thank you again for your patience throughout this construction season. And when you see our workers out on the road, please remember to give them a break! Have a great summer.

Thank you,

Mark Shelton, P.E.
District Engineer



New Welcome Centers and Weigh Station in District 10

Southeast Missouri travelers will be able to begin utilizing the newly constructed welcome centers at Hayti and Marston this fall.

The exterior of the Marston welcome center has been completed and features both New Madrid Earthquake and Mississippian culture themes. Now, contractors are working to complete the interior of the new facility. The Marston Welcome Center is located at mile marker 42.4 on southbound I-55.

Work on the Hayti welcome center is also shaping up, with contractors recently working to finish the roof and pouring concrete for the parking lot. The Hayti Welcome Center is located at mile marker 20.4 on northbound I-55.



Contractors are making progress on the new Hayti Welcome Center located at mile marker 20.4 on northbound I-55.

[continued on page 2]

[INSIDE THIS ISSUE]

Route 34 in Wayne County Takes Shape [page 2]

Safe and Sound Replaces and Repairs Bridges Throughout the Southeast [page 3]

MoDOT Tests Thiopave Asphalt Product [page 3]

Route 60 Caravan Event Scheduled [page 4]

You Can Make a Difference: Help Clean-Up Southeast Missouri [page 4]

Heroes Way Ceremony Honors Four Southeast Soldiers Killed in Action [page 5]



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Route 34 in Wayne County Takes Shape ARRA Project Update

Prior to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), improvements to Route 34 in Wayne County had been a well awaited, yet unfunded need. But as soon as the Missouri Department of Transportation was informed of potential funding through ARRA, the Southeast District quickly began developing plans to improve Route 34 from Piedmont to

Silva. The project became one of the initial thirty-four, statewide Ready-to-Go projects.

Since the \$10,490,752 contract for this project was awarded to H.R. Quadri Contractors, LLC, Van Buren, Mo., work began immediately. Once awarded, MoDOT began coordinating schedules for this two-year improvement project with the

With major excavation work complete, MoDOT's contractors have begun paving Route 34. New asphalt paving has been put in place, and major paving operations will continue throughout the summer. Motorists should expect flagger-controlled work zones and up to 15-minute delays at times.



Work on the Route 34 improvement project from Piedmont to Silva in Wayne County is currently underway. Improvements are expected to be completed by fall 2011.

contractor and acquisition of right of way.

“From the beginning, residents had been a driving force behind this project,” said Project Manager Eric Krapf. “The support from the local communities made it possible for us to get the improvements underway so quickly.”

The basic plan for improvements includes grading, paving, adding shoulders and some realignment of Route 34 from Piedmont to Patterson, as well as resurfacing with paved shoulders from Patterson to the new Route 34 realignment at Silva. Additionally, improvements to area bridges are part of the project, with the majority of the work taking place at the St. Francis River bridge.

“Shouldering, widening and drainage work began in Piedmont and progressed to the east,” said Resident Engineer Steve Bubanovich. “Some on the new asphalt pavement could open to traffic soon.”

He explained that all major excavations are completed and major paving operations will take place throughout the summer.

Most of the paving work will be staged, and traffic may be shifted to temporary pavement at times. Motorists should expect flagger-controlled work zones with up to 15-minute delays.

For more information, please contact Krapf at (573) 472-5261, Bubanovich at (573) 840-9781 or MoDOT's Customer Service Center at 1-888-ASK MODOT.

New Welcome Centers and Weigh Station in District 10

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In addition to the welcome centers, a new weigh station will be constructed at Bloomsdale on I-55 in Ste. Genevieve County.

The weigh station project includes grading, paving, and construction of a weigh scale and scale house at Bloomsdale. The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission awarded a \$2,570,409 contract for the project to Gershenson Construction Co. Inc., Eureka, Mo., in June.

With the construction of the new weigh station, the south-

bound Bloomsdale rest area will be permanently closed. However, the northbound rest area will remain open.

As construction is underway, one of the southbound lanes of I-55 will be closed at times. Improvements are expected to be completed in December 2010.

For more information, please contact MoDOT's Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636).

Safe and Sound Replaces and Repairs Bridges Throughout the Southeast

District 10 is making progress on the Safe and Sound Bridge Improvement Program's commitment to improve 86 Southeast Missouri bridges by winter 2013.

"We basically have one-fourth of the program completed," said Southeast Regional Field Engineer Andy Meyer. "Additionally, construction is underway on multiple bridges at any given time."

Stoddard County will receive more improvements than any of the other 14 counties in the Southeast District.

"In Stoddard County alone, the program will replace or repair 25 bridges," said Meyer. "With the number of improvements, District 10 immediately began working to deliver these promises and continues to pursue an aggressive schedule for completion."

The first design-build bridge to be completed was the Route HH bridge over LRDD No. 41 in Stoddard County.

In addition to working toward the program's completion, the Southeast also



The Route 61 bridge over Buckeye Creek in Cape Girardeau County was replaced with Super Cor Box structures. This is the first bridge of this type on Missouri's state system.

works to demonstrate both flexibility and innovation—key components of the Safe and Sound program.

To do so, the Route 61 bridge over Buckeye Creek in Cape Girardeau County was replaced with twin Super Cor Box structures.

"The Super Cor Box structures are prefabricated box culverts with concrete retaining walls," said Meyer. "This is the first bridge of this type on Missouri's state system."

The Buckeye Creek bridge project was also accelerated a year to accommodate the low weight posting of the previous bridge. Proper coordination of this bridge replacement was necessary due to the Interstate 55 project currently underway from Fruitland to Biehle.

Members of the MoDOT team, KTU Constructors, representatives to area dignitaries and local community members join to celebrate the completion of the Route 61 bridge in Cape Girardeau County.



For more information on the Safe and Sound Bridge Improvement Program, please visit: www.modot.org/southeast/safeandsound.htm

MoDOT Tests Thiopave Asphalt Product

During construction of the northbound lane of Interstate 55 in Cape Girardeau and Perry Counties, MoDOT will be using the new Shell Thiopave asphalt mix binder. Thiopave is an innovative product added to asphalt mix to improve road performance while reducing the amount of fossil fuels needed to make the mix.

I-55 was selected as one of three pilot projects to use the technology in Missouri. During construction, crews will use Thiopave on the shoulders of the northbound lanes.

Thiopave, created by Shell, has shown greater resistance to structural damages than regular asphalt. Additionally, the improved performance is produced at a lower cost than conventional asphalt.

Thiopave works to extend the life of asphalt pavement, increases load bearing capacity and aids in reducing rutting.

Shell Thiopave technology is more environmentally friendly in two ways. First, it allows asphalt to be mixed at a lower temperature than other mixes, and second, the sulfur contained in Thiopave is delivered as a pellet and added at the end of the asphalt mixing process, rather than being mixed and heated from the beginning of the process. This aids in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and saving energy.

Currently, Thiopave has been used in over 70 projects around the world, including US 71 in Missouri.

Route 60 Caravan Event Scheduled

Event to Celebrate Completion of Four Lanes from Sikeston to Willow Springs

United States Senator Kit Bond, United States Representative Jo Ann Emerson and the Missouri Department of Transportation will hold the Route 60 Caravan from Willow Springs to Sikeston on Friday, August 13. The public and media are invited to attend.

The Caravan will celebrate the completion of a four-lane project on Route 60 from Sikeston to Willow Springs. The event will begin at 9 a.m. with the kick-off event in Willow Springs, Mo., and

conclude at approximately 5 p.m. with the ending ceremony in Sikeston, Mo.

The schedule of events and stops for the day are:

- Willow Springs event at Booster Field (812 Main Street)
- Mountain View event at the Community Center (125 East 1st Street)
- Winona event at Twin Pines Conservation Center (Highway 60)
- Poplar Bluff event at First Community Bank (2911 North Westwood

Blvd.)

- Dexter event at the Dexter sign (Exit AD to the Dexter sign location)
- Sikeston event at MSHP Satellite Office (105 Keystone Dr.)

For more information, please contact Community Relations Manager Nicole Thieret at (573) 380-5305 or MoDOT's Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636).

You Can Make a Difference: Help Clean-Up Southeast Missouri

Calling all nature lovers! MoDOT and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) are urging everyone to pitch-in and help pick it up...litter, that is.

"Litter is a problem, but if we all do our part, we can make a difference," said Mark Aufdenberg, MoDOT Southeast District roadside management supervisor. "We are encouraging all of our Southeast schools, churches, civic groups, families—everyone, to get involved to make a difference on our roadways and communities."

Not sure how to help? You can schedule your own cleanup or educational activity this summer to help spruce up Missouri—just give MoDOT a call and we'll even provide you with bags to stash the litter you clean-up. Or, if you want to be involved year-round, we encourage you to consider "adopting" a stretch of roadway through our "Adopt-a-Highway" program.

"We are lucky and thankful to have so much enthusiasm and

hard work last year, but we'd like to see even more participation in our district this year," Aufdenberg said. "We encourage anyone that is interested in helping out, to contact us and get involved. It will make such a difference."

MoDOT spends more than \$5 million each year cleaning litter from Missouri's roadsides, while the Missouri Department of Conservation spends almost \$1 million a year to clean litter from conservation areas and other department locations.

"Littering isn't just ugly, it hurts wildlife, it costs Missourians millions of tax dollars each year, and it's illegal," added MDC No MORE Trash! Coordinator Joe Jerek. "Birds, fish, turtles and other animals get tangled in litter, such as plastic six-pack holders and fishing line, and it can kill them. Litter poisons fish, birds and other wildlife and can cost a litterer up to \$1,000 in fines and one year in jail."

For more information on how to get involved, call 1-888-ASK MODOT (275-6636).

[Kennett Elementary students lend a helping hand by picking up trash in their community.]



Heroes Way Ceremony Honors Four Southeast Soldiers Killed in Action

Over 400 attendees gathered to honor four fallen soldiers from Southeast Missouri at the recent Heroes Way Interchange Dedication Ceremony.

Sergeant Robert G. Davis, of the 864th Engineer Battalion from Fort Lewis, Wa., was killed on Aug. 18, 2005 in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

“These soldiers made the ultimate sacrifice as they served our country, and District 10 is pleased to aid in recognizing them,” said District Engineer Mark Shelton.

“However, our role in this program was truly minimal in comparison to efforts of the dignitaries who helped put the Heroes Way program in place and the hard work of the family members and friends of the fallen soldiers.”

Additional speakers included: State Senator Jason Crowell, District 27; State Representative Steve Hodges, District 161; State Representative Scott Lipke, District 157; Councilwoman Debra Tracy, Cape Girardeau City Council Ward 3; Jackson Mayor Barbara Lohr; East Prairie Mayor Clinton Wolford; Drill Sergeant Daniel Harbosen; Colonel Glenn Hagler; and MoDOT Southeast District Engineer Mark Shelton. A letter was read on behalf of State Representative Clint Tracy.

Additionally, Keith Skelton and Doug Rees performed “Heroes Way” and “Proud of My Hometown.”

To view videos of the performances and sign unveiling, please visit: www.modot.org/southeast/news_and_information/special_events/HeroesWayCeremony-May222010.htm



The Hall family unveils the highway dedication sign to be placed at Exit 58 in honor of Spc. Blake W. Hall.

In 2009, legislation was passed to enact the Heroes Way Interstate Interchange Program. This program allows for interstate interchanges to be designated for Missouri residents, who were in the armed forces, and were killed in action on or after September 11, 2001 in either Afghanistan or Iraq. Senator Jason Crowell sponsored the legislation for the Heroes Way Interstate Interchange Program naming Exit 105 the Sergeant Robert G. Davis interchange, Exit 58 the Specialist Blake W. Hall interchange, Exit 102 in Jackson the Corporal Jeremy R. Shank interchange and Exit 96 the Staff Sergeant Bradley J. Skelton interchange.

Specialist Blake W. Hall, of Company B, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry from Camp Ederle, Italy, was killed on Aug. 21, 2005 in IVO Baylough, Afghanistan.

Corporal Jeremy R. Shank, of the Company A, 2d Battalion, 27th Infantry, 3 BCT from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii was killed in Balad, Iraq on Sept. 6, 2006.

Staff Sergeant Bradley J. Skelton, of the 1138th Engineer Company, 107th Battalion, 35th Brigade from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., was killed in Baghdad, Iraq on Feb. 6, 2008.

MoDOT crews worked to have the signs in place by Memorial Day weekend.

Speakers at the interchange dedication ceremony included: Mr. Josh Haynes on behalf of U.S. Representa-



Roadside Mowing Season Underway

Reduced Cycles provide Local Farmers Opportunity

Missouri roadside mowing is now underway. The first mowing cycle began on May 17 on Interstate 55 and divided highways in Southeast Missouri. By early June, MoDOT crews finished mowing all minor routes.

Throughout the mowing season, motorists will see four-lane highways and interstates mowed three times. The first cycle began on May 17, the second cycle began on July 12 and the final cycle will begin on Aug. 30, weather permitting.

Secondary and minor routes will see three mowing cycles as well. The first cycle has been completed, the second cycle began July 19 and the final cycle is scheduled to begin on Sept. 7, weather permitting.

In addition to our mowing plans, MoDOT would like to extend the opportunity to area farmers to mow areas of MoDOT

right-of-way for hay for livestock purposes this year. There are many areas of right of way throughout Southeast Missouri along lettered routes, state highways and even Interstates. Interstate mowing is only allowed where there is access from adjacent property to keep farm implements off the Interstate.

MoDOT is interested in offering more available areas of right-of-way to farmers. This is a benefit to MoDOT because it reduces the areas to be mowed, and it benefits farmers as well. Farmers must call MoDOT first to inquire about available areas for mowing and obtain a permit. Farmers who own adjacent property will be given first option at areas where multiple individuals express interest.

For more information about mowing or obtaining a hay permit, call MoDOT's Customer Service Center at 1-888-ASK MODOT (1-888-275-6636).



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