

During the recent public meeting on the relocation of Route 141, attendees expressed a number of common concerns about the project. Here are the general concerns mentioned during the meeting and MoDOT's answer/response to those questions.

**Q: Will relocating Route 141 increase the flood levels in the area?**

A: One of the goals of this project is to reduce flooding at the Route 141 and Ladue intersection, while at the same time not increasing flooding in other areas. MoDOT is required to provide a no-rise certification to the State Emergency Management Agency for any work along the Creve Coeur Creek flood plain. This means that we are certifying that we will not raise flood levels in the plain above existing conditions. To help meet that requirement, we are raising Ladue Road, and constructing longer bridges and overbank excavations to manage any potential flood waters.

**Q: What is MoDOT doing to minimize the environmental impacts of this project?**

A: MoDOT is investigating every reasonable option to mitigate or minimize the impacts to the environment due to constructing the relocated Route 141. We will work to minimize the number of trees that we need to remove. We have already reduced the right of way requirements by 40 percent for the project. We are also looking at various landscaping options, to include native plants and trees, to further mitigate impacts to the area.

**Q: Will there be a new environmental assessment/study?**

A: MoDOT completed an environmental assessment in late 2002, which was signed by the Federal Highway Administration in December 2002. We had public meetings in 2000 and 2001 to gather public input on the project. This assessment was re-evaluated, and re-approved by Federal Highway Administration in March 2009, indicating that MoDOT has made every effort to place this roadway where it minimizes impacts to the environment, as well as existing residential and commercial areas.

**Q: Will there be sound walls on the project and if so, where will they go?**

A: MoDOT is currently completing detailed sound studies to put in sound walls where warranted. For more information on sound walls, please visit our website at: <http://www.modot.org/stlouis/links/soundwalls.htm>. As we move closer to construction on the project, we will hold a meeting with all the people directly impacted by the sound walls to discuss how the walls will look.

**Q: What can be done to minimize the impact of the Ladue Road/Route 141 on the Green Trails subdivision and Montessori school? Wouldn't installing a signal at this intersection (such as at Conroy) be cheaper than building the planned interchange/bridge?**

A: Ladue Road has been moved slightly north of the Montessori school that is west of the interchange. As we continue through the construction process, MoDOT will work with the trustees of Green Trails to either replace what we remove for construction or compensate the community appropriately.

After the public meeting in July 2001, MoDOT moved the Ladue Road/Route 141 interchange to the east to reduce the impact to the Green Trails subdivision. The currently proposed interchange is in the same location as was shown in the fall of 2001 (the new location).

Based on current volumes for Ladue Road and Route 141, MoDOT has thoroughly studied the possibility of putting in a signalized intersection where Ladue Road and Route 141 cross (somewhat similar to that at Conway Road.) instead of an interchange. However, due to the current volumes on Ladue Road (about 10,000 vehicles daily) and the projected volumes on Route 141 (about 50,000 vehicles daily), a signalized intersection would only work for a few years. At that point, the intersection would be over capacity and would create many of the same problems as currently exist at Ladue Road and Route 141. Other signalized intersections that currently exist along Route 141 have much lower traffic volumes on the side streets than Ladue Road.

**Q: What is the impact of construction on existing roads? Will roads need to be closed to complete this work?**

A: MoDOT is still working on the details on staging construction. At this point, MoDOT's plan is to keep most of these roads under traffic, but there might be some short-term road closures. Right now, the department plans to build a four-lane bypass on Olive Road to construct the Olive overpass at Route 141. Additionally, the department is reviewing an option to close Ladue east of Route 141 for about three months. MoDOT will hold an opportunity for the public to review the staging plans prior to any final decisions.

**Q: Is this project going ahead, or is there a chance that it will get put on hold again?**

A: The Federal Government and MoDOT have allocated the money to complete the relocation of Route 141. Currently, MoDOT is completing the design work for the route and is on track to let a contract for this job in early 2010.