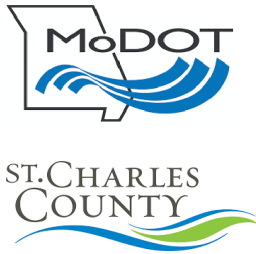


PROJECT UPDATE



SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

In 2023, 35 fatalities occurred in work zone crashes, the highest number of work zone fatalities in Missouri history. Distracted driving contributed to 588 work zone crashes and five of those fatalities.

MoDOT is asking motorists to “Work With Us” by making safe, responsible choices behind the wheel and slowing down when driving through work zones. Using a cell phone while driving is now against the law in Missouri. The Siddens Bening hands free law, which took effect last August, prohibits drivers from physically holding or supporting a cell phone while driving; this includes sending or receiving texts and recording or watching videos. Drivers can face criminal charges for crashes that result in property damage, injury or death.

It’s not just a courtesy to slow down and move over for these work zones—it’s the law. Missouri’s Move Over law requires drivers to change lanes, if safe to do so, when approaching MoDOT vehicles, law enforcement vehicles and any other emergency vehicle with lights flashing. If drivers can’t change lanes safely, they must slow down as they pass the emergency vehicles. Drivers should be aware of changing traffic conditions, observe warning signs and merge before reaching lane closures.

At its core, the Buckle Up Phone Down initiative is about prioritizing personal safety. Forty-five percent of those killed in work zone crashes last year were not wearing a seat belt and the overall unbelted fatality rate so far in 2024 is the highest recorded in recent years. Everyone carries the responsibility of personal safety. Wear your seat belt, put the phone down and help save lives on Missouri roadways.

To help make your travel safer, visit MoDOT’s Traveler Information Map at www.traveler.modot.org and find out what work zones you’ll encounter before you go.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

As work on the I-70 Cave Springs to Fairgrounds Design-Build project pushes towards completion, there are still some big changes coming.

Crews will be out in the next few weeks to add the final layer of pavement with permanent striping on Cave Springs and Zumbuhl.

Drivers can expect traffic impacts this summer as crews focus on the improvements along the north side of westbound I-70 from Fairgrounds to Route 94. As part of the work to build a new north outer road, the ramp from Fairgrounds to westbound I-70 will be closed and traffic will be detoured to Route 94 for access to I-70 for 120 days. The lanes on westbound I-70 will also be temporarily shifted and reduced to 11 feet between Fairgrounds and Route 94. More details will be released once there is a date for this work to start.

This new north outer road will allow drivers to travel between Fairgrounds and Route 94 without having to get on the interstate. It will also allow traffic merging on and off the interstate to do that on the new outer road, rather than the interstate. All this will help improve local traffic and reduce delays on the interstate. The new north outer road is expected to be completed by late November of this year.



NAVIGATING THE WORKZONE

The new Veterans Memorial Parkway arch underneath the Cave Springs interchange is now open! This changes how Veterans Memorial Parkway connects to Cave Springs Road. The signalized intersection at Veterans Memorial Parkway and Cave Springs Road has been removed and converted to right-in right-out intersections. This means traffic no longer has to stop at a signal at Cave Springs and Veterans Memorial Parkway.



Veterans Memorial Parkway arch under the Cave Springs interchange is now open! This new overpass allows outer road traffic to go under Cave Springs without stopping at a traffic signal.