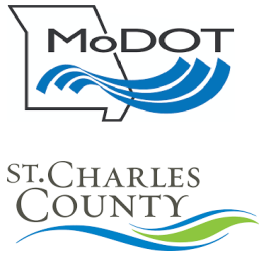


PROJECT UPDATE



CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

The I-70 Cave Springs to Fairgrounds Design-Build Project hit a major milestone over the last month when traffic was moved to the first half of the new Zumbehl overpass over I-70. The old Zumbehl bridge was then demolished, which required a full closure of I-70. Crews are now working to complete the second half of the new overpass. »



When the full single-point urban interchange (SPUI) is complete it will allow for opposing left turns to be made at the same time, compared to the previous diamond interchange that had two signals for the I-70 ramps. With only one set of traffic signals, more vehicles can make the turn and clear the interchange in one traffic signal cycle. SPUIs also allow for long, gradual turns giving larger vehicles like trucks, buses and recreational vehicles more room to navigate.

The new interchange will also include the extension of the entrance ramp from Zumbehl to westbound I-70 and the exit ramp from eastbound I-70 to Zumbehl.

Crews will soon be moving traffic to the first half of the new Cave Springs overpass and similar to the full closure of I-70 at Zumbehl, a full closure of I-70 at Cave Springs will be needed to demolish the old overpass.

Crews also recently placed the arch structure that will eventually carry Veterans Memorial Parkway under Cave Springs. »



SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Research has shown that drivers who are using cell phones may be looking at but failing to see up to 50% of the information in their driving environment. Usually, the driver's "field of view" is narrowed to what is directly in front of them. As a result, the missing 50% of information may include a stop sign, a stopped vehicle, or a child. Based on data from 2020:

- 13% of all motor vehicle traffic crashes in the United States involved distraction
- 3,142 people died in crashes involving a distracted driver
- 587 non-occupants (e.g., pedestrians and cyclists) died in a crash that involved a distracted driver

At any given time in 2020, an estimated 2.8% of all drivers on the road were visibly using a handheld device, representing a slight decrease from 2.9% observed in 2019. Research suggests that distraction is present during 52% of normal driving. Common distractions are interacting with a passenger (15%), using a cell phone (6%), and using systems such as climate control and radio (4%).



NAVIGATING THE WORKZONE

Drivers traveling between eastbound I-70 and Cave Springs are now using temporary slip ramps between the interstate and VMP. A stretch of Veterans Memorial Parkway (VMP) at Cave Springs is now TEMPORARILY one-way only traffic to maintain access to and from I-70. Until the end of the year, VMP traffic will only be able to go eastbound between Cave Springs Boulevard and Mexico Road. No westbound traffic will be allowed.

« Signed detours are up to help drivers navigate the area.

Once construction is completed, this section of VMP will be returned to two-way traffic, including westbound VMP across Cave Springs

