

Highway and Bridge Construction Schedule RSMo 21.795.3(3)

Introduction

The information in this section is in accordance with the highlighted portion in the following section of the reporting statute. *"(3) The proposed allocation and expenditure of moneys and **the proposed work plan for the current fiscal year, at least the next four years**, and for any period of time expressed in any public transportation plan approved by either the general assembly or by the voters of Missouri. This proposed allocation and expenditure of moneys shall include the amounts of proposed allocation and expenditure of moneys in each of the categories listed in subdivision (1) of this subsection; ..."* Section 21.795.3(3), RSMo Supp. 2002 (L. 2003 TAFP HB 668) (emphasis added).

MoDOT has proposed a specific plan for highway construction covering the next five years. The plan relies only on currently anticipated revenues, and it specifies projects assumed to be placed under contract in the years 2004 through 2008. As each year of the plan is completed, a new year is added. Unlike previous versions, this Statewide Transportation Improvement Program includes other modes of transportation.

The 2004-2008 STIP represents MoDOT's transition from the highway expansion to taking care of the existing highway system. Both the development process of the 2004-2008 STIP and the projects identified in the 2004-2008 STIP are consistent with each of MoDOT's strategic priorities. These priorities are to take care of the existing transportation system, to finish what has been started and to build public trust.

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission approved a new funding distribution method in January 2003. This funding method was developed with extensive public involvement and is consistent with MoDOT's strategic priorities. MoDOT intends to use a planning process for identifying transportation needs and prioritizing projects that is open and transparent, easy to understand and incorporates local officials' involvement. The process will provide a set of guidelines allowing for statewide consistency and for flexibility that recognizes regional differences. Each of MoDOT's 10 districts will have input in deciding how to use flexible funds.

The 2004-2008 STIP begins emphasizing the need to take care of the existing transportation system by increasing the investment in this area -- incrementally transitioning from state fiscal year 2005 to 2006 an average of approximately \$210 million to \$400 million. The transition to the new funding distribution is not completed until state fiscal year 2007. The funding distribution in state fiscal year 2004 is consistent with the funding distribution in the previous STIP. This is necessary in order to honor previous project commitments. In state fiscal years 2007 and 2008, the new funding transition is fully implemented.

The new funding levels for taking care of the existing system will result in a 4- to 6- percent increase, over the next five years, in the total number of bridge and miles of roadway condition

upgrades. Included in the taking-care-of-the-system category is dedicated funding for the new interstate rehabilitation program.

The 2004–2008 STIP incorporates new projects in 2008. This happens each year in a new STIP. As one year of projects is completed, another year is added. The program includes references to transportation improvements on the state system and also improvements identified by metropolitan planning organizations in St. Louis, Kansas City, Springfield, Columbia, Jefferson City, Joplin and St. Joseph.