

Missouri  
Department  
of Transportation



Pete K. Rahn, Director

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December 22, 2006

Mr. Pete Johnson  
Federal Co-Chairman  
Delta Regional Authority  
236 Sharkey Ave  
Suite 400  
Clarksdale, MS 38614

Mr. Jeff Carroll  
Wilbur Smith Associates  
1301 Gervais Street  
Columbia, SC 29202-3356

RE: Delta Regional Authority Transportation Study

Dear Messrs. Johnson and Carroll:

The Missouri Department of Transportation is pleased to announce our support for the study that was conducted by the Delta Regional Authority, with Wilbur Smith Associates, to develop the Delta Development Highway System.

Our central planning division, as well as our affected districts, was provided with opportunities to provide input and comments to the study as it pertained to Missouri. We recognize that the multi-state Delta Development Highway System is an important tool to help identify and coordinate corridor development throughout the Delta Region.

Sincerely,

Pete K. Rahn  
Director

Copy: Ms. Machele Watkins-tp

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*Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.*

## 10. MISSOURI

There are 30 counties in Missouri that are a part of the DRA region. There are a total of 566 DDHS miles identified in Missouri, which constitutes 14.7 percent of the total DDHS miles, of which 346 miles are 2-lane facilities. The Missouri DDHS improvements consist of widening and upgrading portions of US 60, US 63, US 67, US 412 and MO 8. **Table 11** provides a project description, priority and cost estimate details on each DDHS corridor in Missouri and **Figure 13** shows the Missouri DDHS.

Table 11 – Missouri DDHS (planning-level cost estimates are in millions)

Corridor / Route	Project Description	Cost Estimate	Priority
US 63	Existing 4-lanes from Route 60 to West Plains	0.0	n/a
	Add climbing lanes from West Plains to Thayer	10.0	Short-Range
	Existing 4-lanes from Thayer to Arkansas State line	0.0	n/a
US 60	Existing 4-lanes from Springfield to Willow Springs	0.0	n/a
	Add lanes for 4-lane facility from Willow Springs to Route B in Carter County	118.0	Short-Range
	Existing 4-lanes from Route B in Carter County to 1-55	0.0	n/a
US 67	Existing 4-lanes from 1-55 to Fredericktown	10.0	Short-Range
	Add lanes for 4-lane facility from Fredericktown to north of Poplar Bluff	190.0	Short-Range
	Improvements from south of Poplar Bluff to Arkansas	37.0	Medium-Range
US 412	Existing 4-lanes from 1-55 to Dunklin County	0.0	n/a
	Add lanes for 4-lane facility from Pemiscot County to Kennett	0.0	n/a
	Improvements from Kennett to Arkansas State line	44.0	Long-Range
MO 8	Add lanes from I-44 to Route 67	173.0	Long-Range
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>582.0</b>	

## *10.1 Highest Priorities*

MoDOT's top three (3) projects regardless of cost are:

1. US 67 Four-laning from Fredericktown to north of Poplar Bluff. This corridor improvement will add two-lanes to provide a divided four-lane highway. This improvement is part of a larger effort to upgrade Route 67 to a four-lane facility from I-55 south of St. Louis to Poplar Bluff. Route 67 is already a four-lane facility for 50 miles from I-55 at Crystal City/Festus to Fredericktown. This improvement is included in Missouri's STIP and will upgrade the remaining 50 miles to a four-lane facility from Fredericktown to Poplar Bluff. Portions of this improvement are under construction, with the remaining sections scheduled to begin construction in 2007, 2008, and 2009. The corridor improvement is currently estimated to cost \$168 million. The Highway 67 Corporation, for the City of Poplar Bluff, and the US Army Corps of Engineers are providing approximately \$85 million for this project. This project has received approximately \$15.5 million in SAFETEA-LU allocation, as well as \$3 million in previous DRA allocations. MoDOT requests an additional \$10 million in DRA funds for this project.

2. US 60 Improvements from Willow Springs to Poplar Bluff.

This corridor improvement will add two-lanes to provide a divided four-lane highway, and will improve the existing two-lanes. This improvement is part of a larger effort to upgrade Route 60 to four-lane facility from Springfield to Sikeston. Route 60 is already a four-lane facility from Springfield to Willow Springs and from Poplar Bluff to Sikeston. This improvement is included in Missouri's STIP and will upgrade the remaining section from Willow Springs to Poplar Bluff. Portions of this improvement are under construction, with the remaining sections scheduled for construction in 2007 and 2008.

The corridor improvement is currently estimated to cost \$130 million. The project has received approximately \$3.5 million in federal appropriations. MoDOT requests an additional \$10 million in DRA funds for this project.

3. US 67 and Orchard Road interchange in Bonne Terre, St. Francois County.

This project will add an interchange to Route 67 at Orchard Road in Bonne Terre. This project is part of a larger effort to upgrade Route 67 from expressway to freeway standards from Bonne Terre to Farmington. This improvement is included in Missouri's STIP and is scheduled to begin construction in 2008. This project is currently estimated to cost \$10.7 million. This project received approximately \$3 million in federal allocation. MoDOT requests an additional \$8 million in DRA funds for this project.

MoDOT's top three (3) project segments if provided a total of \$15 million are:

1. Route 67 four-laning - Request \$5 million,
2. Route 60 Upgrade - Request \$5 million, and
3. Route 67 and Orchard Road Interchange - Request \$5 million.

MoDOT's top project segment if provided a total of \$5 million.

MoDOT prefers to split the \$5 million between the three projects as follows:

1. Route 67 four-laning - Request \$2 million,
2. Route 60 Upgrade - Request \$1 million, and
3. Route 67 and Orchard Road Interchange - Request \$2 million.

