



MISSOURI SENATE
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Sen. Bill Stouffer Announces New Plans for MoDOT Projects in Chariton County

JEFFERSON CITY – State Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, today announced that new plans have been proposed by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) for bridge projects along Routes 24 and 41 in Chariton County. The proposals will improve traffic flow on the bridges during renovation. Sen. Stouffer contacted MoDOT about these projects because of his concern about long-term closures along the highways.

Thanks to public comments about the bridge rehabilitation project on Route 41, one-way traffic will be maintained on the Miami Bridge with the use of temporary signals. There will still be a need to close the bridge for short periods, but those closures will be limited to weekends during summer months. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2006 and be finished the following fall.

“I am very happy to see improvements made in the plans for the Miami Bridge,” Stouffer said. “By removing the possibility of long-term closures, area residents will face less of an inconvenience, and they will be better protected in emergency situations.”

Other options are being considered by MoDOT for bridge rehabilitation projects on Route 24, over the East Fork and Chariton rivers. The possibility of shorter detour routes is being studied, as is the prospect of building the bridges one half at a time and utilizing a temporary bridge to maintain at least one-way traffic at all times.

“A new plan for the Route 24 project is needed to provide for the interests of area residents and businesses,” Stouffer said. “I have been in contact with MoDOT officials, and I know they are working to make this plan as convenient as possible for everyone who uses these bridges. After all, with the new plans for the Miami Bridge, they have proven they listen to the concerns of the people of the 21st District.”

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