



Senator Rupp and Residents Call for Safer Highway Measures

Senator Named to Transportation Committee Calls on MoDOT to Make Safety Changes

O'FALLON, Mo.— State Senator Scott T. Rupp, R-Wentzville, joined by former Sheriff Douglas Saulters and concerned residents today called for the Missouri Department of Transportation to make changes to improve the safety for area students and residents on State Highway DD. Rupp was appointed to the Senate Transportation Committee and describes the highway as the most dangerous stretch of road in St. Charles County.

“There is no doubt that this is a deadly road that has taken lives,” Rupp said. “It is a rural road that is trying to absorb too much traffic from the county’s increased population. It is failing and residents and students are paying the price.”

More than 200 accidents have occurred on Hwy DD in the past few years, including several that ended in deaths. Rupp said residents along the highway fear for their safety and even more could be put at risk after the construction of a new middle school located along the highway is complete.

“Residents should not have to live in fear, and our students that will be attending middle school here deserve safe roads for their school buses to travel on,” Rupp said. “That is why I am calling on MoDOT to lower the speed limit to 45 mph, redo the safety and lane striping and consider broadening the road to include shoulders.”

Rupp said the current speed limit of 55 mph is too fast given the curves and blind spots found on the highway. He also said the highway’s current striping is incorrect with one lane 9 feet wide, while the other is 11 feet wide. Rupp stated the lanes should be equal widths at ten feet each. He also asked the transportation department to consider Hwy DD for the additional expense of broadening it to include safety shoulders.

“Lowering the speed limit and correcting the striping on Highway DD are quick and cost-effective steps that will save lives,” he said. “Given cost constraints, I understand broadening the road is not as easy, but my highest concern is improving the safety of the residents and school children that will travel daily on this over-burdened highway.”

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