



John Loudon
7th Senate District

MISSOURI SENATE

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For Immediate Release:
July 28, 2006

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New Outer Belt, North-South Corridor Closer to Becoming Reality

Startup Funds for Highway 141 Extension Approved

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. John Loudon, R-Chesterfield, today announced that the East-West Gateway Board of Directors has taken another important step towards making a new outer-belt corridor for St. Louis County a reality. The FY 2007-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which the board approved Wednesday, July 26, contains \$4,554,000 in new funding for design and right-of-way acquisition for the eventual reconstruction and relocation of Highway 141 between Interstate 64 and Olive Boulevard.

“Our goal is to create a north-south corridor by connecting Highway 141 to the Maryland Heights and Earth City expressways,” Loudon said. “This new corridor will save motorists time and fuel expense by reducing traffic on I-270 and I-64. It will make Page Avenue more accessible and create thousands of jobs through new economic development opportunities in Chesterfield and the Howard Bend area in Maryland Heights.”

The funding breaks down as follows:

Project Engineering:

- FY 2007: \$ 700,000
- FY 2008: \$ 300,000
- FY 2009: \$ 50,000
- Total: \$1,050,000

Right of Way:

- FY 2009 \$3,504,000

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Total federal funds for the project in the FY 2006-2009 TIP are projected at \$2,803,200, with state funding at \$1,750,800. Approximately \$800,000 was spent for engineering in FY 2006 and is not included in the new TIP because that fiscal year has ended.

In addition to the section between I-64 and Olive, only one other segment remains to complete Highway 141. That is the extension of Highway 141 north from Olive to connect with the Maryland Heights Expressway.

Supporters of Highway 141 include the cities of Chesterfield, Creve Coeur and Maryland Heights, Progress 64, Congressman Todd Akin, St. Louis County Executive Charlie Dooley, County Council members Skip Mange, Kathleen Burkett and Greg Quinn, state Representatives Jane Cunningham, Neil St. Onge, Al Liese and Allen Icet, the Maryland Heights Chamber of Commerce, the Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce, the West St. Louis County Chamber of Commerce and many individual businessmen and women and citizens.

“We now have strong support from the business community, area political leaders and citizens to get this project done,” Loudon said. “They realize that a good quality of life depends on a good transportation infrastructure and quality jobs provided by new economic development opportunities.”

Loudon added that the next step in the Highway 141 project includes obtaining an additional \$5.5 million for right-of-way acquisition, \$62 million for construction, and \$31.8-46.5 million for an extension north of Olive.

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