



MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

Kevin Engler
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Senator Kevin Engler Appears Before Highways & Transportation Commission

Engler Confident that Widening of Hwy 221 will begin in 2008

JEFFERSON CITY – State Sen. Kevin Engler, R-Farmington, today announced he is very optimistic improvements to Highway 221 (formerly Highways V and W) in 3rd Senate District will be accelerated. After addressing the Missouri Highways & Transportation Commission and consulting with commissioners, Engler says he is confident the highway will be moved up in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), allowing work to begin in 2008 rather than in 2010. Work would include widening the shoulders of the highway to improve safety.

“This project is badly needed and supported by those who use this highway on a regular basis,” Engler said. “I appreciate the department’s support and involvement with accelerating this project.”

The Highway 221 corridor in Iron and St. Francois counties is considered a main arterial for the area, serving the Arcadia Valley Region from Farmington and Route 67. Traffic has been steadily increasing through this corridor, which carries a large volume of commuter traffic.

Engler says the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission agreed last July to include the Highway 221 improvement project in the 2007-2010 STIP, with work beginning in FY2010. Since that time, Engler has been engaged in discussions with commissioners and MODOT officials to hasten the start of construction on Hwy 221. The proposal will be voted on during the regularly scheduled Commission meeting in July.

“I would like to thank each of the commissioners, District 9 Engineer Tom Stehn and District 10 Engineer Mark Shelton, who worked in a cooperative effort to make this project a reality,” Engler said.

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