



# MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Kevin Engler  
3rd Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 428  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

**For Immediate Release:  
August 16, 2007**

**Contact: Jarad Falk  
(573) 756-5572**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Sen. Kevin Engler gets Highway 221 Improvements Moved Up on Transportation Improvement Program – Construction to Begin Next Year**

FARMINGTON — Sen. Kevin Engler today commended the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for heeding his urgings to hasten the start of improvements to Highway 221. The commission approved a new five-year transportation construction program that will include resurfacing and construction of shoulders of Hwy. 221 from Hwy. 21 in Iron County to Hwy. 67 in St. Francois County. Highway 221 carries a large volume of commuter traffic and is a main artery for the area, connecting Arcadia Valley to Farmington and Route 67. Work on the project is scheduled to begin in 2008.

“Shoulders have been needed on Highway 221 for some time,” Sen. Engler said. “As traffic has steadily increased, so have the number of accidents and fatalities on the highway.”

When Sen. Engler took office in early 2005, the Hwy. 221 improvement project was not included on the STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program). Engler successfully lobbied the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission in 2006 to include the Hwy. 221 project in the 2007-2010 STIP, with work beginning in FY2010. Since that time, Sen. Engler has been engaged in discussions with commissioners and Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) officials to hasten the start of work on Hwy 221.

“I am pleased the highway commission and MoDOT recognized the necessity in accelerating the start of the Highway 221 improvements,” said Sen. Engler. “Their recent action will make the daily commute for many people in the Parkland much safer.”

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