



MISSOURI SENATE

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Sen. Mayer Announces Funding Approval For Port Authority Projects in SE Missouri

JEFFERSON CITY — The General Assembly has approved funding for several Missouri Port Authority capital improvement projects, including projects in Pemiscot and New Madrid counties. The project requests were forwarded by Sen. Rob Mayer, R-Dexter, and approved by the appropriation conference committee on which he served during recent state budget negotiations.

Nearly \$6.7 million was approved for the projects, the bulk of which are located in southeast Missouri. The Pemiscot County Port Authority will receive \$3.1 million for the final phase of its rail project to complete a loop rail track from Caruthersville to Hayti. The New Madrid County Port Authority will receive approximately \$1.2 million to extend rail service to its public dock and north harbor site and to increase port storage to accommodate a new tenant — United Agri Products, Inc.

“This funding allows our vital rail and shipping industries to expand their operations and increase their ability to move cargo, provide storage and to offer land for industrial and economic development,” Sen. Mayer said.

In Scott County, the Southeast Missouri Regional Authority will receive approximately \$1.1 million for improvements to the rail line, dock and service roads. The New Bourbon Regional Port Authority in Perry County will receive \$550,000 for the planning, engineering and design for expansion of the harbor and for matching federal funds to purchase a larger barge.

Port authorities in the city of St. Louis, Howard and Cooper counties and St. Joseph will also receive funding for capital improvement projects.

Missouri’s 14 port authorities move an average \$4.1 billion of cargo annually and are distribution points for grain, petroleum products, chemicals and other bulk materials.

“Our ports in both our rural and metropolitan areas offer a more affordable means of transportation and provide access to the entire world,” Sen. Mayer said. “These improvement projects will result in more economic benefit to our area of the state.”

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Senator Rob Mayer represents the people of Wayne, Ripley, Butler, Stoddard, New Madrid, Pemiscot and Dunklin counties in the Missouri Senate.

