



Senator Matt Bartle – Serving Jackson County

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Update on Area Road Projects

Our state's transportation department is responsible for tens of thousands of miles of roadways throughout Missouri. The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) is currently in the middle of a busy construction season, managing hundreds of work zones throughout the year. It is our duty as citizens to be aware of these construction zones, not only for our safety, but for the safety of the hundreds of employees working for the transportation department who continually strive to give us safer and better roadways.

At the beginning of summer, MoDOT released its top ten work zones for 2009 based on traffic volume, amount of work, and level of delay. Many of these work zones are within or near the 8th Senatorial District and have gone through some serious changes since breaking ground. I'd like to share with you the progress on two of these projects as well as information about other work zones that affect those driving through Jackson County.

- **Kansas City – kcICON: Interstate 29/35 reconstruction** (number 2 on MoDOT list) — Interstate 29/35 from Route 210/Armour Road to the northeast corner of the downtown Kansas City central business district loop will have restricted lanes and various ramp closures through 2011. The project also includes construction of the new Christopher S. Bond Missouri River Bridge. The two restricted lanes are open daily from 6-8:30 a.m. and from 3:30-6:30 p.m. This extremely busy route carries more than 102,000 vehicles per day so expect delays during both peak and non-peak hours. For more information on this particular project, visit www.kcicon.com.
- **Kansas City – Route 71** (number 4 on MoDOT list) — Through the summer,

MoDOT worked on an interchange at 187th Street in Belton/Raymore, and worked to reconstruct the 163rd Street interchange in Belton and the Route 150 interchange, which includes restriction of two lanes in each direction and ramp closures through the end of 2009. In addition, Route 71 is expected to be congested from 140th Street in Grandview just north of Route J in Peculiar through the end of the year.

To see a graphic illustrating the top 10 work zones, including a [clickable map](#), please visit MoDOT's newsroom at www.modot.org/newsroom. And if you would like to know the latest updates regarding construction projects in the Kansas City area, visit www.modot.mo.gov/kansascity.

If you have any comments or questions about this week's column or any other matter involving state government, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can reach my office by e-mail at matt_bartle@senate.mo.gov or by phone at (888) 711-9278. You can also visit my Senate website at www.senate.mo.gov/bartle.

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