



View from the Chair

Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission

Cities, Counties Have A Lot On The Line, Too

March 16, 2015



Dear «GreetingLine»

Missouri is facing a big problem with transportation funding. Unless something is done now, it will only get worse. One option is to increase fuel taxes by two cents per gallon for the next three years, then protect the rate against inflation by tying it to the Consumer Price Index. Commonly referred to as **2+2+2+indexing**, it is the most feasible plan and quickest way to solve the most urgent of Missouri's transportation funding problems.

This is not just about MoDOT's needs for the state system of highways and bridges, though. The state's cities and counties have challenges maintaining their transportation infrastructure too, and they stand to benefit as well from any funding increase. Cities and counties would evenly split an additional \$71 million in new fuel tax revenues each year.

Additional revenues would also enable the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission to lift its suspension of the popular cost-share program which has been dormant since January 2014. The cost-share program allows local entities to leverage their money against state funds to advance important local projects – most often with economic development implications. Thus, cities and counties would see a double benefit – more annual revenue and the opportunity to again participate in cost-share partnerships.

Additionally, the 2+2+2+indexing initiative would:

- Avoid implementation of Missouri's 325 System, so that ALL of Missouri's roads and bridges could be maintained in the condition they are in today.

- Allow MoDOT to match ALL available federal funds.
- Enable progress on safety improvements.
- Make limited major projects and planning studies possible.

Please show your support for additional transportation funding. The time to act is now!

Let's get going!

Stephen R. Miller
Chairman

We are intensifying our efforts to build a broad base of support for transportation in Missouri. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your constituents, members, employees or others who have an interest in transportation. If you would like to communicate with the Commission, you can always reach us at MHTC@modot.mo.gov.

Please forward this e-mail to anyone interested in Missouri transportation news.

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