

Commission selects funding distribution option

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission selected a funding distribution option that better balances taking care of the state's existing roads and bridges with new highway construction. The plan uses objective criteria including vehicle miles traveled, lane miles, population and employment.

The Department of Transportation will use the new process to allocate nearly \$1 billion in road and bridge construction money each year. Some of the money is set aside for required programs such as federal dollars for specific programs and paying back debt from bond financing.

Remaining funds - \$737 million each year - will be distributed as follows:

- \$400 million a year for taking care of the existing system, including \$100 million for interstate preservation. This money is allocated using criteria of vehicle miles traveled, lane miles and square footage of bridges.
- \$237 million a year for major projects and emerging needs, distributed by criteria including population, employment, and vehicle miles traveled.
- \$100 million a year in flexible funds, also to be distributed by criteria including population, employment, and

vehicle miles traveled.

"An important new element in this process is the extent of local involvement," said MoDOT Chief Engineer Kevin Keith. "A goal from the start was to give communities more influence over how their transportation dollars are spent. In this process, most of the money allocated each year will be reviewed by local officials, who we'll partner with to decide which local projects will be built first."

Improving the condition of Missouri's highways, which studies say are among the worst in the nation, is also factored into the new funding-distribution process.

"With \$400 million devoted each year to taking care of our existing roads, we'll be able to start making our highways better," Keith said. "Conditions across the state, both on roads and bridges, are getting worse every year. At this level of investment, we'll be able to begin reversing that trend."

MoDOT will use the new process as it develops its next 5-year construction program. Commitments in the current program will be kept, and projects added in future years would be funded based on the new criteria.

Funding Distribution by District

District	Take Care of the System	Debt Service	Sub-allocated Funds	Other Modes	Economic Devlpmnt & Cost Sharing	Interstates	Flexible Funds	Maj Projects/ Emerging Needs	Safety	Total Funds
1	\$ 18.84	\$ 3.0	\$ 6.2	\$ 0.32			\$ 3.67	\$ 4.35	\$ 0.75	\$ 37.13
2	\$ 14.35	\$ 6.0	\$ 5.9	\$ 1.28			\$ 2.93	\$ 3.48	\$ 0.66	\$ 34.59
3	\$ 16.72	\$ 4.5	\$ 4.8	\$ 1.40			\$ 3.52	\$ 4.18	\$ 0.81	\$ 35.94
4-Urban	\$ 36.39	\$ 10.5	\$ 25.5	\$ 3.45			\$ 17.08	\$ 40.48	\$ 3.81	\$ 137.22
4-Rural	\$ 12.37	\$ 3.8	\$ 1.1	\$ 0.48			\$ 3.30	\$ 3.91	\$ 0.84	\$ 25.79
5	\$ 25.84	\$ 6.0	\$ 4.4	\$ 2.67			\$ 8.22	\$ 9.74	\$ 2.04	\$ 58.91
6	\$ 62.33	\$ 21.8	\$ 51.9	\$ 4.34			\$ 35.30	\$ 83.66	\$ 6.57	\$ 265.85
7	\$ 20.65	\$ 3.0	\$ 4.3	\$ 1.43			\$ 5.64	\$ 6.69	\$ 1.36	\$ 43.07
8	\$ 22.69	\$ 6.0	\$ 6.9	\$ 0.56			\$ 9.00	\$ 10.66	\$ 2.47	\$ 58.28
9	\$ 17.98	\$ 3.8	\$ 3.0	\$ 1.07			\$ 4.42	\$ 5.24	\$ 1.06	\$ 36.51
10	\$ 24.83	\$ 6.8	\$ 5.1	\$ 0.80			\$ 6.91	\$ 8.19	\$ 1.63	\$ 54.21
Statewide	\$ 2.00			\$ 0.29	\$ 20	\$ 100			\$ 3	\$ 125.29
Rural Stwd Maj Projects								\$ 56.43		\$ 56.43
	\$ 275	\$ 75	\$ 119	\$ 18	\$ 20	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 237	\$ 25	\$ 969.24

Total Take Care of the System (TCOS) = \$400 million; Flexible funds = \$100 million; Major projects = remaining funds (estimated at \$237 million)

Total TCOS = \$400 million = TCOS funds (\$275 million) + Interstate funds (\$100 million) + Safety funds (\$25 million)

Approved by the Highway and Transportation Commission January 10, 2003