



I-70 Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

What is a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement?

What is a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)?

A SEIS reviews the findings in an existing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). A SEIS considers new or additional environmental impacts, based on the introduction of new improvement options and/or major changes in the natural environment or communities. The I-70 SEIS will evaluate if – and how – truck-only lanes alter the impacts and recommendations previously identified through the Improve I-70 EIS process.

What will the SEIS do?

This SEIS will help Missouri evaluate a new option to improve I-70 – dedicated truck lanes – to ensure that I-70 continues to serve as Missouri’s economic engine.

The I-70 SEIS will:

- Supplement previous I-70 environmental documents,
- Establish formal project goals (called “Purpose and Need”),
- Review existing conditions for significant changes since the completion of previous Improve I-70 studies,
- Evaluate the impacts of truck-only lanes to the natural and man-made environment,

- Provide multiple opportunities for public input, including public hearings,
- Recommend options for improvements,
- Set the stage to seek funding to design and construct those improvements and
- Be submitted as a draft document for public comment, then finalized and submitted for formal federal approval, called a “Record of Decision” (ROD).

Background

I-70 has been the topic of a series of environmental studies, each going into further detail on possible solutions and their impacts.

Most recently, the Improve I-70 studies looked at a range of improvements to I-70 and ultimately recommended the construction of six lanes across the state, including new bridges, interchanges and continuous frontage roads. The studies and evaluations completed in that process will be used as the starting place for the SEIS. For information about the Improve I-70 recommendations, see the “Study History” fact sheet, or go to www.improvel70.org under “Local Focus.”



An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):

- Is designed to help agencies, elected officials and the public make sound decisions,
- Documents how improvements would affect both the natural and human-made environment,
- Is prescribed by the federal National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and
- Is one type of environmental document necessary to secure federal funding for transportation improvements (federal dollars typically pay 80 percent of the cost of major highway projects).