



June 25, 2004

Dear Citizen:

It has been some time since the last issue of *Momentum*, the newsletter about MoDOT's effort to plan for the future of I-70. This mailing is simply to let you know that:

- Planning work continues to move forward;
- New information is available on the Improve I-70 Web site; and
- Official study documentation and public hearings are coming soon.

Moving Ahead

The seven teams studying I-70 between Independence and Lake St. Louis are making progress in determining the location and basic design of I-70 widening. Each study is at a slightly different phase, yet all teams are in the process developing an official environmental document that summarizes their work. These documents will describe the alternatives considered for improving I-70, provide information about each alternative's potential environmental impacts and recommend a preferred alternative.

New On-Line Information

The Improve I-70 Web Site has been a valuable resource for those interested in the future of the interstate. New information has been added to the site to address two issues; transportation enhancements and noise. In the "Issues" section of the site you'll now find a page explaining MoDOT's plans for incorporating enhancements such as landscaping and decorative features in major I-70 reconstruction projects. You'll also find information about noise and how it will be measured and addressed during the seven studies. You are encouraged to view the new information at www.ImproveI70.org and click on "Issues."

Environmental Documents and Public Hearings Coming Soon

Later this year, all seven teams will release an official environmental document for public review. As stated above, the documents will summarize the information gathered by each study team and recommend a preferred location and basic design for I-70 widening. The documents will be available for review on the Improve I-70 Web site and at a number of public locations. Most documents will be the subject of an official public hearing, and will have an official comment period during which you may submit your input.

Each section of I-70 will have a different schedule for their document release, public hearing and official comment period. News stories, advertising, upcoming newsletters and postcard notice

"Preserve and improve Missouri's transportation system to enhance safety and encourage prosperity."

mailings will alert you of when and where documents will be available, and will provide you with the date, time and location for public hearings. These outreach efforts will also inform you of the deadline for submitting your comments.

To assist you in interpreting and evaluating I-70 environmental documents, you will soon receive by mail a "Guide for Readers." This fact sheet will answer some basic questions, describe what the documents contain, note why the documents are developed and explain how they are reviewed and approved.

Since the Improve I-70 studies began in early 2002, MoDOT has been working collaboratively with communities across the corridor to determine the future of this important interstate. More than forty public events have been attended by approximately 2,000 interested citizens, and more than 55,000 people have visited the project Web site. This involvement and input has had a great influence on our work to date.

We hope you will continue to be involved and make your voice heard as we shape the future of I-70. If you have questions or would like more information about the Improve I-70 studies, contact us toll free at 1-800-590-0066, by email at comments@ImproveI70.org, or by mail at Improve I-70, P.O. Box 410482, Kansas City, MO 64141. You may also visit our Web site at www.ImproveI70.org. For questions about other MoDOT projects and initiatives, call 1-888-ASK MoDOT, or visit www.modot.org.

Thank you for your attention and continued involvement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn P. Harvey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathryn P. Harvey, P.E.
Technical Support Engineer / I-70 Project Manager