

**Dear Partner:**

Thanks for your help. Together we are improving Missouri's transportation system! Last April, the second Partnering for Innovative Efficiencies meeting brought together representatives from the utility, contracting and consulting industries with MoDOT staff. We specifically collaborated on what we can do to relocate utilities faster, better and cheaper. I was enthused by the quality of the 12 suggestions produced. I am equally pleased to report on the significant progress made toward turning these suggestions into action.

Again, thanks for all that you do to partner with us to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

Pete K. Rahn  
Director



## Utility Relocation Partnering Meeting Results

Since our last Partnering for Innovative Efficiencies meeting, five teams made up of utility, contracting, consulting and MoDOT representatives have been working to address the top five suggestions. We are proud to report on these teams' results and on the progress made on the other seven proposed suggestions.

For additional information on all 12 proposed solutions, team member lists and results - visit [www.modot.org/pie](http://www.modot.org/pie)

## Involve Utility Partners Sooner

**Strategy:** Involve utility partners earlier in the process by hosting informational meetings and include representatives on core teams.

Team recommendations will be implemented January 1, 2007.

- Each district will hold at least one annual STIP/utility meeting open to all utilities operating within the district between February and May each year. The meeting will share the upcoming projects and allow for discussion on delivering these projects better, faster and cheaper.
- MoDOT Project Managers will involve utility representatives on project core teams. The importance of this concept will be advanced through a variety of ways such as annual meetings and training.

## Share Utility Relocation Practices

**Strategy:** Develop a training course on utility relocation procedures and practices for MoDOT designers and partners.

The course design and development is already underway and courses will begin in October 2007.

Look for an invitation in the mail next fall, or continue to check the MoDOT Web site for a class near you.

## Collaborate to Acquire Easements

**Strategy:** Acquire utility easements at the same time as obtaining roadway right of way, whenever practical, so as to speed up project delivery and minimize the number of contacts with property owners.

Team recommendations will be implemented by January 1, 2007.

- Utility easements have been included on MoDOT right-of-way plans and purchased during the MoDOT acquisition process, but this has not been routine. At the beginning of 2007, MoDOT will begin to contact utility owners about this opportunity.

## Consolidate Permit Requests

**Strategy:** Include utility relocation impacts in environmental permits and agency clearance requests for MoDOT's projects, whenever practical.

Team recommendations will be implemented by January 1, 2007.

- MoDOT will discuss and verify with each utility the need to include utility impacts in MoDOT permit requests and/or other agency clearance requests.

Expect request from MoDOT for assistance with permit and agency clearances for utility relocation impacts in the new year.

## Incentives!

**Strategy:** Investigate an incentive program for relocating utilities early.

Team recommendations are being piloted. Look for more information in future newsletters and on our Web site.



I-r: Don Boswell (Farmers Electric Coop.), Dan Cannon (AT&T), and Spencer Hoskins (Central Missouri Electric Coop.) generously gave their time to outline the utility relocation course.



Missouri Department of Transportation  
105 West Capitol Ave.  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

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## Seven Additional Solutions Progress

### Include utility relocation plans and existing utilities in the roadway plans.

Starting January 2007, MoDOT will ensure existing and proposed utility relocations will be included on plans before advertising for letting, which is five weeks before the letting date.

### Implement Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) on appropriate projects for utility mapping.

Effective immediately, SUE technology is available for MoDOT's use. We have contracted with three consultants for future on-call services. This will allow us to quickly secure SUE services, if and when they are needed.

In fact, SUE was used on the I-64 Design Build project in St. Louis.

### Revise specifications to allow alternative or additional materials to be used on utility relocations.

Effective immediately, utility companies and contractors are encouraged to use the most efficient material in utility relocations. MoDOT is changing its procedures to allow the use of materials outside MoDOT specifications, provided the utility company stands behind the performance. This means material failure and/or damage to MoDOT facilities will be replaced at the utility company's and contractor's expense.

### Continue to investigate the feasibility of joining Missouri One Call.

In January 2007, a meeting is set up to discuss the results of the Buchanan County pilot.

### Try the use of separate utility contracts.

Effective immediately, this concept is allowed by MoDOT policy, and MoDOT staff will be given guidance on it.

Some recent examples of contracts awarded prior to the main roadway contract for utility relocation needs include grading and drainage work on Route 364 in St. Louis and clearing on Route 67 in Wayne County.

### Increase utility corridor by need.

Effective immediately, placement of utility relocations outside the "standard" corridor is possible and utility companies and contractors are encouraged to make requests through the District Utility Engineer.

### Improve Communications.

We are currently working on five strategies to improve communication:

1. Piloting the use of the NJUNS system (National Joint Utilities Notification System) to track schedules and moves with member utilities,
2. Conducting annual district STIP/utility meetings,
3. Producing a utility relocation procedure and practices course, and
4. Initiating cooperative right of way easement acquisition and environmental permit needs.

The next partnering meeting is scheduled for February 2007. Watch for details and invitations in the near future.

For additional information about Partnering for Innovative Efficiencies, please contact Gloria Andrews at 573-526-3637 or [Gloria.Andrews@modot.mo.gov](mailto:Gloria.Andrews@modot.mo.gov)