#### **Local News**



## New Future I-57 Sign Unveiled in Dexter

FEBRUARY 22ND 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

### New Future I-57 Sign Unveiled in Dexter

Dexter, Missouri - On Friday, February 22, 2019 state and federal lawmakers took part in unveiling the new "Future I-57" sign at the First Baptist Church in Dexter, Missouri. The plan is to turn U.S. Highway 60 into the Future I-57!

Mark Stidham, City Manager, for the city of Dexter presented guest speakers U.S. Senator Roy Blunt, U.S. Congressman Jason Smith, Lt. Governor of Missouri Mike Kehoe, and Mark Shelton, Southeast District Engineer for the Missouri Department of Transportation. Each spoke briefly about the project.

Plans are currently underway to expand Interstate 57 in Missouri from Sikeston to Arkansas. The project once finished will connect Chicago, Illinois to Little Rock, Arkansas.

The new Future i-57 signs will be placed along Hwy. 60 with construction costs between Poplar Bluff and the Arkansas state line ranging about \$50 million.

The money will come from federal highway funds, Missouri Department of Transportation and taxpayers.

Live broadcasts were recorded on Facebook Live. Go to the ShowMe Times Facebook page for complete video access.

Pictured from left to right: Mark Stidham, Jason Smith, Roy Blunt, and Mike Kehoe.

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# Stoddard County Route ZZ Closed for Pipe Replacement

FEBRUARY 22ND 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Stoddard County Route ZZ Closed for Pipe Replacement

Stoddard County Route ZZ Closed for Pipe Replacement

Route ZZ in Stoddard County will be closed as Missouri Department of Transportation crews replace the culvert pipe under the roadway.

This section of roadway is located between County Road 651 and County Road 657.

Weather permitting, work will take place Monday, Feb. 25 and Tuesday, Feb. 26 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

The work zone will be marked with signs. Motorists are urged to use extreme caution while traveling near the area.

For additional information, contact MoDOT's Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636) or visit www.modot.org/southeast.

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MoDOTs 15th Annual Bridge Building Competition POSTPONED

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# Stoddard County Route J Reduced for Drainage Improvements

JANUARY 25TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Stoddard County Route J Reduced for Drainage Improvements

Route J in Stoddard County will be reduced to one lane as Missouri Department of Transportation crews perform drainage improvements.

This section of roadway is located from Route AA to Route F.

Weather permitting, work will take place Monday, Jan. 28 through Friday, Feb. 1 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily.

The work zone will be marked with signs. Motorists are urged to use extreme caution while traveling near the area.

For additional information, contact MoDOT's Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636)

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Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing - Upcoming Bridge Improvement Project on Route T in Stoddard County

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# Business 60 in Stoddard County Reduced for Pipe Replacement

NOVEMBER 27TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Business 60 in Stoddard County Reduced for Pipe Replacement

### Business 60 in Stoddard County Reduced for Pipe Replacement

Business 60 in Stoddard County will be reduced to one lane as Missouri Department of Transportation crews replace the culvert pipe under the roadway.

This section of roadway is located between Baliff Drive and Jeanette Lane.

Weather permitting, work will take place Tuesday, Nov. 27 through Friday, Nov. 30 from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily.

The work zone will be marked with signs. Motorists are urged to use extreme caution while traveling near the area.

For additional information, contact MoDOT's Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636)

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### MoDOT Warns of Traffic Trifecta Around

## Thanksgiving Holiday

NOVEMBER 21ST 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

### MoDOT Warns of Traffic Trifecta Around Thanksgiving Holiday

As thousands of Missouri drivers travel home to spend Thanksgiving with family and friends this week, the Missouri Department of Transportation is urging them to exercise patience, caution and good judgment behind the wheel. The holiday week brings a trifecta of concerns to the roadway, including impaired driving, distracted driving and heavy interstate congestion.

The night before Thanksgiving, often referred to as "Blackout Wednesday," has become a popular night for get-togethers at bars before the holiday, often resulting in heavy drinking. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, from 2013 to 2017, more than 800 people died in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes during the Thanksgiving holiday period, making it the deadliest holiday on our roadways.

"Driving impaired or allowing someone else to drive impaired is irresponsible and not worth the risk," said Jon Nelson, assistant to the state highway safety and traffic engineer. "Make the right choice this holiday season to drive sober or find another way to reach your destination."

Like Blackout Wednesday, Black Friday brings another hazard to Missouri roadways. On a day notoriously associated with impatient shoppers, MoDOT urges drivers to keep the online shopping out of the driver's seat.

"Everyone wants to hurry and find the best deals on Black Friday. Your best bet for staying safe on the way is to slow down, always buckle up, and put down the phone," said Nelson.

The likelihood of a distracted-driving incident increases during the holidays, as there are more drivers on the road. Rounding out the trifecta of holiday traffic concerns, the Sunday after Thanksgiving is one of the most popular travel days of the year, according to AAA, as most holiday travelers head home after a long weekend.

That means congestion. Missouri interstate routes will be heavily crowded, and MoDOT urges drivers to allow extra time for travel and plan their route according to the Traveler Information Map, which shows real-time road conditions and closures. The map is

available at traveler.modot.org for desktop users, and mobile users can download the free mobile app from the iTunes App Store and Google Play.

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