



Mid-Missouri Regional
Planning Commission

The Current

Connecting the Cities and Counties of the Mid-Missouri Region

August Announcements

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New Transportation Bill Passes

On July 31, 2005 President Bush signed into law the new federal transportation bill. The new legislation covers 2004-2009 and comes nearly two years after the 1998-2003 act expired. Congress had to approve the 12th temporary extension of the old act on Friday, July 29, to keep money flowing to the states while it agreed to the new, more generous 286.5 billion federal highway bill.

Missouri will receive almost 1.3 billion in new highway funds bills over the life of the five-year bill. Missouri lawmakers fought to increase the return on the dollar that Missourians pay in federal transportation taxes. Missouri's return will increase to 98.2 cents per dollar under the life of the new bill. Currently Missouri receives 90.5 cents for every federal transportation dollar.

Projects within the MMRPC region include \$25 million for a non-motorized pilot project in the City of Columbia, and \$20 million for the widening of Highway 50 to four lanes from St. Martens to California, and \$8 million to National Biodiesel Research in Jefferson City.

Region Continues Population Growth

The Census Bureau has recently released the July 1, 2004 county population estimates for the State of Missouri. As indicated in Table 1- Population Estimates Mid-Missouri Region July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2004, the estimated total population for the region is 297,690 an increase of 2.9% or 8,364 people from the 2000 census of 289,326.

**Table 1. Population Estimates
Mid-Missouri Region
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2004**

County	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Boone	141,367	140,130	138,641	137,005	135,454
Callaway	42,806	42,351	42,246	41,609	40,766
Cole	71,996	72,504	71,902	71,471	71,397
Cooper	17,259	17,009	17,062	16,714	16,670
Howard	9,940	9,993	10,045	10,150	10,212
Moniteau	15,042	15,026	14,970	14,804	14,827
Region Totals	297,690	297,003	293,396	291,790	289,326

Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Annual Estimates for Counties of Missouri: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2004 (CO-EST2004-01-29)

Overall, five of the six counties have shown an increase in population. Leading the way are Callaway County and Boone County, with population increases of 5.0 % and 4.3 %, respectfully. The only county that is showing a population loss is Howard.

"Boone County Passenger Transportation Study Gets Revved Up

'If services exist but access to those services does not, the services may as well not exist.'

This phrase is used often by a coalition of citizen planners in Boone County that have met since June 2004. The Boone County Coordinated Transportation Working Group strives to gather stories from transit users and stakeholders interested in expanding and better coordinating countywide transportation services. For instance, throughout the county there are an estimated 100 providers of transportation services. While several have transportation as a primary function, such as Columbia Transit and OATS, most provide services because their clients simply can't access needed services without that agency owning and operating a van. Local day cares and churches are examples. To better understand the need for transit services, the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission's staff and Boone County members have met monthly to measure the need as well as determine opportunities for providing transit service to those who might choose transit as an alternate mode, if it were available. The group secured a \$50,000 grant from MoDOT this spring to begin a comprehensive study of the need and opportunity for better-coordinated transit across the county. A final report from the recently selected consultant should be available in April 2006 with a planning process to follow. For more information on the current progress of the Working Group call the MMRPC at 573.657.9779."

Calendar

August 3, 2005—Transportation Summit hosted by Senators Talent and Bond. 10:00 am, MFA Incorporated, 201 Ray Young Drive, Columbia, MO 65201. For more information call Donna Spickert at Senator Talent's office. 573.636.1070.

August 9, 2005—MMRPC EDAC meeting, 10:00, 206 E. Broadway, Ashland, MO 65010. Contact Lisa 573.657.9779 or lisanichols@mmrpc.org.

August 9, 2005—Howard County Watershed Event. 7:00 p.m. Commercial Trust Company Bank, On the Square, Fayette, MO. For more information contact Trevor Harris @ MMRPC office 573.657.9779 or trevorharris@mmrpc.org.

August 11, 2005—Missouri River Communities Network 5:30 p.m. Cracked Crab Restaurant in Rocheport. Contact MRCN office at 573.256.2602 and/or bryon.rochon@gmail.com.

August 25, 2005—Columbia MPO (CATSO). Coordinating Committee meeting. 2:30 p.m. City Council Chambers Columbia 573.874.7214.

August 24, 2005—Executive Board Meeting, 5:00 at MMRPC Office, Ashland, MO 65010.

August 25, 2005—The 2005 Missouri Economic Development Summit, Continuing to Build a better Missouri for more information visit: www.moedsummit.com.

Upcoming Events

September 1, 2005—Grant and Funding Sources for Communities, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Contact Sandra Noszek by phone 573.884.9034 or email noszek@missouri.edu for more information and registration information.

September 11-14, 2005—Missouri Municipal League Annual Conference. For more information visit: <http://www.mocities.com>

September 28, 2005—MMRPC's Annual Dinner Bar B Q in the park, Ashland City Park, Ashland, MO for more information please call 573-657-9779. Watch your mail for registration materials.

October 6, 2005—Impact of Tourism, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Contact Sandra Noszek by phone 573.884.9034 or email noszek@missouri.edu for more information and registration information.

October 25-27, 2005—Missouri Association of Counties Annual Conference and Trade Show. For more information please visit <http://mylocalgov.com/MoCounties/index.asp>

November 2, 2005—Place Based Economic Development, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Contact Sandra Noszek by phone 573.884.9034 or email noszek@missouri.edu for more information and registration information.

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Mapping Opportunity

The Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission in cooperation with Integrated Mapping is looking for a community to undertake a pilot-mapping project. The mapping activities will include the development of a digital base map and agreed upon overlay data. Please contact Ed Siegmund at the MMRPC office (573.657.9779) if you are interested in participating in this pilot project.

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