MoDOT/Industry COVID-19 Weekly Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2020

Action Items from April 22, 2020 Meeting:

1. Revenue receipts for April, 2020. Information is expected in mid-May concerning fuel taxes, vehicles sales taxes and other user fees.
2. Work Zone Awareness Talking Points (included in April 22, 2020 Minutes).
3. AGC white paper on cost impacts. This document is being developed nationally and AGC will share the results when available.
4. Availability of masks (website provided in April 22, 2020 Minutes).

Average Weekly Traffic Update: Traffic volumes are down statewide with a peak reduction of 35% the week of April 10. When assessing financial impacts, traffic volumes do not correlate directly with fuel usage, vehicle miles traveled (VMT) is a better indicator. While traffic volumes have decreased Missouri is still experiencing a large number of fatalities. We have seen the number of unbuckled fatalities increase from 63% in 2019 to 70%. MoDOT maintenance operations has experienced 18 TMA hits already this year. In addition, the Highway Patrol has reported a 20% increase in the number of speeders traveling over 100 mph.

Letting Update: The May letting was reduced by approximately 30% of estimated cost. June letting is still being evaluated and currently there is no July letting scheduled. Lettings will continue to be evaluated as more information is received on the revenue receipts. MoDOT currently has $1.1B in contract value to complete, this excludes the April letting. March revenues are down slightly, however, we anticipate April to have a much larger reduction. [https://www.modot.org/state-and-federal-revenue-budgets-6a](https://www.modot.org/state-and-federal-revenue-budgets-6a)

Impacts of Governor’s plan to reopen business in Missouri: The Governor has issued an order for reopening Missouri on May 4, 2020. Various cities and counties have extended the opening in their locations. MoDOT plans to continue business practices on projects and contract administration as we have been operating over the last 5-weeks on essential work items.

Director’s Update: The Director has been receiving detailed questions about the AASHTO Backstop Request. This is encouraging news and may be an indicator that the proposal is under consideration. The Associations and contractors’ letters and discussions are having an impact. MoDOT is proceeding with some degree of caution on programing additional projects and we are only making critical purchases to preserve the roadway fund.

Roundtable discussion:

1. The estimated 30% reduction in revenue over the next 18 months has been relayed to federal legislators and it has been determined that as much as $50B is needed nationally as a backstop for DOT’s funding shortages. In Missouri, this could represent $2B. MoDOT is considering not moving forward with a new FY2021 to 2025 STIP and will be discussing this at the upcoming Commission meeting.
2. MoDOT is expecting an increase in the review and approval period by Union Pacific RR for work near their tracks.
3. Contractors are requesting that we maintain an open dialogue on the unanticipated costs to meet future COVID-19, CDC guidelines.

The next meeting will be on May 13, 2020 at 10:30 due to the Commission Meeting being held on May 6, 2020.