

Page Extension To Mid Rivers Mall Drive To Open Aug. 30

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St. Charles County, Missouri - The second phase of the Page Avenue Extension (Route 364) will be opened on Aug. 30, a full two months ahead of schedule.

The final leg, from Harvester Road to Mid Rivers Mall Drive, will include new exchanges at Jungermann, Central School, and Kisker roads.

The Missouri Department of Transportation made the announcement today (July 26) at a news conference at the St. Charles County Executive Building.

Tom Evers, MoDOT area engineer, said the cooperation from St. Peters and St. Charles County was "critical" in getting the project completed.

"They were fabulous partners," Evers said.

County Executive Steve Ehlmann pointed out that there was a lot of talk about shovel-ready jobs when the federal government passed its stimulus bill.

"Then it turned out there weren't that many shovel-ready projects, but this one was," Ehlmann said. "When some money became available, we were ready. This was a great effort from every level of government."

The \$101 million project was paid for with federal and state funds, including \$3.7 million from the county's Transportation Sales Tax funds and \$2 million from the City of St. Peters.

"St. Peters really stepped up to the plate, and hit a home run," Ehlmann said. "Mayor Len Pagano was a great partner in this."

"This was an essential regional project," Pagano said. "We're very happy the project finished ahead of schedule and on budget. We're very proud to be part of this."

Evers pointed out that the mild winter and dry summer allowed for the work to be completed ahead of schedule.

"Usually, in January and February, we can only work a few days," he said. "This year, we were working more than not working."

Ehlmann said the dry weather has been awful for the farmers and area lawns, but "the good news is it helped us get this done two months ahead of schedule. And it's well ahead of the closing of the Blanchette Bridge in November, so there now will be a viable alternate route from I-270 in St. Louis County to Mid Rivers Mall Drive in St. Charles County."

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